



Ripley Church Meetings:

- Board of Deacons: Sunday April 12th @ 10:00 am - Office
- Board of Trustees: Thursday - March 19th @ 5:30 pm - Office

Ripley Mission/Church/Community Involvement:

- Quilting: Wed - March 18th Afternoon until the Lenten Meal
Thur. March 19th @ 9:00 am
 - Saturday Soul Stitching - Saturday April 11th @ 9:00 am
- Noisy Offering - March 29th: Alive and Running more info in Newsletter
- Ripley Quilt Show - March 21st
 - The Congregation's help is requested Sunday the 22nd after church to help take down the Quilt Displays after this event.

- ◆ March 15th - Special Offering for One Great Hour of Sharing
 - ◇ The One Great Hour of Sharing Fund (OGHS) is managed by National UCC Disaster Ministries. OGHS supports partners worldwide with ministries that fund health, education, and agricultural development, emergency relief, refugee ministries and both international and domestic disaster response. The Mission Committee has budgeted \$100 for this offering and any other donations will be added to this amount.
 - ◇ In addition to this offering the Mission Committee will be sending \$1000 to the National UCC Special Relief Fund. These funds are used to provide national and international relief, for disaster response and recovery in connection with the OGHS Fund, and are specific to appeals for disasters like hurricanes.

Lenten Plans 2026 - More details to come:

- Lenten Project: Maternal Health - Tama County
- Wednesday Night Meal and Reflections - Fellowship Hall
 - March 18 and 25
 - 6:00 meal followed by 6:30 devotion
- Men's Lenten Breakfasts:
 - March 18: United Presbyterian
 - March 25: RUCC - (David Calderwood is Organizing)
 - April 1: Clutier Community
- Maundy Thursday April 2nd - 7:00 pm at United Meth. Church
- Good Friday April 3rd - 7:00 pm at RUCC
- Easter: April 5th
 - Breakfast at 8:00 am followed by worship at 9:00 am

Ripley United Church of Christ Celebration of Worship



March 15, 2026
Fourth Sunday of Lent



Welcome and Announcements Prelude and Candle Lighting

Praise and Invocation (Psalm 23)

One: The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

Many: He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul

One: He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.

Many: Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

One: You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

Many: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD my whole life long.

Call to Worship

One: Let us worship in the presence of a gracious and loving God.

Many: Amen

***Opening Hymn: "Arise, Your Light Is Come" (black hymnal #164)**

Confession:

One: Our Gospel proclaims the presence "light of the world."

Many: Our eyes are open, but we do not see.

One: Christ lights our Way with beacons of love, grace, justice and inclusion.

Many: We fail to follow the path he has laid out for us.

One: Forgive us, Lord, our failings.

Many: Teach us your commands, that we may see, serve and love as we are called.

Silent Prayer

Assurance:

One: Hear the Gospel! Our God is a gracious and loving God.

Many: By His grace, we are forgiven

One: By His love, we are set free

All: Amen

Passing the Peace/ Children's Procession

Our scripture teaches that the Kingdom of God belongs to those who enter it like a child. As our children come forward, it is our custom to greet each other from our places, then sing the children to the front with the traditional song "This Little Light of Mine." If you are worshiping with us online, please feel free to say hello in the comments, so we know you are here.

Children's Celebration: "Siyahamba"

Reading: John 9:1-41

Message: "Light of the World"

***Response:** "Amazing Grace" (black hymnal #547)

Offertory:

***Presentation of our Offerings: Doxology (black hymnal #780)**

***Prayer of Thanksgiving**

Prayers of the People

Lord's Prayer (debts/debtors)

Blessing the Quilts (insert)

***Closing Hymn:** "When Peace, Like a River (It is Well with My Soul)" (black hymnal #438)

***Benediction**

Postlude

* Please stand, in body or spirit

CCLI license number: 22384815, Size A; 22384822, Size A



Thank you for attending Ripley UCC. We're glad you came.

"No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here."

*CE helper today was Lindsey Coppoc

*Reader was

Find us online at www.ripleyucc.org, or by searching "Ripley United Church of Christ" on Facebook. Or join us for refreshments downstairs after the service. An elevator is available by the south door for those who need it.

Pr. Jim is available to the community at 515-708-4343 (text is best) or

jimatripley@gmail.com





Blessing the Quilts

2 Corinthians 1:3-4

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and the God of all consolation, who consoles us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to console those who are in any affliction with the consolation with which we ourselves are consoled by God.

One: Our church has many hands.

Many: Blessed be those who sew, who join together the fabric of our community.

One: Our church has many hearts.

Many: Blessed be those who give, who use their time and their talents to create enduring testaments to their love of neighbor.

One: These quilts are destined for hospital and hospice, infant and elder, the homeless, the veteran, the oppressed.

Many: These quilts are destined to comfort the afflicted and care for the stranger in all stages and phases of life.

One: As we lay hands on these quilts and ask God to bless them, let us remember the love with which they were made, the warmth they will bring, and the compassion with which we send them into the world.

[the congregation rises in body or spirit, and extends their right hands toward the quilts]

One: The Gospel tells us the righteous will ask, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?" And the Lord will answer, "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me."

One: Creator God, who fashioned the heavens and the earth, we ask your blessing on these, the gifts our congregation has created.

Many: We ask that you fill the hearts of those who receive them with the Spirit in which they were made.

One: Keep them warm, keep them loved, keep them safe.

Many: Amen

