

Church Action Opportunities for March 2025 [C.H.A.O.!]

ALL engagements in ALL areas of ministry here at Our Lord's for March.

Please:

*READ ~ PRAY ~ and then CHOOSE what God calls you to
in addition to your ongoing presence and support.*

Use designated envelope/memo line on checks/website through VANCO.

*There are many opportunities to share Christ's love and healing grace this month. Remember, the call of CHAO is to look through the opportunities prayerfully to discern how God is calling you to act. Every one of us can do something, but we are not expected to do everything. See how the spirit leads **you** this month.*

NEW THIS MONTH:

March is Women's History Month! The UMC General Commission on the Status and Role of Women celebrates the important role that women have played in the development of the Methodist Church. Did you know that Mary Bosanquet Fletcher (1739-1813) was an early lay preacher credited with convincing John Wesley that some women should be allowed to preach? To learn more about influential women in Methodism go to [Timeline of Women in Methodism | UMC.org](#) To learn more about Bishop Karen Oliveto, the first openly lesbian bishop go to [Council of Bishops: Karen P. Oliveto](#)

Online Registration begins March 1st for the UWF Day of Social Action on Saturday, April 12th, from 9 a.m. - noon. This is a Zoom event and Our Lord's will host a watch party. Come for breakfast, fellowship, and a wonderful time of learning. Registration forms and event flyers will be in the narthex. Continue to watch for more details through "What's Happening".

News from Cathedral Center: JOIN IN ON THE 10TH ANNUAL EMPOWERMENT CHALLENGE Hundreds of individuals and businesses will come together online between March 1st-8th for the 10th Annual Empowerment Challenge. This online fundraising event raises money for The Cathedral Center (CCI) and offers a week-long opportunity for the community to join in support of CCI's services that uplift women to move out of homelessness or housing crises. The Empowerment Challenge has \$25,000 in match dollars thanks to The Peter Geisert Giving Fund and The Godfrey Family Foundation Trust. **The challenge begins March 1st and runs until March 8th, which is International Women's Day.** During the week-long online fundraising event, CCI is challenging the community to accept the challenge by making a monetary donation to ensure CCI's flexible funding that supports women and families with children who are experiencing homelessness is sustained. Go to cathedral-center.org/donate

St. Patrick's Month of Giving Opportunity: Did you know that St. Patrick was sold into slavery and later became the first Christian voice to speak out against human trafficking and slavery? In honor of this Christian voice, we wish to support **Nancy Yarborough's ministry, Fresh Start Learning, Inc.** Nancy's ministry involves outreach to women experiencing sex trafficking and domestic abuse. Her most **urgent** needs are as follows:

OVER

***New Twin Sheet Sets/Comforters/Pillows (4 sets needed)**

***Gift Certificates:** Pick 'N Save/Walmart, \$20 or more. Used to purchase fresh food for food distribution during outreach. Fast food gift certificates used for a bonus meal during outreach. Burger King, Subway, Jimmy John's, McDonald's gift certificates in denominations of \$5, \$10, \$15 are greatly appreciated.

***Boxes of Granola Bars and Hand sanitizer (purse size)**

***Water Bottles (small bottles are given out in winter, larger bottles for warmer weather.)**

***Clothes shoppers:** leggings, socks, t-shirt packages are always needed as women come in for showers. All sizes are welcome. *Look for the "Church" container to deposit gift certificates. All other items can be housed in the cupboard next to the sanctuary. Choose what you can do!*

CONTINUING CONCERNS:

PRAY for the suffering in **Ukraine and Gaza**, and our country's leaders that they will negotiate a **just peace**.

USE YOUR VOICE to contact your legislators on the myriad of justice issues facing our nation. Go to myvote.wi.gov to locate your elected officials.

VOTE on Tuesday, April 1! Wisconsinites will be voting for Wisconsin Supreme Court Justice and State Superintendent of Public Schools. Seek out opportunities to learn about the candidates.

BRING your own cup for fellowship which helps keep our waste down, can start conversations, and may even give you the bravery you need to ask, "How is it with your soul?"

CHECK OUT the **Missions Corner** located behind the Welcome Table to learn how to further support **The Cathedral Center** as well as **Rooted and Rising** through Amazon Wish List shopping. Take an information tag to assist you in accessing various opportunities to donate.

Cathedral Center: <https://cathedral-center.org/donate/>

Rooted and Rising: <https://www.rootedandrisingwp.org/donate>

https://www.amazon.com/gp/registry/wishlist/1BT36JIW8CS8Q/ref=cm_wl_search_bin_1_1

Our Lord's Breakthrough Prayer

"Holy God, quiet our thoughts and open us to carefully listen, with hope. Create willingness toward action that rebuilds the church. Use our time, talent, and financial resources to draw in others. Inspire us, through worship and prayer, to love in ways that extend and expand the possibilities for ALL to do something, on the path before us. Let it be so."

Our Lord's Mission and Vision Statements

To actively love our neighbors and proclaim God's unchanging love and mercy in everything we do. As a community, Our Lord's UMC seeks to transform ourselves and the world by following Christ, welcoming ALL, serving others, and promoting social justice.

Upon this Earth and located on the ancestral homeland of the Potawatomi, Sioux (Ochethi Sakowin), Kickapoo, Ho-Chunk, Myaamia, and Peoria people, Our Lord's United Methodist Church recognizes and honors ALL Indigenous siblings who have and continue to call this land home.