

# 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.

## *Transfiguration Sunday*

15th of February 2026

Hopefully you remembered your sweetheart yesterday? Saint Valentine's Day? This is a busy few days of celebrations — Valentine's Day, Transfiguration Sunday, Fat Tuesday, and yes, Ash Wednesday. Valentine's day is well known, established to honor a saint who ended his letters to the people he loved with, "from your Valentine." Transfiguration Sunday honors the moment Jesus took three of his disciples up to the mountaintop to be transformed into light. Peter wants to take selfies and stay there forever, but God tells them to leave and get busy doing what Jesus tells them to do. Fat Tuesday is the last day to clean out the pantry to get rid of all the food you might be fasting from — that became a day to indulge and to party. Ash Wednesday begins the season of Lent, the 40 days of fasting, prayer, and self-discipline as we get our hearts ready for Holy Week and Easter. Our Lenten sermon series is on the seven last words of Christ taken from the four different gospels. We will look at what these words mean, and what the gospel writers are trying to teach us thru them. Each of the last words reflect different scriptural traditions and commands of Jesus. We'll be adding a Lenten liturgy to help focus our hearts and minds. Pam Steinke will be writing devotionals to start our service as we begin each Sunday by extinguishing one of the seven candles of Lent — a way to mark our time. There will be a special "Call to Confession" as we enter into the Communion liturgy. I have finally recovered from COVID. Please be careful, tis the season for flu, COVID, and all the other mystery ailments we catch. We are asking for folks who might be interested in deepening their discipleship by signing up for the Lay Servant Course being offered at our church in April. This is a wonderful opportunity to learn how we can build up our church, how we can serve, and how we can be faithful followers of Christ. Talk to Janet Arnett or Jay Parker to learn more, but I strongly encourage you to consider taking this day-long course.



# 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 <[lovesspokenhere.org](http://lovesspokenhere.org)>, or our YouTube Channel!

9:55 ~ Announcements

**Sunday, 15th of February, 2026**

**Ushers:** Steve & Audrey Falkowski **Communion Stewards:** Sandy Dunn, Martie Davis, Candis Drechsler, Susan Reed

**Offering Counters:** Janet Arnett, Chris Ritthaler

### We Gather to Worship

Welcome

Opening Song

“Surely the Presence of the Lord”

page 328

Prayers of the Congregation & Our Lord’s Prayer

Janet Arnett, Lay Minister

### **Songs of the People**

“I Sing the Almighty Power of God” page 152 UMC Hymnal

“Shine, Jesus, Shine” page 2173 Faith We Sing



### We Listen for God’s Word

A reading from the the Epistle of James 1:19-27

Thanks be to God for the gift of the scriptures

THANKS BE TO GOD!

### **“Alleluia, Praise His Name”**

Arr: Ruth Elaine Schram

**The Chancel Choir**

### **A Video Reflection — “Written On Your Heart”**

### **“The Gospel We Don’t Want to Hear:**

Protestants Got is Wrong?

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)*

*\*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.

## 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.

## Bible Study Returns

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 book of prophecy.

## 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.

**Needed Winter Items:** Small propane tanks for outdoor cooking camp stoves, thermal mens underwear (medium & large), men's hoodies/jackets, gloves, beanies, wool soft granola bars, multi-packs oatmeal. Thank you to all who have dropped off items.

## Church Warming Center

Our warming shelter for women and children when the temperature is 9 degrees or below. Clients can check in from 4:30 PM-8:00 PM. We need volunteers (minimum of two each night) who are able to stay overnight; you can also schedule a 4-6 hour shift, perhaps serve a meal. Blake will post on FB when the shelter is open. Please consider signing up for this very important life saving ministry. Questions: Blake 479.426.2547

## Save the Dates! Important Happenings in the Life of ESUMC

Get Involved!  
Make New Friends  
Make a Difference  
Serve Others

**Mobile Food Pantry** church parking lot the **2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month**. Cars start lining up at 7:30 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 Bill Featherstone (479.981.1991) by Noon on Mondays to be added to our very limited delivery schedule.

**United Women in Faith:** **February 15**, meet following Sunday service, Library  
**February 21, Saturday 11 AM - 3 PM** **Women's Soul Care Retreat** Refresh, Restore, Renew; Fellowship Hall  
**March 15**, meet following Sunday service, Library

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

**Ozarks Chorale Rehearsals** Tuesdays, from 6-8 PM in Fellowship Hall

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

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

## 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](mailto: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. 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 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. Columbaria Contracts are located in the literature rack near the narthex desk. You can also pick up a contract at the church office or call for more details. There is also a link on our website where you can download a contract form.

< [www.lovespokenhere.org](http://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 your spiritual gifts as referred to in 1 Corinthians 12: 4-11, Romans 12:6.

<https://forms.gle/FUtqb9QuPNvJj1g7A>

## Church Financials

	<u>January</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Giving:	\$ 26,614	\$ 26,614
Expenses:	\$ 12,309	\$ 12,309

\*Fiscal year begins July 1



United  
Women  
in Faith

### **REFRESH, RESTORE, RENEW ~A Woman's Day for Soul Care**

Take time for yourself with food, fellowship and faith on **Saturday, February 21st from 11 am – 3 pm** in our church fellowship hall. We will relax, laugh, break bread, and stretch body, mind and soul. The \$10 registration fee covers lunch and creative supplies. (Inclement Weather Option: Saturday, March 7). **United Women in Faith believe that love in action can change the world.**

## Old Cell Phones

If you happen to have an old cell phone (doesn't need to be working) that you no longer need, it would be quite beneficial to our homeless clients. Susan Reed through Cup of Love has been working to help get them low cost or free phone service.

# February

2026

## January

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
		4	5	6	7	8
		11	12	13	14	15
		18	19	20	21	22
		25	26	27	28	29

## 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				

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
The Gospel We Don't Want to Hear: God May Not Like Your Church	Al-Anon 10 AM Youth Room  <b>Candlemas: Presentation of Jesus to the Temple</b>	Yoga 9-10 AM Al-Anon Noon Youth Room Ozarks Chorale 6:30 Fellowship Hall	<b>Widow(er)s Support Group Noon</b>  <b>Jubilee Ringers 4:30-6 PM</b>  <b>Bible Study 6 PM</b>	Al-Anon 10 AM Youth Room		
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
The Gospel We Don't Want to Hear: Toxic Masculinity Matthew 5:27-30	Al-Anon 10 AM Youth Room	Yoga 9-10 AM Al-Anon Noon Youth Room Caregivers Group 1 PM Library Ozarks Chorale 6:30 Fellowship Hall	<b>Mobile Food Pantry 7:45 AM</b>  <b>Jubilee Ringers 4:40-6 PM</b>  <b>Bible Study 6 PM</b>	Al-Anon 10 AM Youth Room		<b>Saint Valentine's Day</b>
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
<b>Transfiguration Sunday</b> The Gospel We Don't Want to Hear: Protestants God it Wrong?!!?	Al-Anon 10 AM Youth Room  <b>Presidents' Day</b>	Yoga 9-10 AM Al-Anon Noon Youth Room Leadership Team 4:30 Library Ozarks Chorale 6:30 Fellowship Hall  <b>Fat Tuesday (Mardis Gras)</b>	<b>Widow(er)s Support Group Noon</b>  <b>Ash Wednesday Service at 6 PM</b>  <b>Lent Begins</b>	Al-Anon 10 AM Youth Room		
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
<b>First Sunday in Lent</b>  <b>7 Last Words: "Heaven is More Open Than We Think"</b>	Al-Anon 10 AM Youth Room	Yoga 9-10 AM Al-Anon Noon Ozarks Chorale 6:30 Fellowship Hall	<b>Mobile Food Pantry 7:45 AM</b>  <b>Jubilee Ringers 4:30-6 PM</b>  <b>Bible Study 6 PM</b>	Al-Anon 10 AM Youth Room		