

Announcements |

Realm: Realm is our new spot for communication, event registration, group connections, online giving, and more. Realm QR codes are listed on the insert to access either Google or Apple's app store and download the Realm app to your phone.

Coffee on the Porch: Come and catch up with friends and greet neighbors every Sunday at 10:30. Want to help serve coffee? Please see Heather Varsalona.

Time Change: Next week begins Daylight Savings Time. Don't forget to set your clocks ahead one hour!

Company is coming: Church workdays are scheduled for Saturdays, February 28, March 14, and Wednesday March 18 to freshen up the grounds and interior of the church, in preparation for the company that will be joining us for worship on Easter Sunday.

District Training: What does it really look like for the church to show up for its community—beyond Sunday mornings? On Saturday, March 7 from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM, at Smyrna First UMC, there is a community engagement training for churches. It will be a practical and inspiring gathering designed to help congregations live out their call to love their neighbors in tangible ways. Lunch will be provided. Contact the church office for more details.

Lenten Offering: The proceeds from the offering will go towards the purchase of items to make hygiene kits for UMCOR. We will have a packing party after Easter.

Spring Fling: The Spring Fling is Saturday, March 28. We need donations of plastic Easter Eggs and candy for the Easter Egg Hunts. Please bring them to the shopping cart in the Narthex. Candy must be individually wrapped and contain no chocolate or peanuts. Thank you!

Church Staff |

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March 1, 2026
Second Sunday of Lent

PRELUDE | *What a Friend We Have in Jesus*

By Charles C. Converse arranged by Bruce Greer

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MORNING PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, As it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

*HYMN 3128 | *Whatever You Do*

**"Whatever you do to the least of these,
I tell you in truth that you do unto me!" Lord Jesus, you taught us!
May we learn anew that when we serve others, we also serve you.**

**When poor, waiting children pray hunger will end,
when those long forgotten cry out for a friend, when thirsty ones whisper,
"O Lord, where are you?" we hear, in their longing, that you're calling too.**

**In prisons and jails, Lord, we find a surprise:
we see you in people whom others despise.
At hospital bedsides, we offer a prayer and find,
when we visit the sick, you are there.**

**"Lord, when did we see you?"
Your teaching is clear that when we serve others, we're serving you here.
And when your church hees you and help those in pain,
then out of the chaos, hope arises again.**

PASSING THE PEACE |

KID'S SERMON |

*HYMN 591 | *Rescue the Perishing*

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH | *The Apostle's Creed* (881)

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING | Luke 7:36-50

One of the Pharisees asked Jesus to eat with him, and he went into the Pharisee's house and took his place at the table. And a woman in the city, who was a sinner, having learned that he was eating at the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster jar of ointment. She stood behind him at his feet, weeping, and began to bathe his feet with her tears and to dry them with her hair. Then she continued kissing his feet and anointing them with the ointment. Now when the Pharisee who had invited him saw it, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would have known who and what kind of a woman this is who is touching him—that she is a sinner." Jesus spoke up and said to him, "Simon, I have something to say to you." "Teacher," he replied, "speak." "A certain creditor had two debtors; one owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. When they could not pay, he canceled debts for both of them. Now which of them will love him more?" Simon answered, "I suppose the one for whom he canceled the greater debt." And Jesus said to him, "You have judged rightly." Then turning to the woman, he said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave me no water for my feet, but she has bathed my feet with her tears and dried them with her hair. You gave me no kiss, but from the time I came in she has not stopped kissing my feet. You did not anoint my head with oil, but she has anointed my feet with ointment. Therefore, I tell you, her sins, which were many, have been forgiven; hence she has shown great love. But the one to whom little is forgiven, loves little." Then he said to her, "Your sins are forgiven." But those who were at the table with him began to say among themselves, "Who is this who even forgives sins?" And he said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace."

SERMON | *Lent: The Good News Is...Great Love for God and Neighbor*

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Thank you for supporting God's mission through Maple Avenue UMC. Offerings may be placed in the plates or online via the QR code



OFFERTORY | *God Be in My Head*

words adapted from the Book of Hours music by Andrea Ramsey

*DOXOLOGY |

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

UMH 15 | THANKSGIVING AND COMMUNION

*HYMN 295 | *In the Cross of Christ I Glory*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE | *Just a Closer Walk With Thee*

Traditional folk song arranged by Bill Wolaver

* Please stand in body or in Spirit.

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PRAYER CONCERNS |

Anson Senter, Briggs Weeks, Christine Weeks, Keith Harmeyer, Dean Greenway, Joyce Long, Gaines Law, Al & Ann Hough, Wanda Hurt, Bobby & Raenell Johnson, family of Yvonne Bell, Adam Fike, Deborah Nelson, Alan Greene, Bob Jackson, Lance, Karla Frazier, Dana Lingerfelt, Suzanne Bradshaw, Corey Reitz, Marty Wheelchel, Linda Smith

Please share any new prayer concerns using the back of the connect card or by contacting the church.

In the artwork, notice how deconstructed details are entwined together. What parts of the image draw your eye the most?

