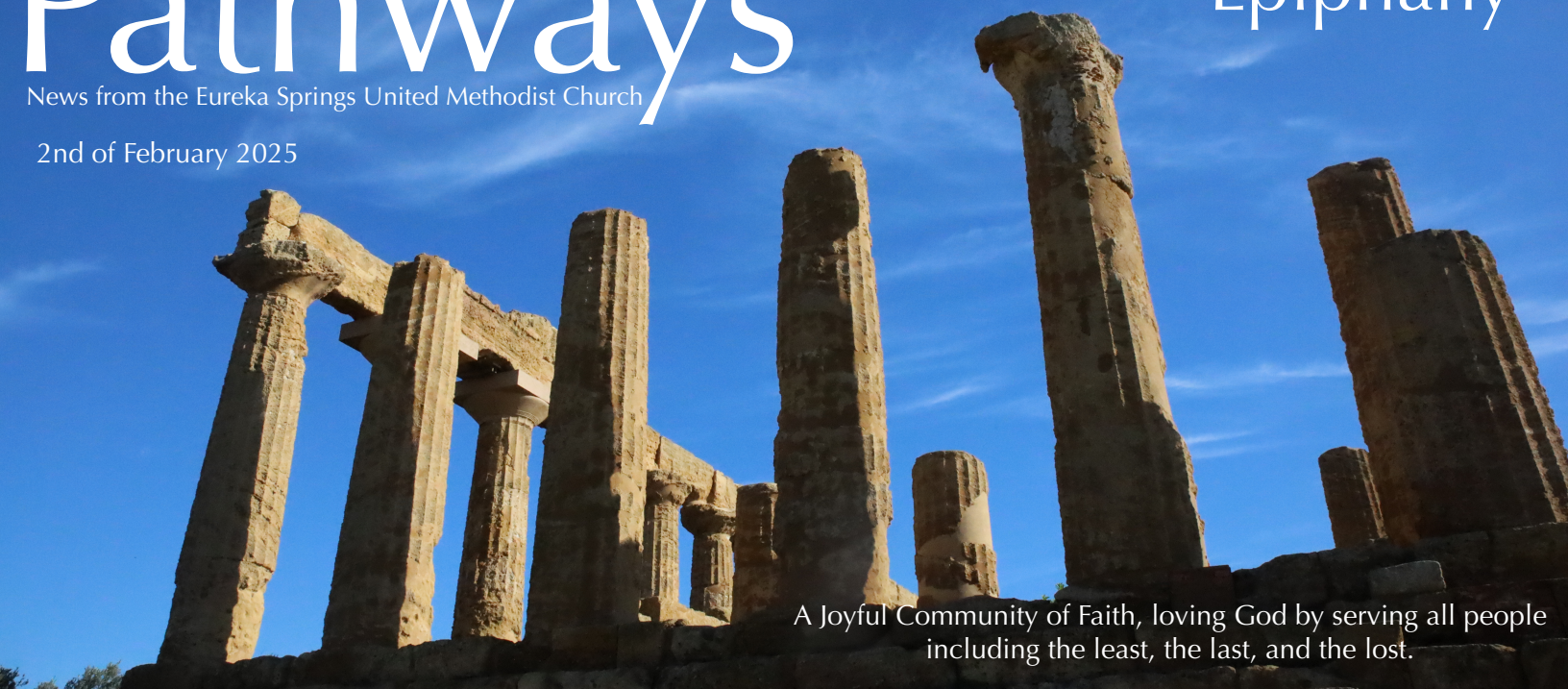


Pathways

News from the Eureka Springs United Methodist Church

2nd of February 2025

Fourth Sunday after
Epiphany



A Joyful Community of Faith, loving God by serving all people
including the least, the last, and the lost.

To the ancient Romans this time that we call January and February went nameless to reflect the dreariness of these cold months. These were the last months to be added to our calendar, the Romans getting around to naming them in the year 713 BC. February takes its name from the Latin, 'Februum', for purification. They spent the month in festivals and sacrifice seeking to appease the gods and make a new beginning. Well, for our Heart Month, we will be doing a similar purification, minus the wild debauchery and paganism of the ancient Romans. It's time we ditch the baggage that weighs us down and prepare again to soar with the wings of God. Faith, Hope, Grace, and Love are our themes, how we can recapture them, live by them, be renewed by them so that we may fly high. We'll be delving into the story of Abraham and Isaac, the story of the Apostle Paul (he's a bit odd), the Good Samaritan, and the woman caught in adultery. Each of these stories have a powerful message for us today, by not allowing the judgments and worries of our present age to clip our wings. Then, after February ends, it will be the forty days of Lent with our special Ash Wednesday service to help us begin our Lenten fasts. **SHOWER/LAUNDRY MINISTRY** We really need your help on Mondays and Wednesdays. Can you spare a few hours from 9 till 1 to help our clients facilitate showers and laundry as well as to help organize our help closet. Your main duties will be to sign folks in, direct them to the showers or the laundry, and to man to the help closet. We are including a quick and easy sign up link, just click and sign up — [https://](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0A45A4A62BA1FDC61-54580735-shower)

www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0A45A4A62BA1FDC61-54580735-shower



Each Sunday morning we gather for an informal time of community and conversation in the Narthex. Coffee, hot chocolate, hot tea, and sodas are available, and people are volunteering to bring treats as well. It all starts at 9 AM. If you would like to sign up to bring the baked goods, just like and sign up — <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0A45A4A62BA1FDC61-54558134-sunday> You can also visit the website to sign up to be a Communion Steward or an Usher as well. www.lovespokenhere.org

The Gathering

Order of Worship

Janet Arnett, Lay Speaker
Melodye Purdy, Video Production
Jubilee Ringers conducted by Beverly Beard
Patricia Taylor, Pianist
Jess Wade, Chancel Choir

Join us in-person or via our Livestream that is broadcast thru our Facebook Page, our website <lovespokenhere.org>, or our YouTube Channel!

9:55 ~ Announcements

Sunday, 2nd of February, 2025

Ushers: Shelly Barker, Karen Kinsel **Communion Stewards:** Janet Arnett, Sandy Dunn, Lori Luney, Chris Ritthaler

Offering Counters: Janet Arnett & Diane Jones

We Gather to Worship

Greeting

Prayer for Illumination

Opening Song:

"This is the Day" Page 657 UMC Hymnal

Communal Prayer:

The Lord's Prayer

Songs of the Community

"My Faith Looks Up to Thee" Page 452 UMC Hymnal

"I Know Whom I have Believed" Page 714 UMC Hymnal



We Listen to God's Spirit

A reading from Hebrews 11:1-19

Thanks be to God for the gift of the Scriptures

Thanks be to God

"Where Two or Three are Gathered"

Written by: Kindly Lange

The Chancel Choir

A Video Reflection: "Blessing in the Chaos"

The Message:

"Wings of a Christian, with which we fly: Faith"

Rev Blake Lasater

We Give Thanks for the Gifts of God

Baptism Renewal

Holy Communion

(All our welcome to eat and drink at the table of Christ. The 'Wine' is just grape juice, but the Spirit of God is found in the breaking of the bread and sharing of the cup)

Sending Song

"Spirit Song" Page 347 UMC Hymnal

Benediction

(The words of Blessing that send us forth into the world to be the hands and feet of Christ to a broken world)

Caregivers Support Group

Caregivers Support Group meets each month on the **second Tuesday at 1:00 pm** in the church library. Join other Caregivers to gain information, share ideas, problem solve, and support each other. Facilitated by Brandi Schneider, LMSW. Questions? Call Peggy Way 479.253.1583 Masks are optional.

Widow(er)s Support Group

Our support group for Widow(er)s meets at the church library at **Noon** on the **first and third Wednesdays** of each month. Join us as we gather to share experiences and support each other on this journey. All are welcome. If you know a widow(er), let them know about our group.

Parkinson's Disease Support Group

A support group for people with Parkinson's and their Caregivers meets the **first Wednesday** of each month in the church library at **10 am**. This is open to anyone in the community!

Save the Dates!

Important Happenings in the Life of ESUMC

Get Involved!

Make New Friends

Make a Difference

Spread Joy

Bible Study Wednesdays 6 pm in the church library. We use Dr. Amy Jill Levine's [Great Courses Lectures](#) for the first 30 minutes and then use study questions to start a discussion. These lectures take us thru the books of the Old Testament.

Youth Group Wednesdays, 4-5:30 pm. All are welcome!

Mobile Food Pantry church parking lot the **2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month**. Cars start lining up at 8:45 AM and we distribute until the food runs out, typically within an hour. If you are homebound and do not have a friend or neighbor who can pick up for you, call the church [by Noon on Mondays](#) to be added to our very [limited](#) delivery schedule.

Eureka! Quilters meet in Fellowship Hall the **2nd Wednesday of each month** for conversation, information and lunch. A great group of men & women quilters, open to all skill levels.

Widow(ers) Group meet the first and third Wednesdays of each month from Noon - 1 PM in the church library. Occasionally, they plan a luncheon outing. If you grieve, you don't have to grieve alone. This is such a loving, encouraging, and supportive group of people. You will feel welcome and cared for.

In an effort to be informative and transparent, here are the January financials:

Church Financials

	<u>January</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Giving:	\$13,229	\$213,299
Expenses:	\$15,735	\$15,735

Generator Funds Raised \$18,079

Endowment Giving Leaves a Lasting Legacy that Supports Church

Creating an endowment and planned giving program is a perfect way to live out our faith and have a long term vision for their church. Endowments make a statement that your church is of God and is here to the end of time. It says that you care about ministry today and into the future. There are many creative ways to give to an endowment such as current planned gifts and those gifts designated in a bequest. Endowment Funds benefit churches by offering members opportunities to provide a future legacy for the church and their families. An endowment fund is a permanent fund, similar to a savings account where only the interest and/or earnings can be spent. A Permanent Endowment Fund serves churches into perpetuity. While the original gifts grow through prudent investments, the church can use the earnings each year to enhance church ministries, outreach and care of facilities. Contact Blake or Kevin Graham to learn more.

Shower/Laundry & Homeless Ministry Requested Items

Our church showers are open to men and women so they can freshen up, do a load of laundry, and be ready for a job interview, medical appointment, or just a chance to be clean. Showers are available **Monday and Wednesdays, 9 AM till 1:00 PM.**

Current needs: Study Bibles, Toilet Paper, Nutrient Dense canned goods: Chili, Ravoli, pasta & sauce, soups, breakfast bars, oatmeal, Men & women's sneakers/ hiking boots, Lg & med. size thermal underwear (men & women), hoodies, 1.5 QT crock pots, toasters, hot plates, electric fry pans. Please make sure clothing donations are clean. Donations can be dropped off at the church. **Thank you to all our faithful donors and supporters of this ministry!**

Youth Night-Out Wednesdays 4-5:30 pm Church Youth Room

The Youth Group is open to all teens aged 13-17. Transportation is available (Call 479.253.8987) This ministry will facilitate important connections with our youth, while providing a safe place to meet each week. Would you be willing to be a mentor? Volunteer? Make snacks? There is a **youth night out box for snack donations** in the Narthex. Your participation is appreciated. For **more information contact: 515.368.1012.**

Exploring the Old Testament

We are starting a new bible study that will serve as an introduction to the Old Testament. These are lectures by Dr Amy Jill Levine, a noted biblical scholar. This will take up about thirty minutes, and then we'll spend 30 minutes discussing the topics she raises. We meet **Wednesdays in the church library at 6 PM.** All are welcome to attend.

Transportation Ministry Drivers Needed

The church has a **Nissan Murano** (thanks to the generosity of a church member) for the designated purpose of providing transportation to the least, the lost, and the last who do not have means to get to various medical/dental appointments in Carroll County. If you would like to be part of this ministry, please contact us 479.253.8987 or EsfumcInfo@gmail.com and we will add your name to the list. When we get a request I send out a group email with dates, times, location and client name and if you are available to take that appointment, you respond to the email accordingly and I make the arrangements. You will be so blessed serving in this role, and meeting some of these amazing people.

GENERATOR FUND

Thanks to Dan Bell, we now have a generator voltage meter indicating our progress towards full funding. It is prominently placed on the Narthex desk. Check it out! Thanks Dan!

Theology on Tap

Next date TBD

Update or Add Information for Church Records

For your convenience, laminated QR codes are available in the pews as well as posted around the church and narthex for ease in keeping our member records accurate. Please take a moment to follow this link to make sure your information is current. Thank you.

February

2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
a Heart Month Sermon Series the Wings of a Christian by which we fly: faith, hope, grace, & love						Ozarks Chorale Board & Advisory Team Noon Fellowship Hall
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
FAITH: Abraham & Isaac	Al-Anon/Mixed 10 AM Youth Rm	Yoga 9 AM F-Hall Al-Anon/Women 10 AM Youth Room Scouts 6 PM Ozarks Chorale Practice 6:30-8:30 FHall	Widow(er)s Support Group noon library Bridge Class 1-3 Youth RM Youth Group 4-5:30 Jubilee Ringers 5:00 Bible Study 6 PM Scouts 6 PM	Al-Anon/Mixed 10 AM Youth Rm		
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
HOPE: the Apostle Paul	Al-Anon/Mixed 10 AM Youth Rm	Yoga 9 AM F-Hall Al-Anon/Women 10 AM Youth Room Scouts 6 PM Ozarks Chorale Practice 6:30-8:30 FHall	Mobile Pantry Parkinson's Support Group 10 AM Library Eureka Quilters 10:30-1:30 FHall Youth Group 4-5:30 Jubilee Ringers 5:00 Bible Study 6 PM Scouts 6 PM	Al-Anon/Mixed 10 AM Youth Rm	Saint Valentine's Day	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
GRACE: the Woman Caught in Adultery	Al-Anon/Mixed 10 AM Youth Rm Presidents' Day OFFICE CLOSED	Yoga 9 AM F-Hall Al-Anon/Women 10 AM Youth Room Scouts 6 PM Ozarks Chorale Practice 6:30-8:30 FHall	Widow(er)s Support Group noon library Youth Group 4-5:30 Jubilee Ringers 5:00 Bible Study 6 PM Scouts 6 PM	Al-Anon/Mixed 10 AM Youth Rm		
23	24	25	26	27	28	1
LOVE: the Good Samaritan Jubilee Ringers, Ringing	Al-Anon/Mixed 10 AM Youth/Rm	Yoga 9 AM FHall Scouts 6 PM Ozarks Chorale Practice 6:30-8:30 FHall	Mobile Pantry Youth Group 4:5:30 Jubilee Ringers 5:00 Bible Study 6 PM	Al-Anon/Mixed 10 AM Youth Rm		