

# Pathways

News from the Eureka Springs United Methodist Church



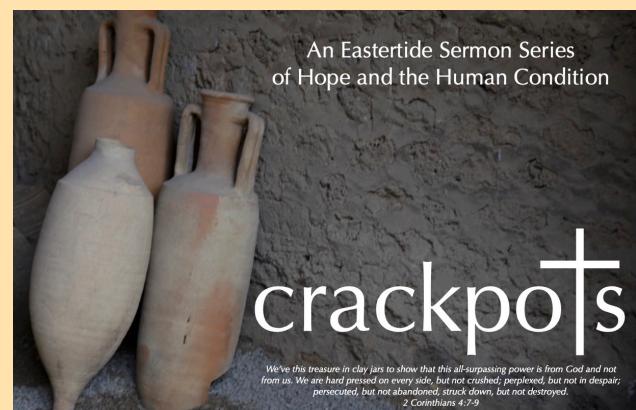
A Joyful Community of Faith, loving God  
by serving all people including the least,  
the last, and the lost.

May 15th 2022

The Season of Eastertide

We have a couple of big mission projects coming up that will serve our community. Beginning May 16th and continuing thru the 21st, a group of 20 mission volunteers will be here to help build homes at ECHO Village. WE would like to provide lunch for them throughout their stay here. We need folks to help prepare lunch — nothing fancy, just sandwiches, chips, and drinks. See note below as to how to contact Suzie Bell to get placed on the schedule. Next up we have our literacy mission. We have used part of the chancel rail money to buy books for the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th graders at Eureka Public Schools. These are the kids most impacted by the pandemic when it comes to literacy. The books are here, they have been sorted, and they have been wrapped up! Thanks to everyone who poured out on Monday morning to help. We had too many people but in the end it all worked out! So thank you for giving of your time. We are waiting for the school to tell us when we can present the kids with these books. We are looking for a ton of people to help with this project because we want to divide the kids up and have them read to us or we read to them or we even do both. The Arkansas Conference of the United Methodist Church has targeted childhood hungry and literacy as twin projects churches should try and tackle. We hope to turn this literacy project into an on-going one next semester by having church members volunteer at the school to help with reading. Karen Colby, the second grade teacher, has offered to set up ways we can facilitate literacy for kids. Of course, the simple act of reading to, and listening as the kids read, is impactful. We would also like to continue buying books for kids thru the Scholastic Book Fair. Many kids never have the opportunity to ever buy a book. In many areas of our nation there is one book for 300 kids. Wisdom and knowledge are important gifts, and the love of learning is something we should inspire all kids to have. In an age where books are banned, ideas are cancelled, we as Christians should be encouraging the opposite — that wisdom is important, gaining knowledge is important, and questioning things is why God created us with a mind. I want to thank all of you who are making this possible, from the giving of your gifts to the giving of your time. The work of this church would not be possible without your faithfulness. We are trying to do all the good we can, in all the ways we can, to all the people we can, as long as we can. This is what John Wesley, the founder of Methodism, taught his followers. What we do is more important than what we believe. Thank you!!!!

An Eastertide Sermon Series  
of Hope and the Human Condition



crackpots

We've this treasure in clay jars to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us. We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed.  
2 Corinthians 4:7-9

# The Gathering

## Order of Worship

Janet Arnett, lay Speaker  
Bren Marshell, Music Minister  
Melodye Purdy, Video Production

*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.*

### Lighting of the Easter Candle

#### 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 lyrics below)



### We Listen for God's Word

#### A Reading from the Scriptures

Luke 24:13-35

Thanks be to God for the Gift of the Scriptures

**THANKS BE TO GOD!**

#### "All Things Bright and Beautiful"

by John Rutter

The Chancel Choir

#### The Message

#### "Crackpots: Getting the Heck Out of Dodge"

Rev Blake 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

## When Morning Gilds the Skies

(page 185 of *Methodist Hymnal*)

When morning gilds the skies, my heart awaking cries; may Jesus Christ be praised!  
Alike at work and prayer, to Jesus I repair, May Jesus Christ be praised!

The night becomes as day, when from the heart we say; May Jesus Christ be praised!  
The powers of darkness fear, when this sweet chant they hear; May Jesus Christ be praised!

Let all the earth around ring joyous with the sound: May Jesus Christ be praised!  
In heaven's eternal bliss, the loveliest strain is this; May Jesus Christ be praised!

Be this, while life is mine, my canticle divine; May Jesus Christ be praised!  
Be this th'eternal song, through all the ages long; May Jesus Christ be praised!

## Literacy Mission

Thank you to all who have stepped forward to volunteer for our literacy mission. Thanks to the generosity of you all, the extra mile giving on the chancel rail is enabling us to buy a seed library for each kid in Second, Third, and Fourth grades. These kids have missed so much school due to the pandemic, and reading rates are in a dramatic decline. A recent study says that only 34% of these kids are reading proficient. We hope these books inspire them to read, and we'll set example by reading to them the day we give them away.

## Shower/Laundry Ministry

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. This is one small way we can help people who are homeless.

## Landscaping

We need help with our church yard. The weeds are growing, our beds need tending, and the yard will soon need mowing. We could hire a landscaping firm, but we could save that money for missions if we had a team of volunteers who would take this project on.



**Celebrations abound!** Graduations, new babies, spring flowers...God gives us many reasons for joyful celebrations. Come gather with us in the church library on Wednesday, May 11 at 1:00 pm for our program, *Celebrating the Little Things*.

## Men's Group

In a few weeks we are going to be setting up a time to organize a men's group. Steve Barnes is graciously offering his cabin on the White River as a place of recreation and rest, and of course we would love to get some organization to help around the church. Be on the lookout for dates and times.

## Answering the Call

ATC is becoming its own non-profit. With our expanded partnerships and grant opportunities, we are moving to have our own 501 3 c. Green Forest UMC and members of this church will meet to form a board and set some by-laws. We want to capitalize on our name to tackle food hunger and insecurity throughout Carroll County.

## Giving

Passing the plate is no longer how we collect our offerings. People are invited to come forward during communion to give, but we also offer online giving via our website [www.lovespokenhere.org](http://www.lovespokenhere.org). There is a Vanco option and a PayPal option. We strongly encourage regular givers to set up an automatic withdrawal thru their banks. The mission of the church continues even if you are gone, and we rely on your pledges to keep us going.

## Online Greeters

It's not often we ask that you surf the web during church, but we do have an online community that is watching us and we want them to be more than just viewers, but active members of our congregation. At the beginning of worship log on to Facebook and give each one a welcome and maybe ask how we can pray for them this week.

## Theology on Tap

Theology on Tap is tonight at 5 PM. Join us as we discuss what theology may tell us about this time in our lives. Tonight's topic is fermentation, the unseen changes taking place in the world and in our lives as we cope and adapt to a new normal: Pandemics, Partisan Politics, the potential for a new world War.

## Caregivers Support Group

Caregivers Support Group will meet in person Tuesday, May 10th at 1:00 in the Fellowship Hall. Questions? Call Peggy Way 479.253.1583. No Masks required.

## Mission Support!

There are 20 mission volunteers coming from Missouri and Arkansas to work at ECHO Village May 16-21 to assist with the new houses being constructed. We are in need of lunch being provided each day. This is a perfect opportunity to those of you who cannot physically work to make a huge contribution. Please respond to this email and we can organize a group to provide lunches. They do not need to be fancy - simple sandwiches, fruit, and drinks for 20 each day, brought to the job site by 11:30 AM. Thank you for your consideration. Please email Suzie Bell: [mightywarriorrocks@yahoo.com](mailto:mightywarriorrocks@yahoo.com) to sign up. This is a great way to help with homelessness.

## Drivers Needed

Right as the pandemic hit we received a grant to buy a new bus. We haven't been able to use it much, but that can change if we can line up some drivers. You must be under 70 years of age and have a regular drivers license. Help us set up some outings by driving.

## Widow(er)s Support Group

Our support group for Widow(er)s meets the second 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.

## Top Photo

All photos are from my personal collection, and are not stock photos. Today's photo is from the Ancient Roman city of Pompeii. These amphoras once carried olive oil, wine, and other precious liquids; fragile clay pots carrying priceless treasure. These are what the Apostle Paul refers to when he describes our human nature, "Clay pots carrying the priceless treasure of God's grace."

# May

2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
"Broken Pots" John 20:24-29			ATC 9-11 Fellowship Hall Widow(er)s Support Group Noon in Library Bells practice at 5:30pm In sanctuary.	Holiday Island Singers to give concert 7 PM		
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
"The 'F' Word John 21:15-19 Opera in the Ozarks will again sing in worship and will also have a concert fee at 2pm	Caregivers will meet in fellowship hall at 1pm no masks required	ATC & Mobile Pantry 9-11 Fellowship Hall Bell practice at 5:30pm in sanctuary		Purple Flower will meet here in fellowship hall at 1pm with other non-profits	A VIM group will arrive at the church Sunday & be staying thru 5-21 & will work at ECHO village	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
"Getting the Heck Out of Dodge" Luke 24:13-35		ATC 9-11 Fellowship Hall Widow(er)s Support Group Noon in Library Bells at 5:30pm			VIM group leaves	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
"Run Away" Mark 16:1-8		ATC 9-11 Fellowship Hall Bells at 5:30pm in sanctuary	Ascension of the Lord Feast			
29	30	31				
Ascension Sunday "Full of Doubt?" Matthew 28:16-20	Memorial Day!					
		Pastor is out for vacation — to June 8th				