

# Grinnell United Methodist Church



## NEWSLETTER

916 5th Ave. Grinnell, IA 50112

(641) 236-3757

[www.grinnellumc.org](http://www.grinnellumc.org)

### OFFICE HOURS:

Mon - Thurs. 8:30AM - 3:30PM

Closed Friday

### Sunday Worship

@ 8:00AM & 10:30AM

### Live Stream Worship

**Facebook:**

[www.facebook.com/grinnellumc](https://www.facebook.com/grinnellumc)

**You Tube:**

[www.youtube.com/channel/  
UCFRRZnsQbvp3HK\\_HXnYkbCw](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCFRRZnsQbvp3HK_HXnYkbCw)

### IN THIS ISSUE:

Page 1 - Upcoming Events

Page 2 - Youth News

Page 3 - Committee News

Page 4&5 - Church Council Minutes

Page 6 - Pastors Letter

Page 7 - Calendar

Page 8 - Birthdays/Anniversaries

& Thank You

## Grinnell Community Meal Thursdays @ 5:30PM

The Community Meal is open to ALL and operates in partnership with organizations in the Grinnell. Volunteer opportunities for the meal are available

at <https://calendly.com/grincomeal/30min?month=2025-10>.

For more information contact Ryan @ [solomonr@grinnell.edu](mailto:solomonr@grinnell.edu),

or Delphina @ [delbaumann@gmail.com](mailto:delbaumann@gmail.com).

### March Meals:

Mar 5 – Lasagna, Garlic Bread, Salad & Brownies

\*Provided by Poweshiek Democrats

Mar 12 – Baked Potato Bar, Jello & Dessert

\*Provided by St John's Lutheran Church

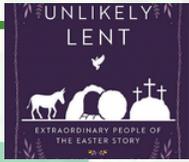
Mar 19 – Loose Meat Sandwiches, Salad, Corn & Dessert

\*Provided by St. Mary's Catholic Church

Mar 26 – Chicken Curry, Rice, Green Salad & Dessert

\*Provided by Nepalese Students Association

# Upcoming Events!



**Lenten Study**  
Tuesdays  
@ 10AM



**UMCOR Sunday**  
Mar. 14th



**Church Potluck**  
Sun. Mar. 15th  
@ 11:30AM



**Holy Week**  
March 29 -  
April 5

## 6 Week Lenten Study

Our Lenten Small Group Study meets Tuesday's 10AM in the Wesley Room. This group led by Diane Eberhart will be studying the book "An Unlikely Lent" by Rachel Billups.



## UMCOR SUNDAY

UMCOR Sunday is one of six churchwide Special Sundays designated to support ministries and causes important to the entire United Methodist Church.

On **March 14th**, we support the United Methodist Committee on Relief—better known as UMCOR—the disaster response and humanitarian relief agency of our church. Your generosity helps the Church be prepared before disaster strikes—and able to stay for the long haul afterward. It supports behind-the-scenes work that makes on-the-ground response possible.



## Connections Committee Church Potluck

Mark your calendars for a Connections Committee Church potluck **March 15th after the 10:30 worship service.**

Bring a dish (Irish themed if you want), to share and enjoy fellowship & fun. Table service and beverages will be provided. Hope to see you there!

## Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday - **March 29th**

Maundy Thursday Worship - **April 2<sup>nd</sup> @ 7PM**

Good Friday Worship - **April 3<sup>rd</sup> @ 7PM**

Easter Sunrise Worship - **April 5<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30AM**  
(at Ahren's Park Soccer Fields Parking Lot)



# CLUB 916 & PARK STREET

## YOUTH MINISTRY MONTHLY RECAP

We're wrapping up an awesome February at Park Street and Club 916! This month was full of energy as we dove into our Winter Olympics series—playing hard, laughing a lot, and learning about Paul's incredible journeys. We also kicked off our first meeting for the summer service trip, and it was great to see so many students attend our church's Ash Wednesday service.

Looking ahead, March brings a brand-new series: This Is Your Church. We'll explore the many ways our youth can get involved, serve, and grow within our amazing church community. It's going to be a meaningful month, and we can't wait to jump in together.

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

- 3/18 - no youth
- 3/20 - early service trip registration 10% discount





# Committee News

## United Women of Faith

Open to all women. You do not need to be a member of Grinnell UMC to join a circle.

March 4, 2026 - 2 pm United Women in Faith Executive Board Meeting

March 9th @1:00 p.m. - Trinity Circle

March 10th @1:30 p.m. - Dorcas Circle

March 23rd @ 7:00 p.m. - Rachel Circle

## Lenten Offering

The focus of our Lenten offering this year is on three organizations, read more about each below.

### **AFRICA UNIVERSITY (Zimbabwe)**

The AU Scholarship Fund invests in Africa's future by helping students from low-income families receive a quality education. This financial support encourages them to graduate and become leaders in their communities. Students from 24 African countries currently attend AU.



### **TRINITY LAS AMERICAS UMC (Des Moines)**

Trinity Las Americas UMC is a multicultural congregation of English and Spanish speakers, providing bilingual Sunday worship. Other services include before and after-school programs with meals, classes for English language learners, community gatherings and Bible studies.

### **PROJECT JUBILEE (Hancock County, TN)**

Project Jubilee, in the name of Jesus Christ, is helping people fulfill their spiritual, economic, social and physical needs. They provide food assistance, which includes a mobile food bank, shelter and access to clean water. They also offer regular programming for women, children, youth, and grandparents who are raising grandchildren.



## Grinnell United Methodist Church Church Council Meeting - Feb. 17, 2026

Attendees: Ginny Cameron, Darwin Copeman, Jeanette Copeman, Andy Hamilton, Jerry Lane, Tim Niswander, Athen Schubert. Pastor Eric Schubert, Alex Schultz, Revae Schultz, Scott Sharp, Monique Shore, Mindy Tokle, and Carolyn Grosenbach.

Meeting was brought to order by Mindy Tokle.

Devotions were given by Ginny from book "Mornings with Jesus" referencing Love of God, and that we keep his commandments and also Love and Obey. Getting to know each other- Members shared what they were looking forward to in 2026

Minutes from December 2025 meeting were approved as submitted.

**Pastor's Report** -Pastor Eric reported he had good discussion in Worship Committee getting some stuff together. Also a Big Thank You was extended to Dar Copeman and Dave Van Arkel for handling worship the two weeks he was on vacation. There is discussion of new worship experience that would meet one time per month - 4:30 to 5:00 pm possibly starting in April. It would be Bible Study with lots of discussion. He also mentioned there are situations that are causing problems with youth help. Cindy is to be done some time in May and they are now in process of figuring out how to fill that position. If there are any domino effects he thinks we are on good footing. There will be more to say in not too distance future. Pastor Eric mentioned some of what Cindy has accomplished to get the Children's Program in a very good place.

### ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEES:

**Finance:** Jerry Lane said committee is in middle of annual audits. He reported now have 62 pledge cards in so far which is about 30 less than in 2024. Monique said thinks assumption is a lot of people just forgot and we need reminder announcement.

**Memorial:** Revae Schultz reported they have lot of new people on committee. They have met once and will try to create letter to send to people that have donated that are not a member of church.

**Foundation:** Dar said Lyle just finished books; they are in fine shape.

**Treasurer:** Dar reported \$20,965 is committed to Budget from Foundation for Housing Allowance; need to check this next year to see if transfer needs to be made.

**Trustees:** Jeanette Copeman reported that at meeting they were talking about lot of things that need replaced since water in Grinnell has issues We just bought dishwasher; cost was under \$7000 and was in stock so was installed right away. Two people have been trained on how to run it, and person installing it

set us up with new detergent, etc. At that point Revae mentioned there were Memorial Funds designated for that; Jeanette will check records and maybe will do transfer from Memorial Funds back to Trustee Budget.

### PROGRAM COMMITTEES:

**Connections:** Scott Sharp - slow for what it was for 2025 - Directory ended up being more work than originally thought would be but now back in progress on this. Next event will be potluck in March; committee will be meeting soon. Scott mentioned that a couple people formerly on their committee knew how to run dishwasher but now will have to find new members to take this over. Jeanette asked that Scott let her know date for March potluck so can make sure someone will be there that can handle dishwasher.

**Youth:** Athen - things generally going pretty well - some issues with Middle Schoolers - lots of kids there - maybe need some more adults particularly during meal time

## Grinnell UMC Church Council Continued....

### PROGRAM COMMITTEES:

**Discipleship:** Andy - making note about Youth time and more adults needed -reported they just met this evening. He highlighted items recognized during retreat. #1 is empowering program this church has with people; with Cindy leaving will be interested seeing how this will work out He is asking with open hands to come up with plan to get people rolling up sleeves and getting involved in program. Maybe we need a Volunteer Fair with team involved to help with last day of Sunday School. Andy said what God had been putting in his mind is perhaps the best way this congregation can support all the programing we have is to maybe have small groups work together to do some of this. He is asking this group for input as more solutions to solve this needs to happen. Pastor Eric is working with SPRC on lay leadership.

Ideas were shared: maybe have Work Fair to invite people to come listen to others that do other things in church; would go around the room and hear from people that are involved as to what they do. The whole church needs to be involved with this ongoing issue. Tim said they had unofficial meeting - after the Saturday January meeting to get organized. Cindy is lining up a lot of things that are coming up after when she leaves in May. Revae mentioned Small Groups and maybe do group volunteering so people would work with someone who has done it before. She mentioned first time she did Fellowship Time was with her mom, who had done it previously.

**Service:** Ginny reported they decided Lenten Offering will be designated to Africa University (Scholarships), Project Jubilee and Trinity Las Americas. Advent will be UMCOR - National will be Old Mutare Hospital and Women at the Well Christmas Eve proposed: Good Samaritan & Grinnell Ministerial - divided equally They are also looking ahead to Earth Day in May. Deb Breeden brought up at meeting that she wanted to get group together to go to Midwest Missions for a Work Day; will need to sign up for this and would possibly be packing disaster relief support kits, or what they night need help with. Midwest Mission will continue shipping National kits.

**Worship** - Tim said they talked about new worship experience to launch later this Spring. Also mentioned that two groups will be coming out of Strategic Planning meeting in January; members are Carol Jordan, Dave Van Arkel, and himself

**UW Faith** - Carolyn - United Women of Faith - next Executive Board Meeting - March 4th @ 2 pm All three Circles will be meeting in March. Dorcas Circle - continues to meet every month and now at new location in 2nd Floor Lounge in Assisted Living Unit in Seeland Park at 907 Orchard Drive. Trinity Circle meets 2nd Tuesday @ 1:30 PM and Rachel Circle meets 4th Monday @ 7PM at church

**Lay Leader:** Monique reported there will be St Olaf Bell Choir Concert at our church March 2nd urging us to attend. She also reported she has contacted various churches and senior centers.

**OLD BUSINESS:** none

**NEW BUSINESS:** Pastor Eric asked our opinion of Strategic Planning meeting in January. Many commented that the meeting was run soothingly and was very productive Doug, who was in charge took lots of ideas and understood what was presented. Also, we even got through early. Further discussion centered on ways to establish standardized project announcement. Tim commented that maybe get someone to prepare video that could have on screen. We could push sign-up genius or we could have church members meet at table to sign up instead of trying to send around clipboard. Do we want Richard to play all the way through to start of sermon or use some of that time time to remind people of upcoming events? These are all ideas to be considered.

Devotions on March 17th - - Tim Niswander

Monique offered closing prayer.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55.



# Schub's Sharing

Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Matthew 6:21

I never had much of an issue putting money before God. I was raised in a very thrifty environment (many have called me cheap), and money was never the standard by which I evaluated myself. I had a different place I looked for my treasure – how good my choirs were. I measured this by competitions, Solo and Ensemble contest, and how many students were selected to All-State (or as I said, how many students I got into All-State, like it was all me, when in reality, it was mostly about them).

There are a lot of different things we can make our treasure. How we look, how strong we are, how smart we are, how handy we are, how many times we win whatever event, how many people find us sexually attractive, how much money people think we have, how successful our children are, how tough others think we are, how well we do whatever activity comparatively, how recognized we are at our job. But all these things get between us and God. We spend more time measuring ourselves by our standards than looking to God and who God created us to be. During Lent we are talking about how to keep Jesus as our treasure, and understanding that Jesus loves us and invites us to return to him when we place our treasure somewhere other than Jesus. I invite you to be a part of reinforcing the faith Jesus has given us by walking with Jesus as the disciples did as we prepare to remember Good Friday and celebrate Easter.

The best news is that we are Jesus' treasure. What a magnificent truth! He gave up heaven to come to earth, to deal with people not getting what he was saying, and to be hurt and eventually crucified. Jesus did this for you. For me. For us. Let us join together to praise our wonderful God, and focus on our true treasure - Jesus Christ.

May all glory be to God through Jesus Christ, now and forever.

Pastor Eric



# March



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> 8am & 10:30am Worship 9:15am SS 1:30pm Windsor Manor Worship 2pm St Olaf Bell Choir Performance 2:30pm St. Frances Worship	<b>2</b> 5pm SPRC Meeting 5:30pm Church Use - FT 6:30pm Boy Scouts	<b>3</b> 10am Lenten Study 2:30pm Staff Meeting 6pm Board of Trustees Meeting	<b>4</b> 2pm UWF Exec Brd Mtg 3:30pm Club 916 5:15pm RR Practice 6pm Park St High 6:15pm CC Practice	<b>5</b> 7am Men's Small Group 5:30pm Grinnell Community Meal 6:30pm Praise Band	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> 8am & 10:30am Worship 9:15am SS 3pm Church Use - Boy Scouts	<b>9</b> 11:30am Boomers Lunch 1pm Dorcas Circle 6pm PFLAG Meeting 6:30pm Boy Scouts	<b>10</b> 10am Lenten Study 1pm Trinity Circle 2:30pm Staff Meeting	<b>11</b> 9am Blood Drive 3:30pm Club 916 4pm Discipleship Committee Mtg 5:15pm RR Practice 5:15pm Service Committee Mtg 6pm Park St High 6:15pm CC Practice	<b>12</b> 5:30pm Grinnell Community Meal 6:30pm Praise Band	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> 8am & 10:30am Worship 9:15am SS 11:30am Connections Committee Church Potluck	<b>16</b> 6:30pm Boy Scouts	<b>17</b> 10am Lenten Study 2:30pm Staff Meeting 5:15pm Finance Committee Mtg 6pm Worship Committee Mtg 7pm Church Council Mtg	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 5:30pm Grinnell Community Meal 6:30pm Praise Band	<b>20</b> 6pm Church Use - FtT	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> 8am & 10:30am Worship 9:15am SS 12pm Social Justice Small Group 3pm Church Use - Boy Scouts	<b>23</b> 6pm Church Use - FT 6:30pm Boy Scouts 7pm Rachel Circle	<b>24</b> 10am Lenten Study 2:30pm Staff Meeting	<b>25</b> 8:30am Foster Care Rvw Brd 3:30pm Club 916 6pm Park St High	<b>26</b> 5:30pm Grinnell Community Meal 6:30pm Praise Band	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> 8am & 10:30am Worship 9:15am SS 11:45am Faith Food & Fun	<b>30</b> 6:30pm Boy Scouts	<b>31</b> 10am Lenten Study 2:30pm Staff Meeting				



# March Birthdays & Anniversaries



3 - Trenton Turba  
4 - Preston Dodd  
5 - Jackie Harris  
7 - Kylie Kelling, Lyle Roudabush  
8 - Jullie Chamberland  
9 - Donna German, Lisa Hollopeter,  
Nancy Bender  
11 - Nile Benesh  
12 - Kara West, Nolan West  
13 - Cole Henderson, Danya Crites  
14 - Joy Murphy  
15 - Abby Petig, Jerrica See  
16 - Patti Marsho  
17 - Karen Packard  
18 - Darwin Copeman, Rosemary Dotson  
19 - Allen Latcham  
20 - Avery Brennan, Shyanne Breeden  
21 - Katee Shinkle  
23 - Jared Togle, Mark Steffen,  
Ofelia McIntyre  
24 - Ginger Sterk, Kaylyn Kingery,  
Lily Hamilton  
25 - Duane Blagden, Monique Shore,  
Peter Marsho  
27 - Dorothy Stemsrud, Zach Van Arkel  
28 - Becky Downey  
31 - Gary Shebeck

2 - Gary & Becky Downey  
19 - Al and Deb Henderson

*Thank You* 

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Dear Grinnell UMC.  
Thank you for organizing a life-saving blood drive! By sponsoring this event you made a significant contribution to your community and impacted the lives of many local hospital patients.

We truly appreciate your partnership in saving lives!  
LifeServe Blood Center

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Dear GUMC Friends,  
Through your financial support you are serving within a vital web of interactive relationships, partnering to engage globally in direct ministry to people in need. THANK YOU!  
Project Jubilee

# Grinnell United Methodist Church

**GUMC Staff:**

**Eric Schubert, Pastor**  
pastor@grinnellumc.org

**Cindy Claussen,**  
Director of Discipleship  
discipleship1@grinnellumc.org

**Amy Keenan,**  
Office Administrator  
adminassist@grinnellumc.org/  
finance@grinnellumc.org

**Worship Coord: Melissa Breeden;**  
worship1@grinnellumc.org

**Assistant Youth Coord: Katie Beall;**  
assistyouth@grinnellumc.org

**Organist: Richard Tanimoto**

**Bell Choir Director: Monique Shore**

**AV Technician: Jared Breeden**

**Nursery Attendants: Tracy Reitz,  
Kara Koester & Ava Seney**

**Sunday Worship**  
**@ 8:00AM & 10:30AM**

**Sunday School (for all ages)**  
**@9:15AM**

**Youth Groups**  
**Club 916 - Wednesday @**  
**3:30-5:00PM**  
**Park St High - Wednesday @**  
**6:00-8:00PM**

**Grinnell Community Meal**  
**Thursdays @ 5:30PM**



**Return Service Requested**

GRINNELL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
916 5th Ave  
Grinnell, IA 50112  
Email: adminassist@grinnellumc.org  
Growing in Christ while loving  
and serving all.