

the Messenger

✠ March 2018

Easter is coming!

Easter Sunday falls on April 1 this year. We will celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ and the promise of eternal life with scripture, sermon and song at 8:30 and 11:00 that day.

Easter is the perfect time for persons to hear about God's love and what a difference it makes in the world today. When people hear about what God has done for us in Jesus Christ, it creates the opportunity for them to come to know Jesus themselves. The news can change their whole life. This year, do all we can together to help others know about the good news of Easter. It's simply too good to keep to ourselves.

This year for Easter Sunday, the sermon will be called "Unfinished Business." Looking at the Easter story from Mark's Gospel, we will see how the good news of the empty tomb isn't simply about what happened long ago. Easter gives us hope and helps us to see beyond our present circumstances to what God has in mind. In a very real sense, Easter is still with us as the defining feature of the Christian life.

Who of your relatives, neighbors, friends and co-workers do you want to see come to Christ this Easter? People are more likely to respond favorably to your invitation at Easter than at any other time of the year—except maybe Christmas. Don't miss this unique opportunity to invite them to one of our church services!

Here's what you can do this month:

1. Ask God to show you who to invite..
2. Pray that that person will come with you to one of the services on Easter Sunday.

Make the invitation!

This Easter will be one of our greatest experiences together. I am very excited! I know God will be present to us in a rich and powerful way. I look forward to being a part of it with you and your guests.

See you in Church!

-Pastor Steve

From Rev. Shannon's Desk

The last few Sundays we've prayed for our confirmands, but you may be wondering who exactly those confirmands are and what they are doing.

Confirmation is one of the ways we invite young people to respond to their baptism. Baptism is about God's work in our lives, how God loves us and offers us grace. Confirmation is one of the ways we respond to that grace by making a conscious decision to claim our identities as beloved children of God and followers of Christ. It is about confirming the faith shown and taught to us in church. We have 8 students in class, mostly seventh graders, though one is in ninth grade, and all girls but one brave soul. We meet twice monthly for classes, they have mentors to discuss their faith with, and we will have retreats before Pentecost, when they will be confirmed.

I love teaching confirmation because the students are usually hilarious and ask wonderful questions. Our first class we talked about creation and how God created humanity in God's image. So one of the students asked me, "Does that mean God looks like Zac Efron?" If you don't know who Zac Efron is then you are old. Don't worry--- they've decided I'm old because I don't know who Shawn Mendes is.

But they also ask questions about other faiths. They read scripture eagerly and share about their own faith easily. They may be young, but many of them can talk about how they have encountered the Holy Spirit in service. My prayer is that confirmation will continue to give them the tools to ask good questions. That they will continue to see the presence of God when they serve but also in worship and small groups. And that they will feel more rooted in their faith.

Please keep the confirmands, their families, and their mentors in prayer as we continue to prepare for Pentecost.

And check out my Facebook page on class days if you want to know about any funny things they do.

Rev, Shannon Sullivan

Wesleyan Circle Meeting

Tuesday, March 20, 2018

1:30 p.m.

At the home of Jane Sowers

Worship this month

We are in the heart of the season of Lent this month, moving through the various covenants God established with the people until we see how God created a new covenant for all humanity in the life and death of Jesus Christ.

March 4 **Third Sunday in Lent.** Holy Communion
Exodus 20:1-17 and John 2:13-22
The Covenant Made with Moses

Mar. 11 **Fourth Sunday in Lent**
UMCOR Sunday
Numbers 21:4-9 and John 3:14-21
The covenant in the wilderness

Mar. 18 **Fifth Sunday in Lent**
Jeremiah 31:31-34 and John 12:20-33
A new covenant written on human hearts

Mar. 25 **Palm/Passion Sunday**
Liturgy of the Palms:
Matthew 21:1-11
Liturgy of the Passion:
Isaiah 50:4-9a
Philippians 2:5-11
Matthew 26:14-27:66

March 29 **Holy Thursday. 7:00 PM**
Holy Communion
Meditation on the Meal
1 Corinthians 11:23-26
John 13:1-17 and 31b-35

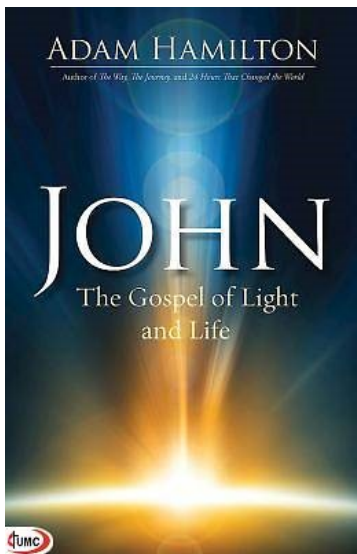
March 30 Good Friday.



UMCOR Sunday, March 11

There will be a special offering on Sunday, March 11. UMCOR Sunday calls United Methodists to share the goodness of life with those who hurt. UMCOR stands for United Methodist Committee on Relief. UMCOR's work of alleviating human suffering around the world includes disaster relief and supplies, disaster risk reduction, health, and humanitarian development. When we have given to relief and recovery efforts such as after Hurricanes Maria and Harvey, UMCOR has been among the very first agencies to provide direct assistance to people in crisis.

Because of UMCOR Sunday, when you hear about a disaster or humanitarian crisis and you give to UMCOR, you can be assured that one hundred percent of the money you designate goes toward people in need. When we give on UMCOR Sunday, we empower the United Methodist Committee on Relief to act as the arms and legs of Christ's church. Our giving helps the most vulnerable in their darkest days. Special envelopes will be made available at the church or you can simply indicate "UMCOR" on the memo line of your check.



Lenten Study

Calvary Church is continuing in a church-wide study during the Lenten season starting on Wednesday, February 21. We will be using the book, *John: The Gospel of Light and Life* by Adam Hamilton as the basis of our study. We will provide a component specifically designed for children and youth as well. We will have different pastors and retired clergy from the congregation lead each of the weekly sessions which will include both a presentation and break-out conversations at each table.

6:00 PM Gathering, blessing, meal and informal sharing (optional)

7:00 PM Program

8:00 PM Going Forth

Sessions:

Wednesday, March 7 Led by Rev. Shannon Sullivan

The "I AM" Sayings of Jesus

Wednesday, March 14 Led by Rev. Isam Ballenger

The Farewell Discourse

Wednesday, March 21 Led by Rev. Dr. Ray Moreland

The Arrest, Trial and Crucifixion of the King

Wednesday, March 28 Led by Rev. Steve Larsen

Eternal Life



Saturday, March 31

1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.



Calvary's 2018 VBS is now open for registration!

When is it? June 25-29, 9am – Noon

Who can participate? Children 4 years and older

Volunteer positions are available! Our volunteers have as much fun as the kids. Nursery care is available for volunteers. Contact Christy Mossburg with questions at

Christy@calvaryumc.org.

Register online at calvaryumc.org



Scholarship Applications are now available, contact the church office or complete a form and return to the church office by May 25, 2018.

Application link can be found in the e-news, paper applications are available in the Information Center.

One of the most difficult issues of following a Christian life to put aside our deep need to rely on material things. In our society we are expected to provide for our daily needs, the needs of our loved ones and for an unknown future. We worry about caring adequately for family, college for our children, higher education expenses, debts we have wisely or foolishly incurred, and, of course, a comfortable retirement. There are a multitude of other things we worry about. We work hard to gain material assets to meet needs. That is one virtue most of us have, a strong work ethic.

These and other concerns should not be dismissed. We cannot ignore them. They are important as we live the life on earth with which God has blessed us. But, the need for material goods can become a trap of our human condition often addressed by Jesus. Without God in the picture, working hard and relying on “self” can become our primary focus; it can become overwhelming to the point it could take us away from God.

It is not the will of God that we be absorbed with worry about the future and how we are to meet our material needs. Jesus said in Matthew 6:34 “Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself.” “Worry is the key word. Jesus is speaking about the balance between self-reliance and reliance upon God.

God does not want us to be absorbed with our self-reliance nor does God want us to be idlers in this world. He has called us to work for our daily bread since Adam’s transgression. . In 2 Thessalonians 3:10b Paul warns against idleness – and it is a strong warning: “If a man will not work, he shall not eat.”

While God does not want us to be dependent upon others for our daily needs, His promise is: He will provide our daily bread. Paul was addressing a specific situation, but it is an admonishment we should heed. This does not mean there is no place for charity in one’s heart, either as the giver or the receiver. We care for the needs of others when they cannot meet their own needs.



is

Stewardship

a way of life

UMM Breakfast March 17

8:00 a.m.-9:30 a.m.

Wednesday Men’s Bible Study will begin meeting again after Easter.

Calvary's Community Concert Series

presented by the Music and Arts Ministry
of Calvary United Methodist Church



Chad Bowles *Pianist*

Sunday, March 18, 2018

3:00 p.m.

doors open at 2:30

Calvary United Methodist Church
131 West Second Street
Frederick, MD 21701

This concert is free and open to the public!

A rising star in the piano world, Chad is achieving recognition for his innate musicianship and virtuosity, and has recorded Haydn, Strauss, Chopin, Beethoven, and more. He loves bringing classical music to new audiences, and his interactive style has made him a popular performer. The program includes pieces by Haydn, Chopin, Gounod/Liszt, and Verdi/Liszt.

Concert dates are firm at the time of posting and rarely change, but changes or cancellations by the artist/group and/or inclement weather may happen due to circumstances beyond our control. Changes will be posted at www.calvaryumc.org/concerts.

Visit www.calvaryumc.org/concerts for information on these upcoming events:

Sunday, April 29, 2018, Maire O'Brien, soprano, accompanied by Mark Riggleman, pianist

Church Advocacy

Members and clergy from Calvary traveled to Annapolis on Thursday, February 22 for the UMC's Legislative Advocacy Day. This annual event is co-sponsored by the Baltimore-Washington Board of Church and Society and United Methodist Women.

This year advocates heard a key-note address from Rev. Antoine "Tony" Love, assistant to Bishop Latrelle Easterling, before breaking into workshops about legislative issues which the church speaks about in our Social Principles.

The first issue addressed both Climate and Economic Justice. Advocates learned about and spoke in support of the Clean Energy Jobs Act, HB 1453 & SB 732. Because, as the United Methodist Church, "We strongly advocate for the priority of the development of renewable energies."¹ And the goal of this legislation is to ensure that 50% of Maryland's electricity comes from renewable sources by 2030, building a pathway to a 100% future. In addition, this legislation will fund clean energy workforce development to establish career pathways for more Maryland workers to fill this growing industry. The mandate will also invest in clean energy businesses owned by women and people of color to ensure that this growing economy is inclusive.

The second issue advocates supported was Affordable Healthcare. There are a number of bills this year which seek to provide prescription medication at more affordable rates as well as provide access to healthcare for Maryland citizens who are losing access due to cuts to the Affordable Care Act. These bills expand Medicaid and create a Basic Health Plan, so that those living just above the poverty line still have access to healthcare. Advocates spoke in favor of HB1194 & SB1023, HB1167 & SB2011, HB 726 & SB 690, HB 736 & SB 576 because "The United Methodist Church is committed to health care for all in the United States, and therefore advocates for a comprehensive health-care delivery system that includes...

1. Access for All. In a just society, all people are entitled to basic maintenance and health-care services...
2. Quality Care. Health care should be comprehensive, including preventive, therapeutic, and rehabilitative services....
3. Effective Administration of Care and Management and Financing of Cost..."²

The final issue was Criminal Justice. The annual conference's Criminal Justice and Mercy Ministries team lead this workshop and educated attendees about several bills in the legislature this year covering a variety of topics related to criminal justice. However, the focus on the workshop was on reducing restrictive housing, also known as solitary confinement. This year advocates are speaking out in support of HB 786 & SB 539. These bills limit the use of restrictive housing for inmates who are identified within a vulnerable population such as persons who are elderly, pregnant, suffering from physical disabilities or mental illness.

Continue Church Advocacy article....

In addition to supporting this bill, advocates also attended the senate's Judicial Proceedings committee's hearing that afternoon when a bill to reinstate the death penalty was discussed. Because we, The United Methodist Church, believed that "a justice system that reflects God's desires for the world is one that is healing and restorative."³ And "we believe the death penalty denies the power of Christ to redeem, restore and transform all human beings... we oppose the death penalty (capital punishment) and urge its elimination from all criminal codes."⁴ The Baltimore Washington Conference provided testimony against SB 816, which would allow for the use of the death penalty in cases when first responders were killed.

¶160,I.B. Energy Resources Utilization *The Natural World* The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church 2017-2020
The Social Community The Resolutions Healthcare in the United States. 3201. Health and Wholeness. The Book of Resolutions of the United Methodist Church 2017-2020



Calvary Weekday School

Greetings! Top of the day to you! We are excited to have our kindergartners visit the Calvary families at Homewood to celebrate St. Patrick's Day. They will be singing special songs, listening to a story, and visiting with the residents. Meanwhile back at school, our families are donating diapers and wipes for families in need in Frederick County through the Birthing Circle. In April we will be collecting for the Food Bank to help out during the summer months. Of course, all of this is voluntary and our parents have been most generous and supportive.

Our enrollment for the next school year looks very good with just a few openings remaining. In addition to our regular curriculum we offer Spanish, Music, Library classes, as well as Artist and Composer of the Month. Children can enjoy outdoor recess, as well as use of the Activities Room for inclement weather. If you or a friend are looking for an accredited program, with Level 5 rating (highest for MSDE), then give us a call to schedule a tour – 301.662.6783.

Rev. Shannon visited with us recently and read 2 lovely Valentine themed stories to the children. We love company at Calvary Weekday School! Happy Spring!

Mrs. Walmsley

Director

From Church in Society Committee

In an article in the Academy of Parish Clergy, Matthew Braddock reminds us about a spiritual truth found in the word invented by Mahatma Gandhi. The word is **Satyagraha**. It is the combination of two Sanskrit words – agraha which means “firmness, insistence & force” and satya which means “truth founded in love.” Literally, this is what we can call “love force” or “soul force.” I firmly believe that as Christians we are called and commissioned to be the “love force” in our world and community represented by the life, mission, and ministry of Jesus the Christ. This was exactly what Paul Nelson alluded to in his article recently in the Calvary Newsletter from our Church in Society Committee. “Who do we say we are,” wrote Paul. I would say that we are the “love force” of Jesus in the community of Frederick and beyond.

Our United Methodist Social Principles are clear in calling and challenging us to be a “love force” for our world. Never was that “love force” more needed than now when hundreds of thousands of young immigrants brought to this country by their parents are facing possible deportation; they are called the Dreamers – the DACA issue facing the nation. A Federal Judge recently halted the Administration’s plan to deport these young people. These creative and educated young people are being threatened to have to leave the land they grew up in, a land that afforded them the opportunity to get a good education, a land that held out the dream of a future career and making a life for themselves. These young people are not criminals; they work hard and pay their taxes and they themselves are in many ways a “love force” in their community – volunteering and helping others and contributing to the health and welfare of their family and friends.

We as Christians cannot sit idly by and allow politicians to ruin their lives and cause great pain to their families. This is not an issue of politics or someone’s agenda; it is the love force of compassion and caring for young people who deserve a Dream Act and a path to citizenship. To have them deported because they were brought to America by their parents illegally is not a value which America has stood for in the past two centuries and more. We are a people of immigrants who came to this land with dreams and hopes. America allows us to dream big, work hard, and share the “love force” in our land. Jesus reminds us, “I was a stranger and you welcomed me. Truly, I tell you as you did it to one of the least of these you did it to me.” (Matthew 25:38,40)

The Berlin Wall was eventually brought down and destroyed; the Great Wall of China never really made China safe and secure. The “love force” of Jesus tears down walls, never wastes time, resources or lives to build walls between races or religions or ethnic groups; it is a “love force” that seeks to always invest in building bridges of hope and understanding. Be a “love force” for Jesus Christ here at Calvary and in our community.

Rev. Dr. Ray Moreland,
Church In Society Committee

Youth News...

Youth meets every Sunday from 4:30 (choir) until 7:30 with dinner, games worship and discussion



Thanks to all who came out to our Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper. It was incredible and we raised \$330 for the youth!

HELLO, MARCH! IN LIKE A LION, HOPEFULLY OUT LIKE A LAMB!
AS OUR LENTEN STUDY CONTINUES, MAY YOUR DAYS BE FILLED WITH CONVERSATIONS WITH THE LORD AS WELL AS ABUNDANT BLESSINGS!

Envelopes in Missions will continue to be available in the Parish Hall. Our youth is going to Beckley, WV on July 15-20, and we are raising money to help us serve God.



**There will not be a Spaghetti Dinner or silent auction this year, this is our primary fundraiser. Thank you to all who have contributed, and those who plan to do so! Blessings!

Upcoming dates to watch:

April 8: Youth Sunday-

April 27-29: Spring Youth and Confirmation Retreat- God Around the World, seeking Him Outside the Box!



We pray for those who are grieving the loss of loved ones in gun violence. Change needs to happen, but the prayers must continue.

March Youth Schedule

Each Sunday, the youth gather at 4:30 for Voices of Praise, our youth choir

March 4	youth	5:30	Parish Hall/ed building
March 11	youth	5:30	Parish Hall/ed building
March 18	youth	5:30	Parish Hall/ed building
March 25	youth	5:30	Parish Hall/ed building



Orders due by March 15, 2018

Contact the church office to order.

Lilies, tulips and daffodils for \$12 each.



Dance Lessons *No Partner Required*

Eight 2 hour lessons, Sundays from 5:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.

Dates: 3/11, 3/18, 3/25, 4/8, 4/15, 4/22, 4/29, 5/6, 5/20 (alternate)

Lessons will include the introduction to Freestyle dance, Line and Basic Ballroom dance.

The 8-week session per person cost is \$120. (Donated to the United Methodist Men)

Instructor Jim Colborn brings decades of dance experience to the floor having been a teacher with Arthur Murray's Dance Studio in St. Louis, Missouri and Fred Astaire's Dance Studio in Buffalo, New York.

Happy
Birthday!

1, Grant Weedon, Rev. Ken Humbert, 2, Rebecca Hall, Carter Gipson, 3, Susan Witmer, 4, Franklin McKnight, Taylor MacDonald, 5, Jeff Rosen, 6, Emily Harris, 7, Doug Manger, Casper Cline, Shannon Rust, 8, Linda Warehime, Louis Finneyfrock, 9, Mari Beth Schmersahl, Tom Burall, Travis Winkler, Anna Bidinger, 10, Adam Morgan, Franklin Tang, 12, Betty Brewer, Gregory Pfister, Andrew Farner, Rev. Ray Moreland, Angela Meadows-Milun, Patrick Stalnaker, Amelia Mueller, 15, Patrick Kile, 16, Abigail Waskey, Nancy Manthey, Reed Keirn, Lauren Reilly, 17, Raymond Crum, Luke Routzahn 18, Sydney Willis, Zachary Heller, 19, Brady Pond, Amanda Stokes, Seth Kraham, 20, Lu Stewart, Aiden Rankin, 22, David Paugh, Jeffrey Ramsburg, Samuel Kahan, Lucile Soper, Stephanie Schmersahl, 23, Carroll Doggett, Thomas Kellam, Ronald Bowers, 24, Bradley Stone, Constance Mason, 25, Marjorie Johnson, Donald Shipley, Bobbie Parson, 26, Gail Colby, Thomas Braun, Cassie Kraham, Paul Muehl, 27, Jennifer Kinsey, Judy Finneyfrock, 28, Sarah McGarity, 29, Paige Willard, Linda English, 31, Carrie Pure, Molly Anderson, William Harris, Lorraine Davis.

**Please let the office know if there have been any changes.

March Anniversaries

Gary & Paula Coffman 3/3
Tom & Linda Mullineaux 3/7
Jeff & Brandy Adam 3/11
Gerald & Sandra Palmer 3/12
Robert & Cindy Wilson 3/12

Ronald & Melissa Shipley 3/22
Shane Wickline & Monica Campolongo 3/24
Bill & Beth Waskey 3/25
John & Amanda Haddaway 3/28
Edward Milun & Angela Meadows-Milun 3/30
Pete & Judith Allen 3/31

*Please let the church office know of any changes.

Kelsey Orna Sunderman was baptized on
Sunday, February 18

Kelsey is the daughter of Jonathan Sunderman and
Alison Massey-Sunderman.



March 2018

March 1 Thursday

6:30 p.m. Kitchen Committee
7:15 p.m. Cathedral Choir

March 2 Friday

CMU World Day of Prayer

March 3 Saturday

9:00 a.m. WRS— Peal Bell
10:00 a.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry

March 4— Wheelbarrow Sunday

8:30 a.m. Worship
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Worship
12:30 p.m. Genesis Choir/Bells for Jesus
1:00 p.m. Sunshine Choir
4:30 p.m. Voices of Praise Youth Choir
5:30 p.m. Youth Group
5:30 p.m. Financial Peace Univ.

March 5 Monday

7:00 p.m. Staff Parish Relations Committee

March 6 Tuesday

10:00 a.m. Pastor's Bible Study
12:30 p.m. UMW Ex. Committee
1:00 p.m. Staff Meeting
6:00 p.m. Yoga
7:00 p.m. Joyful Noise Handbells
7:30 p.m. Gospel Choir

March 7 Wednesday

6:00 p.m. Lenten Dinner
7:00 p.m. Lenten Study

March 8 Thursday

1:00 p.m. Mary Martha Circle
7:15 p.m. Cathedral Choir

March 9 Friday

March 10 Saturday

8:00 a.m. VBS FunShop Training Event
9:30 a.m. Church and Society

March 11 Sunday

8:30 a.m. Worship
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Worship
12:30 p.m. Genesis Choir/Bells of Jesus
1:00 p.m. Sunshine Choir
4:30 p.m. Voices of Praise Youth Choir
5:30 p.m. Youth Group

March 12 Monday

6:30 p.m. Trustees

March 13 Tuesday

10:00 a.m. Pastor's Bible Study
6:00 p.m. Yoga
7:00 p.m. Joyful Noise Handbells
7:30 p.m. Gospel Choir

March 14 Wednesday

6:00 p.m. Lenten Dinner
7:00 p.m. Lenten Study

March 15 Thursday

7:15 p.m. Cathedral Choir

March 16 Friday

4:30 p.m. College Choir



Saturday

8:00 a.m.-9:30 a.m. UMM Breakfast
 6:00 p.m. Faith & Life Dinner Group
 at Taco Daddy

March 18 Sunday

8:30 a.m. Worship
 9:45 a.m. Sunday School
 11:00 a.m. Worship
 12:30 p.m. Genesis Choir/Bells of Jesus
 1:00 p.m. Sunshine Choir
 3:00 p.m. Chad Bowles Concert
 4:30 p.m. Voices of Praise Youth Choir
 5:30 p.m. Youth Group

March 19 Monday

7:00 p.m. Finance Committee

March 20 Tuesday

10:00 a.m. Pastor's Bible Study
 1:00 p.m. Staff Meeting
 6:00 p.m. Yoga
 7:00 p.m. Joyful Noise Handbells
 7:30 p.m. Gospel Choir

March 21 Wednesday

6:00 p.m. Lenten Dinner
 7:00 p.m. Lenten Study

March 22 Thursday

7:15 a.m. Cathedral Choir

March 23 Friday

March 24 Saturday

March 25 Palm Sunday

8:30 a.m. Worship
 9:45 a.m. Sunday School
 11:00 a.m. Worship
 12:30 p.m. Genesis Choir/Bells of Jesus
 1:00 p.m. Sunshine Choir
 4:30 p.m. Voices of Praise Youth Choir
 5:30 p.m. Youth Group

March 26 Monday

7:00 p.m. Church Council

March 27 Tuesday

10:00 a.m. Pastor's Bible Study
 6:00 p.m. Yoga
 7:00 p.m. Joyful Noise Handbells
 7:30 p.m. Gospel Choir

March 28 Wednesday

6:00 p.m. Lenten Dinner
 7:00 p.m. Lenten Study
 7:00 p.m. Miriam Circle

March 29 Holy Thursday

7:00 p.m. Holy Thursday Service

March 30 Good Friday

7:00 p.m. Good Friday Service

March 31 Saturday

1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m. Easter Egg Party

Calvary United Methodist Church
131 W. Second Street
Frederick, MD 21701

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Calvary United Methodist Church seeks and invites all to become disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of our community and our world.



Faith and Life Dinner Group
March 17 6:00 p.m.
At Taco Daddy

UMM Breakfast
March 17
8:00 a.m.-9:30 a.m.

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