

Thursday, March 5, 2026

This past Sunday there was an uninvited guest that showed up to Simon's home when Jesus was there. As she washed his feet with her tears, dried his feet with her hair, and anointed his feet with expensive oil, we were given an example of what it looks like to love God with our everything.

We also saw how Simon's lack of hospitality toward Jesus and lack of welcome toward the stranger does not convey the love for God that a Pharisee should be showing to others.

As followers of Jesus we have a responsibility to spread the good news in all the ways messages are spread.

And the good news is great love for God and neighbor.

This is the GREATEST COMMANDMENT!!!

It's non-negotiable for followers of Jesus.

It is a both-an scenario that is desperately needed to be seen in big ways within the Christian faith today to help drown out the noise of hypocrisy and Christian Nationalism that has misrepresented who Jesus is and what it means for us to follow him.

If we aren't loving ALL our neighbors as we love ourselves, we are incapable of truly loving God with our whole being.

If you are interested in connecting with our theme throughout the week, A Sanctified Art, has provided a special e-reader version of this year's Lenten devotional, which you can access on your computer and mobile devices. Simply copy and paste:

online.flippingbook.com/view/546389771/

In order to protect their work, please refrain from sharing this link or posting it on social media.

If you would prefer a hard copy, please let us know and we would be happy to print one for you.

You can also connect with the daily theme postings on our Facebook Page: Port Byron First United Methodist Church

This Sunday we will read Mark 6:30-44 as we explore how the **Good News is...Together, the Impossible is Possible!**

Our March Port Byron First UMC Calendars and copies of the Illinois Great Rivers Conference monthly newsletter are available for picking up outside the sanctuary and at the communications table.

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Becky

Ways to share LOVE with those experiencing Food Insecurity

Donate Items for the Upper Rock Island County Food Pantry located at Messiah Lutheran Church. Items most needed now include canned pasta, condiments (ketchup & ranch), and macaroni & cheese. If shopping from your pantry, please check expiration/use by dates.

Support places that support the people with your prayers, presence, or gifts:

Two Rivers UMC Weekly Meal Sight [Service – Two Rivers Church](#)
Cafe on Vine [Building Community One Meal At A Time | Café On Vine](#)
NEST Cafe [NEST](#)

Ways to share LOVE with our neighbors at Whispering Hills

Items for Mission Welcome Kits: The Mission Committee is preparing ongoing Welcome Kits for new residents at Whispering Hills. The following items are needed: shampoo, body soap, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, dish soap, small laundry detergent, cleaning wipes, small all-purpose cleaner, single-roll paper towels, and a 4-pack of toilet paper. Thank you for your donations and support of this local mission!

Ways to share LOVE with the Leesman Family

Prayers: Please continue to PRAY!

Meals or monetary donations: If you would like to make a monetary donation towards fuel for Pastor Krey's travel to and from Galesburg for treatments or if you would like to provide a meal for the family, contact Nikki Stuart.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

If you need anything church-related, please contact Pastor Becky, Nikki Stuart, or Melissa Hogren until further notice.

Pastor Becky: 309-292-2287

Lay Leader: Nikki Stuart: 309-738-8099

Church Council Chair: Melissa Hogren 309-230-8400

If you would like to schedule an event at the church, contact email portbyronfirstumc@gmail.com and someone will provide you with the building agreement, policies, and forms to book the date on the church calendar.

Riverdale Theatre Cast/Crew Party is coming up Saturday March 28th. Sing up to help donate ingredients in the Fellowship Hall!

DONATIONS NEEDED:

- Juice Pouches
- Toilet Paper
- Paper Towels
- Kleenex
- Cups (NOT STYROFOAM) in 8, 12, and 16 oz sizes
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Every Wednesday- GROW: a faith community for youth in grades 6-12. Doors open at 6:30 pm, Dinner is at 7:00 pm, and Discipleship Activities 7:30-8:30 pm.

Every Sunday- Discipleship Groups for PreK-12th Grade 9:30 am-10:15 am

SAVE THE DATE! Vacation Bible School June 8-10th 9am-11:30 am. Snowball Mountain Challenge!

Our 2026 Summer Youth Service Trip will be to Detroit, Michigan, to partner with **Motown Mission** as we serve and learn more about city and our neighbors who live there. If you know of a student who is currently in 8-12th grade who would be interested in being part of this team, see Pastor Becky for more information!

Thursday March 5- Bible Study “Come to the Waters” 9am-10:30am at the Hymes’ Home 1615 Elm Shore Drive, Port Byron, IL

Friday March 6- A new 4-week book study on Zoom! Join in this collaborative leadership model connecting people across the miles for four Fridays in March from 12:30pm-2pm over the book “Learning to Walk in the Dark” by Barbra Brown Taylor (order online or check out from library!) Email annosborne@highlandpc.org to receive your Zoom link. Contact MaryKay Hymes for questions or more info!

Sunday, March 8-

- Noisy Offering
- P3 2-430pm

Tuesday, March 10- Church Council Meeting 7pm

Thursday, March 12- Bible Study “Come to the Waters” 9am-10:30am at the Hymes’ Home 1615 Elm Shore Drive, Port Byron, IL

Friday, March 13- Join in this collaborative leadership model-connecting people across the miles for four Fridays in March from 12:30pm-2pm over the book “Learning to Walk in the Dark” by Barbra Brown Taylor (order online or check out from library!) Email

annosborne@highlandpc.org to receive your Zoom link. Contact MaryKay Hymes for questions or more info!

Friday, March 13 & Saturday, March 14-Pastor Becky guest panelist at the North Central Jurisdiction's IGNITE Conference

Sunday, March 15th-Kids Korner after Children's Message

Monday, March 16&17-Pastor Becky Vacation