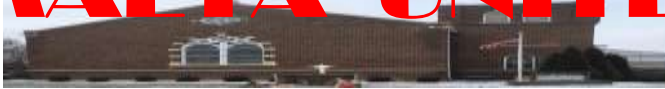


MALTA UNITED



Methodist Church

MARCH 2022

Dear Malta United Methodist Church,

For the past two years our congregation and the world has dealt with a pandemic that has disrupted our lives, and sadly lead to the death of many in our world, in our church family and our extended church family. We mourn those lost. However, the good news is that the rate of Covid-19 transmission in Illinois, and in DeKalb County has dropped significantly, and the danger to people is much less than it was only a few weeks ago. In light of this, there are new guidelines coming from our county and state health departments. With these new guidelines our health team, Tom Plote, Mary Lynn McArtor, and myself have decided we can make some policy changes here at church starting on March 1, 2022:

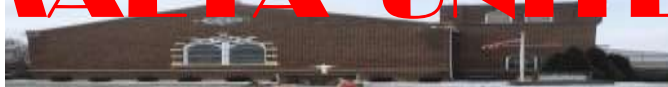
1. We will again allow there to be food served at the church, and will resume Coffee Hour & Fellowship following worship on Sundays. However, we will continue to ask that when food and drinks are being served, they only be served to you by people wearing gloves. This will cut down on the spread of germs of any sort (not just Covid!)
2. We will not require masks any longer while in the building. However, if you choose to wear a mask you are welcome to do so. We ask that there not be any comment on choosing to mask or not mask. For those who are immune, compromised or have other health conditions (or for their caregivers) extra protection may be the wisest course, and we want to respect that.

3. We will resume choir with the first practice on Thursday, March 3, at 7:00 P.M.
4. We will continue to provide online worship and small group opportunities so that people who need to stay home or are out of town, for whatever reason, can participate. Our online ministry has become part of our core ministry and will continue in perpetuity.
5. We ask people to respect the decisions of others about their health. We know that Covid-19, like many other issues in our society, stirs strong emotions and is not seen by everyone the same way. Let us speak in love with each other and seek to understand each other as we move forward.
6. We hope that we will be able to stick with these policies, but should there be a significant increase in Covid cases here in DeKalb County (or any other epidemic) we may need to re-impose restrictions. Let us pray and work for that not to happen!

I want to personally add one final thought. To the best of my knowledge, the vaccines and boosters combating Covid-19 dramatically lower the threat of getting sick. And if one does get Covid, a vaccinated and boosted person is dozens of times less likely to die from this disease. If you've not already done so, I strongly encourage you to get vaccinated and boosted, as is available for your age group. We don't want to lose you!

In Christ, Pastor Jeremiah

MALTA UNITED



Methodist Church MARCH 2022



Pastor Jeremiah's Message for March

Considering the longer letter concerning our new Covid-19 policies and other matters, my column this month is short. On March 2nd we begin the season of Lent, the 40 days (not including Sundays) before Easter. For centuries, this season has been a time of prayer, repentance, and reflection as people see to nurture their relationship with God. I strongly encourage you to find a way to focus on your relationship with God during this season. Perhaps strengthen your prayer life, read the bible, join our Lenten study, or if it's medically safe for you engage in a fast of some sort for religious reasons, or "fast" from something else in your life. There are as many authentic and healthy ways to live out our relationship with God, as there are people in existence. So I encourage you to prayerfully consider what you can do this Lent to grow closer in your relationship with God. as seen in the life, teaching, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

May Lent be a time of growth for us all,
Pastor Jeremiah



We will have an **Ash Wednesday Worship Service** at **7:00 PM on Wednesday March 2** at the church (masks are optional, as you feel wisest for you and your loved ones' health). This will be a service of scripture, prayer, music, and communion. All ages are invited. We hope you can join us!



Afternoon Sunday School

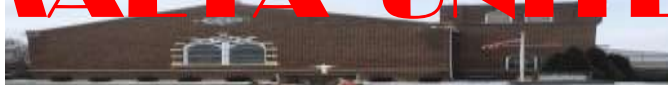
We continue to have Afternoon Sunday School twice a month. This is time for children K-3 to meet at church for music, to learn about Jesus, for crafts and games, and also a snack (public health situation permitting). We will meet on March 6 and March 20, at 4:00 p.m. and we hope the children in your life can join us!



The Lord's Prayer

It's not too late to sign up for our church Lenten Study on Rev. Adam Hamilton's book *The Lord's Prayer*. This study will meet Wednesday Evenings during Lent (March 9-April 13) at 7:00 PM. We will be meeting via Zoom and in person, so please join us, however you can. Please let Pastor Jeremiah know how you plan to join us. You can email him at castiger1@gmail.com, or call or text at 815-592-3764.) Our study will have readings from the book and the bible each week, a video, and discussion and prayer time. If you can, we ask for a 15 dollar donation to help cover the costs of the books. But if you cannot do that at this time, we want you to be part of the group all the same and we will make sure you have a book. If you want to participate and you have not already, please let Pastor know by March 2, so we can get your book ordered. Let

MALTA UNITED



Methodist Church MARCH 2022

us learn and grow together! We have 2 books available on the table outside the office, if you would like to pick one up.



MALTA /AREA MILITARY MEN AND WOMEN CURRENTLY SERVING OUR COUNTRY



Del Sandberg passed on January 19th
and

Alice (Schafer) Craddock passed on February
3rd .

Our thoughts & prayers go out to Carol
Sandberg & Family and
Alice (Schafer) Craddock's Family.

Del Sandberg & Alice (Schafer) Craddock
were both Members of Malta UMC
since 1951. (71 years)

Almburg, Brett
Bakken, Benjamin P.
Bakken, Monique
Bulta, Andy
Clark, Ben
Clark, Kerry
Howe, Chase
Hoyle, Steve
Brett Johnson & Mrs.
Samantha Johnson
Madsen, Jeff

Nelson, Michael
Norman, Jacob
Page, Greg
Peterson, Eric
Ritter, Matt
Swink, Ashley
West, Jonathon M.
Wilson, Kim.
Woodyatt, John M.
Yedinak, Pete



**Send Cards & Letters (anytime) to the Troops,
Send them to:**

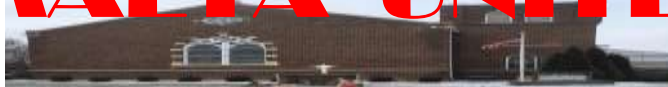
**Support Our Troops
13791 N. Nebraska Avenue
Tampa, FL 33613.**

4H on March 10th

4H meets the 2nd Thursday of
each Month at 6:30 p.m.



MALTA UNITED



Methodist Church MARCH 2022



2021 FINANCIAL HEALTH OF OUR CHURCH

Dear Members and Friends,

Commendations to all of you, for pulling together and getting our church building in good shape to get through this winter season. The need for repairs and costs were published and we received a tremendous response for our Capital Improvement Fund.

Repairs completed this fall totaled \$114,356. Donations to the Capital Improvement Fund totaled \$84,273.55. In order to complete our payments for the repair work, a five-year loan for \$40,000 was secured from Resource Bank. There is an annual principal payment of \$30,000 plus interest on the loan due this fall.

In addition, we have once again paid our apportionments in full for the year 2021. The amount paid was \$10,464.

Total Operating Income from January through December, 2021 was \$140,699.74. Total Operating Expenses for the same period of 2021 were \$142,419.10

Thus we ended the year with a **-\$1719.36** Net Income. This means we operated close to our budget projections.

Be reminded that we have more repair work (tuck-pointing etc.) to do on our building in 2022.

Apportionments for 2022 are \$10,836.

And we still have the expenses of operating the church—salaries, insurance, utilities, supplies, etc.

Please continue your faithful support and pray for another “financially healthy year” for our church.

Your Finance Committee

Please send all Capital Improvement Fund donations to Nancy Plote at 411 S. Malta Rd., Malta, IL 60150

**Next meeting is Monday, April 4th
Finance at 7:00 and Church Council at 7:30 P.M.**

Church Council Committee:

Pastor Jeremiah Thompson

Church Council Chair: Ed Cheek

Secretary of CC: Sue Augustine

Church Finance: Bill Augustine

Trustee Chair: Tom Plote

Church Financial Secretary: Nancy Plote

Church Treasurer: Kevin McArtor

Lay Leader Delegate: Jodi Slade

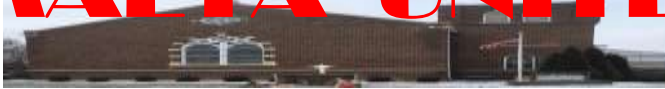
Church Education: Kitty Jouris

Alternate Lay Delegate: Mary Lynn

Ruth Hueber

McArtor

MALTA UNITED



Methodist Church MARCH 2022



HELPING OUR KIDS AT MALTA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Many students don't have the school supplies they need to succeed (particularly if they must transfer in during the school year) and others don't have the gloves and hats they need to stay warm in the cold months. But we can help! Below is a list of supplies and items we can donate to help the children. We will have a collection box for these items in the Narthex of Malta UMC.

School supplies NEEDED:

Boxes of crayons with 24 colors, glue sticks, boxes of #2 pencils, boxes of Kleenex, 3 ring binders, plastic school folders, black dry erase markers, scissors, (for younger and older children, and boxes of regular colored markers. (I believe they come in boxes of 8 colors). Finally a donation of a new stocking hat, pair of gloves or mittens would be wonderful. (Hand-made mittens and hats are ok, as long as they are new).

I encourage you to consider making a donation today and let's help the kids of Malta, and our elementary school.



HELPING THE "FOOD PANTRY"

You are welcome to bring Non-Perishable Food anytime throughout the year for the Salvation Army Food Pantry. Place your items in the box in the narthex marked "Food Pantry." Salvation



I am sending a heartfelt thank you for all the thoughtful cards, gifts and prayers I have received. I am feeling pretty good and staying close to home to keep myself safe & well. I love to have visitors, especially on Fridays, when family cannot be here. I would especially like to thank the Malta Lions Club for thinking of me during the Christmas holidays. Their generosity and caring meant a lot to me. I am very blessed to have a wonderful church family, the Malta Lions Club along with the Malta community supporting and caring about me during these stressful and difficult times.

Thank you all so much,
Janice Frye

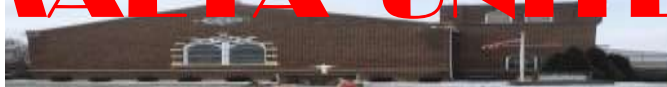


TODAY'S SISTERS

Today's Sisters meets the 3rd Thursday of each month. In March they meet on Thursday, the 17th - 9:00 a.m. at Malta UMC.

*Hostess: Noel Arndt & Shirley Kyler
Devotions & Minutes: Vicky Vint*

MALTA UNITED



Methodist Church

MARCH 2022



Malta UMC Lay Leadership

2	Jodi Slade
3	Mary Langley
6	Stella Glen
8	LuAnn Hudson
10	Nate Engstrom, Noah Engstrom
13	Larisa Willrett
14	Frank E. Jouris
15	Paul Hudson
16	Louise Willrett, Olivia Willrett
21	Conner Hill, Deven Hill
25	Austin Cook
28	Mary Lynn McArtor

Church Council Chair: Ed Cheek

Board of Trustees Chair: Tom Plote

Committee of Finance & Stewardship Chair:

Bill Augustlne

Staff, Pastor & Parish Relations Chair:

Marcia Hueber

Worship Ministries Chair: Jodi Slade

Mission & Outreach Chair: Mary Lynn McArtor

Christian Education Chair: Kitty Jouris

Membership Care Chair: Sue Augustine

Lay Leadership & Discipleship Chair:

Pastor Jeremiah

Committee on Records & History Chair:

Marilyn Berg

If you are interested in joining one of these groups, please contact the Chair.

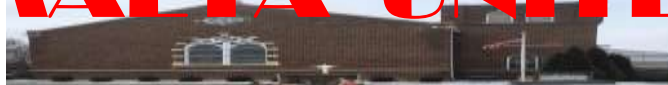
They would love to hear from you!



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

FRIDAY, MARCH 4TH

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Methodist Church

MARCH 2022



ACTION GROUPS

Coffee Hour starts up again March 6th after worship service!

ACTION GROUPS FOR 2022/2023

MARCH/JULY/NOVEMBER 2022

Co-Chairs:

Heins, Vicke & Denny 815-252-0841
Hueber, Marcia 815-762-0010

Anderson, Ann & Marlin 815-825-2695
Berg, Marilyn & Harry 815-761-6232
Davison, Verna 815-756-2008
Fenstermaker, Katie & David 417-291-2031
Hopkins, Norma 815-751-1454
Hunt, Brenda & Jay 815-762-9845
Jordal, Linda & Jerry 815-601-6262
Quincer, Alice & Jim 815-761-8750
Siebrasse, Pat 815-970-5304

MAY/SEPTEMBER 2022/JANUARY 2023

Co-Chairs:

Sandberg, Terry & Steve 815-762-1035
McArtor, Mary Lynn & Jerry 815-751-3658
Plote, Nancy & Tom 815-751-2925

Burlison, Beth 815-384-3284
Cheek, Ed & Becky 815-761-0696
Langley, Mary 815-384-3333
Lynch, Connie 815-825-2722
Sandberg, Carol 815-761-1254
Sandberg, Sheli 630-677-7900
Showhalter, Denise 815-764-5238
Tucker, Joan 815-981-6209
Vaughn, Sue 815-762-5414
Willrett, Donna 815-825-2870

APRIL/AUGUST/DECEMBER 2022

Co-Chairs:

Jouris, Kitty & Frank 815-751-3238
Vint, Vicky & Larry 815-751-5178

Abbott, Joanne & Dennis 815-825-2563
Arndt, Noel 815-751-0404
Augustine, Sue & Bill 815-762-5553
Butler, Florence & Paul 815-761-4788
Glen, Stella 815-761-2302
Hill, Rachel & Jason 630-441-0585
Hueber, Ruth 815-764-9932
Kyler, Shirley 815-751-2435
Schafer, Sandy 815-825-2364
Thompson, Pastor Jeremiah 815-592-3764
Willrett, Hope & Gene Hickey 815-901-8486

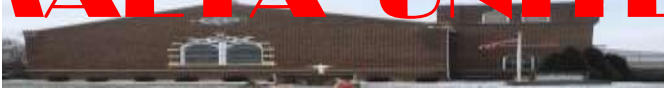
JUNE/OCTOBER 2022/FEBRUARY 2023

Co-Chairs:

Cook, Dawn & Doug 815-757-3303
Slade, Jodi & Ken 815-761-2753
McArtor, Denice & Kevin 815-751-5812

Anderson, Annika & Matt 815-762-7569
Arndt, Darla & Ed 815-825-2701
Engstrom, Amy & Rod 815-901-0286
Fucilla, Jacque & Brian 630-248-5695
Gommel, Jeanette & Dave 815-751-8224
Mattis, Katie & Troy 815-825-2063
Rempfer, Niki & Derek 815-501-7885
Willrett, Larisa & Jamie 815-761-4781

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Methodist Church MARCH 2022

Midwest Mission



MIDWEST MISSION DISTRIBUTION CENTER

is in **NEED** of

“PERSONAL DIGNITY KITS”

Please help Midwest Mission by bringing contributions for their “Personal Dignity Kits.” Place these items in the box in the Narthex marked (Personal Dignity Kits).

NEEDED:

- 1 Bath Hand Towel – No Kitchen Towels
- 1 Bath Washcloth – No dishclothes
- 1 Adult Toothbrush – No multipacks
- 1 Bar of Soap – 3 to 4 oz.
- 1 Shampoo – 15 to 18 oz.
- 1 Deodorant – 2 to 3 oz.
(Stick, roll on, or pump)
- 1 1-gal resealable Plastic Bag

\$2.00 donation for razor & toothpaste

All items must be new and placed in a 1-gal resealable plastic bag.

Monetary donations can be sent to MMDC, 1001 Mission Drive, Pawnee, IL 62558



Holy Week Worship Services

Our Holy Week schedule will be as follows:

- **April 10, Palm/Passion Sunday**, 9:00 AM Worship Service
- **April 14, Maundy/Holy Thursday**: Worship Service at 7:00 PM with Communion
- **April 15, Good Friday**, 7:00 PM Worship Service

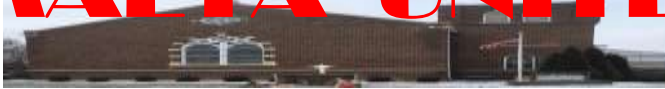
Sunday April 17, EASTER, 9:00 AM Worship Service. As we celebrate that Christ rose, and that death and sin are not more powerful than God’s love for us!



MARCH 13, 2022

**Turn your clocks ahead
Saturday at midnight!**

MALTA UNITED



Methodist Church MARCH 2022



MISSION LINKS 2022

(FORMALY RAINBOW COVENANT)

Living the Beatitudes 2021-2024

Mission Links Book

I. APPORTIONMENTS 2022 - First-Mile Giving: \$10,836 Pg. 5-7

We are committed o met our apportionments in full,
and we set these additional goals.

II. Advance Projects – Second-Mile Giving:

Global Advance Projects Pg. 13

Lithuania In Mission Together (#12168A)

UMCOR/Emergency Relief Projects (Undesignated) Pg. 20

Midwest Mission – MMDC (#50000150)

US Based Advances Pg. 21

Tree of Life Ministry – Prairie, S. Dakota (#123615)

Northern Illinois Conference Projects Pg. 23

NIU Wesley Foundation at NIU (#50000135)

Outdoor & Retreat Ministries “Camperships”

Scholarships (#50000036)

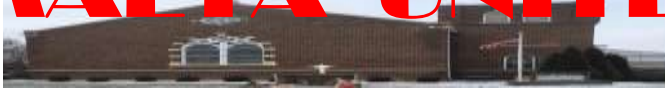
NIC District Projects Pg. 26

Rockford Work Camps (#60000234)

Pastor: Jeremiah Thompson

Mission Chair: Mary Lynn McArtor

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Methodist Church MARCH 2022

2022 MISSION & OUTREACH COMMITTEE MINUTES

The Mission & Outreach Committee met at the church following worship service on February 20, 2022. The Committee Members are: Chair, Mary Lynn McArtor, Ed Cheek, Marcia Hueber, Denny Heins, Jodi Slade, Sue Vaughn, and Pastor Jeremiah.

The purpose of the meeting was to develop and plan the Malta U.M. Churches connectional giving projects for the Northern Illinois Conference. The committee reviewed the new guidelines before the meeting. We also reviewed our district and community outreach activities.

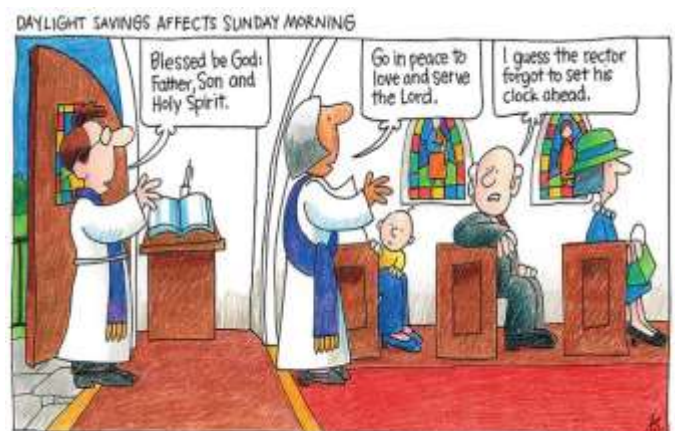
The New Connectional Guidelines use the Beatitudes to give purpose to each of the Advance Projects that involve giving throughout the Conference and the world. We choose projects to support each of the 6 categories. Our task was to make a list for church members to be aware of where donations to apportionments are sent. It takes each church congregation in the whole Northern Illinois Conference to participate on all the levels of the giving categories to get recognized as a connectional giving church. (In the past it was recognized as a Rainbow Covenant Church and now called Mission Links.)

During our discussion we reviewed the local outreach activities of our congregation, which were: The Salvation Army (DeKalb) Food Pantry throughout the year, the Christmas Giving for Salvation Army families, October Crop Walk in

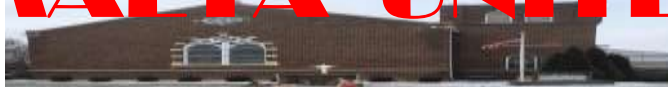
DeKalb County, and support Habitat for Humanity in planning to build a house in Malta. We also discussed community needs to support, either on our own or joining other local efforts. This list included: school supplies, warm hats & mittens for the children at Malta School, local food distribution by DeKalb County Community Gardens, share garden produce, our Senior Center participants and encourage volunteering in the community.

We concluded our meeting after a discussion regarding the Pastor often being the initial contact person for requests of a need and if the funds were available to meet any needs. Pastor Jeremiah will determine & disperse an amount termed appropriate to the need. He has a church debit card to use. The documentation shall include the date, amount, and what/where the funds were spent. A record should be sent to the church treasurer. A voucher could also be set up for local gas stations or food establishments.

Mary Lynn McArtor



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Methodist Church MARCH 2022



LIVING THE BEATITUDES

A Call to Action & Connection

Mission Giving Opportunities for advance projects and connectional giving have been made available by the Northern Illinois Conference Churches throughout the Conference and the world.

The projects and ministries are matched with a Beatitude that allows the Church to “Advance” the cause of Christ and work for the public good. Each project links to at least one of the Beatitudes – and NIC’s direct all to action in response to Jesus words.

The Beatitudes are identified with the following Icons (See below):

LINKING ADVANCE PROJECTS AND CONNECTIONAL GIVING TO THE BEATITUDES

“The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.” – Luke 4:18-19, NIV

Each project links to at least one of the Beatitudes – and NIC’s direct call to action in response to Jesus’ words. The Beatitudes are identified with the following icons:



Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called the children of God.

Moved by God’s grace, we forgive ourselves and others as we pursue justice, peace and unity in our journeys together.



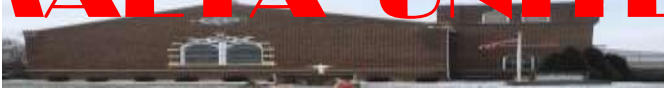
Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

Called to service, we grow in faith while sharing in ministries that reveal God’s vision as we face and respond to challenges.

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Inspired by the Spirit, we seek God’s guidance as we accept new challenges in our faith journey, wherever it takes us.

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Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

Touched by the pain of those who suffer injustice and hopelessness, we demonstrate God's compassion, love and acceptance.

Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

Remembering Jesus's humble journey to Jerusalem, we seek nonviolent, peaceful change and advocate for the powerless.



Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

Recalling Jesus' promise to heal the sick, free the prisoner and liberate the oppressed, we reach out in compassion.



Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

Remembering Isaiah's promise to rescue the poor and the oppressed, we pursue social justice to restore wholeness to communities

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Heeding Jesus' call to witness to God's love, we work with others to restore local, regional and global communities and celebrate the faith and courage of those who risk persecution.

THE BEATITUDES ARE ESSENTIAL AND RELEVANT TODAY!

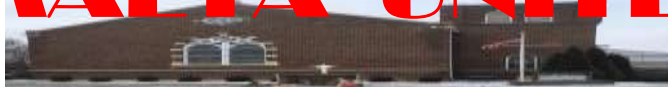
In Matthew 5:1-12, Jesus offers a portrait of the ways in which it is possible to be a good person with respect to others – a description of the various forms human goodness can take – within the eight categories of the Beatitudes.

The categories describe people we can recognize in our own day, in homeless shelters and nursing homes to the halls of power.

The projects and ministries described in the resource are matched with a Beatitude that allows the Church to “advance” the cause of Christ and work for the public good.

Your congregation, mission committee, or small group can learn about apportioned funds through connectional giving, give to Advances in a specific category, or learn about the missionaries our Annual Conference supports.

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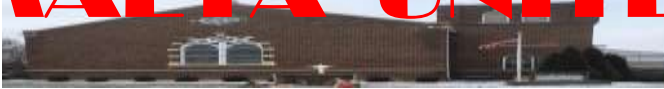
Methodist Church

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SUNDAY	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
2022		1	2 ASH WEDNESDAY Worship 7PM w/Communion 1 st Day of Lent	3 Choir Practice 7:00 p.m.	4 World Day of Prayer	5
6 1 st Sunday in Lent with Communion Afternoon Sunday School at 4:00 p.m.	7 Worship MEETING 630PM	8	9 Prayer Mtg 630pm Lenten Study 7PM	10 4H 6:30pm Choir Practice 7:00 p.m.	11	12
13 2 nd Sunday in Lent Scouting Sunday Daylight Savings Time Begins	14	15	16 Prayer Mtg 630pm Lenten Study 7PM	17 Choir Practice 7:00 p.m. TODAY'S SISTERS 9am	18	19
20 3 rd Sunday in Lent Afternoon Sunday School 4:00 p.m. First day of Spring	21	22	23 9 Prayer Mtg 630pm Lenten Study 7PM	24 Vicke on Vacation Choir Practice 7:00 p.m.	25	26
27 4 th Sunday in Lent UMCOR Sunday Special Offering	28 Vicke on Vacation	29	30 Prayer Mtg 630pm Lenten Study 7PM	31 Choir Practice 7:00 p.m.		

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Methodist Church

MARCH 2022

Malta United Methodist Church

(815) 825-2118

201 E. Sprague (P.O. Box 158

Malta, IL 60150

maltaumc@outlook.com

Rev. Jeremiah Thompson, Pastor

Vicke Heins, Adm. Asst.

Hours: M – W – Thur 8-Noon



Malted Methodist Church

201 E. Sprague (P.O. Box 158)

Malta, IL 60150

TO: