

Pathways

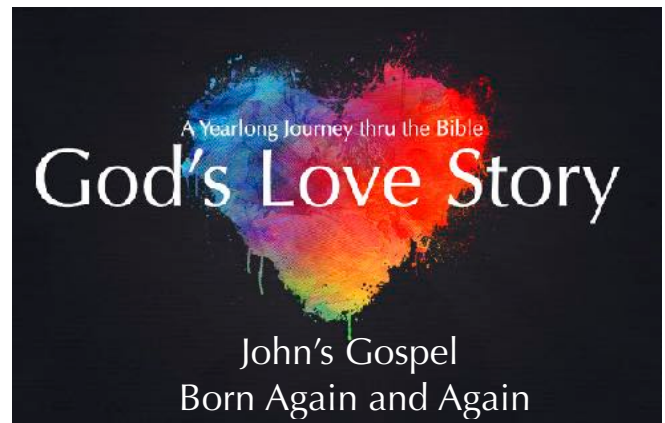
News from Eureka Springs United Methodist Church

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

17th of March 2024
Fifth Sunday IN Lent



Recently we were given a memorial gift to update the sanctuary, and you will be surprised that the painters were able to knock all this out in just three days. When the church relocated to this location 25 years ago, a group of women met with the interior designer to come up with a color scheme. Green and yellow were chosen as the colors of new beginnings, as this was a new beginning for the church leaving the downtown location and building on Highway 23. The Leadership Team recently asked a group of people if they could come up with a new color scheme. We hope you like it! The Easter Cantata will be performed next week on Palm Sunday, please make plans to attend and share the news. The choir has worked very hard to make all this happen. Yes, next week is Palm Sunday and the beginning of Holy Week and the ending of Lent. It will be a packed week. Monday the 25th is our Theology on Tap at Gotahold Brewery; the topic is, "What gives you life?" So come out and let's inspire one another as we sit in conversation and community. Tuesday the Leadership Team will gather for their monthly meeting. Wednesday is the Bible Debrief looking at the different Passion narratives and how they differ. Maundy Thursday is a special Holy Week worship service, a meditation on the Last Supper and the lives of the disciples. Good Friday is another worship service that is a reflection on the cross. Easter morning at sunrise (7 AM) we gather in the outdoor worship area for a sunrise service, and then at 10 AM our Easter Service begins. These days are the holiest days in the Christian Calendar and I hope you will include them all in your plans. Our videographer, Melodye Purdy, had a major accident breaking both her ankles. Please keep her in your prayers as she faces surgery and a long recovery. During the last leadership team meeting, Kim Stryker was elected to lead the team, allowing Janet Arnett to focus more on her lay servant duties. In our journey today, we look the dialogues of Jesus that are unique to John. Nicodemus, a religious leader, comes to Jesus at night to discuss theology. The discussion revolves around being "Born Again." That term has been so abused by the American church it has lost its meaning. We will try and re-capture the original meaning and how it applies to us today. In the same dialogue we get the football verse, John 3:16 that so many flash at sporting events and is often a common church password: 0316. But there is more to, "For God so loved the world" and most never read past verse 16. We are looking for volunteers to help with a mobile food pantry in Green Forest. Our help will free the NWA Food Bank from having to send volunteers over from Springdale to operate the pantry. If you can spare the time, this will be on the 4th Wednesday of the month from noon to two. We are also looking for people who might be interested in preserving the history of our church. There are lots of photographs and paperwork that needs to be sorted and preserved. Shirley Lykins and Chris Ritthaler are heading up this effort, but they would love to have additional help. Talk to them about volunteering!



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, March 17th, 2024

We Gather to Worship

Greeting

Opening Song:

"Oh How He Loves You and Me" page 2108 (Second Verse)

Lenten Candle Ritual (by Pam Steinke)

Communal Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Songs of Praise & Worship

"Hallelujah! What a Savior" page 165 UMC Hymnal

"Change My Heart, O God" page 2152 Faith We Sing



We Listen To God's Love

A Reading from John's Gospel, 3:1-10
Thanks be to God for the Gift of the Scriptures
Thanks be to God!

"Just As I Am/I Come Broken"

*Arr: Travis Cottrell
The Chancel Choir*

A Video Reflection

The Message:

"John's Gospel: Cana & the Cross"

Rev Blake Lasater

We Receive God's Grace

Remembering Our Baptism

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

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!

Al-Anon Family 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,

Ushers & Communion Stewards

Our current schedule goes through Easter Sunday, I will be creating an updated one this week for the rest of 2024. If you would like to be added to serve, or need to take a break, please let Lark know so that she can schedule accordingly. We always love to have new volunteers. On average, most people serve twice/quarter. Thank you!

Save the Dates! Important Happenings in the Life of ESUMC

Soup & Learn Thursday, March 21 5:30-6:30 church library hosted by Justice Trent sharing information on PNES (Psychological Non-Epileptic Seizures) a movement disorder. Everyone is invited. Soup dinner will be served in church library.

Church Spring Cleaning Saturday, March 23 9 am - 12 pm. We need you!

8th Annual Arkansas State Chili Championship Saturday, April 20 Holiday Island

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

Yoga 9-10 am Mondays & Tuesdays. Fellowship Hall. All are welcome.

Ozarks Chorale Rehearsals Tuesdays 6:30 pm Fellowship Hall

The Ozarks Chorale will hold its **Spring 2024 Concert Sunday, April 28th, 7 pm.** at The Auditorium in downtown Eureka Springs.

New Church Committees Opportunities to get Involved

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!

Make a Difference Meet New Friends

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.

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, 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, gloves, boots, shoes, tents, wet wipes, canned pinto, kidney, & black beans; multi packs of jello, pudding, apple sauce; tomato sauce/paste, pasta sauce, peanut butter, Spam, can openers. Donations accepted at the church office.

Gratitude Corner

You can make a big difference even in small acts of thoughtful kindness. Recently we had a volunteer sort donated clothing items. There was a pair of very dirty sandals. She took the sandals home, and returned them clean, looking near new! Reminds me a bit of Maundy Thursday when Jesus washed the disciple's feet. (John 13:5). Thank you.

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.

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 buses 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.

Health Safety Measures

Cold & Flu season is upon us, as well as an uptick in COVID cases. Please take measures to keep yourself and others safe, including wearing a mask, sitting at a distance, or staying home if you are coughing or have other symptoms. Thank you.

Theology on Tap

Theology on Tap is **Monday evening, the 25th, at Gotahold Brewery**. This month's topic asks the question, "What gives you life?" Come enjoy a beer or non-alcoholic drink, eat some great tacos, and engage in community and conversation.



United
Women
in Faith

A Prayer Journey. A Call to Prayer & Self Denial is a special time for women to pray together, examine how it is with our souls and to rise in joy and laughter. Be there: **3:00 pm on Wednesday, March 27th in the church library**. Once finished, we'll have an early dinner out and will be back in time for Bible DeBrief at 6 pm for those who want to participate.

March

2024

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
25	26	27	28	29	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Luke's Gospel	Yoga 9-10 am Al-Anon/Mixed 10 am Youth Rm	Yoga 9-10 am Al-Anon/Mixed 10 am Youth Rm Ozarks Chorale Rehearsal 6-9 pm	Parkinson's Gp 10 am Library Widow/ers' Gp Noon Library Bible Debrief 6 PM Library	Al-Anon/Mixed 10 am Youth Rm County Library Board Meeting 5:30-7 pm Library		Texas A&M Student Mission Group here thru March 16 (Turpentine Creek)
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
John's Gospel: Cana & the Cross	Yoga 9-10 am Al-Anon/Mixed 10 am Youth Rm	Yoga 9-10 am Caregivers Gp 10 am Library Al-Anon/Mixed 10 am Youth Rm Ozarks Chorale Rehearsal 6-9 pm	Mobile Pantry Eureka! Quilters 10-2 pm FHall Bible Debrief 6 PM Library	Al-Anon/Mixed 10 am Youth Rm	Ides of March	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
St Patrick's Day John's Gospel: Born Again and Again	Yoga 9-10 am Al-Anon/Mixed 10 am Youth Rm	Yoga 9-10 am Al-Anon/Mixed 10 am Youth Rm Ozarks Chorale Rehearsal 6-9 pm	Widow/ers' Gp Noon Library Bible Debrief 6 PM Library	Al-Anon/Mixed 10 am Youth Rm Soup & Learn with Justice Trent 5:30-6:30 Library		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Palm Sunday: Choir Cantata	Yoga 9-10 am Al-Anon/Mixed 10 am Youth Rm Theology on Tap GotaHold Brewery 4:30 - 5 PM	Yoga 9-10 am Al-Anon/Mixed 10 am Youth Rm Leadership Team 5 PM Library Ozarks Chorale Rehearsal 6-9 pm	Mobile Pantry United Women in Faith Meeting 3-4:30 pm Library Bible Debrief 6 PM Library	Maundy Thursday Service 6 PM Al-Anon/Mixed 10 am Youth Rm	Good Friday Service 6 PM Vietnam Veterans' Day	
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
Easter! 7 am Sunrise Svs 10 am Service						