WORDS OF BLESSING FROM
FAITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
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**APRIL 2022** 

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#### **MESSAGE FROM PASTOR**



### MESSAGE FROM LAY LEADER

A few weeks ago, while traveling to Asheville, I found my long-distance vision completely blocked by two transfer trucks. I was in a panic as I could not see what was ahead of me. That instance bought back the memory of my fear of flying. Years ago, I would not travel by plane for the same reason, I could not see what was in front of me – where I was going and the fact that someone else was in control.

Maybe you have had a similar experience. Shall we call it the fear of the unknown? That is actually what we face each day, the unknown. Whether it is a sudden illness, family issues, personal defeat or a financial setback, no one is immune.

We have the means to cope – our trust in God! Prayer and words of comfort and assurance from the scriptures should be our first resource.

The following words from Psalm 56:3-4 give us just that. "When I am afraid, I put my trust in you. In God, whose word I praise – in God I trust and am not afraid. What can mere mortals do to me?"

Remember, Satan is powerless against the protection of God!

Blessings from a flawed and faithful disciple, Susan.



### **RICK'S REFRAIN**

"Joy Comes in the Morning" is probably my favorite Easter musical. It was written by David Danner and beautifully portrays the joy that comes at the end of sorrow. Kay and I had the privilege of singing and acting in a presentation of this musical in a Nashville Church years ago. There were many musical and verbal treasures throughout the presentation, but in particular, one stood out for me.

Simon Peter: beloved disciple, hot-headed; well meaning, impetuous; loud-mouthed fisherman, fisher of men. I seem to relate to Peter because of his human frailties. Remember Peter's denial of Christ the night before the crucifixion. I'm sure I would not have had the intestinal fortitude to behave any better and probably not as well. But Peter had a special place in the heart of our Lord. After the resurrection, Jesus appeared to the disciples, though their minds could not process the appearance until Jesus opened them. In reconciliation, Jesus made a special appearance to Peter.

Later, Peter was a witness and participant as the Lord grieved for a fruitless long night of fishing. Jesus sent them back out and so many fish were caught that the nets strained, and the boat began to sink. Jesus then cooked up a breakfast for them and began his conversation with Peter about "do you truly love me?" and "feed my sheep." After the third question, followed by the command, Peter was less than happy and thought Jesus was ridiculing him.

Peter began to understand the Master's message and became the evangelist we see in the book of Acts. Without the aid of television or the internet, or great auditoriums with powerful sound systems, Peter preached, and thousands came to Christ. Indeed, joy comes in the morning.

In David Danner's musical setting, Peter ran to Jesus as he was again blessed by the one whom he betrayed. There was likely not a dry eye in the church at the conclusion of that scene.

Peter's remorse for his denial of Christ was replaced with unspeakable joy.

"Tears may linger at nightfall, but joy comes in the morning." (Psalm 30:5)

"Our joy comes in the morning, when his love fills every heart; Our joy comes in the morning, for with Jesus, our risen Savior, we have a new start." (David Danner)



### **BETH'S MISSION MESSAGE**

Here is the proposed calendar for our food pantry contributions for Haywood Christian ministry.

April--canned meats. can include chili, canned pasta, protein-based soups as well as ham, tuna, chicken.

May--canned fruits and veggies

June--non=canned items. Things in boxes, pouches, bags

July--Condiments

August--birthday cake kit items. Cake mixes, frosting, candles, large foil pans or 2-gallon zipper bags

September--peanut butter and jelly October--soups

November--canned meats December--holiday box items. (Canned hams, potato mixes, stuffing mixes, dessert items, canned veggies, mac n cheese, spices, etc.,)

Keep your eyes and ears open for changes.

Other mission opportunities
Donations to Wesley foundation
Donations to UMCOR for Ukraine



#### **BETH'S PPRC MESSAGE**

Please continue to be in prayer for the future of our church and our next pastor.



Stewardship News as of March 21,2022

"I will be loyal to the United Methodist Church and uphold it with my Prayers, my Presence, my Gifts, my Service, and my Witness."

### 2022 Budget \$58,453.00

Needed through 3/20/22 for budget \$14,028.72

Received to date for budget \$ 9,694.00

Behind Budget \$ 4,334.72

Paid out to date for budget \$12,983.75

### Church council meeting

### March 6,2022

Present were Pastor Terry, Susan, Gerald, Mark, Rachael, Earl, Tryllis, Walter, Eduardo, Tracy, Vicky, Judy and Beth.

Susan lay leader told us the daffodils on podium were symbolic of the hope of spring.

Susan treasurer presented financial report. Judy asked if we were in good shape after lawn maintenance and repairs. We are. Eduardo is making cassette tapes for services for folks unable to attend.

Trustees - Gerald. Trees have been removed and our mower will work on trimming holly bushes soon. Duke Energy will install dusk to dawn light by pavilion. Ramp still needs to be repaired to front door. Handrails need to be sanded and repainted. Tuscola high school carpentry class will be sanding and refinishing tables at pavilion, led by teacher Eric Sully. Snack will be provided on last session. Rachael has agreed to plant and maintain front flower garden.

PPRC—Beth reported that she had shared with DS Lee that we would prefer a male preacher.

Missions—Beth asked if the congregation would prefer to have a list of themes for the food donations for Haywood Christian Ministry. List will be in newsletter. Also, UMCOR is on the ground in Ukraine if anyone is able to contribute.

Worship—nothing new, things are going well.

Sunday School—Mark reported that they started a study on Peter, the flawed but faithful. If anyone is interested in teaching or providing child's Sunday school talk to Mark.

Eduardo is looking for someone to learn how to work the sound system while he is away. Both Judy and Mark volunteered.

Bulletin—Smokey appreciates the compliments on the bulletins. Let her know when someone can be removed from prayer list.

Pastor Terry asked to set a date for workday to clean out the basement. Saturday, March 26 at 9 am. If you have any interest in anything down there get it out before then.

Next council meeting will be June 5<sup>th</sup> after worship service.



### **APRIL 2022 DATES TO REMEMBER**

SUNDAY SCHOOL 10 AM WORSHIP SERVICE 11 AM

# April 10-16 – Holy Week

Also called 'Great and Holy Week,' or 'Passion Week,' Holy Week in the Christian year is the week preceding Easter. Holy Week has five days of special significance, which start on Palm Sunday, the Sunday before Easter, until Holy Saturday (Black Saturday), but doesn't include Easter Sunday.

Holy Week has names for the five special days in the week, beginning with Palm Sunday or Passion Sunday, which commemorates Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. The following day is called Holy Monday when Jesus cursed the fig tree, sent out the merchants from the temple, and responded to those who questioned His authority. On Holy Tuesday, some observe Christ foretelling his own death.

The next day is called Holy Wednesday or Spy Wednesday, which remembers how Judas arranged the betrayal of Jesus with the chief priests, since he was a spy among the disciples of Jesus. Some churches celebrate Tenebrae (the Latin for 'shadows' or 'darkness') services especially on Spy Wednesday, where they gradually extinguish lit candles while reciting and chanting a series of readings and selected psalms. Holy Wednesday is then followed by the 'Triduum' of Holy Week — Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday.

Deriving its name from a shortened form of the Latin word 'mandatum' meaning 'command,' Maundy Thursday (also called Holy Thursday) commemorates Christ's "new commandment" that his disciples love one another as He has loved them (John 13:34). Maundy Thursday also marks the Last Supper that Jesus shared with His disciples, His prediction of His death, His betrayal by Judas Iscariot, and His arrest at the Garden of Gethsemane. Maundy Thursday services also include an act of foot washing, commemorating how Jesus washed His disciples' feet as an act of service preceding His arrest.

Known as the most somber day for Christians, Good Friday remembers Jesus' trial before Pontius Pilate, His death sentence, torture, crucifixion, death, and burial. Some Christians fast on Good Friday, while some avoid eating meat, and many attend a church service where they meditate on and honor the cross of Christ. The Triduum of Holy Week concludes with Holy Saturday, the seventh day of the week, when Jesus rested in the tomb. On this day, Christians observe a late-night two-part Easter Vigil service. Jesus' resurrection on the eighth day, is celebrated as Easter, marking the beginning of the Easter week, and the season of Eastertide.

# April 10 – Palm Sunday

In most liturgical churches, Palm Sunday is celebrated by the blessing and distribution of palm branches (or the branches of other native trees), representing the palm branches which the crowd scattered in front of Christ as he rode into Jerusalem. The difficulty of procuring palms in unfavorable climates led to their substitution with branches of native trees, including box, olive, willow, and yew. The Sunday was often named after these substitute trees, as in **Yew Sunday**, or by the general term **Branch Sunday**.



April 11 – Holy Monday April 12 – Holy Tuesday April 13 – Holy Wednesday

The days between Palm Sunday and Maundy Thursday are known as Holy Monday, Holy Tuesday, and Holy Wednesday (Spy Wednesday). The Gospel accounts are not always clear or in agreement on the events which occurred on these days, though there are traditional observances held by some denominations to commemorate certain events from the last days of Jesus Christ's life. Among them

 On Holy Monday, Jesus cursed the fig tree, cleansed the temple, and responded to questioning of his authority. Some observe the anointing of Jesus at Bethany

- (John 12:1–11), an event that in the Gospel of John occurred before the Palm Sunday event described in John 12:12–19.
- On Holy Tuesday, some observe Christ's predictions of his own death, as described in John 12:20-36 and John 13:21-38. On Holy Wednesday, the story of Judas arranging his betrayal of Jesus with the chief priests is remembered; he was a spy among the disciples of Jesus (Matthew 26:14–25). For this reason, the day is sometimes called "Spy Wednesday. Other events connected with this date include the events at the house of Simon the Leper, especially the anointing of Jesus by Mary of Bethany, the events of which directly preceded the betrayal of Jesus by Judas to the Sanhedrin (the supreme council and tribunal of the Jews during postexilic times (being or occurring to the exile of the Jews in Babylonia 597-538 b.c.) headed by a High Priest and having religious, civil, and criminal jurisdiction.

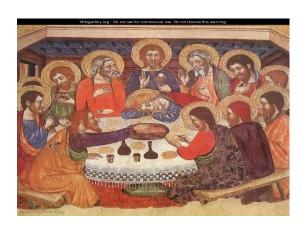
### April 14 - Maundy Thursday

Maundy Thursday is part of the Christian celebration of Easter and marks the night of the Last Supper as told in the Bible. At the Last Supper, Jesus commanded that people should love one another, he then washed the feet of his disciples as an act of kindness. He then commanded them to do the same for each other.

"A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another" (John 13:34).

Last Supper, also called Lord's **Supper**, in the New Testament, the final meal shared by Jesus and his disciples in an upper room in Jerusalem. The story of the Last Supper on the night before Christ's crucifixion is reported in four books of the New Testament (Matthew 26:17-29; Mark 14:12-25; Luke 22:7-38; and I Corinthians 11:23-25). The letters of the St. Paul the Apostle and the Acts of the Apostles demonstrate that early Christians believed that this tradition included a mandate to continue the celebration as an anticipation in this life of the joys of the banquet that was to come in the kingdom of God.

The Synoptic Gospels (Matthew, Mark, and Luke) and the early traditions of the church affirm that the Last Supper occurred on Passover. According to the biblical account, Jesus sent two of his disciples to prepare for the meal and met with all the disciples in the upper room. He told them that one of them would betray him. After blessing bread and wine and giving it to them to eat and drink, Jesus told them that it was his body and his blood of the Covenant. Although the account of the Crucifixion in the Gospel According to John indicates that the Last Supper could not have been a Passover meal. many interpreters accept the account given in the Synoptic Gospels.



## April 15 - Good Friday

Good Friday is the day on which Christians commemorate the crucifixion and death of Jesus at Calvary. It's the Friday before Easter, which celebrates the resurrection of Jesus and is considered the most important Christian holiday.

The first records of the term *Good*Friday come from the 1200s.

The good in Good Friday doesn't mean "good" in the typical sense—it means "holy."

Because Christians observe *Good Friday* as the anniversary of the day that Jesus was crucified and died, it is typically treated as a day for somber reflection. Some people fast for the day or continue the fast they observed throughout Lent. In contrast, Easter is treated as a time of celebration.



# April 16 - Holy Saturday

Holy Saturday commemorates the day that Jesus Christ lay in the tomb after his death. It is the day after Good Friday and the day before Easter Sunday. It is also known as Easter Eve, Easter Even, Black Saturday, or the Saturday before Easter.

## April 17 – Easter Sunday

The significance of Easter is Jesus Christ's triumph over death. His resurrection means the eternal life that is granted to all who believe in Him. The purpose of Easter also means the full confirmation of all that Jesus taught and preached during His ministry. If He had not risen from the dead, if He had simply died and not been resurrected, He would have been thought just another teacher or prophet. However, His resurrection rebuked all that and provided final and undeniable proof that He was really the Son of God and that He had overcome death once and for all.





## **April Birthdays**

- 4 Izzabella Setser
- 6 Tracy Edwards-Villeveces
- 7 -Pat Griffith
- 8 Mark Dooly
- 12 Pam Johnson
- 13 Charlene Snyder
- 16 Steve Scarborough
- 30 Gordon Wheeler



### **April Anniversaries**

8 Rick and Kay Boen
30 Chris and Pam Johnson

# April 18 – Easter Monday

The Bible does not detail any specific events taking place on Easter Monday, but it does begin Jesus's 40 days on earth before he ascended to heaven. During this time, Jesus appeared to believers, healed the sick and spread the word of God.