



# The Illuminator

a publication of  
South Grand Lake Christian Church  
(Disciples of Christ)



March/April 2023

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Issue 3-1

## Pastor's Message

I am directionally challenged – so much so that when I need to decide which way to turn, it is usually best for me to go in the opposite direction of that which first seemed most logical.

This is true about decisions I must make regarding cardinal directions (when I don't have GPS available to me) as well as my search for meaning in the journey of life. I often head off in one direction before realizing that there was a path that would take me on a much more meaningful journey to the "place" I hope to be.

Much of my time is spent focusing on a destination. So much so, that I often miss the gifts of the journey itself. I'm wondering...do definite destinations deter divine discoveries? Can we get so focused on where we're going, that we miss where we are and what God is doing right here, right now?

The Lenten journey is multi-dimensional. It's about the ongoing discovery of self, God, Jesus, and acts of compassion to self and neighbors. It's about breathing in and breathing out. Taking hold and letting go.

What if we let go of (or at least loosen our hold on) definite destinations? What if we open ourselves to life-giving moments along the way? SGLCC's Pastor Emeritus, Rev. Dr. Bob Weitzel, often advises, "Trust the process." I hope he agrees that "trust the journey" is an appropriate transliteration of his wisdom. What happens as we trust God's presence in the process, in the journey?

What do you notice? What do you find...

if you stop reading these words right now, and take in the space around you...

if you pause momentarily before you get in your vehicle next time...

if you pray for someone you meet as you drive or ride along...

if you watch for something new or different on the roadside...

if you get caught up in conversation with a stranger or a friend...

if you follow a prompting of your heart...

if you trust the journey?



### March

- 12 Daylight Savings
- 13 Sr. Food Distribution
- 15 Elders @ 6:30 pm
- 18 Executive Committee
- 23 Ketchum Food Distribution

### April

- 02 Palm Sunday
- 06 Holy Week Service
  - All night prayer vigil
- 09 Sunrise @ the Sellers 6:30 am
  - Easter Sunday!
- 15 Executive Committee
- 23 General Board (after worship)



The Devoted Disciples of SGLCC are embracing in a number of special activities to make our Lenten Journey a meaningful one! The season commenced with an intimate Ash Wednesday service, a pancake supper at IHOP in Owasso and a private premier showing of the movie, "The Jesus Revolution". Logistical and time allocation challenges were met with an abundance of patience and grace by all who participated!



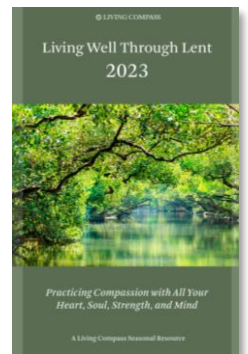
*On the road to resurrection ...*

One of the joys of the Christian walk is sharing life with others. You're invited to text or email the pastors photos of places and descriptions of meaningful experiences you encounter along the way on your Lenten journey. A video will be created each week using these pictures and narratives. It will be shared in worship on Sunday as we make our way to the empty tomb.



**Oh Happy Day!** We're delighted to welcome Clint Cross and Rex Wood as official members of the SGLCC church family!!!

Lenten Daily Devotionals and prayer boxes are available to enrich your spiritual practices in the days ahead. Please let one of the pastors know if you would like one of these resources.



The number of families served by the South Grand Lake Community Ministry Center, aka, The Blue House, continues to grow each month. Basic staples to stock the food pantry are sometimes in short supply. It is an ongoing challenge is to keep an inventory of sliced bread on hand. Our family of faith is invited to help with this challenge by bringing loaves of bread or donating in the basket located in the lobby.





## In our prayers ...

Shane Ailey, Michael Ailey, Mary Allen, Rick Atkinson, John Baird, family and friends of Sandy Bilyeu, Fred Blythe, David Booker, Jill Brausell, Louise Compston, Ted Coombes, Calvin Cross, Dianne Farmer, Cindy & Gary Fest, Bill Gilpin, Christie Goldy, Jennifer Haines, Karen Hendrix, Leroy Hughes, Barbara Isaacs, Ron Jackson, Joyce Lewis, John Martin, Brian Robinson, Jim Rogers, Vickey Rose, Christy Rowell, Lou Saunders, Jan Sharkis, Jim Shelton, Susan Stanifer, Alena Thibert, Chris Tribble, Patty Wolfe, Mike Yancy, David Zovadny, caregivers, first responders, Armed Forces, national and world leaders, those affected by acts of violence, addiction, mental illness and natural disasters.



### March

Mike Workman  
Jade Ailey  
J.J. Ailey  
Helen Williams  
Diana Sellers

### April

Mique Ailey  
Jared Grundy  
Sharon Hicks  
Sue Upton  
Pat Wadley  
Matthew Hinson



### March

Jack & Buddie Massey

### “Keep awake and pray ...” Mark 14:39

On the night he was arrested, Jesus asked his disciples to keep watch with him in the Garden of Gethsemane prior to his arrest. This Maundy Thursday, after our Holy Week worship service, we will light a bonfire by the roadside from 7 pm to 7 am as a place for reflection. We invite you to stop by sometime during the vigil for a time in prayer.



Sunrise @ the Sellers

Our family of faith has been greatly blessed for several years by the opportunity to have a small informal gathering to witness the sunrise on Easter morning. Jim & Diana Sellers have graciously opened their home to share their amazing view looking over the lake to the east from the bluff at Langley as we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord. All are welcome to attend Easter morning at 6:30 a.m. Please let us know if you need directions.



Tithes & Offerings

General Fund Offerings: January \$ 23,071.32 Designated Gifts: \$1,300.00  
February \$ 7,651.00 \$3,229.00

Blessing Quarters: January & February \$146.43  
Year To Date: \$146.43

February Attendance				
Date	Members	Visitors	in Person	Online Views
2-05	37	10	47	47
2-12	33	6	39	70
2-18	36	6	42	73
2-26	22	8	30	84