



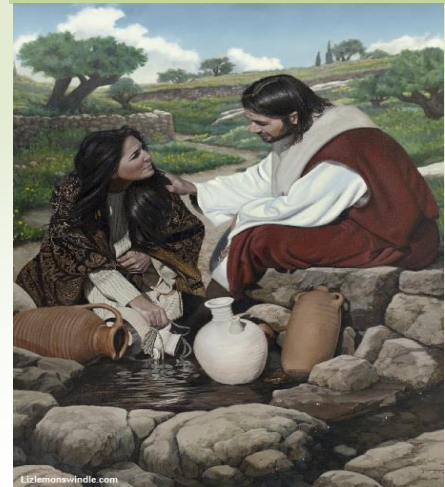
Message from Pastor Bill Vincent

Someone has said,

I don't understand prayer. But the one who prays and the one for whom a prayer is offered seem nearly always changed by it. (Roy Howard, "I'll Pray For You")

Imagine tapping into that power of prayer. Power for good: good for you, good for the church, good for the world.

We need to tap into that power of prayer everyday. I especially invite us all to do so this *Friday, March 3rd, World Day of Prayer*, as we unite together with brothers and sisters in the faith throughout the world.



On the following page you will find a guide for World Day of Prayer. Feel free to adapt it to your use and for your purposes. Set aside some time during the day when you can focus your energies on this time of prayer and study. Do it together with a friend or your family. Do it by yourself. Do it FOR yourself ... for the church ... for the world.

May you be blessed – may we ALL be blessed – by the power of prayer!

*Peace in Christ,
Bill Vincent*

P.S. - And take advantage of the World Day of Prayer service at 2:00 p.m. on *Friday* at First United Methodist Church, 848 Main St., in Union.

Refreshments will be served prior to the program. Speaker is Billie Kramme of Bethel Hills Community. This year's service was written by women of Taiwan.

WORSHIP:

We continue through March (to conclude in April) with our series on the 7 Signs of Jesus in the Gospel of John. Here are the Signs we'll consider in the coming weeks:

MARCH 5 - 2nd Sunday in Lent:

Healing a lame man on the sabbath (John 5:1-9)

(Remember to set your clocks ahead one hour this weekend! Daylight Saving Time begins!)

MARCH 12 - 3rd Sunday in Lent:

Feeding the 5000 (John 6:1-15)

MARCH 19 - 4th Sunday in Lent:

Jesus walks on water (John 6:16-21)

MARCH 26 - 5th Sunday in Lent:

Healing a man born blind (John 9:1-41)

GUIDE TO PRAYER AND STUDY FOR WORLD DAY OF PRAYER
Philippians 4:4-9

READ about it:

Read over the passage several different times. Read it in a couple of different translations. Read it silently. Read it out loud. Have someone else read it out loud to you.

THINK about it:

What is Paul (the writer of the letter to the Philippians) saying?

What does Paul suggest we do in order for us to “not worry about anything”? (vs.6)

What does Paul mean by peace in the two verses where he uses that word? (vs.7 & 9)

Look up in the dictionary the different words listed in vs.8. How do we “think about these things,” as one translation puts it?

Recall as much as you can about the life and ministry of Paul (for help, see the book of Acts, especially 9:1-31 and chapters 12-28). What are some “things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in” Paul? (vs.9)

PRAY about it:

Now try to personalize the message of the passage.

What does it mean for you? What is God saying to you in this? How is God speaking to you in these words?

How would your life be different if you did “not worry about anything”? (vs.6)

What can you do to “think about these things” that Paul lists? (vs.8)

Offer your cares and concerns to God in prayer, remembering to give thanks for God’s listening and God’s love. Ask for help in “thinking about these things” in the days and weeks ahead.

“BE” about it:

Slowly read the passage over again. Finally, spend some time in silence, allowing God to inspire you with any further insights.

May “the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding ... guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus”!

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), 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/>

Presbyterian Women

Presbyterian Women will meet on Friday, March 24, 2023 at 9:00 A.M. at the Church. The Hostess is Betty Mechem and the Co-Hostess is Carol Gruber. The Bible Study is Lesson 3.

*** * Save the Date * Joy – Celebrating The Sabbath * ***

The PW West Cluster Gathering will be held on Saturday, March 25th at the First Presbyterian Church, in Sullivan, MO. 9:00 – 9:30 a.m. registration, coffee, tea, coffee cake, and serenading by the Kitchen Band!

The Theme, *Joy – Celebrating the Sabbath*, will focus on Hope and Joy in 2023. The speaker for the day will be Thirza Sayers with *Light For The Darkness*. We hope to have visitors from Hope Ranch to give us an update on their progress. Please join us for this West Cluster PW event and invite your friends and family to help celebrate Spring in Franklin County. Registration is required by Monday, March 20th; please email Tonette Barnes at tbarnes@fidnet.com or Carol Gruber at grubercarol8@gmail.com. Registration fee of \$10 is payable the day of the event, which includes coffee hour, lunch, dessert, and drinks.

*** * * We Hope to See You There * * ***



An Art Class for True Beginners! Presented by Jane Sellier

If you're interested, you can do it! Jane presents step-by-step full color demonstrations to guide you through the painting process. This class is a combination of embossing and watercolor.

4 week class on Mondays from 9:00am - 11:30am, April 3 - April 24, 2023.

Instruction is provided at no cost to you. There is a \$25 fee for supplies that Jane will provide to you during the class.

The Class will be in the choir room at the First Presbyterian Church, Union.

