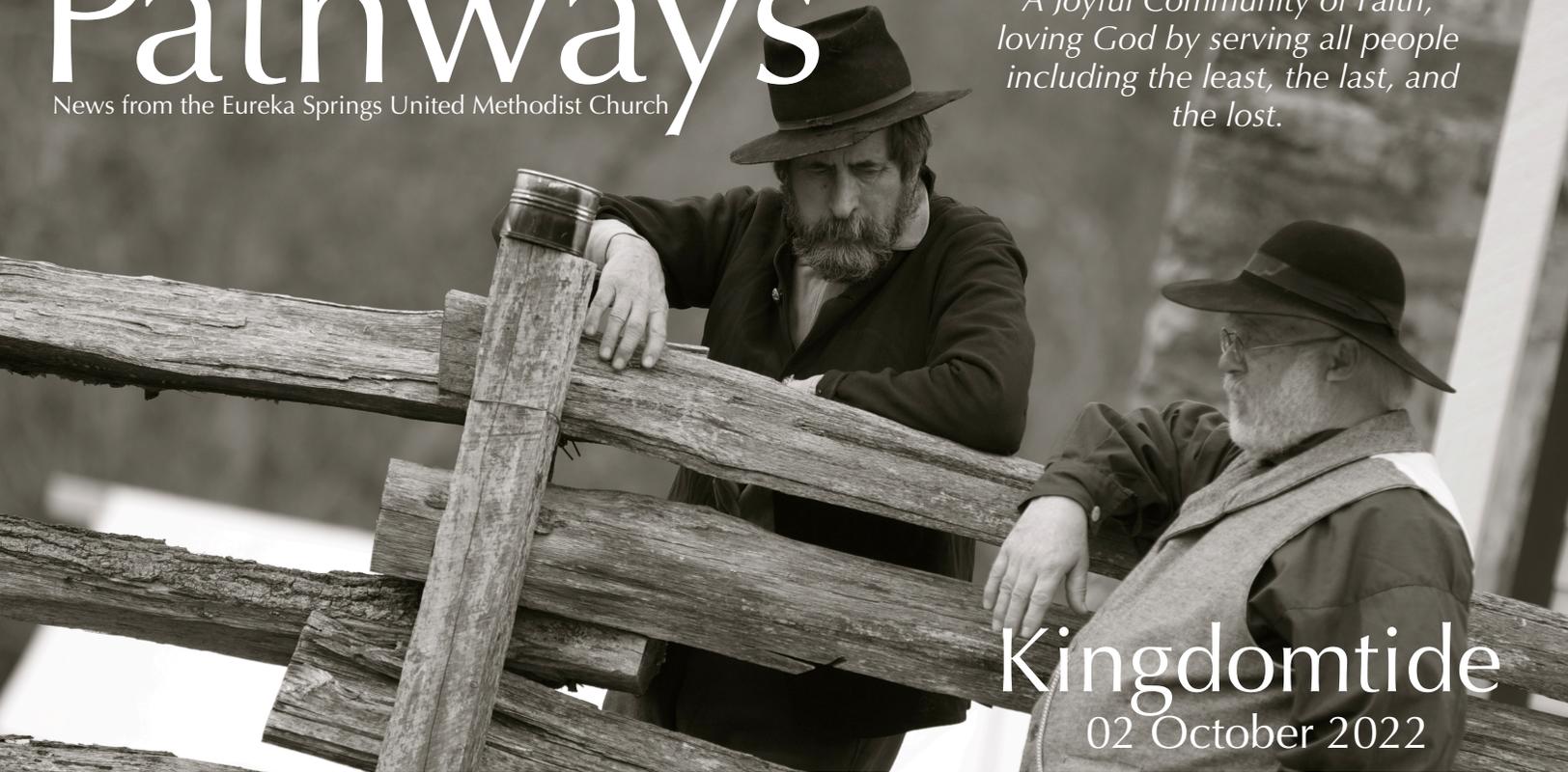


Pathways

News from the Eureka Springs United Methodist Church

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

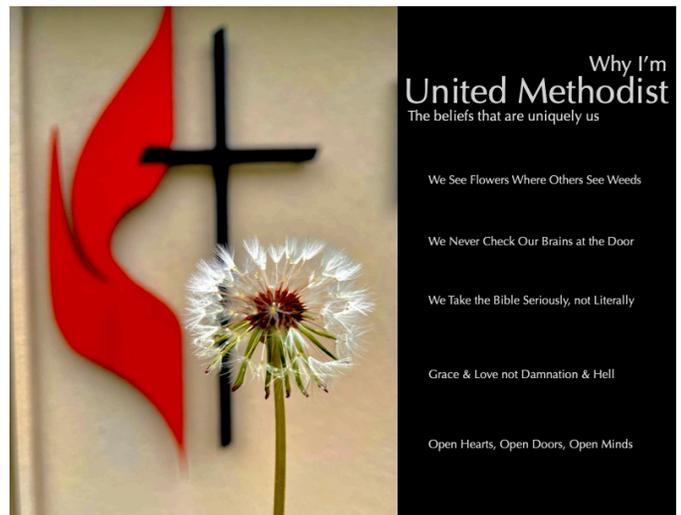


Kingdomtide

02 October 2022

Our nation and church is so deeply divided, poisoned by politicians and pundits that seek to drive a wedge between neighbors and friends. Instead of seeing those who disagree with us as genuine people who have great ideas, we see them as our enemies that must be stopped at all costs. People no longer listen to understand, but listen in order to respond. We are unable to have deep political and theological conversations because we see any idea that challenges our beliefs as a threat. We have built walls and fences between us and our friends and neighbors. Friendships have been broken and families divided. During our Theology on Tap discussion this past week we tackled the subject of politics and the inability to discuss politics. I want to lift up a couple of resources that can help us bridge the divide and cool our tempers. The first two are TEDtalks, online lectures that are only about ten minutes in length. You can Google either one by including the phrase TEDtalk: "10 Ways to Have a Better Conversation" and "How to Have Better Political Conversations." There is also a website I encourage you to check out: www.braverangels.org — a group dedicated to building a house united where we can state our views freely and fully, without fear. A book I recommend, "Not In it to Win It" by Adam Stanley asks the question, "Is it possible to disagree and love unconditionally?" Why is this important? Our divisiveness is nearing the level it was right before the Civil War, and though such a conflagration seems impossible, 30% of Democrats and Republicans are now saying violence maybe the only way to achieve their goals.

Domestic terror groups are now a greater threat than foreign ones. And I bet nearly every single one of us have blocked, unfriended, or avoid certain people because their beliefs angry us. We must bind up these wounds in our nation's soul, and we must heal the bitter divisions in our church. We may be very angry at the moment, maybe even rightfully so, but Christ taught us to pray for our enemies, love them even. Our faith was made for such a time as this. We can show the world how we can love past our differences. We must begin again to listen to the other side, to understand them, because only in listening and understanding can we change hearts and minds. Such work isn't easy, but it is the only way that our nation and church will ever be changed.



The Gathering

Order of Worship

Janet Arnett, Lay Speaker
Bren Marshall, Music Minister
Melodye Purdy, Video Production
Jubilee Ringers conducted by Beverly Beard

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

We Gather to Worship

Prelude and Greeting

*As we gather may your Spirit work within us
As we gather may we glorify Your name
Knowing well that as our hearts begin to worship
We'll be blessed because we came.*

Opening prayer

*Our Father, who art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdoms come. Thy will be done. On Earth, as it is in Heaven.
Give us this day, our daily bread, and forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the Kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.*

Praise and Worship

(See music below)



We Listen for God's Word

A Reading from the Scriptures

Luke 23:32-43

Thanks be to God for the Gift of the Scriptures

THANKS BE TO GOD!

"Great is the Lord" by Michael W Smith

The Chancel Choir

A Video Reflection

The Message

"Why I'm United Methodist"
Grace & Love, Not Damnation & Hell

Rev. Blake Andrew Lasater

We Give and We Receive

Remembering our Baptism and the Promises of God

*(We invite you to participate with us by touching your hands in water
and making the sign of the cross)*

Sharing in Holy Communion

(if watching virtually, please have ready your bread and wine/juice in order to share with us)

We are Sent forth to be God's People

The Benediction

A Musical Benediction

*Go in Peace, and may the good Lord bless and keep you,
may the good Lord bless and keep you,
till we meet, till we meet again. Amen, Amen, Amen.*

Our Music for today

CCLI Music License #11059025

"Those who sing, pray twice!" — Saint Augustine

Lord, I Lift Your Name on High

Lord I lift Your name on high Lord I love to
sing Your praises
I'm so glad You're in my life I'm so glad You
came to save us

You came from heaven to earth to show the
way
From the earth to the cross, my debt to pay
From the cross to the grave, from the grave to
the sky
Lord I lift Your name on high

Lord I lift Your name on high Lord I love to
sing Your praises
I'm so glad You're in my life I'm so glad You
came to save us

You came from heaven to earth to show the
way
From the earth to the cross, my debt to pay
From the cross to the grave, from the grave to
the sky
Lord I lift Your name on high

You came from heaven to earth to show the
way
From the earth to the cross, my debt to pay
From the cross to the grave, from the grave to
the sky
Lord I lift Your name on high, Lord I lift Your
name on high
Lord I lift Your name on high

Shout to the Lord

My Jesus, my Savior, Lord there is none like
You
All of my days I want to praise The wonders of
Your mighty love
My comfort, my shelter Tower of refuge and
strength
Let every breath, all that I am Never cease to
worship You

Shout to the Lord all the Earth, let us sing
Power and majesty, praise to the King
Mountains bow down and the seas will roar
At the sound of Your name
I sing for joy at the work of Your hands
Forever I'll love You, forever I'll stand
Nothing compares to the promise I have In You

My Jesus, my Savior, Lord there is none like
You
All of my days I want to praise The wonders of
Your mighty love
My comfort, My shelter, Tower of refuge and
strength
Let every breath, all that I am Never cease to
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Shout to the Lord all the Earth, let us sing
Power and majesty, praise to the King
Mountains bow down and the seas will roar
At the sound of Your name
I sing for joy at the work of Your hands
Forever I'll love You, forever I'll stand
Nothing compares to the promise I have
Oh nothing compares to the promise I have
Nothing compares to the promise I have In You

Giving

Giving is one of the most important spiritual disciplines we follow. It teaches us that all that we have is a gift of God. It teaches us that when we give, we can change the world. When is the last time you looked at your budget and expenses? Are we giving more than we take? Jesus invited us to a more fuller life by asking us to give so that no one is in need.

Parents Who Grieve

Our community has experienced many tragedies where parents have lost children. We want to do all we can to support them in their grief, and so we are looking to start a support group for those parents. We are gathering an initial group. If you would like to be involved, please contact the church office: 253.8987.

Crystal Bridges Tour

Crystal Bridges' newest exhibit concerns the documents of our Founders — the US Constitution, Declaration of Independence, and others. We have a special guide that will take us on a private tour on October 12th. This event is free and we will be taking the bus, or you can meet us there. Call the office to reserve your spot, 253.8987

World Communion Sunday

Today (Sunday) is World Communion Sunday, where all churches are invited to celebrate Holy Communion and recognize how we are all one with God and one with each other. Today there are over 38,000 denominations, and the body of Christ is not unified. Someday there will be one bread, one body, one Lord of all.

Caregivers Support Group

Caregivers Support Group will meet the second Tuesday of every month in person on Tuesday at 1:00 in the Fellowship Hall. Questions? Call Peggy Way 479.253.1583. No Masks required.

Widow(er)s Support Group

Our support group for Widow(er)s meets the first and third Wednesdays of each month at noon in the church library. All are either widows or widowers sharing their journey and experiences, supporting one another, and discussing the different issues that widow(er)s face. If you know of a widow(er) let them know about our group. No one should be left to grieve alone or misunderstood.

Parkinson's 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!



United
Women
in Faith

"What's in *YOUR* Cup?" A SOUL Care Day Retreat – Sunday, Oct. 16, 12:30 – 3:00 pm at the Berryville UMC. Jesus took time apart and we women need that, too. Refresh, recharge, reconnect. Plan to come. Call, text or email for more information: 501.339.3458 or lynn.baker.umw@gmail.com.



“Why I’m a United Methodist: Grace & Love, Not Damnation & Hell. It seems most churches talk more about hell than they do eternal life. They preach damnation and rarely mention grace. In the Gospels Jesus rarely mentions hell and damnation, and in only one places does he tell you what gets you sent to hell. Methodists have always proclaimed the amazing love and grace of God, a power so deep and wide that there is nothing in all of creation that would ever be able to separate us from God.

Shower/Laundry Ministry

Showers are still available for use. This program is for any type of homeless situation where the client could benefit from having a shower. This helps people clean up so they can interview for jobs, and clean up while they are employed so they can keep the job.

Help spread the word about this new ministry. People will be able to text “SHOWER” to 479.981.1680 to make arrangements to use our facilities. Our ministry team will meet them at church between 12 and 2 PM.

Theology on Tap

We had a wonderful discussion on Politics and our lack of political discourse. Lots of new faces and plenty of ideas, opinions, and beliefs. We are looking for a topic for October so if you have an idea, shoot it over to me via text (479.426.2547) or email, blakelasater@gmail.com. Thank you to Wendy and Dave at Gotahold Brewery for the great venue and beers, the Twisted Taco for the food! Hope to see you next month, day and time.

Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Come & support the Purple, October 1st from 4-8 PM at the Hangout in Berryville, on the left before WalMart. Food trucks will be serving some amazing food, and you will be able to meet the candidates for office, and a chance to lobby them to do more about domestic violence. Donations will be accepted that will support the Purple Flower’s efforts at eliminating Domestic Violence.

Answering the Call

We are raising funds to match our \$20,000 grant! Be on the lookout on social media to see how you may give to this wonderful effort. Our numbers throughout the county have skyrocketed. At midsummer we were serving 30 people, now we are serving over 90 each week. Local farmers have donated produce. Our next Mobile Pantry is on the 12th of October from 10 to 11AM. If you know of anyone who could use the food, come pick up for them and deliver.

Literacy Program

We have gotten a few volunteers for the literacy mission to our schools. We still need a few more folks who are willing to read with the kids and help them practice the skills needed to become proficient readers. The aim is to place volunteers in the school during the week to help the kids. If you can spare some time during the day you could change a life forever. Call the office, 253.8987, to add your name to the list.

Top Photo

All the photos used are from my collection (it avoids the copyright hassle). Today’s photo is from the Pea Ridge Battlefield. Two Civil War reanctors, a Blue and a Grey, talk over a fence. The war represents the lowest point in our civil discourse, one we are reaching again. And yet, after the war we came together and bound up our nations wounds. Can we do so again?

October

2022

November

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

September

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
25	26	27	28	29	30	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Grace & Love, Not Damnation & Hell		Ozarks Chorale 7-9 PM Fellowship Hall	ATC 8-11 Fellowship Hall Widow(er)s Support Group Noon in Library			
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors		Ozarks Chorale 7-9 PM Fellowship Hall	ATC & Mobile Pantry 8-11 Fellowship Hall Crystal Bridges Outing for the Church			
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
A Giving Heart: Stewardship is Love		Ozarks Chorale 7-9 PM Fellowship Hall	ATC 8-11 Fellowship Hall Widow(er)s Support Group Noon in Library			
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
A Giving Heart: Stewardship is Countercultural		Ozarks Chorale 7-9 PM Fellowship Hall	ATC 8-11 Fellowship Hall			Trunk & Treat 4-6 PM
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
A Giving Heart: Stewardship is Faith	Halloween!	All Saints' Day.	All Saints Sunday 6th of November, a special service of thanksgiving and remembrance			

