



THE Messenger

SYCAMORE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH NEWSLETTER

February 2025



FEBRUARY HIGHLIGHTS

- 2- Judson University Choir with Huntley Brown at 4:30pm
- 5 - L.I.F.T. Dinner at 6:00 pm
- 6 - United Methodist Men's Pancake Supper from 4-6:30pm
- 7 - ABC Preschool Open House from 9:30am-12:00pm.
- 8 - Game and Chili Night from 4-7:00pm.
- 9 - Super Bowl Spectacular at 5:00pm.



JUDSON UNIVERSITY CHOIR W/ HUNTLEY BROWN

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2ND AT 4:30 PM

Experience a special concert featuring the **Judson University Choir** alongside renowned musician **Huntley Brown!** This evening promises a beautiful blend of uplifting music and inspiring performances.

Don't miss this unforgettable event—invite your friends and family to join us for an evening of music that will touch your heart. Cost: Free will donation.

United Methodist Men's
PANCAKE SUPPER



THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6th **SERVING: 4:00-6:30 pm**

COST: \$10/ticket ♦ \$5 Children 5-10 ♦ Under 5 Free

Pancakes, Sausage, Scrambled Eggs, Applesauce,

ALL YOU CAN EAT!! Get your tickets in the church office, text PANCAKES to the church phone number, or scan the QR Code to get your tickets



SCAN ME

Let's Laugh & Play with Friends!

SUMC PRIDE COMMITTEE'S
GAME NIGHT

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 8th
4-7 PM

CARD & BOARD GAMES - TRIVIA
CHILI - SNACKS

Feel Free To Bring A Game Or Food To Share
Family Friendly Event Welcoming All

AT SYCAMORE UMC
160 JOHNSON AVE, SYC

SECOND ANNUAL SUMC
SUPER BOWL SPECTACULAR

PRESENTED BY YOUNG PEOPLES' AND FAMILY MINISTRIES

Join your SUMC community
Sunday, February 9th, 2025
@ 5:00 PM to watch the Super Bowl
Food, games, Madden tournament

SUMC STAFF

Rev. Luis Felipe Reyes-Rosario
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Sycamore United
Methodist Church



@sycamoreumc



FEBRUARY 2025 WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sundays at 9:30am
Children's Sunday School at 9:30am & 4:30pm
Sunday Evening Service at 4:30pm

www.facebook.com/SUMCIllinois/ or
www.youtube.com/results?searchquery=sycamore+umc

CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY MONTH

**February 2 – 4th Sunday after the Epiphany
Service of Holy Communion**

Jeremiah 1: 4-10
Luke 4: 21-30

February 9 - 5th Sunday after the Epiphany

Isaiah 6:1-8 (9-13)
Luke 5:1-11

February 16 - 6th Sunday after the Epiphany

Jeremiah 17:5-10
Luke 6:17-26

February 23– 7th Sunday after the Epiphany

Genesis 45:3-11, 15
Luke 6:27-38

Please keep your pastors & your church family informed!

As policies surrounding confidentiality and patient's rights continue to be adjusted, hospitals and nursing homes no longer contact church offices to notify them that church members have been admitted. To insure that you desire and receive pastoral care, please call the church office, or have a friend/family member call on your behalf.

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS FOR FEBRUARY

Canned beans
Soup
Crackers
Canned fruit
Canned tuna
Crunchy Peanut butter
Jelly

Canned meals
(spaghetios, beefaroni
etc)
Canned veggies
Spaghetti sauce
Mayo
Salad Dressing

Boxed potatoes or stuffing
Cereal
Paper towels
Tissues
Toilet Paper
Toiletries
Bar Soap





We extend our sympathies to the families of:

Nancy Clayberg
John McLaughlin
(Dick McLaughlin's brother)
Jay Haka
Peg Greathouse
Arlo Bloyd (Donna Bloyd's husband)

Those for whom we pray:

Nancy	Carol Berndt
David Dykema	Jimmy Schmidt
Dick McLaughlin	Carol Keneway
Diana Grace	Samantha Keller
Pat	Mike Milyanovich
Collin	Kathy Hewitt
Beverly Duff	Corky Skelton
Jon Bean	Larry & Clair Best
Neil Weir	Alice Mathey
Charlee Gautcher	Sean Weisser
Hugh Bisco	Jerrica Newby
Mark McGee	Dwain Stadie
Norma Clarner	Mark Westrom
Rick Stewart	John Horst
Leeyah Keller	Stephanie Barnes
Amy Kroos	Delmer Gross
Gary Blake	

The Service Personnel and Their Families

Cpt. Mark Browning,	PO3 Samuel V. Bell
*SGT Ben Bushno	SGT Brock Grimaldi
SGT Shaune Clark	*SPC Alexis Jones
SGT Matthew Einhorn	*Maj Steve Haack
PFC Timothy Einhorn	PV2 Rachel McMillion
PO1 Frank Incapreo	*CPL Joshua Caraballo
SSG Christopher Isabel	SPC Sutit Jackson
Lt. Col. Garrett Slack	PV2 Liam Keller
MSG Matthew "Scott" Stewart	E-5 PO Hayden Royer
*LT Matthew Herbaugh	E-3 Amanda Royer
PVT Trevor Bassett	<i>*indicates deployed personnel</i>



STEWARDSHIP IN ACTION
GIVING WITH LOVE

The month of February includes Valentine's Day, a day when cards, flowers, and candy are exchanged as an expression of love. Some may view this exchange as an obligation because that is what is done on Valentine's Day. But hopefully, the majority of those involved in this giving do so freely and with sincerity to truly express how they care about someone else.



A gift motivated out of duty and obligation is different from one freely given out of love and compassion. This is a lesson for church stewardship as well. A person may give the same gift of money as another person, but it is the spirit behind the gift that really matters. God is pleased when we give to him cheerfully and willingly because we love him. Love is one of our church core values where we share God's love through acceptance, inclusion, empathy, and forgiveness.

Many people in Scripture are described as giving freely out of love for the Lord. For example, the widow in Mark 12 and Luke 21 who gave her last coins as an offering to God; the Good Samaritan in Luke 10 who is moved to compassion to help a stranger who was attacked by robbers; and King David in First Chronicles who makes provisions for his fortune to be used to build a temple to honor the Lord. All these people gave their gifts not as an obligation, but out of love. Likewise, God has never stopped pouring out his love for us.

In exchange for God's love, are you moved to give, serve, and honor him through your support of Sycamore United Methodist Church? You may mail checks to the church at 160 Johnson Avenue, Sycamore, IL 60178 (attention Business Director Jim McCue), go on line to contribute at www.sycamoreumc.org/giving, or text "giving" to 815-895-9113.

OPPORTUNITIES TO GATHER, GROW, AND SERVE

LIFT Dinner is February 5th at 6pm. LIFT (Living in Faith Together) dinner this month has us talk about God's comfort. Dinner is meatloaf, the ultimate comfort food. RSVP by texting LIFT to the church phone number.



CHILDREN

- **Children's Ministry Programs** meet regularly. Magic Monday meets February 10th and 24th from 12-1:15pm for PK-1st children. Christian Kids(K-5th) practice loving God, self, and neighbor on Wednesdays from 4-5:30pm with some school pick-up options. Newcomers are always welcome. For more information go to: <https://sycamoreumc.org/childrens-ministries/> Newcomers are always welcome!
- Sunday School (PK-MS) is weekly at 9:30am service.

YOUTH/YOUNG ADULT

- Youth Group will continue to be every other Sunday. We extended the time now to 6-8p.m. Next meeting is scheduled 2/2/25. As always this is open to all middle schoolers and High Schoolers. We have food, games, and some devotional time. This follows Breakthrough Service which is from 4:30-6 please join us for both.
- Our SUMC Life Mission trip is scheduled for July 27th - August 1st . We are going to Benton Harbor MI through Youth Works. Informational will be held at the end of Youth Group on 2/2/25. Our first deadline for sign up is February 16th we will have the availability to add and drop participants one more time. We are looking for adult leaders to chaperone. Please reach out if you are interested or if you want more details.
- Super Bowl party on Super Bowl Sunday 2/9/25 bring a dish to share. We will have a Madden tournament, games, and food. Everyone is welcome come join the festivities.
- **Young Adults Fellowship** meets every Thursday evening from 6-7:30. Anyone age 18-29 are invited for dinner and discussion about how God is showing up in our lives.

ADULTS

- Singles Fellowship meets February 25th at 6pm at Ski's
- **Adult Studies:**
 - ◇ **Disciples:** There's still time to join this weekly study that helps participants deepen their understanding of Scripture and make connections between what they already know and what they are reading. Every Tuesday night beginning February 11th at 5:30pm in the lounge you will encounter three spiritual disciplines, learn what they are, and how you can engage those disciplines. Register by texting: DISCIPLES to the church phone number or contact Peggy Carey .
 - ◇ **Winter Book Study:** This winter we will wrestle with our faith starting January 15th or 16th. This Adam Hamilton 6-week study discusses some of our most significant sources of doubt and shows how a steady trust in God can emerge. Classes meet Wednesdays 11-12 or Thursday evening 7-8pm. Copies are available in the Resource Center.
 - ◇ **Adult Bible Study: Jesus Teaches us How to Live - The Book of Matthew** Led by Joe and Shelly Gibson. Mondays at 6:00pm, thru April 14th in the Church Lounge. Bring your bible - a class study book and schedule will be provided. Newcomers are always welcome.



OPPORTUNITIES TO GATHER, GROW, AND SERVE



PROMOTING
RECONCILIATION,
INCLUSION,
DIVERSITY, and
EQUALITY

P.R.I.D.E. COMMITTEE

PRIDE invites everyone to kick off the year with us at our first event, Game Night with a chili dinner, on February 8th from 4–7 PM! Then, join us on March 8th from 3–5 PM for a Zine Craft Workshop. All ages are welcome at both events. We can't wait to see you there!

ABC PRESCHOOL

February Mission Project: DeKalb County Bookshelf Collection.

We collect books for preschool and elementary school aged children for donation to families in need.

Registration for fall 2025/2026 begins Monday, February 24 at 7:00 am for SUMC members, current ABC families and former ABC family attendees. All registration will be done online.

We are collecting small plastic juice bottles with lids and stickers this month.

We thank Sycamore United Methodist Church for all your support of ABC Preschool. We look forward to working together on many projects during the year.



Blessings,
The ABC Preschool Staff

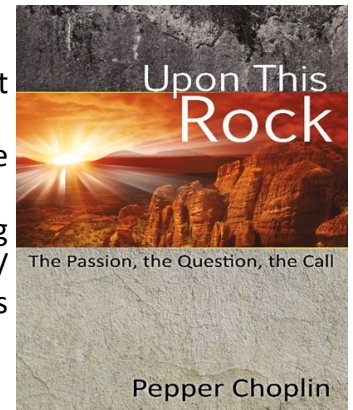
WORSHIP, MUSIC AND ARTS

Save the date! Our Spring Sing and Choir Cantata will be on April 13, 2025 at 5:00 PM Choir will present their Lenten Cantata, "Upon This Rock"

If you have been wanting to sing, now is the time to come and join us! We are beginning rehearsals for this event in February, and all, ages 14 + are welcome!

If your looking for other ways to be involved in worship, we are always looking for singers, ringers for our handbell choir, instrumentalists, liturgists and audio/visual tech's too!! And, we also have our praise band, Breakthrough always looking for musicians for the Sunday Night Service too!!

See you on Sundays!
Peter Hansen
Director of Music, Worship & Arts



CALLING ALL MEN!

In the past, several of you have said that you would like to be an active member of the Sycamore United Methodist Men, but the 7:30am starting times on Saturdays are too early for you to attend on the one day of the week that you can sleep in. Well, the SUMM members have listened to you. Therefore, we have agreed that our SUMM Meeting times in January & February will be moved back one hour, from 7:30

-9:00, to 8:30-10:00. Depending upon the results of this trial effort, we will decide by the end of February whether or not we will permanently change our start times. We welcome you to come and experience SUMM's observance of our Core Values of Community and Discipleship. Our February meeting dates are the 1st and the 15th; we hope to see you there!



FEBRUARY 2025 EVENTS CALENDAR

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Join us for the **1st Annual SUMC Fundraiser – "Spring Around the World"** on **Saturday, March 15th**. The evening will begin with appetizers at 5:00pm, followed by a delicious Lasagna dinner at 6:00pm. Enjoy a fun-filled night with a silent and live auction.

Tickets are \$25/person; \$10 Children 5-12; Children under 5 free.
Come enjoy great food, exciting auctions, and support a great cause!
We look forward to seeing you there!

Silent and Live Auction item donations are welcome!!



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
The deadline for the March issue of The Messenger is February 20th						1 8:30 AM UMM Breakfast
2 9:30 AM Sunday Worship Service 9:30 AM Children's Sunday School 4:30 PM Judson University Choir with Huntley Brown Concert 6:00 PM Middle & High School Youth Group	3 9:00 AM Faithful Fitness 12:00 PM Food Pantry 12:00 PM Coat Ministry 6:00 PM Adult Bible Study "The Book of Matthew"	4 3:30 PM Staff Meeting 6:00 PM Pack 141 Den 1 6:30 PM Fundraiser Mtg.	5 9:00 AM Faithful Fitness 11:00 AM Adult Book Study 4:00 PM Christian Kids 5:30 PM Children's Choirs 6:00 PM L.I.F.T. Dinner 7:00 PM Chancel Choir	6 4:00 PM TOPS 6:00 PM Young Adult Fellowship Group 6:00 PM Pack 141 Dens 2 & 3 7:00 PM Handbell Choir 7:00 PM Adult Book Study	7 6:00 PM GS Troop 821	8 4:00 PM PRIDE Game and Chili Night
9 9:30 AM Sunday Worship Service 9:30 AM Children's Sunday School 4:00 PM GS Troop 998 4:30 PM BREAKTHROUGH Sunday Evening Worship 5:00 PM Superbowl Spectacular	10 9:00 AM Faithful Fitness 12:00 PM Magic Mondays 12:00 PM Food Pantry 12:00 PM Coat Ministry 5:15 PM GS Troop 5070 5:00 PM Discipleship Committee 6:00 PM Adult Bible Study "The Book of Matthew"	11 9:30 PM Mary Circle 3:30 PM Staff Meeting 5:30 PM "Disciples" Bible Study 6:00 PM Pack 141 Den 4 6:30 PM Food Pantry Board	12 9:00 AM Faithful Fitness 11:00 AM Adult Book Study 4:00 PM Christian Kids 5:30 PM Children's Choirs 7:00 PM Chancel Choir	13 4:00 pm TOPS 4:30 PM GS Troop 1717 6:00 PM Pack 141 Den 5 6:00 PM Young Adult Fellowship Group 7:00 PM Handbell Choir 7:00 PM Adult Book Study	14 ABC Preschool No school 6:00 PM GS Troop 912	15 8:30 AM UMM Breakfast 6:30 PM Girl Scout Daddy Daughter Dance
16 9:30 AM Sunday Worship Service 9:30 AM Children's Sunday School 4:30 PM BREAKTHROUGH Sunday Evening Worship 6:00 PM Middle & High School Youth Group	17 ABC Preschool No School 9:00 AM Faithful Fitness 12:00 PM Food Pantry 12:00 PM Coat Ministry 6:00 PM Adult Bible Study "The Book of Matthew" 6:30 PM Worship Comm.	18 1:00 PM Grace Circle 3:30 PM Staff Meeting 5:30 PM "Disciples" Bible Study 6:00 PM Pack 141 Den 1	19 9:00 AM Faithful Fitness 10:00 AM Caring Ministry Network 11:00 AM Adult Book Study 4:00 PM Christian Kids 5:30 PM Children's Choirs 7:00 PM Chancel Choir	20 ABC Preschool Parent Teacher Conferences 4:00 PM TOPS 4:30 PM GS Troop 1717 6:00 PM Young Adult Fellowship Group 6:00 PM Youth Ministries Team 6:00 PM Girl Scout Leaders 6:00 PM Pack 141 Den 2 6:00 PM Pack 141 Den 3 7:00 PM Handbell Choir 7:00 PM Adult Book Study	21 ABC Preschool No school	22 9:00 AM NIC Board of Pension 4:00 PM Pack 141 Blue & Gold Banquet
23 9:30 AM Sunday Worship Service 9:30 AM Children's Sunday School 10:45 AM New Circle Informational Meeting 4:30 PM BREAKTHROUGH Sunday Evening Worship	24 9:00 AM Faithful Fitness 12:00 PM Magic Mondays 12:00 PM Food Pantry 12:00 PM Coat Ministry 5:15 PM GS Troop 5070 6:00 PM Adult Bible Study "The Book of Matthew" 6:00 PM Congregational Care and Outreach	25 1:00 PM UWV Missions Team 3:30 PM Staff Meeting 5:30 PM "Disciples" Bible Study 6:00 PM Pack 141 Den 4 6:00 PM Singles Fellowship at Ski's	26 9:00 AM Faithful Fitness 11:00 AM Adult Book Study 4:00 PM Christian Kids 5:30 PM Children's Choirs 7:00 PM Chancel Choir	27 4:00 PM TOPS 4:30 PM GS Troop 1717 6:00 PM Young Adult Fellowship Group 6:00 PM Pack 141 Den 5 7:00 PM Handbell Choir 7:00 PM Adult Book Study	28	March 1 8:30 AM UMM Breakfast