

Pathways

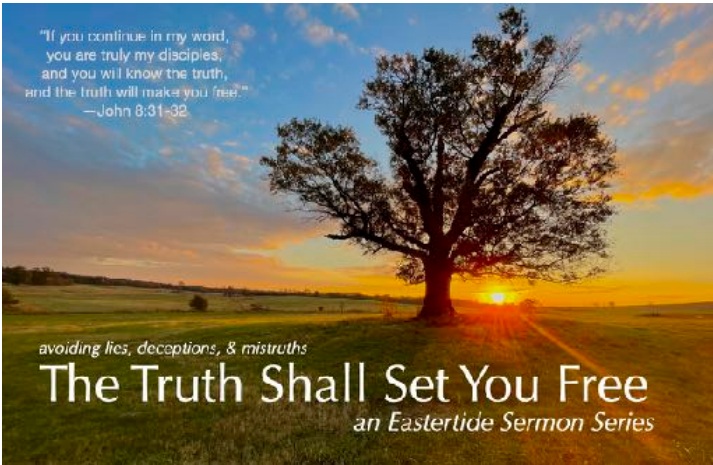
News from the Eureka Springs United Methodist Church

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

The Season of Eastertide

3rd of May 2026

Eastertide will come to a close this month with Ascension Sunday and Pentecost Sunday, and then I will be taking an eight-week sabbatical to renew and recharge. As many of you know, my wife, Marilou, teaches a study-abroad program for nurses in Rome, Italy. This time I am going to join her for the full eight week experience. There are many challenges in our family life. Our daughter, Grace, will be turning 18 this week and has expressed the wish to strike out on her own and be independent. These are not our wishes as she is struggling with bipolar and borderline personality disorders. It is unfortunate that some people have taken advantage of her, encouraging her to move out. It is a difficult time for us, and I am aware many of you have noticed behavioral issues. We suspect these will only get worse as she ends her therapy and medicine routine. Mental illness is a challenge for many Americans, and it is certainly not what we were expecting. Our options are quite limited, and at this point we can only love her and hold her in prayer. Many of you have asked questions and have noticed odd behaviors, and I want to be direct and honest with you about our family journey. As Grace moves out and into an environment that will only enable her mental illness, it will be a painful experience for us. We believe the summer break will help to put enough distance between us so that she can discover for herself the hard consequences when we do not take our health seriously. We have worked with a therapy team for many years now, and her school has worked alongside of us to prepare her to take charge of her mental health. We can only hope for the best, but our daughter has made it quite clear she is going to be moving out and away from us. This is heartbreaking, and I would never have imagined in a million years this would be how this year would turn out. I hope you all will hold her in prayer, and if you see her, to encourage her to be her best self and to stay on top of her challenges. We hope she will finish the GED program. This has been a specially difficult year, and the heartbreak is real. Many of you have been such an integral part of her life, loving her and teaching her, and I thought it was important to share this with you. Thank you for the grace, love, and patience you have shown us and especially her.



"If you continue in my word,
you are truly my disciples,
and you will know the truth,
and the truth will make you free."
—John 8:31-32

avoiding lies, deceptions, & mistruths

The Truth Shall Set You Free
an Eastertide Sermon Series

The Gathering: Order of Worship

Janet Arnett, Lay Minister: 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, 26 of April, 2026

Ushers: Gary Johnson & Mike Schomaker **Communion Stewards:** Karen Kinsel, Jean Reed, Jay Parker, Kim Stryker **Offering Counters:** Janet Arnett, Shirley Lykins

We Gather to Worship

Welcome		
Rising of the Light, Lighting the Paschal Candle*	"Alleluia"	page 2078 Faith We Sing
An Affirmation of Faith*	"from the Korean Methodist Church"	page 884
UMC Hymnal		
Song Response*	"Glory Be to the Father"	page 70 UMC Hymnal
Community Prayer & Lord's Prayer		Janet Arnett, Lay Minister

Songs of the People

"Because He Lives" page 364 UMC Hymnal*
"Thine Be the Glory" page 308 UMC Hymnal*

We Listen for God's Word

A reading from Matthew 12:22-30
Janet Arnett, Lay Minister
"Alleluia", a Choral Response



"Sweet Hour of Prayer"

Arr: Earlene Rentz
The Chancel Choir

A Video Reflection — "Your Light Still Shines"

"The Truth Shall Set Us Free: Tin Foil Hats"

Rev Blake Lasater

We Give & Receive Love

Remembrance of our Baptism

Holy Communion

Song Response for the Gift of Communion "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" page 95 UMC Hymnal

(We believe in the Open Table, all are welcome at God's table. We take Communion by 'Intinction', simply break off a piece of the bread and dip it in the cup, or you may wish to use our gluten free station on the altar.)

Sending Song

"Spirit Song" Page 288 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)

**please stand if you are able*

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 from UAMS Schmieding Center for Senior Health & Education.

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. 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. There are occasional luncheon outings, particularly on the 5th Wednesdays of months.

Parkinson's Disease Support Group

A support Group for People with Parkinson's and their Caregivers meets for the **first Wednesday** of each month in the Church Library at **10 AM**. This is open to anyone in the community!

Bible Study Wednesdays

Pastor-led bible studies are on **Wednesday evenings at 6 PM**. We are doing a deep dive into the book of Revelation, learning what it is and isn't, and hopefully rescuing it from the kooks who have turned it into their own personal

Shower & Laundry Ministry

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**.

Volunteers are needed, flexible scheduling.

Save the Dates!

CS Parking Lot Fundraiser downtown ES, Saturday, May 16. (aka easiest fundraiser ever!) In a couple weeks we will be passing around volunteer sign up sheets. Please consider taking a shift and spreading God's love and joy. **We need an event lead for this Fundraiser. Contact Blake.**

Important Happenings in the Life of ESUMC

UWF Meet following Sunday service:

May 17, Fellowship Hall after Sunday Service

June 21, Fellowship Hall after Sunday Service

Get Involved!

Mobile Food Pantry church parking lot the **2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month**. Cars start lining up at 7:45 AM and we distribute until the food runs out, typically within 45 minutes. If you are homebound and do not have a friend or neighbor who can pick up for you, contact Butch [2PM Monday](#) at 417.393.6113 to be added to our very limited delivery schedule.

Make New Friends

Jubilee Ringers Practice, Wednesdays 4:30-6 PM, Sanctuary

Make a Difference

Eureka! Quilters meet in Fellowship Hall the **2nd Wednesday of each month** for conversation, information and lunch. Open to all skill levels

Serve Others

Yoga 9-10 AM Tuesdays in Fellowship Hall, \$8. All are welcome

Scouts **Tuesday and Wednesdays**, Youth Room **6 PM**

Transportation Ministry Drivers Needed

We have a Transportation Ministry through the generosity of a donor who gifted the church with a Nissan Murano for the designated purpose of providing transportation to the least, the lost, and the last so they can get to various medical, dental, eye appointments. If you would like to be part of this ministry, please contact us 479.253.8987 or EsumcInfo@gmail.com

When we get a request an email goes out to the volunteer driver team with dates, times, location and client name. If you are available to take that appointment, you respond to the email accordingly and I make the arrangements. More volunteers are needed for this ministry. Thank you.

Church Columbarium

We are excited to announce that the church is going to install a Columbarium in the Prayer Garden. Each niche will accommodate two urns at \$1,200. There are 48 niches. Columbarium Contracts are located in the literature rack near the narthex desk. You can pick up a contract at the church office, call for more details, or visit our website to download a contract form.

www.lovespokenhere.org

Prayer Tree Ministry

Prayer Tree Link: We are implementing a confidential Prayer Tree Ministry to our tool box of ways we can support others. If you are interested, please follow this link below to sign up. Part of the sign up process is a short assessment which will identify you spiritual gifts as referred to in 1 Corinthians 12: 4-11, Romans 12:6. <https://forms.gle/FUtb9QuPNvj1g7A>

Lay Servant Training Rescheduled

The Lay Servant Training previously scheduled for April 11 had to be rescheduled. The new date is May 9th, with May 23 being held as an alternate date just in case. Contact Blake for more information or Jay Parker at 620.717.3790, or jayp.onthego@gmail.com. This is a special opportunity to grow in your faith and service to others.



United
Women
in Faith

It was the women who...

even though just as frightened as the men, walked in the dark to the tomb.

It was the women who...

even though heavy with grief, prepared to anoint Jesus' body for final burial.

It was a woman who...was the first to see and talk with the resurrected Christ.

It was a woman who...told the men, He IS Risen!"

United Women in Faith believe that *love in action can change the world.*

May

2026

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
Cherry Picking Acts 24:1-23	Al-Anon 10:00	Yoga 9-10 FHall Al-Anon 12:00	5th Wednesday Widow(er)s Outing Jubilee Ringers 4:30 Bible Study 6 PM	Al-Anon 10:00	Virginia Voiers' Celebration of Life 10 AM	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
"Tin Foil Hats" Matthew 12:22-30	Al-Anon 10:00	Yoga 9-10 FHall Al-Anon 12:00	Parkinson's Group 10:00 AM Widow(er)s 12:00 Library Jubilee Ringers 4:30 Bible Study 6PM	Al-Anon 10:00		
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
"But Uncle Bob's Friend Says Otherwise" Acts 10:1-18	Al-Anon 10:00	Yoga 9-10 FHall Eureka! Quilters 11:00 -1:30 FHall Al-Anon 12:00 Caregivers Group 1:00 PM	Mobile Pantry 8am Widow(er)s 12:00 Library Jubilee Ringers 4:30 Bible Study 6PM	Ascension of the Lord Day Al-Anon 10:00		
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Ascension Sunday UWF Meet after Sunday Service	Al-Anon 10:00	Yoga 9-10 FHall Al-Anon 12:00 Leadership Team 4:30	Widow(er)s 12:00 Library Jubilee Ringers 4:30 Bible Study 6PM	Al-Anon 10:00		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Pentecost Sunday	Memorial Day Al-Anon 10:00	Yoga 9-10 FHall Al-Anon 12:00	Mobile Pantry 8am Widow(er)s 12:00 Library Jubilee Ringers 4:30 Bible Study 6PM	Al-Anon 10:00	Pastor's Sabbatical begins — thru 18th July	
31	1	2	3			6
Trinity Sunday Janet Arnet, Lay Minister	Al-Anon 10:00	Yoga 9-10 FHall Al-Anon 12:00	Widow(er)s Noon Lunch Outing Jubilee Ringers 4:30			

