

Thursday, February 12, 2026

This coming Sunday and Monday will be our P3 Retreat! This is always a favorite time during P3 for our students and we are looking forward to another great time with this current group.

This past Sunday we spent most of our time in the sanctuary talking about Worship. It was such a good discussion we ran out of time for other things I had planned.

One of the questions I asked them was, “what do you think adults need to know about the importance of worship in the lives of young people?”

They said:

- *Some of the things kids say are important and adults can learn from*
- *Kids put it simpler. You don't need big words to talk about big things.*
- *It really shapes us. The good and bad things.*
- *Adults have more to worry and think about and kids can remember things more easily.*

Be in prayer for Stella, Callie, Meredith, Kate, Alex, and Scott as God continues to work in and through them during this P3 experience and especially during their upcoming retreat!

If you are on any of the Leadership Teams at Port Byron First, please mark your calendar and plan to attend our a special potluck and conversation with our P3 students and families on Sunday, April 19<sup>th</sup> at 6pm. This will be a time for you to get to know them better and for them to ask you questions about your faith and membership at Port Byron First UMC.

One of the other things we talked about at P3 last Sunday was the liturgical calendar. This Sunday is Transfiguration Sunday; the Sunday that bridges us from the Epiphany Season to the Lenten Season. Rev. Ann Champion will be preaching on Matthew 17:1-9 in her sermon “Meet me on the Mountain”

Then on Wednesday, February 18<sup>th</sup> the Lenten Season begins with Ash Wednesday. Please plan to join us for our Ash Wednesday service in our sanctuary at 7pm. Refreshments and fellowship to follow.

Our Lenten Series this year is from A Sanctified Art and called “Tell me Something Good: Grounding Ourselves in the Good News this Lent” Sounds refreshing, doesn’t it? As always with A Sanctified Art, this series will use art and poetry to help us delve in to the scriptures.

In addition, they have also 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/](http://online.flippingbook.com/view/546389771/)

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

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

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](mailto:portbyronfirstumc@gmail.com) and someone will provide you with the building agreement, policies, and forms to book the date on the church calendar.

Please check out the sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall to **SHARE LOVE** with the GROW community by providing and serving them a meal

**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.

**ONLY ONE MORE OPENING!** We're looking for people, or small groups of people to prepare, serve, and clean up a meal for our GROW Community. This is a **great** way for our Sunday faith community to connect and extend love to our Wednesday faith Community. Check out the sign up sheet at the Communications Table

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

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

**Ou 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 8-12<sup>th</sup> grade who would be interested in being part of this team, see Pastor Becky for more information!

February Port Byron First UMC Calendars and copies of the IGRC February Newsletter, The Current are available on the table outside the sanctuary.

## **Coming Up-**

**Sunday, February 15**

- Rev. Ann Champion Preaching
- Kids Korner with Ms. Kristen Johnson
- P3 Retreat 12pm-9pm

**Monday, February 16**-P3 Retreat 9am-2pm

**Wednesday, February 18**-Ash Wednesday. Worship Service at 7pm. Fellowship and Food to follow.

**Thursday, February 19**-Pastor Becky Board of Ordained Ministry Interviews

**Thursday, February 19**-Bible Study “Come to the Waters” 9am-1030am at the Hymes’ Home 1615 Elm Shore Drive, Port Byron, IL

**Sunday, February 22**-“Tell Me Something Good” Week one of a Lenten Series to help ground us this season in *something good!*

**Thursday, February 26**-United Women of Faith at 1:30pm at church. All women of the church are invited

**Sunday, March 1**-P3 2-430pm

**Sunday March 1**-Breakfast and Board Game Night 5pm