

the season of

Kingdomtide

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

Pathways

News from the Eureka Springs United Methodist Church

14th of September 2025

It seems ever so often — more often than not — that world events spook people into believing the End is Near! I have survived multiple apocalypses in my 54 year of life, from the prophecies of Nostradamus to the Maya calendar running out. I have heard terms like “the Anti-Christ”, “the Rapture”, and the weird question concerning whether we are “Pre-Trib”, “Mid-Trib”, or “Post-Trib”. Books are constantly being written detailing the exact date and time for the end, and yet, they always end up being wrong. Remember on December 31st, 1999 waiting up all night to see if the world would end due to a computer flaw? Recently, Israel’s war in Gaza has reignited speculation that the end is near. For whatever reason — and there is no biblical reason — people think that Israel stands at the epicenter of prophecy and Revelation. Apocalyptic thinking is not an innocent affair, but has profound implications for all of us. During the last 80 years a lot of American foreign policy has been based on such thinking. Our inability to address a changing climate or simply caring for the earth is hindered by people believing, “Why does it matter? God is going to destroy it anyway?” From David Koresh to Heaven’s Gate Cult people have committed suicide believing they were about to be taken up to paradise, and for decades entire generations of young people have been traumatized by the fear they might be left behind for the most silly of ‘sins’.

For the next couple of Sundays we are going to unpack what the Bible does and does not say about the End, hopefully sorting the truth from fiction. We might be surprised how much of so-called ‘prophecy’ has just been invented out of thin air and has no relation to the Bible. Be warned, we will be making hamburgers out of many a sacred cow, but our goal is to restore the gospel to a message of hope, not one of terror and judgment. We begin where it all started, with Paul’s letter to the Thessalonians, his first letter, and a passage many take as a proof text for the “Rapture”. So let’s kick back and hear again the message of hope and promise these words actually share.



The Gathering

Order of Worship

Janet Arnett, Lay Speaker
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, 14th of September, 2025

Ushers: Karen Kinsel, Cheryl Rutledge **Communion Stewards:** Sandy Dunn, Kevin Graham, Pam Steinke, Jess Wade

Offering Counters: Shirley Lykins, Kevin Graham

We Gather to Worship

Greeting

Kingdomtide Opening

"Thy Word is a Lamp Unto My Feet"

page 601

Community Prayer

Janet Arnett, Lay Minister

Our Lord's Prayer

Songs of Celebration

"Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying" page 720 UMC Hymnal

"My Lord, What a Morning" page 719 UMC Hymnal

The Prayer of Illumination

a reading from First Thessalonians 4:13-5:11

Thanks be to God for the gift of the Scriptures

Thanks be to God!

"I then Shall Live"

By Jean Sibelius arr: Steve Mauldin

The Chancel Choir

A Video Reflection — "a Psalm of Praise"

Mark: the beginning of the Good News

"The End: the first apocalypse"

Rev Blake Lasater

We Give & Receive Love

Remembrance of our Baptism

Holy Communion

(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)



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.

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 the **first Wednesday** of each month in the church library at **10 am**. This is open to anyone in the community!

Exploring the New Testament

We are exploring the New Testament thru a series of lectures from the Great Courses called, "Understanding the New Testament" by Dr David Brakke. This will take up about thirty minutes, and then we'll spend 30 minutes discussing the topics he raises. We meet **Wednesdays in the church library at 6 PM**. All are welcome to attend.

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.**

Outreach to Youth/Kids

We are gauging interest in starting a monthly program that reaches out to the youth of our community — elementary and younger — perhaps a movie night with hotdogs and a discussion afterwards. This would give young parents the opportunity to have a few hours of peace and quiet. Of course such a ministry would require a cadre of volunteers. Would any of you be interested? Please reach out to the office.

Save the Dates! Important Happenings in the Life of ESUMC

Get Involved!

Make New Friends

Make a Difference

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, contact Bill Featherstone (479.981.1991) 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. Thank you for the recent contribution of 24 beautiful handmade quilts that were delivered to local non-profit groups!

Ozarks Chorale Rehearsals will resume on September 9, Tuesday, from 6-8pm in Fellowship Hall and will continue on Tuesday evenings throughout the year.

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

Theology on Tap

Theology On Tap will resume Sunday, September 14, 5 PM GotaHold Brewery. "Deconstructing our Faith" is the topic. Sorting thru beliefs that no longer work for us. Even the ancient Israelites had to deconstruct and let go of ideas of God that no longer worked for them. Rev Doug Philips will be our guest as he shares his own journey of deconstruction and deep questioning.

Transportation Ministry Drivers Needed

The church has a **Nissan Murano** (thanks to the generosity of a church member) for the designated purpose or 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 EsfumclInfo@gmail.com and we will add your name to the list. 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. This is a great way to serve the least, the last, and the lost. You will be so blessed serving in this role, and meeting some of these amazing people. **We could really use a few more volunteers for this ministry.** Thank you.

Church Library Chapter & Verse

To supplement the pastor's sermon series on Mark, you may want to check out Interpretation: A Bible Commentary for Teaching and Preaching: Mark (REF/220.7/Int) by Lamar Williamson, Jr. (Reference books are short term loan items.) This commentary treats the Gospel of Mark as a collection of traditions about Jesus presented in story form, a narrative constituting good news about God and his kingdom, and a writing which has a place of fundamental importance in the Scriptures.

Church Finances

	July	YTD
Giving:	\$14,660.03	\$156,880.07
Expenses:	\$22,085.84	\$199,075.05

Annual Church Yard Sale October 16-18

We will hold our annual church yard sale in conjunction with the War Eagle Craft Fair taking place on **October 16-18, 2025. SAVE THE DATE!** Clean, good working donations are accepted during office hours, including tools, furniture, furnishings, sporting goods, etc. We do not accept clothing items; those can be donated to Echo Thrift Store. **We will need lots of volunteers** to make this a success from set up, merchandising & display, organizing, cashiers, greeters. Please consider serving during this 3-day extravaganza!



United
Women
in Faith

"Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back." Luke 6:38 As followers of Christ, we are called to be generous. But that's not easy. Sometimes we aren't very happy about giving up our time, our space, our things. After all, those are ours...aren't they? Jesus asks believers to give it up, leave it all, don't look back, and follow. What if we really did that? Imagine how freeing that would be! United Women in Faith - we believe that love in action can change the world.

September

2025

August							October						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
27	28	29	30	31	1	2	28	29	30	1	2	3	4
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	26	27	28	29	30	31	1
31	1	2	3	4	5	6	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Labor Day (office closed)	Al-Anon/Mixed 10 AM Youth Rm	Widow(er)s Group Noon Jubilee Ringers 5:00 PM Bible Study 6 PM	Al-Anon/Mixed 10 AM Youth Rm		
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Mark: Endings? United Women in Faith meet following service	Al-Anon/Mixed 10 AM Youth Rm	Al-Anon/Mixed 10 AM Youth Rm Caregivers 1 PM Library Ozarks Chorale 6-8 PM FHall	Mobile Pantry Jubilee Ringers 5:00 PM Bible Study 6 PM	Al-Anon/Mixed 10 AM Youth Rm		
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
The End: the 1st Apocalypse Theology on Tap 5 PM Gotahold	Al-Anon/Mixed 10 AM Youth Rm	Al-Anon/Mixed 10 AM Youth Rm Ozarks Chorale 6-8 PM FHall	Widow(er)s Group Noon Jubilee Ringers 5:00 PM Bible Study 6 PM	Al-Anon/Mixed 10 AM Youth Rm		
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
The End: an Old Apocalypse	Al-Anon/Mixed 10 AM Youth Rm	Al-Anon/Mixed 10 AM Youth Rm Leadership Team Library 5 PM Ozarks Chorale 6-8 PM FHall	Mobile Pantry Jubilee Ringers 5:00 PM Bible Study 6 PM	Al-Anon/Mixed 10 AM Youth Rm Carrol County Library Fundraiser: The Great Gatsby		
28	29	30	1	2	3	4
The End: a Baby Apocalypse Jubilee Ringers Playing	Al-Anon/Mixed 10 AM Youth Rm	Al-Anon/Mixed 10 AM Youth Rm Ozarks Chorale 6-8 PM FHall	The End: Sorting Truth from Fiction			