



United Methodist Church of Owatonna

April, 2025

United Methodist Church of Owatonna

815 E University
Owatonna MN 55060
507-451-4734 (Main Office)
Email: oumcoffice1@gmail.com

Website: www.owatonnaumc.org

Find us on Facebook:

Owatonna United Methodist Church

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday
8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

Sunday Schedule

9:00 a.m. Worship Service

9:15 a.m. Connect Club

Livestream: www.owatonnaumc.org
& Facebook

Pastor: Lisa Vick

Church Phone: 507-451-4734

Cell: 612-558-5316

E-mail: pastoroumc@gmail.com

Minister of Music: Mary Hitzeman

Phone: 507-451-4734

E-mail: maryhitzeman@gmail.com

Administrator: Karen Nirk

Phone: 507-451-4734

E-mail: oumcoffice1@gmail.com

Hello April

Always keep moving forward,

Pushing your limits, and

Remember, each obstacle

Is a chance to grow, to

Learn from the past and thrive

OurMindfulLife.com



From the Pastor...

What Is It About April?

I am writing this in mid-March, looking out my window at brown grass, patches of snow, and last fall's leaves still clinging to the ground. March is for muck boots, but April—April is for cute rain boots, right? Well, with our unpredictable weather, who really knows?

But one thing we *do* know is that April brings us into Holy Week, the most sacred time in our Christian journey. It's a time of reflection, remembrance, and ultimately, hope.

On Maundy Thursday, we gather to remember the night Jesus knelt to wash the feet of his disciples, breaking bread and sharing the cup, giving us the command to love one another as he has loved us. On Good Friday, we sit in the shadow of the cross, feeling the weight of sacrifice and love poured out. And then, on Easter morning, hope breaks through like the dawn.

April is also a season of transition for our church. As we celebrate resurrection and new life, we also prepare for change. In just a few months, I will be moving on to a new appointment at Peace United Methodist Church in Virginia, MN, and you will be welcoming a new pastor. Change can bring uncertainty, but just like Easter morning reminds us—God is always doing something new. He goes before us, preparing the way, and His faithfulness never wavers.

And of course, April also means the return of our *other* migratory creatures—our beloved snowbirds! Just like the robins, they'll be making their way back home, bringing stories of warm weather and perhaps a tan or two (which the rest of us will try not to be too envious of!).

So, let's step into April, whatever the weather may bring, with hearts full of hope. Because Easter reminds us that no season lasts forever—new life is always on its way.



Blessings,
Pastor Lisa

APRIL WEEKLY PRAYER LIST

March 30-April 5: Shirley Olson; Audrey Parker; Phillip Parker; Daniel Peach; Jeffrey & Sheri Peach; Dorothy Petersen

April 6-12: Holly Phillips; Judy Phillips; Michelle Pittman & Tony Pyatt; Grace Pyatt; Tom & Patricia Raetz, Howard & Pat Rethemeier; Jeremy Saufferer

April 13-19: Joseph Saufferer; Caitlin Schneider; Chelsea Schneider; Mitchell Schneider; Todd & Susan Schneider; Carole Schroeder

April 20-26: Aaron & Bethany Schroht: Adeline, Weston & August Schroht, Sawyer & Devon Sanford, Makenzie & Olivia Jacobson; Randal & Audrey Schroht; David Schroht; Thomas Schroht; Anthony Seykora; Derald & Linda Shaw

April 27- May 3: Rosalind Shore; Kari Shubert: Caitlyne & Cody Bussert; Kevin & Julie Smith: Nate & Alexis; Laura Souba; Brenda Staats; Gary Staats

WHY WE PRAY? As Christians, we should be reminded to ask for God's guidance and pray over our friends, family and members of our congregation. Please just take a minute or two daily to have a conversation with God. You can be on a walk, driving, getting ready in the morning...there is never a time that doesn't work for God. He always has time to listen to your prayers!



Join us in the Fellowship Hall
for Craft Day!

Friday, April 4th, 2025
9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Bring a your craft, a snack to share and
your own lunch.
Beverages will be provided.

NewsLetter
DEADLINE

Book Study, Meeting, Coffee,
Crafting or Knitting?
Community Events you want to share?
Get it in our Newsletter!

Newsletter Deadline

For May Newsletter:
Wednesday, April 16th, 2025

Pastor Lisa Vick is available for home visits and counseling when requested, as well as hospital visits when informed.

Remember that the hospital does not inform us of your admission. Pastor Lisa can be reached at (612) 558-5316.



Council of Stewards
Meeting Date:

Sunday,
April 27th, 2025
In the
Matthew Room



Join the
KnitWits
in the
Matthew Room
every Thursday at 4 p.m.
to enjoy needlework,
conversation and fellowship.

Brenda Ambe is a great resource for knitting challenges and will be present to assist with projects.



2nd	Adeline Schroht
3rd	Curtis Hortop
4th	Karen Kanne
	Jean Krause
6th	Sandy Emry
	Loren Olson
9th	Tammy Loquai
10th	Bret Huisenga
	Dylan Hortop
	Allan Miller
15th	Jack Kleeberger
	Diana Johnson
16th	Donna Kading
18th	Mitchell Schneider
22nd	Sherry Lehigh
	Mary Monson
23rd	Mitchell Beck
27th	Donna Froman
29th	Daria Stransky



April Anniversaries

Howard & Mary Van Binsbergen
Michael & Rhonda Guthier



Palm Sunday

Sunday, April 13th, 2025
9:00 a.m. Worship w/palms

Holy Week Worship Services

Maundy Thursday, April 17th, 2025
Worship at 7:00 p.m. w/*The Last Supper & Stripping of the Altar*

Good Friday, April 18th, 2025
Sanctuary open for prayers from
10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday, April 20th, 2025
Worship at 9:00 a.m.

SAVE THE DATES:

- ◆ MAY 18TH, SCOUTS SPAGHETTI DINNER
- ◆ JUNE: MEALS ON WHEELS DELIVERY
- ◆ JUNE 11-13: 2025 ANNUAL CONFERENCE
- ◆ JUNE 19TH, NOON TO 6: BLOOD DRIVE
- ◆ JULY 19TH: RUMMAGE SALE (INFO TO COME)
- ◆ SEPTEMBER 8TH, NOON TO 6: BLOOD DRIVE
- ◆ OCTOBER 4TH: OCTOBER FEST



Coffee at Hy-Vee takes place every 2nd Wednesday of the month.
Won't you join us this month? April 9th, 2025 at 9 a.m.
Fellowship, coffee and food!
What could be better?



Community Dinner April 9, 2025

Sally and Carol will not be cooking this month. We will be doing a potluck-style Community Dinner for April. We're asking for extra volunteers to bring soup & bread. Come and enjoy the food and fellowship. We will deliver soup and bread to our shut ins, and the men of the Hospitality House. If you would like a meal to be delivered to you, please call the church office.
Phone # 507-451-4734

wish list

1. Sponsor a "Snow Removal"
2. Clorox Wipes



****Keeping germs at bay is easy with Clorox Wipes!****

Items for Church "Wish List" may be placed on the shelf in the Narthex. If you wish to donate to the Sponsor a "Snow Removal", please mark that on your Giving Envelope

Sponsor a "Snow Removal"

Hopefully we have seen the last of snow! We still have a few more bills that will be coming in, and would love have a few Sponsors. Our average bill for each plow, shoveling and sand/salt is about \$600 each time.

Mark your giving envelope with : Sponsorship, Snow Removal

We appreciate how generous you are, blessings always!



Pastor Lisa wanted to share this meaningful ministry that is here in Owatonna. They are looking for Hygiene Products & Personal Care Items. This will be our Mission of the Month for April, so a collection bin will be located in the Narthex.



WANTED:

HYGIENE PRODUCTS & PERSONAL CARE ITEMS

ITEMS NEEDED:

- Shampoo
- Conditioner
- Bath/Body Soap
- Deodorant
- Laundry Soap
- Dish Soap
- Trash Bags
- Toilet Paper
- Toothbrushes
- Toothpaste
- Feminine Hygiene Products

*Items MUST be new/unopened and regular size

QUESTIONS?

Contact:
Cassie Bardole
intern@communitypathwayscc.org
507-455-2991



Organized by the Community Services Coordination Team of Steele County

WHEN:

Wednesday, April, 30th, 12 pm-4 pm

WHERE:

The Steele County Four Seasons Center
(1525 S Elm Ave, Owatonna, MN 55060)

WHAT IS THE PROJECT COMMUNITY CONNECT EVENT?

Connecting people to resources in a one-stop shop. PCC is an event for people who are at risk of or are homeless (sheltered, ie, couch hopping, emergency shelter, or living in a motel or unsheltered) or have low-income(s) to get connected to services they may be in need of. Not just housing programs but food, medical, clothing, legal, educational, and other needs in their community or county.

WHO BENEFITS?

The community who is living at a low income or is at risk of or is homeless. The event is designed to provide as many direct services as possible at one location.



Organized by the Community Services
Coordination Team of Steele County



Project Community Connect: Resource Expo

April 30th
12:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Project Community Connect offers **FREE** information and resources from over 40 Steele County service providers for individuals and families.

The Resource Expo aims to engage the larger community in understanding and reducing poverty by creating awareness and volunteer opportunities for this one-day event.

Attendees can also enjoy complimentary lunch, haircuts, hygiene products, **FREE** legal advice offered by **SMRLS (Southern Minnesota Regional Services)**, and more!

When: Wednesday, April 30th, 2025 12:00 pm–4:00 pm

Where: The Steele County Four Seasons Center
(1525 S Elm Ave, Owatonna, MN 55060)

Not able to attend? We've got you covered.

Check out our Project Community Connect resource page!
<https://www.communitypathwayscc.org/projectcommunityconnect>



Change in donation policy effective February 1st, 2025

Monetary donations made to other local missions, will need to have checks made out directly to that organization, and no longer to the church. We will still accept donations for UMC Special Sundays. i.e., Human Relations Day, UMCOR, Native American Ministries, Peace With Justice, World Communion, and United Methodist Student Day. Those donations will still be applied to your Giving/Pledge.

We do a lot with local charities, like Community Pathways, Men's Hospitality House and Rachels Light, just to name a few. (They are now combined and will now be "Lighthouse" for fundraising purposes.) If we are doing a collection of items, and you would like to give a monetary donation, we will collect cash or checks made out to the organization and deliver the checks at the end of the month, along with the items that we've collected. This donation cannot not be applied to your Giving/Pledge.

We can still help make a difference globally and locally!



Our Next Blood Drive will be Thursday, April 24th, 2025

Time: Noon to 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall
Sign-up sheets to help with the drive will be in the Narthex



Starting in April, we will no longer have announcement inserts in the Bulletins. We have observed that most are left in the bulletin to be recycled. To conserve on paper and ink, we will have them on the screen, and there will be a handout that you can get from the Ushers, if you'd like a copy of the announcements.

If you are unable to make it to church on Sunday, and not able to watch the Live-Stream on Facebook, you may go to our church website: www.owatonnaumc.org

1. Click on : **Watch on Owatonna Live**
2. Scroll down to: **Worship Services**
3. Click on: **United Methodist of Owatonna**
4. **Then simply choose the service you'd like to watch and click on it.**



Wednesdays in the Fellowship Hall
Served from 5:30-6 p.m.
* April 2nd, 2025
* April 9th, 2025
(Potluck Community Dinner)



United Women of Faith Events:

Dates for April:

- * **Coffee at Hy-Vee:**
Wednesday, April 9th, 2025
at 9:00 a.m. at Hy-Vee Kitchen
- * **United Women of Faith Board Meeting:**
Tuesday, April 1st, 2025
in the Matthew Room @ 1:00 p.m.
- * **Charity Circle Meeting:**
Tuesday, April 22nd, 2025
in the Fellowship Hall @ 2:00 p.m.
- * **Faith Circle Meeting:**
Wednesday, April 23, 2025
In the Fellowship Hall @ 9:00 a.m.



Just a reminder that starting in April, we will need volunteers to help with Sunday Fellowship. We need someone to pick up donuts on Sunday morning, and someone to make coffee and set up in the Fellowship Hall. We will no longer be serving coffee in the Narthex, starting in April.

Sign-up sheets are in the Narthex.



-TOWN GLAM will be here at OUMC April 26th, from 8 a.m. – 3 p.m. They are a local community group dedicated to making sure all teens can enjoy Prom, regardless of their financial circumstances. They will be giving them a dress and doing their hair, makeup and nails. This is done by volunteer cosmetology students. (Fellowship Hall will be in use for the event)

Reminder:

1. If you have moved, please fill out a card and update your information.
2. If you no longer have a landline, please update your phone number with your cell #.
3. If there are any changes, please provide and update and turn the form into the collection plate, or to the Church Office.

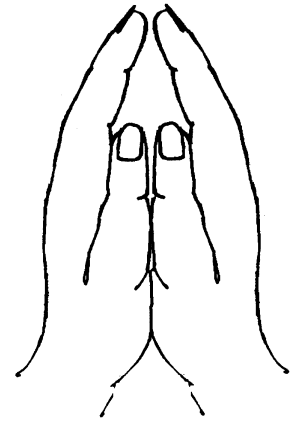
We are updating our records and need your help. Please fill out this card and return it to the collection plate, or the mailbox outside of the office. We appreciate your help in filling this out in the month of January.

Name: _____
Address: _____
Home Phone: _____
Cell Phone (1): _____ Cell Phone (2): _____
Family E-mail: _____
Birthday Date (1): _____ (2): _____
List children names and birthday: _____

Check here if we are able to share your contact info in a future church directory.



Care Center Visits in April



Care Center Rotation – April

April is our month to lead worship services at our local care centers. With Easter in April, this is a wonderful opportunity to share hope and a healing word from our risen Savior, Jesus Christ.

Many of you have helped in the past two years, and your presence makes a difference. Please consider joining us to assist with singing and fellowship—it's a meaningful way to bless others and be blessed in return.

We hold these services on **Thursdays** as part of the **Care Community Rotational Worship Schedule**.

Each week, we visit three locations at 2:00 PM, 3:00 PM, and 3:45 PM.

The rotation schedule is posted on the bulletin board. If you'd like to be part of this ministry, talk to Pastor Lisa. I guarantee you'll receive more than you give!

Owatonna United Methodist Church Scholarship Applications

May be picked up in the office, Narthex or on our Website or you may contact the office at:

Phone: 507-451-4734 or Email: oumcoffice1@gmail.com **Due: July 1st, 2025**

Guidelines:

1. You or one of your parents/guardians must be a member or active participant of the Owatonna United Methodist Church.
2. There is a 5 year limit to receiving scholarship support.
3. Please note that the application requires a current transcript.
4. Application deadline is July 1st, 2025.
5. Scholarship recipients will be notified by August 1st, 2025.
6. Scholarship checks will be dispersed upon receipt of the transcript showing completion of the first semester of Post-Secondary education.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1* Noon: Ministry Luncheon PL 1:00 p.m. UWF Board Meeting in the Matthew Room April Fools Day	2* * 9:30 a.m. PL @ Bridgewater * 5:30-6 p.m. Soup Supper * 6:30p.m. Lent Worship	3* * KnitWits @ 4 p.m. * Care Center Visits	4 * 9 a.m to 4 p.m. Craft Day in the FH	5
6 * 9:00 a.m. Worship w/ Communion * 9:15 a.m. Connect Club * Plant Orders Due Today!	7	8 * Scouts Appreciation Dinner in the FH	9 * 9:00 a.m. Coffee @ Hy-Vee * 5:30-6 p.m. Soup Supper + * 6:30p.m. Lent Worship	10 * KnitWits @ 4 p.m. * Care Center Visits	11	12 Passover Begins
13 Palm Sunday * 9:00 a.m. Worship I * 9:15 a.m. Connect Club	14 Holy Week—>	15	16 ~Newsletter Deadline!!!~ * 9:30 a.m. PL @ Bridgewater	17 Maundy Th. * KnitWits @ 4 p.m. * 7:00 p.m. Worship w/Last Supper & Stripping of the Altar * Care Center Visit	18 10-2 Good Friday 	19 Easter Eve
20 Easter Sun. * 9:00 a.m. Worship @ * 9:15 a.m. Connect Club		22 * 2:00 p.m. Charity Circle meets in the Fellowship Hall Earth Day	23 * 9:00 a.m. Faith Circle in the FH * 9:30 a.m. NL Assembly in MR	24 * Noon-6:00 Blood Drive in the FH * KnitWits @ 4 p.m. * Care Center Visits	25 * Time TBD Prom Event to set up in the FH	26 *8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Prom Event in the FH
27 * 9:00 a.m. Worship @ * 9:15 a.m. Connect Club 10:15 a.m. Council Meeting	28	29	30			
	Monday's are Pastor Lisa's Day Off. Please call the office for any assistance needed. 507-451-4734		^ 2nd and 9th Lenten Worship will be at 6:15 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall	+ Soup Supper on the 9th will be the potluck Community Dinner	*2nd & 3rd Karen is off. office hours will vary.	MR- Matthew Room FH- Fellowship Hall PL: Pastor Lisa MOW- Meals on Wheels



Owatonna United Methodist Church

815 E University Street

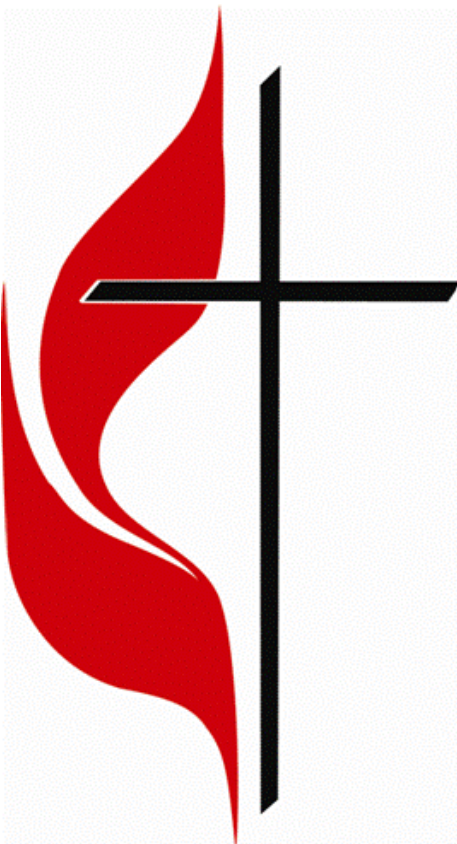
Owatonna MN 55060

oumcoffice1@gmail.com

Pastor Lisa Vick

(507) 451-4734

Return Service Requested



UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
GATHER IN CHRIST'S NAME
GROW IN GOD'S LOVE
SERVE ALL PEOPLE
~APRIL, 2025~

Sunday worship services
are available 24-7 on

www.owatonnalive.com

You can also watch live on
Facebook at 9 a.m. Like our page to keep up
to date on events at OUMC!