



**First United Methodist Church**

Welcome! We're glad that you are here  
To all who need comfort, all who need friendship.  
All who are lonely and need companionship.  
all who want sheltering love, all who sin  
and need a Savior, and whosoever will

—We open wide our doors and say, "Come; let us worship together."

**First Sunday in Lent, Year A**

10:15 February 22, 2026

LITURGIST Lea Ann Michels  
LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLE Priscila & Ennie de Castro  
MUSIC TO PREPARE OUR HEART Vivian Eaton

**WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**SHARING OF JOYS & CONCERNS** (call/text Pastor 773-971-7208)

**PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP** Lea Ann Michels

L: God has given us this day for praise!  
**P: Praise be to God for this most generous gift!**  
L: God has given his Son to us that we might learn  
ways of peace and mercy.  
**P: Let the words of God's own Son, Jesus, enter our  
hearts and transform our lives!**

L: Come, let us worship this great God of abundant  
mercy and love!  
**P: Let our songs, our words, and our thoughts reflect  
God's healing and restoring love. AMEN**

**\*HYMN UMH #377 "It Is Well with My Soul"**

**\*OPENING PRAYER (In Unison)**  
**Holy God, by the grace of Jesus Christ, you know the tests and  
trials we face. Journey with us through this wilderness. Come to  
us with ministers of healing and visit us with messengers of  
hope, so that we may return to you in faith, believing the good  
news of the gospel, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.**

**\*THE APOSTLE'S CREED #881**  
I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and  
earth; and in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord: who was  
conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and  
buried. the third day, he rose from the dead; he ascended

into heaven and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father  
Almighty, from thence he shall come to judge the quick  
and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic  
church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

**Children's Moment:** LaVona Grissinger

**Scripture Reading**

**NRSV James 1:19 - 25** Lea Ann Michels

**NRSV Matthew 4:1-11** Pastor Fernando

**The Word of God for the People of God**

**P: Thanks be to God**

**Song of Preparation**

Journey to the Cross

**Message: Give up the need to be right all the time.**

**OFFERING OURSELVES**

**\*DOXOLOGY #95**  
**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all  
creatures here below; praise him above ye heavenly host;  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**  
**\*OFFERTORY PRAYER**

**Surprising God of Mercy, you meet us in wilderness places  
and walk beside us through trial and temptation. Even when  
we feel alone, your grace is never far, your presence never  
absent. In this moment of giving, we offer not just our  
resources, but our trust that you are already at work,  
shaping us through challenge, strengthening us through  
sacrifice, and surrounding us with unseen angels. Use these  
gifts to bring hope where there is hunger, healing where there  
is pain, and light where there is despair. May what we give  
reflect our desire to walk more closely with you, even in the  
hard places. In Christ's name we pray, Amen**

**HYMN UMH #577 "God of Grace, God of Glory"**

**DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING** Pastor Fernando  
**\* GOING FORTH TO THE WORLD** Vivian Eaton

**IN OUR PRAYER**

Don Kramer- Big Meadows, doing well. Sandy Froehlich- Continues  
Home therapy - Curtis Pilgrim-Morrison Nursing Home, Mia, Derek

Osborn, Vicki & Michael, Janet Smith, Tinslee recuperating  
Nicely, Dan Zambon - cancer, Christa Jachino- Breast Cancer. Kris  
Dornbush clot in her spinal cord and is paralyzed from the waist down.  
Abra- Early pregnancy-prayer to go to term. Marilyn Kline, she fell and  
broke her neck. Bob Bauer goes to NE in March for a check-up!  
Tim Cavanagh-Home- recovering well! Mike Medley- home  
low potassium – Susan King-home- pneumonia getting better! -Burt Prins  
home ankle injury Frank Norman -home health problems -Also Franks  
granddaughter, Grace -Jeff Doran - on dialysis– Christina Pasch- foot  
surgery -Pastor Narda, recovering from surgery – Lt. Brian Robinson,  
in the Ukraine. Susan Michelle's dad, Richard, is failing in health,  
Hazi Coffee, daughter of Jason & Cori, high-risk pregnancy-  
Emily Medley, Crohn's. Brother recovering, uncle has lung cancer,  
Karen Hoffman's friend Matt hospice, Barb Tracey, stroke, in rehab.  
Joe Pasch, broken arm. Sandy Jilderda- car accident. Bim McGinnis,  
lung cancer. Barb Tracy, stroke, in rehab. Bill Haas, cancer. Joy Turner  
Physical therapy for Stroke, in rehab. Bill Haas, cancer. Kay's mom was  
hospitalized. Jerry Cavanagh, back problems. Jerry Cavanagh  
have back problems. Colleen Olson, brain tumor. Melinda Dykema, migraines.  
Joy Turner, IA City Hospital, Vivian Eaton, health

**Sympathy to: Family of Paula Sager**

**Our shut-ins:** Sylvia Reuterfors, Erik & Alice Riffe-Torrison,  
Joy Turner, Steve Yenney, Brenda Hamm, Janice Wilt, Mary Ellen Dreger,  
Florence Bevins-Powell, Judy Law

Our country & government, Military Personnel & their families, the safety of  
Ukrainians & end of wars; Haiti; Syria; Israel and Iran, the Gaza Strip; peace  
In the Middle East, families, students, school administrators, and those  
grieving their loved ones.

**BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES**

February 23 – Christy Clemons  
Susan Michell Jepson  
24 – Jeff Andersen  
26 – Janie Jones  
28 – Diane Brinkmeier  
Denise Curtis  
(Burt & Kathie Prins – 1976)

**CALENDAR**

Monday, Feb 23  
9:00 am to noon – Office open  
1 to 3 pm – Sewing Ladies  
Tuesday, Feb 24  
9 am to 12 noon – Office open  
Wednesday, Feb 25  
9:00 am to noon – Office open  
Thursday, Feb 26  
9 am to 12 noon – Office open

Friday, Feb 27  
 9:00 am to noon - Office open  
 Sunday, March 1  
 8:30 am– Prayer Meeting  
 9:00 am -Sunday School  
 10:15 am – Main Service

**WORSHIP HELPERS**

	February 22	March 1
Acolyte	Priscila & Ennie De Castro	Pearl Michels
Liturgist	Lea Ann Michels	
Counter	Vivian Eaton	Molly Andersen
YoutVerifier	Linda Stubbe	Karen Hoffman
Coffee Hour	Bob & LaVona Grissinger	Prinses
Greeter	Bob & LaVona Grissinger	Esther Losh Isabell de Castro
Usher	Sherry Canalose & Esther Losh Bruce & Rhonda Badtke	Bill Wright

**Last Week's Attendance: 57**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**West Carroll Food Pantry**

Thank you so much for your generosity!

**The Blessing Basket** – Thank you for all your donations! Please consider supplying dish soap, toilet paper, and paper towels.

**The Women's Group** is asking you to bring clean and dry plastic bags. The group will make sleeping mats out of them for homeless people. You can drop them off in a box in the sewing room at church.

**New Member Class** – will be given by Pastor Fernando. This will be 5 classes, **either in person or via Zoom**, if you are interested, let the office know.

**Soup & Cracker Collection** –166 cans of soup and 25 boxes of crackers

**Women's Sunday, March 15** – All women are invited to participate.

**United Women of Faith:** All women are welcome to the first UMF meeting of the year on March 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:00 pm in the church library. We will have our Regular meeting followed by Prayer & Self Denial program. For more information, contact Kathir Prins at 563-249-3477

**Rice Meal Packing** will be held on April 25<sup>th</sup> Donations are accepted until April.

**Soul Sisters** March 5 at 11:00 am, Fellowship Hall. Bring a sack lunch!

**Impact Youth** Sunday March 8, 5-6:15pm. 90's night



**SAVANNA –**

The 2026 Interfaith Lenten Services take place 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays at a variety of locations in Savanna. The goal is to encourage cooperation among several Christian denominations. All donations collected during the services will go to fund this year's Vacation Bible School held each July at First United Methodist Church.

The Lenten schedule is as follows:

**6:30 p.m. Feb. 25 at First Presbyterian Church, 502 Third St. Pastor Bonnie Davies**

**6:30 p.m. March 4 at The Table, Great River Outreach, 411 Main St. Pastor Narda Alvelo**

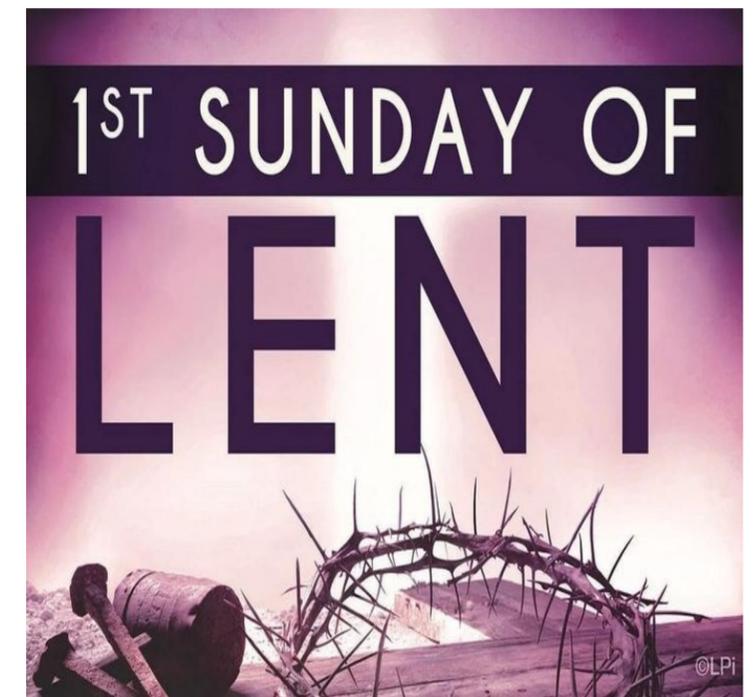
**6:30 p.m. March 11 at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, 318 Chicago Ave. Pastor Gary Panetta**

**6:30 p.m. March 18 at Community United Church of Christ, 346 Chicago Ave. Pastor Fernando**

**6:30 p.m. March 25 at First United Methodist Church, 2100 Chicago Ave. Father Julius Clavero**

A special Good Friday service will be held at noon on April 3 at First United Methodist Church, 2100 Chicago Ave. The story of the arrest and crucifixion of Jesus will be told.

For more information please call, (815) 590-1792



**First United Methodist Church**  
 February 22, 2026  
 Sunday, 10:15 am  
**Vision Statement**

**“Reaching out to all people and inviting them to experience the Love of God through Open Hearts, Open Minds, and Open Doors.”**

2100 Chicago Ave, Savanna, Illinois 61074

Office phone: 815-273-2345

Email: [office@firstumcsavanna.org](mailto:office@firstumcsavanna.org)

Web: [www.firstumcsavanna.org](http://www.firstumcsavanna.org)

Pastor Fernando's email:

[pastorfernando4@outlook.com](mailto:pastorfernando4@outlook.com)

[www.facebook.com/savanna.firstumc](http://www.facebook.com/savanna.firstumc)

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