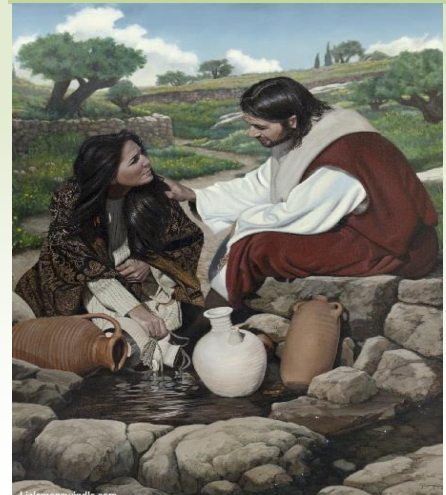




### Message from Pastor Bill Vincent

From *dust* on the shelves to *shoes* on your feet.  
From *bread* on the table to *coins* in a jar.  
From *oil* for cooking to *oil* for massaging.  
From a *cross* on a necklace to a *cross* on his shoulders.  
From *coats* in the closet to *towels* by the shower.  
From *stones* by the side of the road to *stones* that are the road.  
From *thorns* in the bushes to *thorns* on his brow.



Ordinary items. Everyday things. Right in front of your nose. There, in plain sight.

What do they teach us? About life. About faith. What can they tell us? About the presence and promise of God.

Together we will ponder these ordinary, everyday items, considering what they might teach us about our journey of discipleship with Christ.

Using as a guide Jill Duffield's *Lent in Plain Sight: A Devotion through Ten Objects*, we will share in a sermon series through Lent, from Ash Wednesday (March 2<sup>nd</sup>) through Easter Sunday (April 17<sup>th</sup>).

So come, let us explore together; and may God open our hearts and lives to God's presence and work in our midst...in plain sight!

*In Christ,  
Bill Vincent*

### *Dates to Remember:*

\***March 2<sup>nd</sup>** - joint Ash Wednesday service - 7:00 pm - by Zoom (link will be emailed to the congregation). Communion will be celebrated as part of the service.

\***March 6<sup>th</sup>** - First Sunday in Lent - Communion will be served.

Please take note that Friday, March 4<sup>th</sup> is World Day of Prayer (see additional material on page 3)

\*Daylight Saving Time begins Sunday, **March 13<sup>th</sup>** - Don't forget to turn your clocks forward the night before. *And don't be late for worship!*

## Presbyterian Women



### 2022 Spring Gathering Plans Underway

Greetings everyone in the name of Jesus Christ! We pray you are well and are blessed beyond measure. The PW Coordinating Team of Giddings-Lovejoy would like to



take this opportunity to let you know that the 2022 Spring Gathering will be held on Saturday, April 30, 2022 from 10 a.m. to 12 noon virtually on Zoom. With the theme of **"God is travelling with you"** we look forward to exploring how to deal with day to day stress/anxiety, suicide education/awareness and personal grief. Installation of new officers will also be a part of the program. We want you to be a part of a wonderful time of expectation and reflection. We believe that it is important for us to come together to discuss issues occurring on local and national levels. Details are still being finalized. However, once complete, information will be sent out. In the meantime, be sure to save the date and look for upcoming details in your email.

Respectfully Yours, the PW Coordinating Team  
of Giddings-Lovejoy Presbytery

## *Worshiping and serving God, loving, and accepting all*



### **A reminder:**

Prayer concerns can be shared with me via email or phone before worship (preferably by Saturday evening); or you can write them down (legibly, please) on a piece of paper and place them in the basket that will be located near the entrance to the sanctuary.

Pastor Bill

Sunday Worship service will be Streaming live on Facebook on Sunday at 9:00 am. The bulletin will also be available on Facebook and the church website ([www.unionfirstpresby.org](http://www.unionfirstpresby.org)), posted by 8 am Sunday morning.

Link to Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/firstPresbyterianChurchUnion/>

Bulletin can be found here: <http://www.unionfirstpresby.org/church-bulletins/>

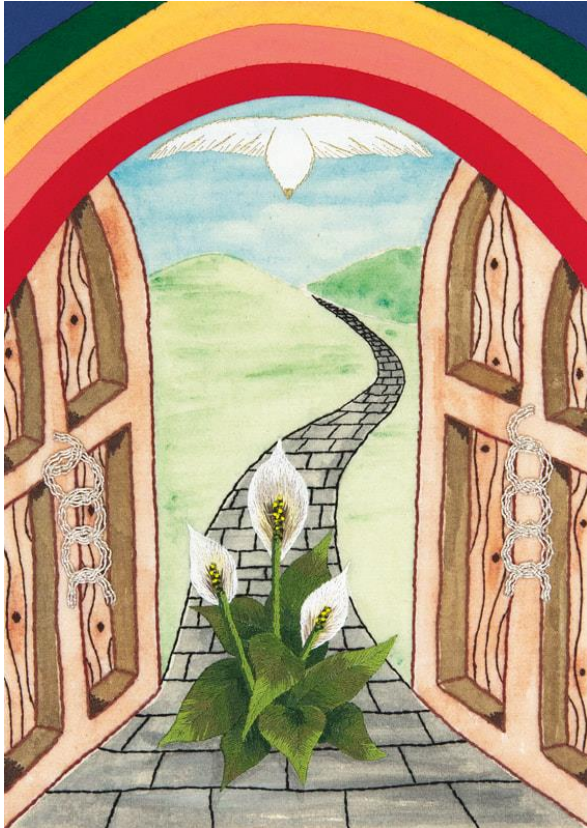
## World Day of Prayer is Friday, March 4<sup>th</sup> .

World Day of Prayer is a global ecumenical movement led by Christian women who welcome you to join in prayer and action for peace and justice.

**The theme for 2022 is based on Jeremiah 29:1-14.**

### “I Know the Plans I Have for You”

(Program written by the World Day of Prayer Committee of England, Wales & Northern Ireland)



In the midst of all the uncertainties we are living under due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the WDP 2022 theme emerges like a balm of confidence. It is an invitation to place our trust in God in times of suffering.

The program is based on the letter that the prophet Jeremiah wrote to the exiles in Babylonia. The exiles were in a context of suffering, uncertainty, and opposing views on how to respond to the moment. Today, we come together to hear the stories of women who feel excluded, listen to the fear of a child refugee and learn to see the context of a multi-ethnic, multi-cultural, and multi-faith society in England, Wales and Northern Ireland (EWNI).

For Jeremiah, God's plan was clear, and we share this assurance by singing it. What is your WDP hope? Let the children and the youth guide your response. Then, come to celebrate hope by lighting a candle on behalf of the seven regions of the world, knowing that our prayerful action can bring to life the promises of God who, like a Mother and Father, cares for us all.

We are given a seed of hope to ponder where it needs to be planted in our lives and in our communities. Take this opportunity, to raise awareness on the needs of your community and offer the gifts of prayers and commitment. A seed, nourished by prayers of intercession and actions of love, bind us together around the world.

Explore more at <https://worlddayofprayer.net/index.html#>