

THE INFORMER



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MARCH MATCH

For the Richland/Wilkin Food Pantry

March 2—April 6, 2025

FILL UP the Fish Bowl with your change, dollars, and checks!!




During the month of March the Richland-Wilkin Food Pantry is going to be involved in a dollar for dollar match by the Great Plains Food Bank for all funds raised. Breckenridge United Methodist Church would like to donate funds to help combat hunger in our area by our participating in this worthwhile project. We are asking our members to continue with our monthly food donations as well as participate in the "March Match ." This project will begin on **Sunday, March 2 and will run through April 6. Our goal is to raise \$1,000 which will then become \$2,000. Bring your dollars to Church and fill up the "Fish Bowl"!**

ATTENTION YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS!

Pastor Shandon wants to hear from you! Please fill out this Survey to share about activities you would like to engage in in the upcoming year, topics that are on your heart, and best times that you would like to gather with others for fellowship. It will only take 5 minutes of your time! Your answers will help plan for after Lent!

For Youth: <https://breckumc.org/youth>

For Young Adults<40: <https://www.breckumc.org/youngadults>

From the Pastor's Perspective —Shandon Klein

From the Pastor—March 2025

As we embark on the Lenten season this March, reflecting on how "Jesus did so" to deepen his spiritual renewal post-baptism, I'd like to share a thoughtful message from Bishop Lanette Plambeck of the Dakotas and Minnesota Annual Conference to help us prepare our hearts and minds.

With much love, *Pastor Shandon*

Simon replied, "Master, we've worked hard all night and caught nothing. But because you say so, I'll drop the nets." Luke 5:5 (CEB)

Siblings in Christ,

Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

I come to you with a simple yet transformative phrase that can shape our faith and practice: "Because Jesus said so." These four words captured Simon Peter's heart in Luke 5:5, leading to a miraculous catch of fish — and they can likewise transform our lives, our churches, and our communities.

When Peter, an experienced fisherman, had fished all night with no success, he found Jesus inviting him to go deeper and cast his nets again. Despite his doubts, Peter responded: "Because you say so, I'll drop the nets." That single act of obedience revealed Jesus' authority, love, and abundant provision. Today, that same invitation stands before us: Will we heed Christ's voice in every sphere of our lives and ministries?

Below are key areas where Christ's commandments call us to say, "Because You say so."

1. "Repent and believe the good news!" (Mark 1:15)

We turn away from sin, confess where we have fallen short, and trust God's grace. In a world of competing voices, we anchor ourselves in the good news of Christ's saving love. It is Jesus alone who is our Lord and Savior.

2. "Love the Lord your God with all your heart..." (Matthew 22:37)

True discipleship begins in wholehearted devotion. When we say "yes" to Jesus, we give God our ultimate allegiance and invite the presence, power, and provision of the Holy Spirit to shape every priority and purpose in our lives.

3. "Love your neighbor as yourself." (Matthew 22:39)

We are called to embody compassion, justice, and mercy for those we encounter — across the street or across the world. The Holy Spirit empowers us to see every person as beloved in God's eyes. To those whom much is given, much is expected.

4. Show mercy to the least of these: "I was hungry and you gave me food... I was in prison and you visited me." (Matthew 25:35-36)

The heart of the gospel moves us toward those who suffer — feeding the hungry, welcoming the stranger, caring for the sick, and visiting the lonely or imprisoned. When we serve those most in need, we serve Jesus himself.

5. "Seek first his kingdom and his righteousness..." (Matthew 6:33)

Our calling is to be shaped more by the values of God's kingdom — love, peace, and justice — than by the shifting pressures or politics of the world. May we let biblical mandates and Christ's priorities set our agendas, personally and collectively.

6. Abide in Christ daily: "Remain in me, as I also remain in you." (John 15:4)

Discipleship is not a one-time decision; it's an ongoing relationship. In prayer, worship, and scripture, we draw sustaining life from Christ, bearing fruit for his glory. Engage in daily practices that center and anchor your faith. Make a commitment to grow in your faith.

7. "Go and make disciples of all nations..." (Matthew 28:19)

Our churches and ministries exist not only for ourselves, but to share the hope of Jesus with the world. We engage in evangelism and discipleship, raising up believers and building God's kingdom/kin-dom on earth. (See the Beatitudes in Matthew 5:3-12 for a glimpse of God's hope for the world.)

8. "As I have loved you, so you must love one another." (John 13:34)

Within the body of Christ, we practice humility, service, and reconciliation — demonstrating to the world the transforming power of God's love.

9. "Go and do likewise." (Luke 10:37)

After telling the parable of the Good Samaritan — a story about radical, boundary-crossing mercy — Jesus tells his listeners, "Go and do likewise." Because Jesus said so, we commit ourselves to compassionate, sacrificial care for the wounded and marginalized in our society.

(continued on Page 3)

FAIRMOUNT UMC NEWS



Prayer Concerns

Fairmount UMC Congregation: **Brooke Mayo** (Shane Klein's 17 year old niece); **Michelle Collins** (Shandon's mother, cancer & recovering from surgery); **Earthlee Collins** (Shandon's grandmother, aging & transition). **Nursing Home/Assisted Living:** No one at a nursing home at this time.

Sunday Schedule

Coffee at 8:30 a.m.
Worship at 9:00 a.m.



March



Food Pantry donation:
Fairmount UMC had 8
pounds of donations for the month
of January!

| | |
|----|------------------------------|
| 22 | Sandy Mahler |
| 31 | Marianne Van Oort |
| | * <i>Wedding Anniversary</i> |

(continued from Page 2)

10. "Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful." (Luke 6:36)

Jesus links our practice of mercy to God's own merciful character. We are called to reflect God's compassion in how we treat others. Because Jesus said so, we choose empathy over indifference and forgiveness over vengeance.

11. "Freely you have received; freely give." (Matthew 10:8)

In commissioning the disciples to heal and serve, Jesus reminds them that all they have is a gift from God. Because Jesus said so, we extend kindness, generosity, and advocacy to others without demanding payback or recognition, trusting God's abundant grace to supply our needs.

12. I am leaving this one blank — and inviting you to fill it in....

Friends, in each of these commands, the key is not merely the action but the reason: **because Jesus said so**. We obey not out of compulsion or fear but out of devotion to the One who first loved us. Jesus' words are trustworthy; his authority is absolute; and his desire for us is life abundant. By choosing to follow his commands, even when our nets feel empty and we cannot see the next step, we position ourselves to witness the miraculous catch — the inbreaking of God's reign among us.

In this season, let us join Peter in responding with humble faith. Let us offer up our nets, our lives, and our ministries to the God who can do immeasurably more than we could ever ask or imagine (Ephesians 3:20). May our unified confession in the Dakotas-Minnesota Episcopal Area be: **"Yes, Lord — because You say so, we will go, serve, love, and abide in You."**

And may the witness of Christ's church shine brightly as we answer his call in faithful obedience, proclaiming in word and deed the good news of Jesus — our Savior and Lord.

Grace and peace be with you all,

Bishop Lanette Plambeck

Bishop Lanette Plambeck
Resident Bishop, Dakotas-Minnesota Episcopal Area
The United Methodist Church

BRECKENRIDGE PRAYERS, CONCERNS, CELEBRATIONS



PRAYER CONCERNS THIS WEEK

Breckenridge UMC Congregation: Annalisa Anderson; Carol Grotjohn; Steve Hanson; Shane & Shandon Klein; Artis & Gordon Martinson; Don Taylor.

Our Friends: Aden Abdile; Ed & Stacy; Michelle Collins (Shandon's mother, cancer & recovering from surgery); Earthlee Collins (Shandon's grandmother, aging & transition); Adrian Dahm; Pete Eikeland (Terry Bolding's friend); Deb Foertsch (cancer); Cheryl Goldade (cancer); Ben Gray Eagle (Don Taylor's friend, cancer); Victoria (Tori) Grenier; Hannah Henry (Darlene Anderson's great-niece); Brooke Mayo (Shane Klein's 17 year old niece); Vicki Steinwand (Hulda's daughter-in-law); Bruce Strom (Mary Lou Roecker's brother); Scott & Andrea Ubben (daughter and son-in-law to Dave & Janel Saylor).

OUR MEMBERS RECEIVING CARE: Helen Olthoff, Joan Beyer at St. Francis Home; Doris Leinen at 2520 Pebble Lake Rd, Fergus Falls; Don & Lola Patnoude, Merwin & Annabel Peterson, Alwyn Martinson at Twin Town Villa. (... and Jesus also said to pray for our enemies.)



March

- 1 Alexander Burhans
- 2 Carson Anderson
- 3 Jerry/Tami Kallstrom*
- 8 Morgan Osvold
- 10 Annalisa Anderson
- 10 Janel Saylor
- 13 Beck Regan
- 16 Kim Raguse
- 16 Winston Hendrickson
- 18 Lisa Bock
- 18 Artis Martinson
- 21 Roger/Renee Gilberg*
- 23 Gary/Deb Burhans*
- 23 Olivia Burhans
- 26 Butch Jirak
- 28 Merle & Sandy Hasse*
- 29 LaVonne Dupree
- 29 Kaitlyn Osvold
- 30 Hailee Bruce

*denotes Wedding Anniversary



OUR SYMPATHIES to the family of **Janice Johnson**, on her death February 1, 2025. Her Memorial Service was held Saturday, February 22, 2025 at the Breckenridge United Methodist Church with Rev. Shandon Klein officiating.



ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

March 5th at 7:00 p.m.
Breckenridge
United Methodist Church



Set your clocks ahead one hour before going to bed Saturday, March 8th



BRECKENRIDGE - U.M.W. NEWS FOR ALL! - LOLA PATNOUDE, PUBLICITY

MARCH MEETING . . .

Breckenridge United Methodist Women will meet Wednesday, March 5, 1:30 p.m. All women of the fellowship are welcome to attend. Devotions will be given by LaVonne Dupree; the meeting will be conducted by Sharon Olson, president. Hostesses will be Lois Bock & Sharon Olson.

VISITATION. . .



Shut-in Visitation

Hulda Steinwand & Rose Ella Matejcek will visit shut-in's this month, whether it be in-person visiting, telephone calls, or friendship letters.

A list of those to visit and/or who would like to receive the Mar/Apr The Upper Room is in the church office. Our THANKS to Hulda & Rose Ella!

SUMMER CAMP POLICY . . .

Want to go to camp this year? Perhaps the U.M.W. policy will help. Read on! "United Methodist Women will underwrite one-half the cost of fees, not to exceed \$150 per student, from our Campership Fund, for all interested youth of the church, grades 5-12, to attend summer camp at Northern Pines, Lake Koronis, or any other United Methodist camp in our Headwaters district (per child, per year).



FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS made in February:

Breckenridge UMC donated: 140 pounds of non-food and food items & \$10 donated!
Great Work!!

MARCH WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Mar. 2— Ephesians 6:10-18 -Sword of the Spirit

March 9—Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16
& Luke 4:1-13

March 16— Psalm 27
& Luke 13:31-35

March 23—Psalm 63:1-8
& Luke 13:1-9

March 30— Psalm 32 & Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32



LENT



RECORD OF SERVING UPDATE

The UMW Serving Group served the meal for Janice Johnson's Memorial Service on Saturday, February 22, 2025.

THANK YOU to: Pam Facey, Mona Taylor, Joy Eichhorn, Deb Burhans, Janel Saylor, and Dale Anderson. Also, thanks to our clean up crew: Don Facey, Paul & Steph Kaufman.

RICHLAND-WILKIN EMERGENCY FOOD PANTRY

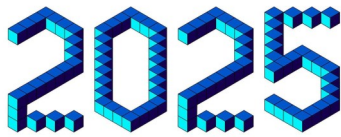
March 2025

Needed Items:

- ◆ Body Wash
- ◆ Dish Soap
- ◆ Laundry Detergent
- ◆ Baled Beans
- ◆ Chicken or Beef Broth

These 5 items are under \$10 for all, less than a lunch out. If you would rather not shop, a monetary donation is always appreciated. Thank you!

BRECKENRIDGE UMC—



| | | |
|--------------------------------|-----|------------------|
| Income February 25, 2024 | | |
| Beginning Cash balance | \$ | 54,588.16 |
| Income to date | \$ | 14,420.10 |
| Transfers to Savings | -\$ | |
| Transfers from Savings | \$ | |
| Expenses through Feb. 25, 2025 | -\$ | 35,042.99 |
| Cash Balance, 02/25/25 | \$ | 33,965.46 |
| LESS: Prepaid Pledges | | - 18,100.00 |
| Cantata 2024 holdover | | - 2,474.25 |
| Plus: Fairmount Payment | \$ | 1,800.00 |
| Available Balance | \$ | 15,091.21 |

Weekly Giving & Attendance for February

| | Attendance | Offering |
|-------------|------------|-------------|
| February 2 | 36 | \$ 4,462.82 |
| February 9 | 48 | \$ 2,660.10 |
| February 16 | 36 | \$ 375.00 |
| February 23 | 48 | \$ 825.00 |

Letter Received FROM THE MN ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

February 7, 2025
Automatic Release of
Prior Year's Unpaid Apportionments—
Breckenridge UMC as of December 31, 2024

Thank you, Breckenridge UMC, for honoring your covenant with full payment of your 2024 apportionments. Over the years, Breckenridge UMC had accumulated an unpaid apportionment balance of \$233,834.35.

As you may be aware, it is the annual conference's policy to automatically release 25% of this accumulated unpaid apportionment balance for each year apportionments are paid in full. Because of your full payment(s) in 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, we have released another 25% or **\$58,458.58** of the total accumulated balance. This leaves a remaining balance of accumulated unpaid apportionments of **\$0.00**.

Jody Witter, Chief Financial Officer



METHODIST MOMENS on KBMW 1450

(1st & 3rd Sundays)

March 2, 2025— Sponsored by Paul Bruce in honor of descendants of Herbert & Clara Buus (long time members of the

Breckenridge United Methodist Church). Married March 2, 1909.

March 16, 2025— Sponsored by Al & Pam Braun in memory of Loved Ones.

Listen to past broadcasts at [KBMWnews.com!](http://KBMWnews.com)



Weekly Recordings of our worship services are now being posted on the Breckenridge UMC Facebook page, YouTube page, and the church



Breckenridge Church Fellowship Potluck

Sunday, March 2, 2025
(Hosts are Dave & Janel Sayler).

Sunday, April 6, 2025
(Host needed).

Please bring a dish to share!
Everyone is Welcome!!



Our church delivers the first week of each month for 7 months (October through April).

THANK YOU to Paul & Linda Thulen, Dale & Carol Anderson (2), Corinne Jirak & Kayla Burhans, Robin Jirak & Carmen Burhans for delivering in the month of January.

BRECKENRIDGE UMC — EDUCATION

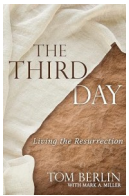


Sunday School NEWS!!!

We meet twice a month. Come to the Worship Service at 10:45 a.m. and after the Children's Time you will be dismissed to Sunday School.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE: March 9 & 23; April 13 & 27

Mindi Bruce & Ramona Taylor,
Sunday School Team Teachers



LENT STUDY (6 weeks): On the third day, he rose again.

In *The Third Day: Living the Resurrection*, Tom Berlin uses his gifts of storytelling and understanding the Scriptures to connect the reader to the experiences of several individuals around Jesus in his final days, focusing on new life and redemption rather than loss.

Join Peter, Mary Magdalene, and Thomas as they feel the despair of losing Jesus and the surprise and joy that awaits them in the resurrection. This study traces events around these characters, along with Paul and the disciples at Emmaus, and how the resurrection transforms their lives. Please let the office know if you would like a book. Book cost is \$17.00

Breckenridge: Wednesdays beginning March 12 at 10:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.

This year, join United Methodists across the Dakotas-Minnesota Area in reading through the books of Luke and Acts— one chapter at a time. There are 52 weeks in the year and 52 chapters between Luke and Acts. **There is a booklet & bookmarker available at the church to track your progress and record your reflections throughout 2025.** May this be a fulfilling, fruitful, and faith-building experience! If interested in doing a small group study on this, let the office know.

READING SCHEDULE FOR March

| Week of... | March 2—Luke 10 March 23—Luke 13 | March —Luke 11 March 30—Luke 14 | March 16—Luke 12 |
|------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------|
|------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------|

RE: Methodist Moments Sponsors for 2025 Year

METHODIST MOMENTS SPONSORSHIP—Cost is \$60 for each broadcast.

(Please return to our church office, 910 Main St., Breckenridge, MN 56520)

Sponsor's Name _____

(Circle one) _____ **In Memory** _____ **In Honor** _____

of _____

on the occasion _____

Sponsor which Sunday?

Jan. 5 —Butch & Corinne Jirak

Jan. 19—Hulda Steinwand

Feb. 2—Butch & Corinne Jirak

Feb. 16—Butch & Corinne Jirak

March 2—Paul Bruce

March 16—Al & Pam Braun

April 6—

April 20 -

May 4—Paul & Joy Eichhorn

May 18 -

June 1 -

June 15—Gail Kippen Williams

July 6—Dave & Janel Saylor

July 20—Terry & Mary Boldingh

Aug. 3—

Aug. 17—Terry & Mary Boldingh

Sept. 7—Kathy Dye

Sept. 21—Gail Kippen Williams

Oct. 5—Phyllis Hiedeman

Oct. 19— Paul & Joy Eichhorn

Nov. 2—Buth & Corinne Jirak

Nov. 16— Paul Bruce

Dec. 7—Rose Ella Matejcek

Dec. 21—Paul Bruce

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**United Methodist
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Phone: 218-517-5553

Check out our Website!!
Breckumc.org

Office hours:
Monday thru Friday
8:00 a.m. to 12 noon
1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Our **MISSION** is to proclaim the love of God.

Our **VISION** is a community of faith in relationship with the world through Jesus Christ, glorifying God as we reach out to people in love, physically, emotionally and spiritually.

Our **PURPOSE** is to develop a community of spiritually mature believers, loving and nurturing all in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Our **VALUES** are Fellowship, Outreach, Music, and Youth.

PRAYER FOR THE WORLD—



WEST BANK AND EAST JERUSALEM SUPPORT



Members of the Princess Basma Centre multi-disciplinary team, based in the Child Rehabilitation Center in Jerusalem, during a Telemedicine session with a family and child with disabilities. (Photo: Princess Basma Centre)

Palestinians in other parts of Israel-Palestine outside Gaza have also been targets of violence and harassment. As noted by Fernandes, “In East Jerusalem and the West Bank, Palestinians continue to face mounting violence, fear, ongoing detentions and displacement. We urge an immediate end to all violence and displacement.”

In addition to Princess Basma Centre, other long-time ecumenical partners are receiving grants to continue serving their Palestinian communities. UMCOR has provided support for specific projects at Wi'am Palestinian Conflict Transformation Center in Bethlehem, Four Homes of Mercy in Jerusalem, Hope School in Beit Jala, the Shepherd Society in Bethlehem and the Arab Orthodox Benevolent Society in Beit Jala, which gave medical support to people who could no longer afford their medications or who needed surgery.

Christie R. House is a consultant writer and editor with Global Ministries and UMCOR.

UMCOR work with refugees and people displaced by war

The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR)

Founded in 1940 to care for refugees and displaced communities of WW II, the [United Methodist Committee on Relief \(UMCOR\)](http://www.umcmission.org) is the global humanitarian relief and development agency of The United Methodist Church. A part of Global Ministries, UMCOR works in more than 80 countries worldwide, including the United States and its territories. Working in the areas of disaster response and recovery and migration, UMCOR responds to natural or civil disasters that are interruptions of such magnitude that they overwhelm a community's ability to recover on its own. Learn more about Global Ministries by visiting www.umcmission.org or follow us on social media.