



Dear Church Family,

By the time you read this we will be two weeks into Lent. Lent is the forty days from Ash Wednesday until Easter. It is a time of reflection on what Jesus went through heading for and experiencing the agony of the crucifixion. Lent is a dark time, a stoic time, a reflection time.

It could be said that certain periods of life are more like Lent than Easter. We have been in a year long period of Lent as we have dealt with COVID-19. The season has been a personal Lenten season. And oh, how we long for Easter.

Author Chris Tiegreen writes, *"Lent is a time of transition, when we turn our eyes away from fading disappointment and toward the brilliant promises of God."* A time of transition it has been at Howell FUMC! From the retirement of a beloved pastor to the introduction of a new pastor, who has been nearly impossible to meet with new health guidelines pressing in on all of us. Transitions, from hugs given by parents, grandparents and children alike to new forms of connection via Zoom and Facetime. From weekly card games with friends and loved ones to being hunkered down alone. From the glorious joy of singing great hymns of faith to singing quietly or staying home to avoid germs. It has been a time of profound loss. We have lost loved ones to death without even being able to say goodbye. We have lost the encouragement of being with others. We have lost the freedom of being together without a care in the world to wondering what will happen if we happen to touch or worse yet breathe on one another. Some have lost the ability to work, or even just leave the house for work. Clearly our losses have been profound and we grieve for life as we once knew it.

Still, it is a time of transition. Yes, we have losses but we also look ahead toward Easter. We long to once again celebrate our Lord's resurrection and our personal hope of resurrection. This year of 2021, the year you might wish to forget, has sunshine ahead. So, we transition to a better tomorrow. I for one can't wait! We will never transition if we do not face our personal Lenten season. To help you move forward I want to encourage you to do daily Lenten devotions. Each Monday through Saturday at about 8 am we will have daily Lenten thoughts broadcast on Facebook Live and our own website. I am tag teaming with Jim Rutherford as we journey together toward the cross and the empty grave. You can experience the greatest time of growth you have ever known. All you need to do is come, reflect, pray and press on.

Will you transition in your walk with Jesus or will 2021 be just another season of Lent? I don't know about you, but I long for Easter. Let's do this together.

Pastor Scott

Despite being in a pandemic, several of my sisters in faith have continued with a Bible study, safely. Recently the group studied through a book by author James W. Moore, "When the World Takes the Wind Out of Your Sails." Each chapter offers help for the different challenges we face in life. I do not know of anyone who did not face challenges over the last year!

One of the chapters speaks about spreading your problems before the Lord. This chapter explains there are challenges that test our faith and difficult times make the future seem uncertain. Moore was discussing the story of King Hezekiah, a great person of faith. King Hezekiah faced very difficult situations. King Hezekiah first humbled himself before God, seeking His help. He went to the church for help and lastly he reviewed his problems with God and trusted Him to see through the difficult times. Moore provides suggestions to overcome overwhelming challenges.

There was a paragraph that reminds me of the work Stephen Ministry does, *"If you have problems, if you have bad news, if you have to deal with difficult people, then let your church help you; let your Christian friends help you; claim the strength and support of the church community."* The paragraph ends with *"We all need a support group. We all need the church."*

Our Stephen Ministry team is available to assist anyone through difficult times. With God's guidance, we will provide a listening ear and spiritual care to help you through. Admitting we need help is the hardest part, but like King Hezekiah, we all need to humble ourselves before God and seek His help along with the help of the church.

To request a Stephen Minister, contact

Marge Burkert m.burkert@hotmail.com or 517-376-0741

Tom Burkert burkertt@hotmail.com or 517-304-2134

Pastor Scott pastorscott@howellfumc.com or (517) 546-2730

Blessings to all as we wait for spring to appear.

Patti Van Loo for the Stephen Ministry Team



UPCOMING

3/4 - MOPS (zoom) 6:30pm
Trustees 7:00pm
3/5 - **WORLD DAY OF PRAYER**
3/8 - UMW Executive Mtg (zoom) 7:00pm
3/11 - Finance (zoom) 7:00pm
3/14 - **UMCOR SUNDAY**
3/15 - Stephen Ministry (zoom) 7:00pm
3/16 - SPRC (zoom) 7:00pm
3/18 - Church Council (zoom) 7:00pm
3/28 - **PALM SUNDAY**

Continual

Monday & Wednesday:
Preschool @ 9am

Monday - Sunday:
AA@ 7am in Rm6

Monday-Saturday:
Faithfully Fit *Please
check Website for times and classes

Sundays:
8am - Worship /Chapel
9am - Worship /Fellowship Hall
Faith Factory
10³⁰am - Worship \ Sanctuary
Faith Factory & Youth Bible Study
6pm - IGNITE (high school) Rm13

Monday: AA
@ 7³⁰pm in the Fellowship Hall

Wednesdays:
Bible Study @ 4pm Rm10
Bible Study @6pm Café
SPARK (middle school)
@6pm Rm13-15
BLAST (elementary)
@6pm Rm 11-12

New Testament Challenge

March

2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	01 Colossians 3 Colossians 4	02 1 Thessalonians 1 1 Thessalonians 2 1 Thessalonians 3	03 1 Thessalonians 1 1 Thessalonians 2 1 Thessalonians 3	04 2 Thessalonians 1 2 Thessalonians 2 2 Thessalonians 3	05 1 Timothy 1 1 Timothy 2 1 Timothy 3	06 1 Timothy 4 1 Timothy 5 1 Timothy 6
07	08 Titus 1 Titus 2 Titus 3	09 Philemon 1 Hebrews 1 Hebrews 2	10 Hebrews 3 Hebrews 4 Hebrews 5	11 Hebrews 6 Hebrews 7 Hebrews 8	12 Hebrews 9 Hebrews 10 Hebrews 11	13 Hebrews 12 Hebrews 13
14	15 James 1 James 2 James 3	16 1 Peter 1 1 Peter 2 1 Peter 3	17 1 Peter 4 1 Peter 5	18 2 Peter 1 2 Peter 2 2 Peter 3	19 1 John 1 1 John 2 1 John 3	20 1 John 4 1 John 5 2 John 1
21	22 Revelations 1 Revelations 2 Revelations 3	23 Revelations 4 Revelations 5 Revelations 6	24 Revelations 7 Revelations 8	25 Revelations 9 Revelations 10	26 Revelations 11 Revelations 12	27 Revelations 13 Revelations 14
28	29 Revelations 15 Revelations 16	30 Revelations 17 Revelations 18	31 Revelations 19 Revelations 20	01 Revelations 21 Revelations 22	02	03
04	05	06	07	08	09	10

90-day New Testament Challenge



CHURCH WEEK

SUPPORTING CHRISTIAN ORGANIZATIONS

SUPPORT US

March 14th - March 27th, Rural King will donate 10% of your purchase to the Christian organization of your choice! Choose us! Upload your receipts to show your support!

All receipts must be uploaded to www.ruralking.com/churchweek by April 1, 2021.

<https://www.ruralking.com/churchweek>

Rural King is supporting Christian organizations by donating 10% of each valid Rural King receipt total after sales tax to the registered organization chosen by the customer.

Our organization is registered!

From March 14-27, 2021, customers can upload their Rural King receipts to www.ruralking.com/churchweek and **10% of their receipt total after sales tax will go** to the registered Christian organization of their choice.

Instructions:

- Go to or click on this link: <https://www.ruralking.com/churchweek>
- Under Church Week Heading, click on Search or Organization Search
- Select State:
- Select City:
- Select: our church (You should now see a picture of our church)
- Beginning on March 14th there should be a link for you to upload your receipt.
- All receipts dated March 14-27, 2021 must be uploaded by April 1, 2021.

All donations will be provided by our local Rural King.

All Rural King stores are participating.

Please share with your friends and be sure to say Thank You to Rural King management and associates when you shop.



Is Registered!

Discipleship Ministries March, 2021



Ministries for Children and Youth

BLAST (Believers Living & Serving Together): Wednesdays 6-7 PM

- Rooms 11-12
- Grades K-5

Children's Worship and Faith Factory: Sundays 9 and 10:30 AM

- Meet in Room 10
- Pick up in Rooms 8 and 12
- Ages 3 years - 5th Grade

Youth Bible Study: Sundays, 10:30 AM

- Rooms 13-14-15
- Grades 6-12



Youth Groups: Wednesdays 6-7:30 PM (Grades 6-8) and Sundays, 6-8 PM (Grades 9-12)

- Rooms 13-14-15

Adult Bible Studies*

Wednesday Weekly Bible Study: Wednesdays, 4 PM

- Room 10
- led by Sue Rice

Gospel of John Bible Study: Wednesdays, 6 PM

- Café
- led by Jim Rutherford)

Sisters Bible Study: Thursdays, 10 AM

- Parlor
- led by Diane Griffin

*Zoom links
available - call or
email Diane Griffin

Faithfully Fit Fitness Program

In-person and virtual classes are meeting! For a schedule, contact Diane Griffin, request access to the Faithfully Fit Facebook page or see the church website. Your first visit to any class is free and a full slate of classes are offered for all ages and fitness levels. Covid-19 severely depleted our cash reserves, but we continued to pay our instructors throughout for both in-person and virtual classes. If you feel led to help us recover financially, you can do so on the church website (select *Faithfully Fit* as your donation destination) or by mailing a check to the church (write *Faithfully Fit* on your envelope or on the check memo line).



Our Church Directory is Online!

View our church directory online or via the **FREE** mobile app today.

To view the directory online, go to members.InstantChurchDirectory.com and follow the prompts under “Sign In” to “Create a login now.” Please remember, you must confirm your email address before you can sign in.

There is also a free mobile app available for download at the Apple® App store in iTunes®, Google Play™ store and the Amazon Fire App Store. Simply search for “[Instant Church Directory](#)” to get the download.

You will need to use your email address as listed in our directory to create a log-in the first time you use the directory online and via the mobile app.

Need help or have questions?

Please contact Ellen Paige or Jenn Rhodes.



Our Church Directory is powered by [Instant Church Directory](#).

HOWELL FUMC YOUTH | Spring 2021

YOUTH BIBLE STUDY | Grades 6-12 | Sundays @ 10:30am

SPARK | Grades 6-8 | Wednesdays @ 6-7:30pm

IGNITE | Grades 9-12 | Sundays @ 6-8pm

Church Events

MARCH

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Mar 22 | \$50 Camp Deposit & Registration Due

Mar 28 | Palm Sunday Worship Service

Mar 28 – Apr 4 | Spring Break, No Youth Events

Sara's B'day | **Mar 10**

Garrett's B'day | **Mar 11**

Sophia's B'day | **Mar 23**

Save the Date: July 12-15



APRIL

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	1

Apr 4 | Easter, No Youth Events

Apr | Summer Camp Giving Fundraiser. Dates to be determined. Stay tuned on Sunday mornings and on our church website to see how you can be involved or support our youth.

Evan's B'day | **Apr 29**

April: Camp Fundraiser



MAY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

May 9 | Mother's Day, No Youth Events

May 15 | Tie Blankets Service Project

May 27 | Last Day of School for Howell

May 31 | Memorial Day, No Youth Events

Ellie's B'day | **May 25**

Erik's B'day | **May 31**

FIND OUT MORE:

www.howellfumcyouth.com

danielle@howellfumc.com

thanks

Dear Family of Faith,

Many, many thanks for all the prayers, kind words, cards, food, and love from so many of you during my convalescence from knee replacement surgery. The love I have felt from you all has been overwhelming. I can't begin to tell you what you all mean to me.

*Blessings,
Olive*

Thank
You

