

# Eastertide

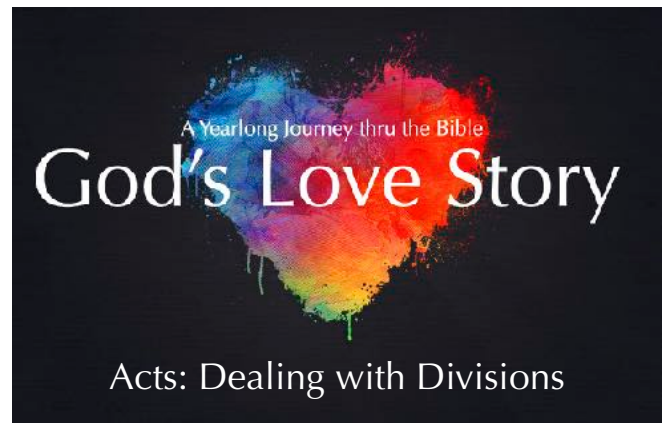
14th of April 2024

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

## Pathways

News from Eureka Springs United Methodist Church

The Leadership Team has been exploring the possibility of creating a Columbarium here on our church property, inside of the Prayer Garden that forms an island in our parking lot. St. Elizabeth's Catholic Church purchased one for \$27,000 three years ago. It has 24 niches that can hold two urns in every niche. The way this works is as follows: families can purchase a niche for \$1,800 to place cremated remains of loved ones. Two urns can be fitted in each niche. Families can then add a plaque. If you decide to later move the remains, you may sell the niche back to the church at a discounted rate. Going forward, we would like to know everyone's opinion on this. Would you be interested in purchasing a niche? Would this be something you would consider? Please let us know, email me at [blakelasater@gmail.com](mailto:blakelasater@gmail.com). Eureka Springs is hosting its first Pride Parade in June, and we would like to enter a float or simply have people marching along behind a banner that says "God loves everyone." This is an important witness in our day and age when prejudice is still alive and well. So please let us know if you want to participate in the parade. In a few weeks General Conference will be meeting to decide the future of the United Methodist Church. There will be a lot of media attention, and unfortunately, those who have worked so hard to split our church are still working to undermine what is left. Please keep these world-wide delegates in your prayers as they try to piece back together our fractured denomination and chart a way forward that is faithful to our calling to love all people. Our mobile food pantry is still going strong. We served three hundred families this past week. We could not do any of this without our strong volunteer base that braves all sorts of weather conditions to help keep people fed. Thank you to all who give of their time and efforts. I hope you all were able to see the eclipse. It is a rare opportunity to experience totality. It is hard to describe the experience, but it is so very moving and awe-inspiring; just a wonderful expression of God's creation. The next eclipse that will pass over our area will be in 2045. It is unfortunate that some people use these events to scare others into accepting their theologies. Predictions of the end of time and the rapture made their way across social media, and even now, having been proven wrong, they are recalculating and claiming it will happen on April 23rd. America has proven to be a fertile ground for these rapture nuts. Rapture is not found in the Bible, but is an invention of James Nelson Darby who lived from 1800 to 1885. He read the Bible and collected various verses of the Bible and created the Rapture. Many Christians ever since have used his teachings to try and show that this date or that date would be the end of time. In my lifetime I think I have experienced a good two dozen of these events, and yet, they still garner attention and money when these predictions are made. It is time we stop listening to them and their false prophecies. The world doesn't need a gospel of fear, but one of hope. We are not called to be 'Chicken Littles' crying, 'the sky is falling.' We are Jesus followers, proclaiming the message of hope and love.



# The Gathering

## Order of Worship

Janet Arnett, Lay Speaker  
Melodye Purdy, Video Production  
Jubilee Ringers conducted by Beverly Beard  
John Holtzman, Choir/Patricia Taylor, Pianist

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

9:55 ~ Announcements

**Sunday, April 14th, 2024**

**Ushers:** Candis Drechsler, Emily Eckman

**Communion Stewards:** Janet Arnett, Misty Sewell, Kevin Graham & Jess Wade

### We Gather to Worship

Greeting

John Holtzman:

**"I Will Glory in the Cross"**

The Lighting of the Paschal Candle

Responsive Singing:

**"He Lives"**

Page 310 UMC Hymnal

Communal Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Hymns:

**"Easter People Raise your Voices"** Page 304 UMC Hymnal

**"Great is thy Faithfulness"** page 140 UMC Hymnal



### We Listen to God's Spirit

**A Reading from Acts 5:25-40**

*Thanks be to God for the Gift of the Scriptures*

**THANKS BE TO GOD!**

**"In this Very Room"**

*Arr: Ron & Carol Harris*

**The Chancel Choir**

A Video Reflection

**The Message:**

**"Acts: Dealing with Divisions"**

**Rev Blake Lasater**

### We Receive God's Grace

**Remembering Our Baptism**

**Holy Communion**

*(All are 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

**Benediction**

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

## Caregiver Support Group

Caregiver 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!



United  
Women  
in Faith

**HAVE A PURPOSE!** United Women in Faith has a written PURPOSE with four distinct parts. The first part of that purpose is To Know God. We invite you to check out one of the UWFaith Reading Program books from our church library downstairs. Reading books in the Spiritual Growth category is an intentional step toward having a purpose and knowing God.

## Al-Anon Meetings

Al-Anon meets in the Youth Room down the hall from the church offices on **Mondays (mixed), Tuesdays (women), and Thursdays (mixed)**. All meetings **start at 10 am** and go for an hour. All are welcome to attend. Want more information? Contact Ellen at 479.244.7017 or Vonn at 214.605.0615, 47pileated@gmail.com.

## Save the Dates!

**Scouts Pinewood Derby April 13th, 10-Noon** Holiday Island Community Church  
**UWF Eureka Springs CS Bank Parking Lot Fundraiser. April 13, 8-5 pm.** Volunteers needed. Call 501/339-3458 to volunteer.

## Important

**8th Annual Arkansas State Chili Championship Saturday, April 20** Holiday Island Golf Course. Contact Steve Falkowski for more info: 845/235-3073 or chiliskf@gmail.com.

## Happenings

**The Ozarks Chorale Spring Concert Sunday, April 28th, 7 pm.** at The Auditorium in downtown Eureka Springs, \$10 at the door, students free.

## in the Life of ESUMC

**Theology on Tap, April 29th, 5:30-6:30 pm** at GotAHold Brewery in Eureka Springs, a community outreach to build relationships and make new friends. Food truck on site.

## & our Community

**Al-Anon Meetings on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays, 10-11 am** in church youth room. All are welcome to attend.

## Shower/Laundry & Homeless Ministry

Our church showers are open to men and women so they can freshen up, do some laundry, and be ready for a job interview, medical appointment, or just a chance to be clean. Showers are available Monday thru Thursday from 9 AM till 1:30 PM.

We also accept clean cold weather clothing donations, mens work gloves, boots, wet wipes, canned pinto, kidney, & black beans; multi packs of jello, pudding, apple sauce; tomato sauce/paste, pasta sauce, peanut butter, crackers, Spam, chili, etc. Donations accepted at the church office. **We are also looking for volunteers to come in once a week to give the showers a good cleaning.**

## Mobile Food Pantry

The Mobile Food Pantry serves Carroll County residents in need of food staples on the **second and fourth Wednesdays of every month**. Starting this month (the 4th Wednesday) we will begin helping with the Green Forest Mobile Pantry, but **we need volunteers!** Currently the NWA Food Bank busses volunteers from Springdale to help, so this effort is a way we can serve. We are also going to volunteer at the Food Bank packing the boxes they ship to us. We would love for you to be a part of these efforts as well. Contact Blake or the church office to sign up.

## Bible Debrief with Pastor Blake

Bible Debrief Wednesdays in the **church library at 6 pm**. We are in the Gospel of Luke as we journey thru the Bible in this thing called "God's Love Story". These debriefs happen on Wednesday evenings at 6 PM and they go a bit more in-depth of the books of the Bible we talked about on Sunday. Feel free to bring drinks, snacks, or dinner. We are covering the gospels, particularly Mark's Gospel.

## Theology on Tap

Theology on Tap is **Monday, April 29th starting at 5 PM, at Gotahold Brewery**. We have not settled on a topic — YET — so here is your chance to chime in. What would make for a great conversation that night, something that bridges the sacred and the secular. Let me know!

## Opportunities to get Involved

**Need to let off some steam? Feel productive? Work out while also making a safe space? We are looking for people to come rip out the old tile in the Scout/Al-Anon/PNO room ASAP. It has become a severe tripping hazard for the groups that meet in there as many of the tiles are buckled and loose. Choose your time, bring a friend or two, and remove old tiles.**

## Make a Difference

**We are seeking volunteers to vision, plan and develop quarterly outreach events for the LGBTQ Community. These 'front porch' events allow us to reach out beyond our four walls to people otherwise not connected to church; these events also foster community for people that may not have any community. This will be fun!**

## Meet New Friends

## Have FUN!

**Outreach Committee to serve as a missions team to better organize our outreach ministries as we seek to serve the least, the last, and the lost. This committee will help develop new missions, evaluate our current missions, and help us stay vital and organized as we serve our community. Contact Blake if interested.**

## General Conference 2024

The General Conference will meet between April 23rd and May 3rd in Charlottesville North Carolina. This four year gathering of the world-wide church that sets law and policies for the denomination has been postponed multiple times due to COVID. It was originally set in 2020 to try to resolve the disaster of the 2019 special GC that harshly persecuted the LGBTQ Community. It also set in motion the ability for churches to disaffiliate. By all measures it was an unmitigated disaster. We still face many of the same issues, and this time outside powers seek to disrupt and divide the UMC. We hold in prayer all the delegates from around the world that will represent us and hopefully find a path forward that allows us to live out our calling. This will be a carefully watched conference and you will be seeing it on the news. Take everything you hear with a grain of salt.

# April

2024

March						
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
31						

May						
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	31	

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
Easter Sunrise 7 AM Easter 10 AM	April Fools Day Yoga 9 am Alanon-Mixed 10 am Youth Rm	Yoga 9 am Alanon-Women 10 am Youth Rm	Parkinsons Group 10 am Library Widow(er)s Support Group Noon Library Bible Debrief 6 PM library	Alanon-Mixed 10 AM Youth RM		
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Fellowship 9 am Service starts at 9:55 am  The Book of Acts	Yoga 9 am Alanon-Mixed 10 am Youth Rm  Great Northern American Eclipse	Yoga 9 am Alanon-Women 10 am Youth Rm  Caregivers Group 1-2:30 pm Church Library	Mobile Food Pantry 8-11AM Eureka! Quilters 11-2 FHall Bible Debrief 6 PM Library	Alanon-Mixed 10 AM Youth RM		UWF CS Bank Parking Lot Fundraiser 8 am - 5 pm Scouts Pinewood Derby 10-Noon Holiday Island Community Church
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
The Book of Acts	Yoga 9 am Alanon-Mixed 10 am Youth Rm	Yoga 9 am Alanon-Women 10 am Youth Rm	Widow(er)s Support Group Noon Library Bible Debrief 6 PM Library	Alanon-Mixed 10 AM Youth RM		8th Annual Arkansas State Chili Championship Holiday Island Golf Course
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
The Book of Acts	Earth Day Yoga 9 am Alanon-Mixed 10 am Youth Rm	Yoga 9 am Alanon-Women 10 am Youth Rm Leadership Team 5 PM Church Library	Mobile Food Pantry 8-11AM Bible Debrief 6 PM Library	Alanon-Mixed 10 AM Youth RM		
28	29	30	1	2	3	4
Romans  Ozarks Chorale 30th Anniversary Concert 7 pm The Aud \$10 at the door	Yoga 9 am Alanon-Mixed 10 am Youth Rm  Theology on Tap GotaHold Brewery 5 PM	Yoga 9 am Alanon-Women 10 am Youth Rm	General Conference of the UM Church from April 23-May 3rd. Be in prayer as we move into a new era.			