



CLARION CONNECTION

MARCH 2024

GROW IN FAITH | SHARE IN WORSHIP | SERVE OTHERS

2123 Forest Ave.
Great Bend, KS 67530
P: (620) 792-2148

Rev. Tim Bever
(316) 841-1647

SUNDAY WORSHIP

9:00, 11:00 a.m.

Live-stream worship:

*** 9 a.m. on YouTube Channel GBFUMC**

*** 11 a.m. via FaceBook GBFirstUMC**

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>March Worship</i>	2
<i>Youth Group</i>	3
<i>Children's Ministry</i>	4, 5
<i>Noah's Ark Preschool</i>	6
<i>Missions</i>	7
<i>Dream Center/Church T-Shirts</i>	8
<i>Calendar</i>	9
<i>Celebrations & Prayer List</i>	10
<i>Around the Church</i>	11

TIME WITH TIM

Wikipedia says:

“Julian of Norwich (c. 8 November 1342 – c. 1416) was an English anchoress and an important Christian mystic. Her Revelations of Divine Love, written around 1395, is the first book in the English language known to have been written by a woman. Julian was also known as a spiritual authority within her community where she also served as a counselor and advisor.”

An anchoress is a woman who chooses to withdraw from the world to live a solitary life of prayer. The “revelations” in her book were an accounting of the things that Jesus “showed and told” her during visions both while she was deathly ill and during times of prayer. One of my favorite parts of her writings is from the beginning of the 13th revelation. It says:

“And after this our Lord brought to my mind the longing that I had for him before, and I saw that nothing hindered me but sin, and I saw that this is true of us all in general, and it seemed to me that if there had been no sin, we should all have been pure and as like our lord as he created us. And so in my folly before this time I often wondered why, through the great prescient wisdom of God, the beginning of sin was not prevented. For then it seemed to me that all would have been well.

The impulse to think this was greatly to be shunned; and nevertheless I mourned and sorrowed on this account, unreasonably, lacking discretion. But Jesus, who in this vision informed me about everything needful to me, answered with these words and said: Sin is necessary, but all will be well, and all will be well and every kind of thing will be well.”

As I look around the world the past couple of months and think about what is coming in the next few months, knowing that because Easter happened and Christ was born, lived, died, and rose for us all, I am reassured, just as Julian was, that “all will be well, and all will be well, and every kind of thing will be well.”

Happy Easter!

*In Christ,
Pastor Tim*

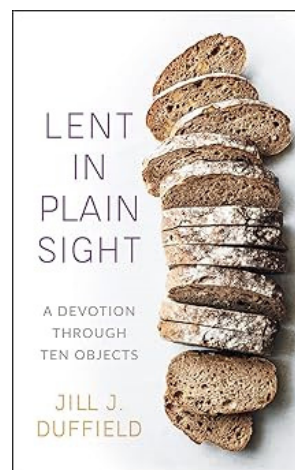
SHARE in Worship

MARCH WORSHIP SERVICES

Let's together and worship together:

“Lent in Plain Sight”

Date	Time	Week	Scripture	Sermon Title
3/3/2024	9 & 11	Lent 3	Mark 12:15b, Luke 21:1	Coins
3/10/2024	9 & 11	Lent 4	Ex 3:1-6, Luke 15:11-24	Shoes
3/17/2024	10 am	Confirmation Sunday	Confirmation Verses	Oil
3/24/2024	9 & 11	Palm Sunday	Luke 19:36, Matt 5:38-42	Coats
3/28/2024	7 pm	Maundy Thursday	John 13:2b-4	Towels
3/29/2024	7 pm	Good Friday	John 19:1-2	Thorns
3/31/2024	7, 9, 11 am	Easter Sunday	Luke 24:1-3	Stones



- * Sunday Service times are 9 a.m. for the Traditional Service and 11 a.m. for the REVIVE! Service, except on Special Sundays, like March 17th, when there is one service at 10 a.m. and when there's an added service like the Sunrise Easter service at 7 a.m.
- * Non-Sunday worship services, like Maundy Thursday and Good Friday, are at 7 p.m.
- * If you can't worship with us in person, the Traditional Service may be found on our YouTube channel, GBFUMC.



One Sunday in March has one-service only and one Sunday has 3 services!

March 17th—10 a.m.

March 31st — 7 a.m., 9 a.m., 11 a.m.

Girl Scouts, Confirmation Class and Easter Holidays at Sunday Worship

Sundays in March will be extra busy celebrations!

March 10th is Girl Scout Sunday and the scouts in the troops that meet here will help with service. Girl Scouts will help with both services, being greeters, ushers, liturgist, and/or acolytes.

They will also have Girl Scout Cookies to sample and for sale.

Girl Scout Sunday is also the day Daylight Savings Time starts. Be sure your clock springs forward!

Plus, March 10th is UMCOR Sunday, one of

the United Methodist Church's special giving dates.

March 17th is Confirmation Sunday and will be a one-service Sunday. The 10 a.m. worship service will have members of the Confirmation Class conducting/helping with the worship service.

The last two Sundays in March bookend Holy Week. **March 24th** is Palm Sunday and **March 31st** is Easter Sunday.

Easter Sunday will include a Sunrise worship service in the Chapel, followed by a

FEBRUARY Attendance			
	9:00	11:00	TTL
FEB 4	58	56	114
FEB 11	39	37	76
FEB 14 - Ash Wed			67
FEB. 18 One Service			111
FEB. 25	72	36	108

These numbers are for those who attended worship for the Sunday & Special Services in February.

pancake breakfast; and an Easter Egg Hunt sandwiched between the 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. services.

So, come worship in March!

GROW in Faith

MOVIE SHOWS REALITY OF GOD & WHAT HE CAN DO

It's official, February is over, March has begun and the time of year that ministry really gets busy is upon us.

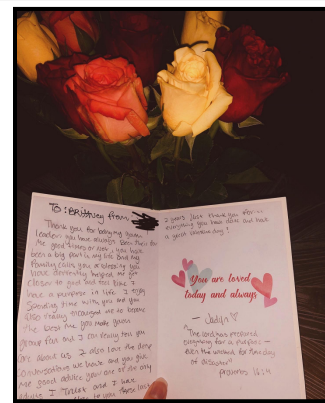
There were many things to appreciate about February. For starters, the weather began to warm up, we had students participate in Ash Wednesday, and we got to take some students to the movies.

The movie we saw was, "Ordinary Angels". We had some chats after the movie with the students on the ride to their homes.

They were shocked at the reality that it was a true story and that God could work through such chaos. There wasn't a single dry eye during the film.

It's awesome when you have options to help students connect with faith via arts or media.

I think that's what I love about the Barclay plays. Sometimes they cover stories right out of the Bible.



For example, this year they will be covering the story of Joseph. I'm always itching for an opportunity to show students ways that the Bible can be brought to life and applied.

I personally look forward to Confirmation Sunday (March 17) and what students will be sharing.

I cannot wait for what March will bring!



Youth Group
Meet on
Wednesdays
5:30-7:15 p.m.

Say hello
and help us
get to know (YOU)th!



Brittani Frazier
Youth Director

BCAC Lenten Lunches in March End During Holy Week

The Barton County Association of Churches Lenten Luncheons continue in March.

* March 6th - First Christian Church with speaker from Prince of Peace Catholic Church.

* March 13th - Central Baptist Church with speaker Pastor Joseph Smeraglivolo from First Christian Church.

* March 20th - Presbyterian Church (with Congregational

and Nazarene Churches) with speaker Pastor Sandy Kennedy from Faith Community.

* March 27th - Prince of Peace at St Rose auditorium with speaker Pastor Adam Wutka from St. Mark Lutheran

Lenten Luncheons



GROW in Faith — Children’s Ministry



EYG Focuses on Books of Bible and Stories Within

Wednesday Schedule

5:30 p.m. — Shared a meal

6:00-7:15 — Class

Vivian Harbaugh
EYG

EYG has been looking at parables and miracles leading into the Easter season.

The youth are all looking forward to Nerf and Nachos in April.

EYG enjoy some smart moves during game-night fun. ➡



KIDS KLUB START EASTER TRIVIA GAME SHOW SERIES



Wednesday nights: The Epic Easter Trivia Show

Kids will experience the Easter story as never before as they become contestants in the ultimate game show – The Epic Easter Trivia Show.

March 6th: Big Money

Objective: Kids will learn “Jesus cares most about the state of my heart.”

March 13th: Showcase

Objective: Kids will learn “Jesus showed us how to love God, by loving others.”

March 20th: Buzz In

Objective: Kids will learn “We never need to be ashamed of knowing Jesus.”

March 27th: Win or Lose



Everyone had fun learning about what Ash Wednesday means. They made their favorite things created by God.



Objective: Kids will learn “Jesus wins! Everyone who follows Jesus wins!”

Larissa Graham,
Director of
Children’s Ministries

GROW in Faith — Children’s Ministry

March Sunday Kids Activities

Sundays at 10 a.m.

March 3rd: Widow’s Mite Activities

We will continue our curriculum from last month:

Bummer

March 10th: How I Sold My Brother

Objective: Kids will say that God is in control, even when bad things happen to them.

March 17th: Accused

Objective: Kids will say that God can help them keep their good character even in challenging times.

March 24th: Absent

Minded Butler

Objective: Kids will say that they will do good to others even when they get nothing in return.

March 31st: Easter Egg Hunt

Easter Egg Hunt on south lawn and library lawn, then Easter Activities and Story in the Fellowship Hall.

Sundays at 11 a.m.

March 3rd: Den of Robbers

Objective: Kids will learn that we should honor and revere God.

March 10th: Two Reactions

Objective: Kids will learn

that our reaction to Jesus should be love and a desire to serve.

March 17th: Remember

Objective: Kids will learn we should remember the goodness of Jesus and strive to follow his example.

March 24th: The Only Way

Objective: Kids will learn that Jesus is the only way that we can be saved from our sin.

March 31st: Dead & Buried

Objective: Kids will learn that Jesus suffered and died because of his great love for us.



Easter Egg Hunt

10 a.m.

March 31st

Older children on the Library Lawn and younger kids on the south lawn and playground

Larissa Graham,
Director of
Children’s Ministries

MARCH 15TH DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS

Calling all high school seniors and college students! It’s time to apply for the scholarships offered or administered by GBFUMC. Applications for all scholarships are due by **March 15th**.



The **Charley C. Byers** and **Wayne and Betty Banks** scholarships, are available only for active members of First United Methodist Church of Great Bend. Criteria are financial need, a desire for further education

and a firm Christian belief. Both scholarships are renewable. Forms are available in the church office.

The church administers nine other scholarships available for graduating high school

seniors. The criteria sheet and application forms are available in our office and they are posted on the Great Bend High School web site.

Please have all paperwork (for new scholarship and/or for renewals) turned into our Finance Office by close of business on March 15th.

The direct link to the guidance office is

https://sites.google.com/usd428.net/guidance_department



GROW in Faith



NOAH'S ARK PRESCHOOL (NAP)

NAP'S Pizza Hut Fundraiser is March 26th

Enrollment for summer and fall sessions are opening soon.

Kaylee Keilman,
NAP Director

NAP Prepares for Valentine's Day Parties/Spring Program

March starts off with Spring Concert and ends with Easter activities for Noah's Ark Preschool.

The afternoon NAP students (pictured right) threw themselves into practicing their Spring Concert's songs.

They will join with their morning counterparts and present their Spring Concert Monday, March 3rd, at 6 p.m.

There will be no school on March 8th, due to a teacher in-service day which preceded Spring Break, March 11th-15th.



Portraits by Shane will be doing class and individual pictures on March 20th.

A spring fundraiser — The school's Pizza Hut Fundraiser, is set for Tuesday, March 26th.

To participate simply dine

at Pizza Hut on that Tuesday and a portion of your bill will be donated to NAP.

The youth will end the month with their Easter Parties on March 28th. The school is closed on Good Friday.



UWF FIX LENTEN LUNCH; MAKING JUMP ROPES AGAIN

The UWF will be making T-shirt jump ropes in April.

The jump ropes will be distributed to Noah's Ark Preschool students.

Colorful t-shirts are needed to use for making the jump ropes. They have enough white and black shirts from previous collections.

To donate to this project, please put t-shirts in the collection box outside the church office.

Everyone is invited to help assemble the jump ropes, April 24th at 1:30 p.m.



Lots of hands help to fix a Lenten Luncheon for more than 125 people.



Needed: colorful t-shirts

Jump Rope Workshop
1:30 p.m.
April 24th

LaVonne Gerritzen
UWF President

SERVE Others

Lisa Armstrong's Lunch Delicious; Fun

Lisa Armstrong with Fellow Man International spent a Sunday worshipping with us and fixed a Honduran meal for us in mid-February. She spoke to those in attendance about how much our dollars help the children of the Honduras mission we support.

This year, there will be more than 900 children in need of school supplies. As numbers have risen, FMI has adjusted the amount of supplies provided to the children with what money they had to buy supplies and have made things work.

However, 900 children is a significant rise in the number who now come to the mission for school. The mission staff is concerned about how much they will be able to buy this year.

What we collected this year was about \$600 more than last year. Thank you to all who contributed!



Dear FUMC Family,
Thank you so much for your help with the Honduras Mission School Supply offering recently!

I'm anxious to hear how far \$2,700 will go in furnishing school supplies for the children of the Mission area. I hope you are as pleased as I am!

Lisa's immediate reaction to this news: "Oh my gosh!!!! Yay!!!!!! That will go a long way!!!!!! So

generous!!!!!! Thank you!!!!!!"

I'm pretty sure she used up all the exclamation marks on her phone.

She and I will keep you posted when the supplies are distributed. And my sincere appreciation to those who stayed for the Honduran Meal that Lisa prepared for us. I hope you enjoyed it!

I know she enjoyed being here and sharing a bit of the Honduran culture with us.

Thank your once again for being the hands of God in a far away part of His World!

Jann



Left overs from Lisa's Meal were enough to feed the Barton County College cast, crew and orchestra a special meal on the Friday night of their performance weekend.

FOOD DONATIONS HELP HUNGRY IN GREAT BEND

Thanks for participating in the Sack Hunger Challenge!

Our friendly competition provided a way for us to serve as the hands and feet of Christ by gathering food and sharing it with people in need!

We gathered 368 pounds of food and shared it between



the Girl Scout Blessing Box, which helps people daily, and the Family Crisis



Center, who immediately transported food to where their clients could receive it.



The final score:
Team KC — 168,253.66 pounds
Team San Francisco — 32,945 pounds

In all, 221 churches across the four conferences took part, with 84 of those coming from the Great Plains.

SHARE In Worship



NEVER HAVE I EVER ...

If you know the game “Never Have I Ever” you will understand the correlation to my Dream Center experience on Sunday, February 18th. Delicious tator-tot casseroles were made by Brenda Friess, Larissa Graham, Darlene Beaumont and Stephanie Goerl; salads were made by Melanie Calcara and Susan Young; and cakes were furnished by Nancy Gale, AnnaFaye Hensley and Jan Elliott. For the first time in my experience with Dream Center, we had LEFTOVERS!

And what a blessing that was! Another outreach of the church, Phoebe’s Kitchen, which provides meals for member recovering from medical procedures, illnesses, births, etc. was down to two single

serving meal. We were able to freeze our Dream Center abundance, giving Phoebe’s badly needed additional meals. God works in mysterious ways! A huge thank you to cooks and servers, AnnaFaye and Leroy Hensley, Larissa and Darlene for another successful meal at the Dream Center.

Next Event is Sunday, April 21st, and as always, I’d welcome any participants

interest in helping with a very rewarding out-reach experience.



Greetings,

Attached is a picture of the volunteers that came to serve the Community meal last night. What an awesome group! We appreciate all of you so much!

*Blessings,
Janet Stones
Dream Center*

Judy Turner

Dream Center Meal
April 21st

To Volunteer
To help, contact:
Judy Turner
620-617-6082



#LOVEYOURNEIGHBOR T-Shirts Available On-Line

The popular #LoveYourNeighbor T-shirt is BACK in fresh colors for Spring. Shirts are available in both youth and adult sizes - order yours by March 21st and join the #LoveYourNeighbor movement at FirstUMC!

The shirts are heather


purple with the #loveyourneighbor on the front and the church name/logo on the back.

To order one, go to this website:

https://factory233.com/first_united_methodist_gb/shop/home



First United Methodist Church — MARCH 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
3 9 am and 11 am – Services in Sanctuary 9 am on YouTube & 11 am on Facebook 10 am Discovery Hour 4 pm Confirmation Class 4 pm Bell Choir	4 6pm NAP Spring Program 7:30 pm Education Cmm.	5 5:30 pm TOPS 6 pm Girl Scout 7 pm Vintage Wheels 7 pm Train Club	6 9:30 am Bible Study 11:30 am UWF Board 5 pm Chancel Singers 5:30 Kids Klub/EYG/YG 5:30 pm MOPs	7 5:30 pm CORE Community 7 pm NA 7 pm Praise Band	1/8 8th No NAP Classes	2/9
10 UMCOR & Girl Scout Sunday 9 am and 11 am – Services in Sanctuary 10 am Discovery Hour 4 pm Confirmation Class 4 pm Bell Choir	11 5:30 — Finance Comm.	12 5:30 pm TOPS	13 9:30 am Bible Study 5 pm Chancel Singers 5:30 Kids Klub/EYG/YG	14 5:30 pm CORE Community 7 pm NA 7 pm Praise Band	15 9-3 Quilt Guild	16 9-11 ChildCare Aware—FH
17 Confirmation Sunday 9 am Discovery Hour 10 am Confirmation Worship Service 4 pm Bell Choir	18 USD 428 SPRING BREAK — NO NOAH'S ARK	19 5:30 pm TOPS 6 pm Girl Scout	20 NAP Picture Day 9:30 am Bible Study 1:30 pm UWF Circle 5 pm Chancel Singers 5:30 Kids Klub/EYG/YG 5:30 pm MOPs	21 5:30 pm CORE Community 7 pm NA 7 pm Praise Band	22	23
24 Palm Sunday 9 am and 11 am – Services in Sanctuary 9 am on YouTube & 11 am on Facebook 10 am Discovery Hour 4 pm Bell Choir	25 6 pm Girl Scouts	26 4-8 pm NAP Pizza Hut Fundraiser 5-6 pm Healthy Families — Rim 25 5:30 pm TOPS	27 9:30 am Bible Study 5 pm Chancel Singers 5:30 Kids Klub/EYG/YG	28 Maunder Thursday 7 pm Worship Service 5:30 pm CORE Community 7 pm NA	29 Good Friday 7 pm Worship Service	30
31 Easter Sunday 7 am — Sunrise Service 8 am — Pancake Breakfast 9 am and 11 am – Services in Sanctuary 9 am on YouTube & 11 am on Facebook 10 am Discovery Hour						 Find our Calendar Online:

SHARE in Worship — CELEBRATIONS & PRAYER CONCERNS



March Birthdays

- 1 Kenna Bretz
- 3 Kyle Albers
- 5 Marvin Baldwin
- 5 Terri Kohls
- 7 Phillip Bartholomew
- 7 Ella Fanshier
- 10 Stephannie Goerl
- 11 Stuart Harbaugh
- 11 Tripp Harbaugh
- 12 JoAnn Frydendall
- 13 Kade Thexton
- 14 Darren Brown
- 14 Floyd Norlin
- 15 Mark Calcara
- 15 Dale Phillips

March Anniversaries

- 1 Mark & Melanie Calcara
- 2 Clark & Julia Mitchell
- 3 Jack & Mary Ann June
- 6 Brad & Phyllis Brack
- 7 Tim & Susan Johnson
- 21 Earl & Janice Schmidt
- 27 Mike & Megan Burnham



- 24 Carol Thier
- 25 Kylar Harbaugh
- 28 Wesley Bauer
- 28 Darian Harbaugh
- 30 Derek Vonada
- 30 Sheridan Beaumont



WE REMEMBER THESE IN OUR PRAYERS:

The Families of Chuck Parmer, TJ Roberts, and Randy Smith.

All Those Who are Involved in Cancer treatment and recovery:

Earl Schmidt, Amnee Brown (April Harbaugh's sister), Dick Lytle, Linda Essmiller, Leonard Bunselmeyer, Lisa Baum, Kathy Rogers, Dana Cheney, Gary Cheney, Suzie Evans,

Terry Sauerwein, Carol Bird, Roberta Bartlett

All Those Who Reside in Nursing Homes/Care Facilities or are home-bound: (*Aster Estates*)

Jackie Curtis, Claire Stephenson, Pat Stonebraker and Ivy Webster; (*Brookdale*) Leonard French, Eugene Hoelscher, Harriet Herzberg, Eileen Ingersoll, and Mary

Joiner, ; (*River Bend*) Imogene Christenson, Carol Thier, Earl & Janice Schmidt; (*other facilities*) Roberta Bartlett, Larned; Chuck Parmer, Larned; and Betty Erickson, Kansas City.

All Those Serving Our Country in the Military:

All our men & women in the armed forces including Bryan Farthing.

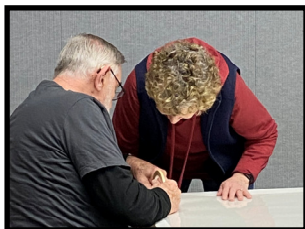
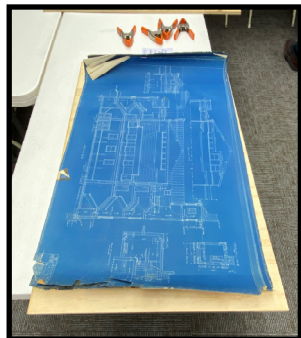
GROW in Faith

WILLING HANDS PRESERVE BLUEPRINTS

The church's aging and crumbling blueprints got a new lease on life last month as Justin Engleman led a group of volunteers take steps to preserve the documents.

They laminated the documents, using an acid-free material that will keep the fragile documents protected. The documents may not be consulted often, but this preservation project will insure that they won't disintegrate in the hands of those needing them in the future.

Justin's helpers were *Melanie Calcara, Linda*



Jerke, Harlan Jerke, Jack June, Janis Link, Rhonda Phillips, Janet Schremmer, and Alan Schremmer.



Bubbling Over with Thanks!

On Behalf of the Barton County Association of Churches, I want to thank you for hosting our Lenten Lunch! The food was delicious! Your help is greatly appreciated in our Lenten Journey.

*Nancy Sundahl!
BCAC Sec/Trea.*



Robot Greetings! Thanks for Supporting the USD 428 Reading Program

Thank you for participating in the 2024 Great Bend Reading Initiative! We've had positive feedback on the scavenger hunt this year and the digital platform.

Overall, we had 129 families participate in the scavenger hunt, and over 1,432 submissions!

At this time, you can

“retire” your robot. Your robot does not need to be returned, you can keep it or do with it as you please.

Thanks again for your support. We are already looking forward to #gbREADS in 2025!

Best regards,
Andrea Bauer

Public Information Director
USD 429



Our Robot has moved to inside the church and is looking for a home. Any ideas? Send ideas to secretary@gbfumc.org

Order your memorial Easter Lily Today!

Lilies will adorn the church during Holy Week

Find order forms in Sunday bulletins or the church office!



First United Methodist Church

2123 Forest

Great Bend, KS 67530



P: (620) 792-2148

www.GBFUMC.org

[FaceBook.com/GBFirstUMC](https://www.facebook.com/GBFirstUMC)

Contact the office to receive this newsletter by email or find it on the website, www.GBFUMC.org.

WORSHIP @ FUMC!

SUNDAY

- 9:00 a.m. Worship Service
- 10:00 a.m. Discovery Hour
- 11:00 a.m. REVIVE

Virtual Worship Services:

- 9:00 a.m. on YouTube channel GBFUMC
- 11:00 a.m. on FaceBook/GBFirstUMC

SPECIAL SUNDAYS & 5TH SUNDAYS

- 10:00 a.m. Worship Service

COMMUNITY GROUPS that meet each week, bi-weekly or monthly at FUMC are CORE Community, Girl Scouts, NA, TOPS, The MomCo (MOPS), Central Kansas Thread Benders Quilt Guild, Vintage Wheels of Great Bend, and Golden Belt Model Railroad Club.

Contact us:

Pastor, Tim Bever

tim@gbfumc.org

Youth Director, Brittani Frazier

youth@gbfumc.org

Children's Director, Larissa Graham

grahaml@bartonccc.edu

Treasurer, Sarah Schwartz

finance@gbfumc.org

Secretary, Rebecca Peak

secretary@gbfumc.org

Coordinator of Worship Arts, Marc Webster

kmsband@yahoo.com

Revive Worship Leader, James Frazier

revive@gbfumc.org

Noah's Ark Preschool Director, Kaylee Keilman

NAPdirector@gbfumc.org

Custodian, Marc Webster

custodian@gbfumc.org