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# The Samaritan

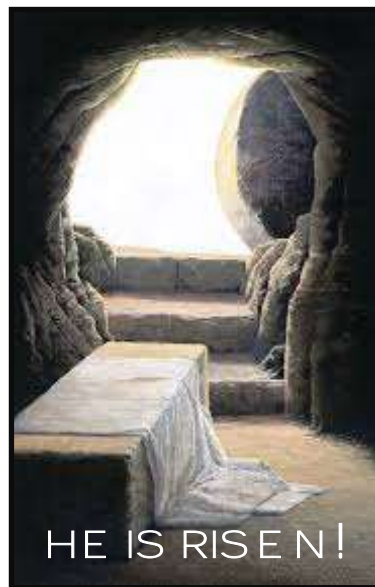
*Inspiring Joyful Faith, Building a Loving Community, Serving Neighbors Near and Far*

## Holy Week Worship



Maundy Thursday  
March 24 - 6:30 p.m.  
Meal & Service

Good Friday  
March 25 - 7:00 p.m.  
Basilica of St. Mary



Easter Sunday  
March 27  
6:45 - 8:30 - 9:45 - 11:00 a.m.

More information about these services can be found on page 4.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE	
Take Up Your Cross	2
Mission News	3
Holy Week Schedule ASP Dates	4
Youth & Children	5
Progressive Dinner Boy Scout Breakfast Homeward Bound	6
CSA / All Church Meeting	7

## Take Up Your Cross

If any want to become my followers,  
let them . . . take up their cross daily . . .

Then Jesus said to them all,  
**"If any want to become my**  
followers, let them deny  
themselves and take up their  
cross daily and follow me. For  
those who want to save their life  
will lose it, and those who lose  
their life for my sake will save  
it. What does it profit them if  
they gain the whole world, but  
lose or forfeit themselves?

- Luke 9:23-25 -

During this Lenten season we have been considering Crosswords from the scriptures. We have thought about passages which remind us that the events of the original Good Friday are still relevant 2,000 years later.

The paradox of the cross is a central part of our Christian life. In the time of Jesus, the cross was a Roman method of inspiring fear and submission. It was a combination of a slow, painful death and public humiliation.

When Jesus told his followers to take up their cross it must have sounded absurd. The pain and stigma of the cross was the opposite of what anyone would have wanted to embrace.

Today the symbol of the cross has been transformed. For many people it is nothing more than decorative, making an interesting tattoo or piece of jewelry.

However, the call to bear the cross which Jesus calls us to do *daily* is a call to submit our will to **the Lord's and pray "thy will be done"** and not my will. It means living our life according to the commandments of Jesus.

- ✝ Bearing your cross is about loving your neighbors and forgiving your enemies.
- ✝ Bearing your cross is about turning the other cheek.

✝ Bearing your cross is about not laying up treasures on earth, but laying up treasures in heaven.

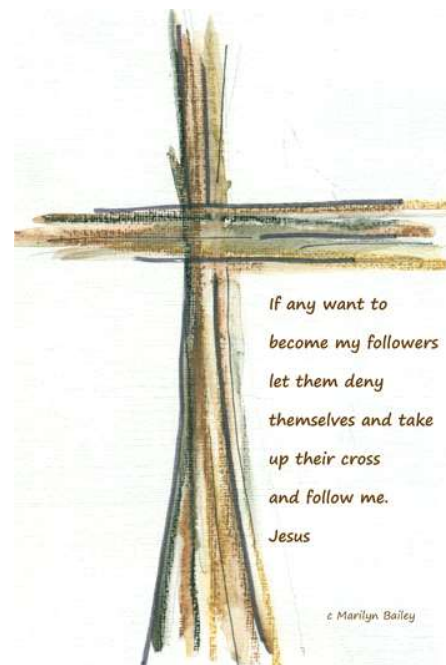
✝ Bearing your cross means not judging others so that you are not judged.

✝ Bearing your cross is about doing unto others what you would have them do to you.

✝ Bearing your cross is about letting your light shine before others, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father in Heaven.

**Jesus' death on the cross redeems us. His call to take up his cross daily transforms us.** It is a path which will lead us from self-centeredness to a life of service to others and devotion to the Lord.

~ Pastor Ed ~



## Thursday Afternoon Book Group

Starting March 10th we will be reading *Me Before You* by Jojo Moyes, the story of a former waitress who becomes caregiver to a quadriplegic. Join us in the Fireside Room for discussion and refreshments. Questions? Contact Vicki Dunn - 952-930-3431/victoria.dunn@q.com

## EASTER MISSIONS OFFERING



The Missions committee has selected the following four projects for our 2016 Easter Offerings.

- ◆ Families Moving Forward
- ◆ Migration Crisis in Europe
- ◆ Northside Achievement Zone
- ◆ VEAP Food Shelf

All families will receive a letter in the mail with descriptions of the above initiatives, as well as an envelope to mail back a donation. You may also place your donation in the Offering on any Sunday. Your donations should indicate which project you are giving towards.

***As the Scriptures say, "They share freely and give generously to the poor. Their good deeds will be remembered forever."*** 2 Corinthians 9:9

## FAMILIES MOVING FORWARD RECAP

Three families (fourteen people), were guests at Good Samaritan for the first of our two host weeks in 2016. We will open our hearts again November 6-13. After a five night stay, one family moved into affordable housing. Then, we received good news the following week that another family had found housing. This would not be so without the successful FMF program, and the participation of 60 churches.

One of Good Samaritan's Evening Play Host family commented, "This was the highlight of this year." Thank you to 92 volunteers who gave 400 hours to extend God's love to these families on their journey out of homelessness.

Beacon Interfaith Housing Collaborative is offering two training sessions for all FMF hosting volunteers. If you've been a volunteer or have considered being one the following options would be most helpful. Registration is required. More information is available from Lisa Nelson and Barb Verduci.

- \* Thursday, March 10 - 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM  
Valley Community Presbyterian Church, Golden Valley
- \* Saturday, April 2 - 9:00AM - 12:00 PM  
St. John's Lutheran Church and School, Chaska

## MARCH FOOD DRIVE

Calling all Good Samaritans to join in **VEAP's March Food Drive!** Bags will be available on **Sunday's and there is a collection box in the lobby.**



This year we will have a weekly focus for contributing food:

- Week 1: Canned meat and canned soups
- Week 2: Canned fruit and vegetables
- Week 3: Breakfast cereal
- Week 4: Diapers, toilet paper, laundry detergent

Did you know that in a typical day at VEAP ...

- 7 households come to VEAP for the first time
- 8 children receive a Birthday Bag
- 22 households call Social Services for **assistance in addition to the current household's** receiving assistance
- 32 rides for medical and essential errands are provided
- 445 people go home with 13,500 pounds of food



It takes all of us to make sure the shelves are full of food.

**TOGETHER WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE!**

## MARCH 13 DON'T BE LATE FOR CHURCH!



**PANCAKE BREAKFAST  
STARTS AT 7:15 AM!**



## IMPORTANT ASP DATES

- Sunday, April 24  
Culture & Sensitivity Night  
(Final Payment Due)
- Monday, May 9  
Adult Leader Meeting
- Saturday, May 21  
Tool Time
- Sunday, June 5  
Commissioning Sunday

Please check the website for more details about the above important dates and about the trip in general. There is a REQUIRED READING list on the website as well. Please start to look at these!

- ◆ ASP Expectations, Rules, and Regulations
- ◆ **The 3 S's: Sensitivity, Safety, and Stewardship**
- ◆ Safety Manual for Volunteers

*Please be in prayer for this trip.*

## REGISTER FOR WOMEN'S RETREAT



The 2016 Women's Retreat will be June 20-23 at Cove Point Lodge in Beaver Bay. There will be ample time for exploring North

Shore of Lake Superior attractions and visiting, in addition to our early morning and evening group gatherings. Rooms can accommodate two to four guests and include a microwave and refrigerator. Registration forms are available on the poster in the lobby and contain more detail. Scholarship funds are available. Retreat!

Deadline for the April *Samaritan* is Friday, March 18th.

Please submit articles to:  
[joanie@good.org](mailto:joanie@good.org), and [marketing@good.org](mailto:marketing@good.org).

Want to get the weekly prayer concerns or Good Sam e-News blast? Email Joanie at [joanie@good.org](mailto:joanie@good.org)

## HOLY WEEK & EASTER SERVICES



Palm Sunday - March 20  
9:00 & 10:30 AM  
Join in the Palm Processional



Maundy Thursday - March 24  
6:30 PM - Fellowship Hall  
A Celebration of the Last Supper

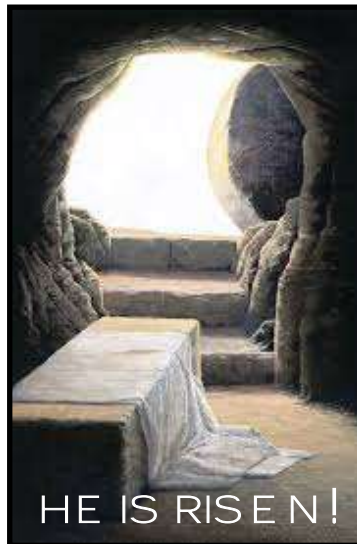
An intimate time of fellowship, worship and communion around the table. Please bring food to share in amounts proportional to family size. Beverages provided. Food suggestions based on last name:

- A-H: salad, side dish, bread or dessert
- I-Z: meat dish or vegetable



Good Friday - March 25  
7:00 PM - Basilica of St. Mary  
Tenebrae (Office of the Shadows)

Pastor Amanda invites you to join her for this special sensory-rich experience at the Basilica. Meet in the lower level parking lot at 6:00 PM for car-pooling.



EASTER SUNDAY  
March 27

Sunrise Service  
6:45 AM  
Amphitheater

Festival Services  
**8:30 • 9:45**  
and 11:00 AM

- \* Nursery for Infant-3 years old
- \* No Sunday School

***Plan to enjoy Easter Fellowship and a continental breakfast with friends and family following all services. Sponsored by the Caring Ministry Team.***

## YOUTH INFO

Our youth have been busy! Read on!

Meals on Wheels Birthday Bags - In February our youth groups put together Birthday Bags for Meals on Wheels recipients. The bags included crossword puzzles, hand lotion, socks, slippers and pencils. The recipients were joyful to receive these surprises. The director of the program sent a thank you to our youth and quoted one of their clients:

*"Dear Folks, What a fun surprise to receive this wonderful goodie bag from the driver yesterday! I kept finding one great thing after another as I searched to the bottom. Thank you so very much. It was fun too, to see the youth **group's signatures on the pretty card.** Thank you again. Bunny"*

Youth Ski Trip - Thirteen students and four adults went to Lutsen February 19-21 for the annual ski trip. They had two days of beautiful skiing, swim time at the YMCA, delightful accommodations at the Birchwood Community Center and lots of group laughs. Everyone had a great time.

FMF Blankets - In January the youth made new fleece blankets for the children that visit our church during Families Moving Forward week. We had the pleasure of using those blankets in February. The children were thrilled with the fun prints and soft blankets!

BUZZ & IOTA - Mar 6, 13, 20

Mar 6-We're making fleece blankets for the little angels admitted into Children's Hospital. We'll deliver them a week or two after they're made.



March 20-We'll be purchasing, making and serving a meal at Our Savior's Housing for the 40 shelter residents.

CONFIRMATION - Mar 2, 9, 16

Due to Holy Week and Edina Public Schools spring break, we will not have Confirmation on March 23 or 30. The confirmation students are invited to join us on Thursday, March 24, for the Maundy Thursday Service at 6:30pm.

Jim VerBout: Director of Families with Youth  
952.929.0049 ext.129 or [jim@good.org](mailto:jim@good.org)

## CHILDREN'S CORNER

Family Movie Night - Friday, March 12  
5:00-8:00 pm

Join us for pizza and salad at 5:00. Movies start at 6:00. Kids can bring sleeping bags, **stuffed friends, etc. and wear pj's if they wish.** This is a fun way to spend a night with other church families. Join us!



Easter Fun Event

Saturday, March 19

10 am - Noon Bring friends and family to this fun Easter event with an Easter egg hunt, lots of activities and art stations as well as a face painter and bounce house! Top off the fun with lunch! Happy Easter!

*\*Helpers needed* - run a station, help fill Easter eggs for the hunt, help grill hot dogs/serve lunch, help with clean up! Email Heather if you can assist! [heather@good.org](mailto:heather@good.org)

*Vacation Bible School - Get Involved!*

Did you know we had 170 kids involved in VBS last summer? Help - We still need people **to help in this summer's program!**

Teachers for all ages 4 years - 7th grade

Assistants for all ages

Science Center leaders and assistants (2 - 3)

Gym Center Assistants

Art teachers and assistants for preschoolers and K - 3

Snack helpers

People to work at the sign in tables each morning of VBS from 8:30 - 9:30

Photographers

Club VBS workers from 12:00 - 4:30 - paid positions available for this time for people 16 and older

Club VBS assistants from 12:00 - 4:30

Nursery Workers to take care of 6 wk. old- 3 yr. olds - 8:30 - 12:00 (also a paid position)

Donations also appreciated.

Stop at the VBS table in the lobby to sign up or donate. Donations can also be put in the Offering plate labeled VBS. Thank you!

Heather Miller: Dir. of Families with Children  
952.929.0049 ext.226 or [heather@good.org](mailto:heather@good.org)

## BOY SCOUT PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Saturday, March 5  
7:30-11:00 AM

Edina Boy Scout Troop 68 will be hosting their annual Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser here at Good Samaritan Church. Ticket prices are \$5 per person and \$15 per family.



Last year Troop 68 donated a portion of their profits from the Pancake Breakfast to Good Samaritan Church to purchase new dining forks. They also purchased a trailer that the Church is welcome to use as needed.

*Thank you for supporting Boy Scout Troop 68.*



## PROGRESSIVE DINNER

Saturday, April 2  
6:00 PM

Please join us April 2nd at 6:00 PM for an in-church progressive dinner. This event has been a big success in the past with lots of great food and fellowship. Here is how it works: You bring either a salad, appetizer, or dessert to share. Ideally your dish will serve 6 to 8 people. The Adult Fellowship Council will prepare the main dish. We will progress from room to room within the church to eat the different courses. There will be sign-up sheets in the lobby on Sunday mornings for you to RSVP and to let us know whether you will bring dessert, appetizer, or salad. Why not celebrate spring with your friends at Good Samaritan? **No doubt you'll make some new friends too.**

*Hosted by the Adult Fellowship Council*



## OUT-TO-LUNCH BUNCH

March 16

Join the group for a visit to the MN History Center to see the exhibit "Suburbia". Lunch will be at Cafe Minnesota. Meet in the lower level parking lot at 9:30 to carpool. Tickets: \$12/ Seniors - \$10

## SUNDAY AM BOOK GROUP

The Sunday Morning Book Group will be starting a new book on February 28th called ***Our Endangered Values: America's Moral Crisis***, by Jimmy Carter. Join the group Sunday mornings at 10:30 in the Fellowship Hall for coffee, donuts, and great discussion.

## HOMeward BOUND

Come hear Homeward Bound, Good Samaritan's in-house band play at the following events:

April 23 - **Hearts & Hammers "Spring Rag"**

7-10 PM \* Tickets: \$75  
Surly Brewing Company  
520 Malcolm Ave SE  
Minneapolis, MN 55414



The *Spring Rag* is an evening of fun and frivolity, including live dance music. There will be plenty of food and drink, plus a raffle. All contributions go to help Hearts & Hammers refurbish homes for seniors and the disabled who are unable to do so themselves. Last year, our volunteer teams renewed neighborhoods across North Minneapolis.

July 6 - Centennial Lakes Band Shell  
7-8 PM - FREE

Homeward Bound will also be playing at one of the Minneapolis parks (Lake Harriet band shell or Minnehaha Falls gazebo) - date yet to be determined. Stay tuned for more info!

\* Homeward Bound is in need of a bass player. Contact Brad Carlin if interested: 612-760-0963 or carli002@umn.edu

## GIRL SCOUT COOKIE SALE - MARCH 6 & 13

Girl Scout cookies will be on sale after services on March 6 and 13. All Girl Scouts who attend the church and want to sell cookies at a shared table before and after services should email Amanda (amanda\_kreider@hotmail.com) for a sign up link. Bring your own cookies and change.

*Get your cookies now!*

## TWIN LAKES CSA

This will be the fourth year that Good Samaritan will host Twin Lakes CSA (Community Supported Agriculture). A CSA is a bridge and a partnership; a direct relationship of mutual support and commitment between local farmers and consumers. Good Samaritan acts as a host site where members who have joined **the CSA pick up organic produce that's been delivered from local, small family farms.**

A CSA offers a direct, and mutually supportive relationship between urban consumers and sustainable farmers who are active environmental stewards and ambassadors. The CSA model has gained wide acclaim as a successful model for communities across the globe to come together, strengthen, and affect meaningful change.

Twin Lakes is an Amish community of organic, small family farms near Mora MN. They grow over 200 varieties of vegetables, herbs, and fruit, most from heirloom seeds preserved for generations.



By becoming a member of Twin Lakes CSA, **you'll receive a share in the farm's harvest.** A box containing 10+ different produce varieties will be delivered for you to pick up at Good Samaritan each week of the season. It is a way to directly support local farmers and come to know those who grow your food. In addition, recipes, meal planning and storage tips are provided each week to help you to fully savor your produce.

To learn more, stop and visit the information table on Sunday, April 3. You can also visit [www.ugraze.com](http://www.ugraze.com) or contact Liz Talley (Twin Lakes' CSA facilitator) at 952-201-2330 or [liz@ugraze.com](mailto:liz@ugraze.com).

## ALL CHURCH MEETING WITH DAN JOHNSON

Please plan on attending this important meeting with our District Superintendent:

All Church Meeting  
Tuesday, March 15  
7-8 PM

In an effort to connect with churches in the Twin Cities District, Dan Johnson will be visiting with our Staff Parish Relations Committee and the entire congregation this month. The evening will progress as follows:

6:00-6:45 pm - SPRC: Introductions, Overview of Rule of Christ Best Practices, Performance Review Tools, Staff/Parish Celebrations and Concerns

7:00-8:00 pm - Open Church Meeting: Devotions, Mission/Vision, Wesley Foundation, Reach-Renew-Rejoice, and Key Questions (Sent to us from Dan - **"feel free to 'prime the pump' in advance."**)

~When have you felt especially proud of some members or leaders of your congregation, when you felt they were really following Christ? What makes this incident stand out in your mind?

~Why are you glad you are a member of this congregation? Why did you join this congregation instead of another one?

~How has being part of this congregation helped you and members of your family grow in love of God and neighbor? Reach new people? Heal a broken world?

~Describe a time when congregation members resolved a conflict or difference effectively. What do you think the congregation learned from this experience? How do leaders and members handle differences now?

~**Complete this sentence: "God is calling this church to ..."**

~What other comments, questions, concerns or suggestions are on your hearts and minds?

**"I eagerly anticipate our time together!" ~ Dan**



**Good Samaritan United Methodist Church**  
**5730 Grove Street**  
**Edina, Minnesota 55436**

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***Return Service Requested***

*Our Vision:  
 Inspiring Joyful Faith,  
 Building a Loving Community,  
 Serving Neighbors Near and Far*

***Time Dated Material***

Worship at Good Samaritan

Sunday Services

9:00 AM and 10:30 AM

Join us in fellowship ~

Coffee & lemonade follow each service

\* \* \* \* \*

Nursery for infant–age 3  
 Offered during both services

\* \* \* \* \*

**Children’s Sunday School**

Preschool and K-6

9:00 AM and 10:30 AM

\* \* \* \* \*

Youth Sunday School at 10:30 AM

\* \* \* \* \*

*See front page for Holy Week Schedule*

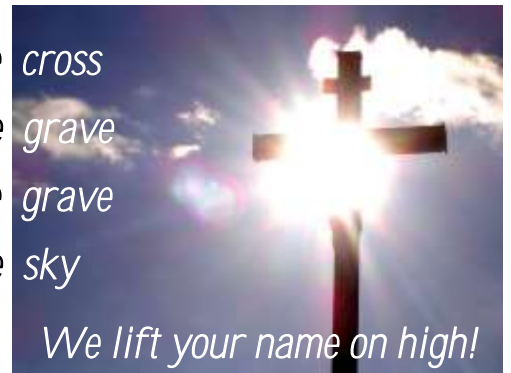
*Food for the journey . . .*

*From the cross*

*To the grave*

*From the grave*

*To the sky*



*We lift your name on high!*

**Office Hours:**  
 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM, Monday–Friday  
 Telephone: 952.929.0049  
 www.good.org