



Chapel Hills • *Weekly News* • March 12, 2026

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Sunday, March 15, 2026

Worship Service @ 10:15 am

Fourth Sunday in Lent

Nursery is available for infants, toddlers, and preschool-age children.

Children aged five and older are invited to attend Sunday School immediately following the offertory.

Participating from home on Sunday morning? Join us via live stream...
Click Here: <http://youtube.com/channel/UCBYMT5pV5dLXGHjX5iaYXYQ/live>

Contact Information

Rev. Briones will be away on vacation from March 9th through the 16th.

In the event of an emergency pastoral care need,
please call Rev. Jane McBride, First Congregational Church (612-598-2432).



In Prayer

- Pam Huey asks for prayers for her sister, Paula, who is struggling with a recurrence of lymphoma.
- Jane Berne asks for continued prayers as her brother, Chris, recovers following heart surgery.
- Doug Allen, Sherilyn Aske, John Burgart, Loretta Centgraf, Dee Chance, Louise Ford, Juleah Foss, Bob Huber, Joann Hunt, Russell Hunt Jr, Jordan Kerr, Molly Lee-Lafferty, Kathleen (Kathy) Molony, Jeff Olander, Marion Rova, Allii Scudder, Ashley Sherman, Shelley Tang, and Amanda Trosen

Book Group Thursday, March 12th (1:00 to 3:00 pm)

We are reading The First Ladies
by Marie Benedict and Victoria
Christopher Murray.

All are welcome to join the
conversation... even if you have not
read the book.

One Great HOUR OF SHARING

We will receive the One Great Hour of Sharing
offering THIS Sunday, March 15th.

Donations can be made by check
made payable to Chapel Hills (write OGHS
on the memo line), or online
(convenient & secure) @

https://app.easytithe.com/app/giving/chapel_hillsuccedina

PALM SUNDAY FAITH ACTION

RECLAIMING CHRISTIANITY IN THE PUBLIC SQUARE

**MARCH
29**

Join thousands of Christians on Palm Sunday to celebrate the call of our faith to love our neighbors: healing the sick, feeding the hungry, and welcoming the stranger.

2:00PM

Procession launching from several churches at University and Dale

2:30PM

Worship and Program at Minnesota State Capitol Mall

Join thousands of Christians in St. Paul on March 29th, Palm Sunday afternoon where we will celebrate and embody our faith's call to love God and love our neighbors as ourselves and reject authoritarianism, cruelty and greed. We will gather at 2:30pm for a joyful worship service and public action on the Capitol Mall. Join us and bring your family and friends! Register now and invite others!



SCAN CODE TO REGISTER.

**VISIT [PALMSUNDAY2026.COM](https://palmsunday2026.com) TO
LEARN MORE.**

Easter Flowers

It's time to order your Easter flowers. Order forms are available on the table outside the church office. Please make check payable to Chapel Hills UCC (write "Easter Flowers" on the memo line). Choose from Bachman's-grown spring classics (Easter lilies, tulips, azaleas, hydrangeas, mums and pansy bowls).

Order Deadline:

Wednesday, March 18

Palm Sunday Breakfast Sunday, March 29th

Join us for breakfast

anytime between

8:45 & 10:00 a.m.

Egg casserole, baked french toast, fruit, coffee & juice.

For planning purposes, please sign-up in the Narthex.

Collaborative Lenten Meal & Worship Service (Meal - 5:30 pm • Service - 6:30 pm)

Date	Hosted By	Location
Thurs, March 12	Lynnhurst Congregational UCC	4501 Colfax Ave S, Minneapolis
Thurs, March 19	Union Congregational UCC	3700 Alabama Ave S, St. Louis Park
Thurs, March 26	Morningside Hills UCC	4201 Morningside Rd, Edina



Thanks to all who attended and helped host the Lenten soup supper and worship service at Chapel Hills on Thursday, March 5th.

Delicious soups, breads, desserts, and great conversations with our neighboring UCC churches.

March Birthdays

Mats Edwards - 4

Laura Feierabend - 4

Jess Chancey - 7

Jeff Derby - 15

Liz Derby - 20

Stacy Kehrwald - 21

Katara Garraway - 23

Barb Okonek - 25

Andrea Erickson - 26

Dorothy Lundberg - 27

Marj Johnson - 30



"No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you're welcome here."

Helping Our Neighbors During the Month of March

Emergency Express Packets

Chapel Hills is teaming up with VEAP to supply food to our friends and neighbors who are staying inside their homes due to the fear of ICE.



Donations of:

- cans of protein (tuna, pork, chicken)
- beans, canned or dried
- peanut butter
- vegetables, canned
- fruit, canned
- brown rice, pasta (no mac and cheese)
- pasta sauce

Financial donations are gladly accepted by check, with VEAP written on the memo line, or through our secure online site – click here: [GIVING](#).

12	MAR, THU	● 1 – 3pm	Book Group
		● 5:30 – 7pm	Collaborative Lenten Meal & Worship Service @ Lynnhurst Congregational UCC
15	MAR, SUN	● All day	One Great Hour of Sharing Offering
		● 9:15 – 10am	Adult Choir Rehearsal
		● 10:15 – 11:15am	Worship Service
		● 11:15 – 11:45am	Sunday School (for Ages 5 & Older)
17	MAR, TUE	● 11am – 12:30pm	MnCAN Aphasia Group
		● 1 – 2:30pm	MnCAN Aphasia Group
18	MAR, WED	● 7:30 – 8:30pm	Adult Choir Rehearsal
19	MAR, THU	● 5:30 – 7pm	Collaborative Lenten Meal & Worship Service @ Union Congregational UCC



GIVE Securely Online

Offering/Donations

- **Online Giving** (convenient & secure) by clicking the following link... <https://app.easytithe.com/app/giving/chapelhillsuccedina> or by scanning the QR Code on the left
- **By Check** (indicate what your donation is for on the memo line) Send to: Chapel Hills, 6512 Vernon Ave S, Edina, MN 55436



“Restored”

Fourth Sunday in Lent

One of the most haunting questions in John comes when after Jesus restores the sight of a man born blind and the Pharisees begin asking, “Surely, we are not blind?”

From the very beginning of this healing story, there’s much debate and misinformed assumptions from the community, including Jesus’ disciples, as all wonder whose sin was responsible for the man’s affliction: His own or his parents? Curses and blessings pave much of the Old Testament theological road, so it was popular belief that when bad things happened it was because of something you or a family member did or didn’t do.

Jesus announces, though, the blindness was no one’s sin, and with a little divine spit and saliva rubbed onto the man’s eyes, Jesus heals him. The man returns from washing his eyes in the Pool of Siloam, which means “sent,” as Jesus instructed him to do. He returns with eyes that see everything vividly, even the truth of who Jesus is — the Holy One of God.

Skepticism prevails, though, and the Pharisees relentlessly question the man. It is then that Jesus makes the comment that he came into the world so that those who do not see may see, and those who do may become blind. He said it loud enough for the educated religious elite to hear. And when they do, they wonder, “Surely, we are not blind?”

Surely, I am not blind. Surely, you are not blind. We can see clearly what is right and what is wrong in the world, correct? Surely, we can see with the restored eyes of the blind man not only the beautiful blues in the sky and the lush greens in the meadows but the power and majesty of Christ among us.

The question of blindness is a haunting one because it reminds us that often we see only what we want to see, and we believe only what we want to believe. Like the Pharisees, none of us are free from misinformed assumptions and inherited prejudices and stymying skepticism.

How then do we gain our spiritual sight? I suppose it starts by allowing this question to haunt us. For only when we begin to ask if we ourselves are blind will we begin to admit that we need corrective spiritual lenses.

All-knowing and all-seeing God, heal us from our own blindness that keeps us from seeing the world with the eyes of Jesus. May this day we regain our spiritual sight to see those who are hungry, who hurt, and who are lonely. In Jesus’ name, we pray. Amen.

(Rev. Donna Frischknecht Jackson is a communications specialist for the United Church of Christ and author of today’s Sunday Bulletin.)