

Pathways

News from the Eureka Springs United Methodist Church

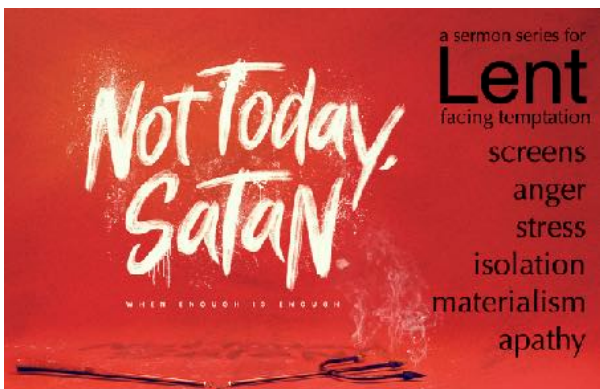
A Joyful Community of Faith, loving God by serving all people
including the least, the last, and the lost.

Second Sunday in Lent

16th of March 2025

There once was a little boy who had a bad temper. His father gave him a bag of nails and told him that every time he lost his temper, he must hammer a nail into the back of the fence. The first day the boy had driven 37 nails into the fence. Over the next few weeks, as he learned to control his anger, the number of nails hammered daily gradually dwindled down. He discovered it was easier to hold his temper than to drive those nails into the fence. Finally the day came when the boy didn't lose his temper at all. He told his father about it and the father suggested that the boy now pull out one nail for each day that he was able to hold his temper. The days passed and the young boy was finally able to tell his father that all the nails were gone. The father took his son by the hand and led him to the fence. He said, "You have done well, my son, but look at the holes in the fence. The fence will never be the same. When you say things in anger, they leave a scar just like this one. It won't matter how many times you say I'm sorry, the wound is still there." This is a modern day parable of what anger does to us and to others. In a Native American parable there is the story of the two wolves, with the question at the end, "Which one will win?" "The one you feed," comes the reply. In our culture today there are forces at work that are constantly trying to play up our anger, to trigger it. Angry reactions garner more "clicks", more "views" so our media does everything it can to trigger our anger response. The headline, "Politicians seek Social Security Reform," is generic and non-threatening. Yet if you change it to, "Politicians Seek to Gut Social Security", suddenly you are angry and you click or view. This is how they manipulate us with propaganda. Angry people are people who no longer think or reflect; they just react. Politicians and pundits have a vested interest in rousing your anger and keeping you that way. It

prevents critical thought, leaving you too exhausted to respond. America is an angry place right now. Our partisan divisiveness is widespread and infects nearly every aspect our lives. It is destroying family bonds, friendly relationships, and entire communities, including congregations. The angrier you are the more likely you are to blindly support one political party over the other, regardless of the issues. During Lent maybe its a good time to fast from anger and pay careful attention to things that trigger our anger — and avoid them. Anger does not produce God's righteousness we are taught. Maybe it's time we heed that advice and quit allowing our anger to lead us by the nose.



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, 16th of March, 2025

Ushers: Gary Johnson and Jonathan Street **Communion Stewards:** David & Lynn Baker, Sandy Dunn, Lori Luney
Offering Counters: Janet Arnett, Dan Bell

We Gather to Worship

Greeting

Confession, a Lenten Ritual

Opening Song:

“Jesus, Remember Me” Page 458 UMC Hymnal

Communal Prayer:

The Lord’s Prayer

Songs of the Community

“Give to the Winds thy Fears” Page 129 UMC Hymnal

“As the Deer” Page 2025 Faith We Sing



We Listen to God’s Spirit

A reading from Matthew 26:47-56

Thanks be to God for the gift of the Scriptures

Thanks be to God

“Nobody Knows the Troubles I’ve Seen”

Written by: Jay Althouse
The Chancel Choir

A Video Reflection: “This Dust”

The Message:

“Not Today, Satan: facing our temptations — Digital Distractions”

Rev Blake Lasater

We Give Thanks for the Gifts of God

Baptism Renewal

Holy Communion

(All our 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 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. 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!

Save the Dates!

Important Happenings
in the Life of ESUMC

Get Involved!

Make New Friends

Make a Difference

Spread Joy

Alzheimer's Experience: Guided Program in conjunction with our Caregivers Support Group and The Schmiedling Center. **Thursday, Marcy 20, 9-3pm**. Must preregister. More Info: Contact Peggy at 479.253.1583

Bible Study Wednesdays 6 pm in the church library. We use Dr. Amy Jill Levine's [Great Courses Lectures](#) for the first 30 minutes and then use study questions to start a discussion. These lectures take us thru the books of the Old Testament.

Youth Group Wednesdays, 4-5:30 pm. All are welcome!

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, call the church 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.

Widow(ers) Group meet the first and third Wednesdays of each month from Noon - 1 PM in the church library. Occasionally, they plan a luncheon outing. 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.

O Love that will not let me go, I rest my weary soul in thee. Hymn #480 in our UM hymnal speaks so well to the feelings we have right now. Anguish, sadness, pain, uncertainty...everywhere is chaos and catastrophe. How do we cope, how do we help, what can we do? First, take care of your soul. Pause, breathe and know that **God is with you in every heartbeat, every breath**. Soul care is love in action that changes you. Soul care is essential if we are to make a difference in this world. During this time of Lent, be intentional. Make time for your own Soul Care.

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

In an effort to be informative and transparent, here are the February financials:

Church Financials

	<u>February</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Giving:	\$19,787.48	\$18,812.52



United
Women
in Faith

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.**

The ministry is going back to the way it was initially set up. We are closing out the mini-pantry and the blessings closet and not accepting any more donations. We are fully stocked with toiletries at this time. **Thank you to all who gave so generously in support of our Shower/Laundry Ministry.** You made a big difference!

Youth Night-Out Wednesdays 4-5:30 pm Church Youth Room

The Youth Group is open to all teens aged 13-17. Transportation is available (Call 479.253.8987) This ministry will facilitate important connections with our youth, while providing a safe place to meet each week. Would you be willing to be a mentor? Volunteer? Make snacks? There is a **youth night out box for snack donations** in the Narthex. Your participation is appreciated. For **more information contact: 515.368.1012.**

Exploring the Old Testament

We are starting a new bible study that will serve as an introduction to the Old Testament. These are lectures by Dr Amy Jill Levine, a noted biblical scholar. This will take up about thirty minutes, and then we'll spend 30 minutes discussing the topics she raises. We meet **Wednesdays in the church library at 6 PM.** All are welcome to attend.

Alzheimer's Experience A Guided Program

An **Alzheimer's Experience** brought to us via our Caregivers Support Group and The Schmieding Center on **Thursday, March 20, 9-3 PM**, Fellowship Hall. Registration is required for 30-minute individual sessions. This program simulates the symptoms of dementia and is designed to allow others to see, feel, and hear the experiences of someone living with Dementia or Alzheimers. Contact Peggy for more information: 479.253.1583.

To Register: www.schmiedingcenter.org or 479.751.3043.

Transportation Ministry Drivers Needed

The church has a **Nissan Murano** (thanks to the generosity of a church member) for the designated purpose of 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 EsfumcInfo@gmail.com and we will add your name to the list. When we get a request I send out a group email with dates, times, location and client name and 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.

GENERATOR FUND

We have hit our goal!!! Thank you to everyone who has given! And thanks to Dan Bell, Paul Gandy, and Mike Reed for pouring the concrete pad. We hope to have generator installed by the end of the month.

Church Library Chapter & Verse

The book recommended by your library this week is **Amazing Grace: A Vocabulary of Faith** (230.03/Nor) by award-winning poet Kathleen Norris. This poet's journey through language to faith blends history, theology, story, etymology, and memoir. Also by the same author is **Dakota: A Spiritual Geography** (978.4/Nor).

March

2025

February

April

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
23	24	25	26	27	28	1
Wings of a Christian: Love & Forgiveness	AI-Anon/Mixed 10 AM	Yoga 9 AM F-Hall AI-Anon/Women 10 AM Scouts 6 PM Ozarks Chorale 6:30-8:30	Mobile Food Pantry Youth 4:30-6 Jubilee Ringers 5 PM Bible Study 6 PM	AI-Anon/Mixed 10 AM Youth Room		
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Transfiguration Sunday	AI-Anon/Mixed 10 AM	Fat Tuesday Yoga 9 AM F-Hall AI-Anon/Women 10 AM Youth Room Scouts 6 PM Ozarks Chorale 6:30	Ash Wednesday 6 PM (Lent Begins) Widow(er)s Support Group Noon Youth 4:30-6 PM Jubilee Ringers 5 pm Bible Study 6 PM	AI-Anon/Mixed 10 AM Youth Room		Texas A&M Spring Break Mission Group here to the 15th
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Facing Our Temptations: Screens Daylight Savings Time begins	AI-Anon/Mixed 10 AM	Yoga 9 AM F-Hall AI-Anon/Women 10 AM CAREGIVERS 1 PM Scouts 6 PM Ozarks Chorale 6:30-8:30	Mobile Food Pantry Parkinson's Support 10 AM Library Eureka! Quilters 11:30-1:30 PM Youth 4:30-6 PM Jubilee Ringers 5 pm Bible Study 6 PM	AI-Anon/Mixed 10 AM Youth Room National Good Samaritan Day	Pi Day 3.141592653589	Ides of March
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Facing our Temptations: Anger	St Patrick's Day AI-Anon/Mixed 10 AM	Yoga 9 AM F-Hall AI-Anon/Women 10 AM Scouts 6 PM Ozarks Chorale 6:30-8:30	Widow(er)s Support Group Youth 4:30 -6 PM Jubilee Ringers 5 PM Bible Study 6 PM	AI-Anon/Mixed 10 AM Youth Room 1st Day of Spring Alzheimer's Experience 9-3 PM Fellowship Hall	National Flower Day	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Facing our Temptations: Stress	AI-Anon/Mixed 10 AM	Yoga 9 AM F-Hall AI-Anon/Women 10 AM Leadership Team meets 5 PM Scouts 6 PM Ozarks Chorale 6:30-8:30	Mobile Food Pantry Youth 4:30-6 PM Jubilee Ringers 5 PM Bible Study 6 PM	AI-Anon/Mixed 10 AM Youth Room		Vietnam Veterans' Day - Thank you for your Service!
30	31	a Lenten Sermon Series		2	3	4
Facing our Temptations: Isolation	AI-Anon/Mixed 10 AM	Not Today Satan facing our temptations				5