A Season of Selahs

“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God.” Colossians 3:16, NRSV

The season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on February 26. We will be following the UM Board of Discipleship’s Lenten theme of Selah: Life in a Minor Key. This series will focus on the Psalms and look at the word we encounter in them, Selah. Below is a description of the series and focus from the UM Board of Discipleship planning notes:

“During the season of Lent, we are encouraged to engage in a Season of Selahs. Throughout the Book of Psalms, we encounter this Hebrew term at least seventy-one times. It even appears three times in Habakkuk. While the word has not been definitively defined in scripture, the placement of the word suggests a shift, pause, break, or interruption; it suggests exhaling or resting from routine activities. It is thought that the “Selah” functions much like a musical rest. This describes how we should understand our posture throughout the forty days of Lent. Christians are urged to refrain from business as usual in order to attend to the body, spirit, mind, soul, and heart. It is a time set aside for worshipers to connect their faith walk with the ways in which they live, move, and have their being throughout daily life. Thus, the trajectory for the Lenten journey is a renewed spirit and a genuine desire to become an incarnational presence in the world.”

We will spend time each week taking a pause, and reflecting on what it means to live our faith in a very real way. The psalms are filled with human emotion and offering that emotion to God, trusting that God can take on our emotion and will remain faithful. Our faith can reflect this truth as we live honestly and authentically in relationship with God in Jesus. Life is not perfect, and pain is part of it, as well as joy and celebration. How do we trust that God is in all of the ups and downs of life and live in ways that share that with the world? We will attempt to answer these questions during our time together in worship, using the Psalms as our guide.

I pray that you may begin preparing for the pause of Selah now, and that you will join us in worship each week. The scripture and focus for each Sunday is on a separate page in the newsletter. There will also be daily updates to Facebook to help us reflect and live faithfully as we journey together this Lenten season. If you do not follow the church’s Facebook page, you can at FUMC_Decatur.

See you Sunday!
Pastor Amy

Our mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the Transformation of the World.
We do that as we Connect in Community, Grow in Faith,
Serve in Love as followers of Jesus.
First Sunday in Lent
March 1, 2020
8:15 am & 10:00 am
Selah: Happy are Those
Psalm 32

Second Sunday in Lent
March 8, 2020
8:15 am & 10:00 am
Selah: Going In and Coming Out
Psalm 121

Third Sunday in Lent
March 15, 2020
8:15 am & 10:00 am
Selah: Worship and Bow Down
Psalm 95

Fourth Sunday in Lent
March 22, 2020
8:15 am & 10:00 am
Selah: In Right Paths
Psalm 23

Fifth Sunday in Lent
March 29, 2020
8:15 am & 10:00 am
Selah: Out of the Depths
Psalm 130
Dear Friends at First UMC,
Thank you so very much for thinking of Bill & I over the last few weeks with the passing of our nephew, Ted Brunner, who died unexpectedly at the age of 57 from a heart attack, and of Bill’s sister, Juanita Arnold, who died just days before her 101st birthday. Thank you very much.
Bill & Carolyn Lehman

Dear Friends,
Thank you so much for blessing the clients of the Hope Clinic with the wonderful baby shower gifts. We were blessed with so many wonderful items to help stock our shelves! This ministry is truly a community effort, and would not be possible without your prayers and support. Thank you so much for your on-going partnership with us. We consider it an honor that you chose to join God’s hand at work through the ministry of the Hope Clinic!
Sincerely,
Hope Clinic Clients, Board of Directors, Volunteers & Staff

March Birthdays
3/01 Nan Cook
3/02 Samuel Rash
3/03 Brenda Huggins-GM
3/04 Rhonda McIntosh
3/05 Chase Stahl
3/07 Jake Hawkins
3/07 Damien Saalfark
3/09 Liberty Gower
3/10 Kent Koons
3/11 Kiersten Knaub
3/12 Jane Allison
3/13 Sandy Howe
3/13 Kyle Martin
3/14 Kenn Vanhorn
3/14 Allena Wilson
3/15 Linda Smitley
3/15 Robert Zolman-GM
3/17 Mason Myers
3/18 Janet Evans
3/18 Drew Kaehr
3/20 Allison Davis
3/22 Bonnie Werling-GM
3/24 Kampy Koning
3/24 Catherine Laucks
3/25 Jean Newton
3/27 Mike Boyd
3/27 Heide Howe
3/27 Jim Newton
3/27 Karen Tricker
3/28 Keagan Martin
3/29 Jim Laucks
3/30 Jim Heimann
3/30 Kortney Koning
3/31 Alex Noble

March 8
Daylight Saving Time begins

Decatur Heights Church Cottage
The Cottage Committee of Decatur Heights on Lake Webster is now taking reservations for this summer rentals. FUMC members get a reduced rate and those wishing to use the cottage for the sole purpose of a Bible Study retreat are free of charge. Spaces have begun to fill up. For more information contact Mary Pilkington 260-223-4768.

March Anniversaries
3/04 Alfred & Elaine Plew
3/04 Grant & Deb Porter
3/29 Lou & Vicky Koning
*Easter Flowers*
*Flower and Rose Garden Fund*
*Mulch*
Order Form

Remember and honor your loved ones with spring flowers for Easter Sunday and support our garden funds. Complete this form and return it with payment in the offering plate or to the Church office by March 30th. A list of memorials will be listed in the bulletin on Easter, April 12th. Flowers may be collected after second service.

* * * * * * * * * * *

___ Easter Lily $15.00
___ Tulip $13.00
___ Daffodil $13.00
___ Hyacinth $13.00

___ Flower Garden Fund donation $________

___ Scoop of mulch $18.00 Total due $________

In Memory of ____________________________________

In Memory of ____________________________________

In Honor of ____________________________________

In Honor of ____________________________________

Given by ____________________________________
The Hope Chest
The Little Shop with a Big Heart

We will be collecting Easter Basket items March 9th thru April 6th. Baskets are given to children at the Crisis Shelter, Wednesday night meals and children at Adams Memorial Hospital.

March 2nd thru Prom we will be taking Prom dresses. You may drop them off at the store during regular hours, 10 am thru 5 pm Monday thru Friday.

Thank you for your continued support.
The Hope Chest Staff
Tana’s Colorful Words

As a part of our “Frog Street” curriculum, we talk about families and how we’re all part of a family even though families may look different. For example some families have a mom and dad, brothers and sisters or just a brother or just a sister. It makes no difference the size or members of our family as we are all part of God’s family. The children’s reading center has picture books and books teachers read that help share different family’s stories.

Children need to see, hear, touch, taste, smell using their senses to fully understand. In December we used other senses reading the Nativity story and traveling with Mary and Joseph. Now, we are excited to be able to see and use our new llama with our curriculum.

Lunch Time

Bow tie pasta with chicken for lunch. When child in Orange Room spoke up saying, “We’re eating angel wings with chicken!”

Kiddos open our eyes and hearts. PRICELESS!

Until the Coffee Cup Come Out Again

That’s A Fact

KFCCM is blessed with caring and creative teachers. Ms. Jill is known for her creative hand made yarn items. Seeing a Facebook challenge she joined “Crochet – along” contest. Jill chose an adorable and really cool Llama pattern for her entry. We’re all excited and hope Ms. Jill wins the contest with her adorable llama!

KFCCM children have won! Ms. Jill’s Llama has a new forever home at KFCCM. The llama is shared with children in Blue room and others when we the “Llama, Llama, Red Pajamas” series book is read. HELP, you can help name our new llama. The winner will receive child care credit for the family of their choice. Send your family’s name suggestion to kidsfirst@firstumdecatur.org or drop off in Tana’s office. A real llama would’ve been fun but Ms. Jill’s llama is fun to look at and hold.

That’s A Fact
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<td>9 am-Cub Scouts using</td>
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<td>Groups, 5 pm-Youth</td>
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<td>5 pm-Confirmation</td>
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<td>7:30 pm-Praise Team</td>
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LENT WORSHIP SERIES

Selah: Life in a Minor Key

Confirmation Classes are Continuing in March