

Sharon Springs United Methodist Church  
 Pastor Galen Crippen  
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# March 2018

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<http://www.sharonspringsumc.org>

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Sunday School 9:45 A.M. Worship Service 11 A.M.				<b>1</b> Bible Study at Prairie Village Retirement Comm. 11 A.M.	<b>2</b> <b>World Day of Prayer</b> <b>10:30 A.M. hosted by</b> <b>SSUMC UMW—Luncheon</b> <b>to follow program.</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>4</b> Holy Communion	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> UMW 1:15 P.M. Children's Choir sing at WCCCC 3:30 P.M.	<b>8</b> Bible Study at Prairie Village Retirement Comm. 11 A.M.	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b> UMCOR Sunday NO BASKET DINNER OR AD. CO. Harvest For Hunger Fundraiser at Parish Hall Daylight Saving Time begins	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> Children's Choir practice 3:30 P.M.	<b>15</b> Bible Study at Prairie Village Retirement Comm. 11 A.M.	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 
<b>18</b> <b>Administrative Council</b> <b>following the</b> <b>Worship Service</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> <b>NO</b> Children's Choir practice	<b>22</b> Bible Study at Prairie Village Retirement Comm. 11 A.M.	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b>  Children's Choir sings	<b>26</b> Holy Week Service at Senior Citizens Center	<b>27</b> Holy Week Service at Senior Citizens Center	<b>28</b> Holy Week Service at Senior Citizens Center (SSUMC in charge) Children's Choir practice 3:30 P.M.	<b>29</b> Holy Week Service at Senior Citizens Center Bible Study at Prairie Village Retirement Comm. 11 A.M.	<b>30</b> Holy Week Service at Senior Citizens Center	<b>31</b>



Copied from Daily Guideposts, 1994

*I run in the path of your commands...* -Psalm 119:32 (NIV)

One of my happiest childhood memories is of running pell-mell down the long driveway of our rural home. When I think about it, I can almost feel the slap, slap of the packed earth against the soles of my feet. Our graveled drive made an S-curve to our house. Tires had worn two smooth paths the length of it. Here and there, where a car had bogged down in winter mud, a cluster of imbedded fieldstones made bumpy paving.

By the time I was ten, my feet had memorized every angle and rock. I could run the length of it full speed at night without stumbling. Coming home from school on winter-dark evenings, the familiar driveway underfoot made me feel utterly secure. It led home, to the anchor of my young life: my mother, father, brothers and sisters.

Now that Dad and Mom are gone, the old house has been razed and the driveway has been amputated at a new property line. But my feet still remember the old way home.

That warm memory reminds me: I want to become just as familiar with the way to my heavenly home. I'd like the feet of my soul to know every step of my heavenly Father's driveway. Coming to Him quietly in prayer every day, recognizing His presence, is one way. And reading the Bible, the revelation of His love, is another way. Whatever my circumstances from day to day, from moment to moment, I want first to be at home with God.

*Heavenly Father, thank You for Your Son, Who made the way for me to come home to You.* -Elsie Larson

## **HE STILL MOVES STONES:**

EVERYONE NEEDS A MIRACLE

<https://maxlucado.com/products/he-still-moves-stones-everyone-needs-a-miracle/>

In this powerfully moving book, Pastor Lucado reminds us that the purpose of Bible stories isn't to tell us what Jesus did - but rather to remind us what Jesus still does: He still moves stones. Max Lucado is the pastor of Oak Hills Church of Christ in San Antonio, Texas. He is the first author to win the Gold Medallion Christian Book of the Year Award 3 times, and his books have been on the CBA bestsellers list every month for the last 7 years.

People with questions. The Bible is absolutely full of them. A crook on a cross. A wild man in a cemetery. A five-time divorcée. A despondent cripple. A grieving sister. A father at the end of his rope.

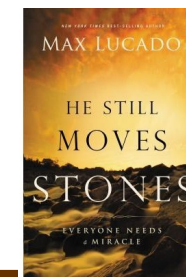
Why are these portraits in the Bible? So we can look back in amazement at what Jesus did? No ... these aren't just Sunday school stories. They are historic moments in which a real God met real pain so we could answer the question. "Does God care when I hurt?"

On every page of this powerfully moving book, Max Lucado reminds us that the God who spoke to Moses at the burning bush still speaks to you today. The God who forgave King David still offers you forgiveness. The God who helped men and women in ages past still comes into your world, and he comes to do what you can't, to move the stone away so you can see his answer.

Excerpt from He Still Moves Stones by Max Lucado

*Please remember, the goal of these stories is not to help us look back with amazement, but forward with faith. "The God who spoke still speaks. The God who forgave still forgives. The God who came still comes. He comes into our world. He comes to do what you can't. He comes to move the stones you can't budge.*

*Stones are no match for God.*



*Not then and not now.  
He still moves stones."*

## PASTOR'S PAGE

March 2018

February was a very pleasant month since things seemed to flow smoothly with no major issues or really bad weather.

We have several children in the confirmation age range and I feel it is time to hold a 6-week class for these children. Then, June 4-7 those interested could go to Camp Lakeside outside Scott City to Confirmation Camp to re-enforce what they have learned. It would be a great experience for them and the UMM will pay some or all the cost of camp.

We had a great time at the men's groundhog breakfast. I was invited to help make the sausage that they served up on Saturday morning. This was the first time for me to see a 240-pound hog just cut in half and hanging in the cooler waiting to be processed! It was a learning experience for me, and I enjoyed the whole process.

Our Ash Wednesday service was well attended and went very nice. As we continue through Lent I would encourage you "to observe a holy Lent: by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's Holy Word." This time of year, can be very special if you apply yourselves to become closer to God.

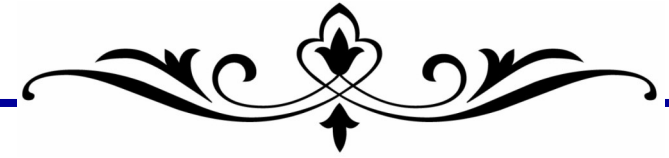
How did the early church observe Lent?

- They remembered the mercy and forgiveness of Christ
- They reconciled relationships among church members
- They prepared converts for baptism
- All of the above

Answer: All of the above

God's Blessings

Pastor Galen



### STAYING FED

*"How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth!"* (Psalm 119:103 NRSV).

Recently I was confronted with this question: If you fed yourself with food the way you feed yourself with God's Word, would you still be alive? It gave me pause.

Do I eat *enough* spiritually? - feast regularly enough on Scripture to keep up my energy and the health of my soul? Do I eat *nutritiously*? - take in a balanced meal of law and gospel, comfort and commandments, prophecy and promise? Do I pass up spiritual *junk food*? - set aside empty calories that lead to disease, in order to hunger for what truly give life? Do I drink enough *Living Water* to avoid faith dehydration? And once in a while, do I *splurge on dessert*? - savor the sweetness and joy of belonging at God's table?

What abundance God sets before us. May we never skip a "meal"! -Heidi Mann

