

# Pathways

News from the Eureka Springs United Methodist Church

## Third Sunday in *Epiphanytide*

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

25th of January 2026

**A Call for Volunteers...**the day to day ministries of our church requires servant leaders. We are running short on **ushers and communion stewards**. Greeting people is very important, it is the face of the church and sets the tone for how folks will experience the rest of the service. It's really simple, stand at the door and welcome folks into the sanctuary. Communion stewards serve the people, and help to clean up afterwards. Both help to make sure thermostats are turned down, the coffee station is reset, and the doors locked and lights turned out. **Warming Shelter** The temperatures are dropping and when it hits the single digits we open the fellowship hall for women and children to stay overnight, but we need couples to volunteer to be here with them overnight. It is hard to tell the need, so we can't give much notice, but if you watch the weather and know it will be in the single digits, well, we could use your help to save lives. We are

also trying to expand our **Prayer Ministry** by creating a prayer tree of volunteers who are willing to receive prayer requests and promise to pray for them. Jay Parker is leading this up and there is a link on the website where you can sign-up. **Transportation Ministry** We want to extend an invite to those who cannot drive that we will pick you up on Sundays. Of course, we need drivers. We have a church car and if the need is great, a church van. Please let the office know if you are able to serve in any or all of these capacities. **Winter** has found us, after a beautiful late December and early January. Here's our policy, the church will always be open, but we urge you to follow a little common sense when thinking about getting out in the snow or ice. It can get



treacherous. We always livestream the service, but if you just feel the need to get out, then our doors will be opened. **Ash Wednesday and the beginning of Lent** is just around the corner — 18th of February — we will hold a special Ash Wednesday service starting at 6 PM. What will you be “giving-up” or “taking-on” for Lent? Holy Week and Easter are on the first week of April. Lent and Easter come early this year. The sermon for this week is from Luke, the loaves and fishes, and we will be asking why the gospel demands that we take care of those who are hungry. If you tried to reach us via email this last week, we were without internet service and on a wait list for Cox to service.

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

9:55 ~ Announcements

**Sunday, 25th of January, 2026**

**Ushers:** Dave & Martie Davis   **Communion Stewards:** Sandy Dunn, Shirley Lykins, Marilou Shreve, Pam Steinke

**Offering Counters:** Kevin Graham, Shirley Lykins

### We Gather to Worship

Welcome

Opening Song

"Surely the Presence of the Lord"

page 328

Prayers of the Congregation & Our Lord's Prayer

### **Songs of the People**

"Break Thou The Bread of Life" page 599 UMC Hymnal

"Hymn of Promise" page 707 UMC Hymnal



### We Listen for God's Word

A reading from the the Gospel of Luke, 9:10-17

Thanks be to God for the gift of the scriptures

THANKS BE TO GOD!

### **"Alleluia, Praise His Name"**

*Ruth Elaine Schram*

**The Chancel Choir**

### **A Video Reflection — "Psalm 23"**

"The Gospel We Don't Want to Hear: Why Is it My Responsibility?"

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

This Wednesday we resume our bible studies 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), warm men's hoodies/jackets, gloves, beanies, wool socks, cans of hearty soups/chili/SPAM, multi-packs oatmeal. **OTHER WAYS TO SERVE:** Very rarely one of our homeless is in need of a haircut, typically, in preparation for a job opportunity. Perhaps you have that talent and might like to offer your services gratis. Contact the office if you are interested in sharing your talent. 479.253.8987

## Church Warming Center

We will be operating our warming shelter for women and children when the temperature is 9 degrees or below, currently looks to be this weekend and early next week. Clients can check in from 4:30 PM-8:00 PM, when the doors will be locked. **We need volunteers** (minimum of two each night) who are able to stay overnight; you can also schedule a 4-6 hour shift. Blake will post on FB when we are open. Please consider signing up for this very important life saving ministry.

## 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.

**UWF: February 15 Meet after Sunday service, church library. Women's Soul Care on Saturday, February 21, 11 am - 3 pm Fellowship Hall**

**Jubilee Ringers Practice**, Wednesdays 5 - 6 PM, Sanctuary  
**Scout Troop 67 Tuesday & Wednesdays 6 PM, youth room**

**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

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## Transportation Ministry Drivers Needed

The church was gifted a Nissan Murano 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, eye appointments in Carroll County. 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.

PS: Several new members have come to us through this ministry.

## Because you cared...

Sometime during the last year or so, we had a donor or two that dropped off sleeping bags for the homeless ministry. Last week, a young mom came to us with two little ones. Their home is the car. She was so grateful to receive sleeping bags that will provide them some warmth. Thank you. (Family is now in emergency shelter).

## Church Columbarium

We are excited to announce that the church is going to have a Columbarium in the Prayer Garden. Each niche will accommodate two urns at \$1,200. Columbarium Contracts are located in the literature rack near the narthex desk. You can also pick up a contract at the church office or visit 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. Training will start in April.

<https://forms.gle/FUtqb9QuPNvJj1g7A>



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** at 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.

## Year-End Giving Statements

Year-End Giving Statements will be mailed out towards the end of January. To ensure timely delivery, please let us know if you have an address update. Thank you.



# January

2026

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
Childermas: the Holy Innocents, a 'Debbie Downer'			New Year's Eve	New Year's Day		
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Epiphany Sunday... "Gifts We Give"	Twelfth Night, last day of Christmas  Al-Anon 10 AM Youth Room	<b>Feast of the Epiphany</b>  Yoga 9-10 AM Al-Anon Noon Youth Room Ozarks Chorale 6:30 Fellowship Hall	Parkinsons' Group 10 AM Library Widow(er)s Group Noon Library Jubilee Ringers 5-6:30 Sanctuary Bible Study Resumes 6 PM	Al-Anon 10 AM Youth Room		
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
The Baptism of Our Lord Sunday  United Women in Faith Meet after Service in Library	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	Mobile Pantry  Eureka! Quilters 11-1:30 pm FHall  Jubilee Ringers 5-6:30 Sanctuary  Bible Study 6 PM	Al-Anon 10 AM Youth Room		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
The Gospel We Don't Want to Hear: Forgiveness is Non-Negotiable	Al-Anon 10 AM Youth Room  <b>MLK Jr Day (office closed)</b>	Yoga 9-10 AM Al-Anon Noon Youth Room Leadership Team 4:30 Library Ozarks Chorale 6:30 Fellowship Hall	Widow(er)s Group Noon Library Jubilee Ringers 5-6:30 Sanctuary Bible Study 6 PM	Al-Anon 10 AM Youth Room		As of current forecasts, warming shelter volunteers needed next 4 nights. Check website, contact Blake.
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
The Gospel We don't Want to Hear: Why is it My Responsibility?	Al-Anon 10 AM Youth Room	Yoga 9-10 AM  Al-Anon Noon Youth Room  Ozarks Chorale 6:30 Fellowship Hall	Mobile Pantry  Jubilee Ringers 5-6:30 Sanctuary  Bible Study 6 PM			