

# WinCHIMES



## Winfield Community United Methodist Church

An Affiliate of Gary United Methodist Church

APRIL 2010

Spring is my favorite time of year. The spring that starts just after the gray has gone way, as the mud is drying. It's as the flowers are starting to burst through the dirt, the trees are starting to turn green. It's life after the gray and cold of the winter months. I sometimes find myself curling up in the sunshine to enjoy these days of spring.

I think it's the colors, that all the space that once was gray and white can quickly be filled with greens and yellow, reds and purples. It is that there is always something new. For days and for weeks there is always something new to see and to be apart of. It's why it's fitting that Easter is this time of the year.

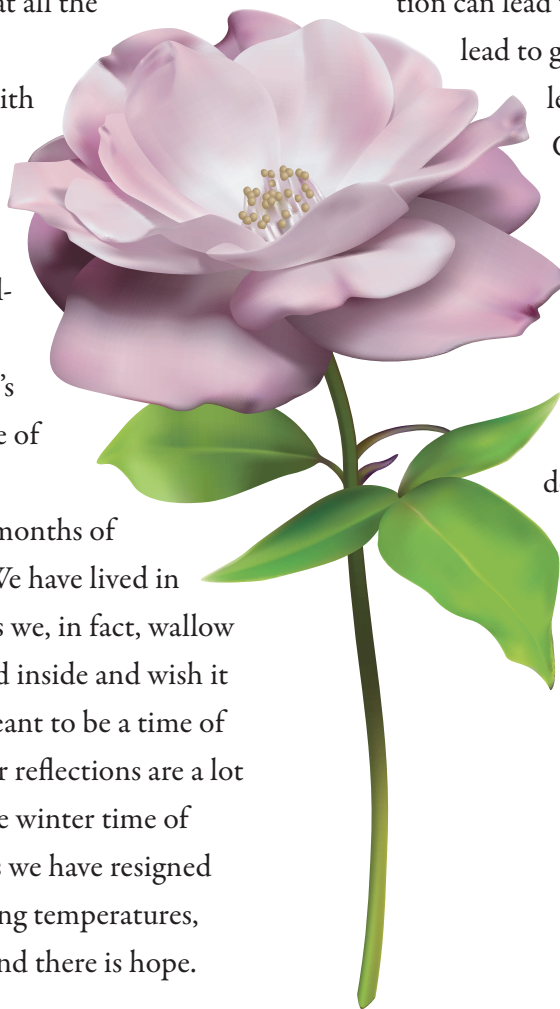
We have survived these months of cold, gray, snow and wind. We have lived in it and through it. Sometimes we, in fact, wallow in it. Many days I tried to hid inside and wish it away. Our time in Lent is meant to be a time of reflection and sometimes our reflections are a lot like the dreary weather in the winter time of Chicago. And just as soon as we have resigned ourselves to the below freezing temperatures, there is that 50 degree day, and there is hope.

As we move more fully into this season of spring, as we come into this season of Easter, as we dust off the ashes of Wednesday and we shake off the gloom of winter, may we find life. May we remember that our God is the God of every season. Our God makes all things new. God was there in our times of Lent, when we are reflecting, and considering, and self-evaluation. But reflection can lead to change, and change can

lead to growth. And growth can lead to those new things that God is doing in our lives.

Friends, let us look to those celebrate those things the God is doing in our lives and in our church community this Easter season as God is doing something and beautiful in creation this season of spring.

Pastor Leanne



### **Lessons From the Saints**

6-week Bible Study begins Tuesday, March 16 at 10 a.m. at Winfield UMC. We will be studying *Lessons From the Saints* by Maxi Dunham. The study will be led by Jan Ong.

**Please continue to check the bulletin boards for ways in which you can serve in different areas of the church.** We are always looking for Sunday School teachers, readers for scriptures and prayers, fellowship and flowers.

**Fellowship host/hostesses.** Our new format for fellowship continues with a different family hosting a Sunday or even an entire month. Duties include making coffee, lemonade or other cold drink, bringing goodies and cleaning up afterwards. Contact Fran Miller to volunteer. Below is a list of those already scheduled. Thank you for your service.

*April* - Fran Miller

*May* - Victoria VanBortel

*June* - Gloria Dorich

*July* - Denise Carlson

*August* - in need of host/hostess

*September* - Aliga's

**Our Choir rehearsals** on Monday nights at 7 p.m. All are welcome to join us.

### **Lost & Found**

Winfield UMC has an orange canvas bag with a girl's dress and several bathing suits. Contact Winfield UMC to claim. Gary Church's lost and found also has many items in it. It is located in Gary's Resource Room (lower level). Smaller items such as gloves, keys, earrings, etc. are located in Gary's Church office.

**Needing transportation to church?** Jim Wiggins will be happy to provide transportation to anyone who needs a ride to church. Please call him at (630) 293-7324. If anyone is able to help provide transportation on days that Jim is not available, please contact him directly.

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## f i n a n c i a l   u p d a t e

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### Treasurer's Report

The tithes and pledges for February 2010 were \$3,436.00. With other giving the total receipts were \$3,754.38 which included \$48.00 for the mission collection for the burgundy band and special Lenten giving. Operating expenses including the quarterly insurance payment and the heating gas bill were \$5,650.39. Our payment for apportionments of

\$659.00 and the mission payment were made. We moved some excess funds into the saving account which left the ending balance in the operating account at \$10,973.40. Please contact John Taylor if you have any questions.