

# Faith *news*

WOOD RIVER & ALDA FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
FEBRUARY 2024

## Giving & Attendance Report

**November: \$8,955**  
**December: \$9,646**  
**January: \$9,242**

**Monthly expenses: \$10,428**  
(based off the 2024 projected budget)

**Average weekly attendance: 37**  
(excludes Jan 14 since service was cancelled due to weather)



For a safe and secure way to give online, scan the code with your smartphone. You will need to create an account if it's your first time using.

## Church Events

- Feb 7 Youth Group 6:30
- Feb 13 Confirmation 6:00\*
- Feb 14 Ash Wednesday: WR Service 5:00\*; Alda 6:30\*
- Feb 14 Blood Mobile at the high school
- Feb 15 Sewing 9:30
- Feb 21 Youth Group 6:30
- Feb 22 UWF 1:30

\*tentatively, watch for updates\*

## Embrace the Lenten Journey: A Season of Reflection and Renewal

As we approach the sacred season of Lent, we are invited to embark on a journey of reflection, repentance, and renewal. Lent is a time of spiritual preparation leading up to the joyous celebration of Easter, a season in which we are called to draw closer to God through prayer, fasting, and acts of service.

This year, our Lenten journey offers us a precious opportunity to deepen our relationship with God and one another. Through prayer, we open our hearts to God's presence, seeking guidance, strength, and forgiveness. Through fasting, we discipline our bodies and minds, freeing ourselves from distractions and worldly desires so that we may focus more fully on the things of God. Through acts of service, we follow in the footsteps of Jesus, reaching out to those in need and spreading God's love and compassion in our community and beyond.

As we enter this holy season, let us embrace the spirit of Lent with open hearts and minds. Let us commit ourselves to prayer, seeking God's guidance and wisdom in all we do. Let us embrace fasting as a means of drawing closer to God, recognizing that true fulfillment comes not from worldly possessions but from our relationship with God. And let us engage in acts of service, reaching out to those in need and sharing God's love and compassion with all we encounter.

Throughout this Lenten journey, remember that we do not walk alone. We are a community of faith united in our commitment to follow Jesus Christ. Together, we will support one another, encourage one another, and journey together toward the joy of Easter morning.

I also invite you to join us in a beautiful six-week journey with Jesus in a study called ***"The Third Day: Living the Resurrection,"*** where we will reflect on the scriptures, especially regarding the final days of Jesus and the experiences of those around him.

Let us journey together toward the cross and the empty tomb, and may this season be a time of spiritual growth, transformation, and renewal for us all.

***In Christ's service, Pastor Geoffrey.***



# February 2024



**Sun**

**Mon**

**Tue**

**Wed**

**Thu**

**Fri**

**Sat**

				1	2	3
4 WR Worship 9:30 Alda 11:00  <b>Lorna Wescoatt</b>	5	6	7 Bible Study 9:30 Youth Group 6:30	8  <b>Adrienne Hypes Kyle &amp; Becky Allan</b>	9	10  <b>Kevin Mayfield</b>
11 WR Worship 9:30 Alda 11:00	12	13 Confirmation 6:00  <b>Miguel &amp; Lori Rodriquez</b>	14 <b>Ash Wednesday</b> Bible Study 9:30 WR Service 5:00 Alda 6:30  <b>Ken &amp; Deb Fair- banks Rita Earnest</b>	15 Sewing 9:30  Jayden Molczyk	16  Jaiden Schofield	17
18 WR Worship 9:30 Alda 11:00  <b>Kyle Herber</b>	19  <b>Christian Thompson Jackie Rivera</b>	20  <b>Seth Smith</b>	21 Bible Study 9:30 Youth Group 6:30	22 UWF 1:30  <b>Megan Consbruck Brad &amp; Cindy Schelleper Jake &amp; Sabrina Molczyk</b>	23  <b>Cheyenne DeVore Ivan Bilslend</b>	24  Kent Luebs Dale Moul Joan Brown
25 WR Worship 9:30 Alda 11:00  <b>Harleigh Thompson Peg Heise</b>	26  <b>Kristin McCoun</b>	27  <b>Bob Allan Jr. Taryn Mayfield Danielle DeVore</b>	28 Bible Study 9:30	29  <b>Madison Smith</b>		

