

the Season of

Kingdomtide

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.

4th of August 2024

I'm back! It was good to have some time away to visit with far-flung family members and experience different cultures. It makes you appreciate what is good about America and also what we need to work to improve. One of my distant-distant nephews just graduated college in New Zealand, but being from Fiji I asked him which nation he liked better. He was very positive and had good things to say about both, and he never mentioned a negative aspect about either country. After some pondering he said, "Well, I guess New Zealand would be my favorite if I could gather up all my family from Fiji and bring them here." I can't think of many young people that would rate the importance of family so high. Our culture eschews family and community in favor of the rugged individual. Then with our preoccupation with television and other mindless pursuits we often neglect opportunities to be in community with one another. We once sat on our front porches and talked to our neighbors, now we drive into the garage and shut the door. "Busy" is another bugaboo that keeps us from relationships. Americans don't have time for anything, infected by that mythical Protestant Work Ethic that continually harps on us that we better stay busy. America, in the last fifty years, has lost its sense of community and belonging. It's not just churches struggling with declining attendance, it's also every civic organization, including volunteer fire departments. We are so busy that we can't be bothered to be neighborly. At its heart that Christian faith is that of community and belonging. There is no such thing as the solo Christians. We are called to be brothers and sisters; we are called to be in community with one another. My nephew? Fresh out of college, the whole world in front of him, and yet what is most important to him is family. We could learn a lot from his example. Don't get so caught up in our day to day lives that we forget to be in community. Visit your parents, your children. Take time to have time with your friends. Attend church and build relationships, not networks. There is more to life than status and money. In the end, we are all just walking each other home. Studies show the secret to a long life is in our relationships. The fabled blue-zone diets? At their heart is the simple equation that even in old age they have kept and maintained life-long relationships. In our bitterly divided world we need more community, we need relationships to be made a priority. Jesus told us to love one another. We can't do that while locked away in 'busyness'.



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, 4th of August, 2024

Ushers: Ben Eakin, Gary Johnson

Communion Stewards: Dan & Suzie Bell, Sandy Dunn, Jean Reed

Offering Counters: Janet Arnett, Paul Gandy

We Gather to Worship

Greeting

Opening Song:

"Every Time I Feel the Spirit," Page 404 UMH

Communal Prayer:

The Lord's Prayer

Songs of the Community



"Precious Lord, Take My Hand" Page 474 UMC Hymnal

"Just a Closer Walk with Thee" Page 2158 the Faith We Sing

We Listen to God's Spirit

Reading of Scripture

Genesis 3:8-11 & Revelation 21:22-25

*Thanks be to God
For the Gift of the Scriptures*
THANKS BE TO GOD!

"Teach me Lord"

John Purifoy

Patricia Taylor & Jess Wade

A Video Reflection: Psalm 63

The Message:

"The End is the Beginning: a Hope filled Future"

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 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)*

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!

Unique Opportunity to Connect with one of our Homeless Clients

We are so blessed to have faithful supporters and mentors that partner with us in our homeless/shower ministry. Last week I met with two of my mentors at Harold's Diner as we strategized on solutions to some of the local homeless issues. As a result of that lunch meeting, the owners of Harold's Diner donated tokens that we can distribute to a homeless person which can be turned in for a free nutritious meal. Some of our donors &/or church members have expressed that you would love the opportunity to sit down in a safe environment with one of our clients, share a meal and conversation. If that sounds like you, call the church office and I can facilitate an opportunity for you to take a client to Harold's Diner for a meal and conversation, using the token for the homeless meal. If you haven't been to Harold's Diner (17 White Street) you are in for a treat! Their menu is creative, healthy and delicious. Plus, they have a record collection which you can select from and play on their record player.

Got Wide Mouth Mason Quart Jars?

We will be working with some of our homeless clients on a fundraiser that will require clean wide mouth quart Mason jars with lids. If you have some to donate, please drop of at Narthex of church office. Thank you.



United
Women
in Faith

Climate Change/Climate Justice: During worship last Sunday Janet Arnett challenged us to become informed, become aware, and get involved in climate justice issues. Since the 1990's United Women in Faith have been addressing climate justice and it has been one of our issue priorities for the last 8 years. UWFaith has organized Green Teams and provided resources such as "13 Steps To Sustainability." Could now be the time for an ESUMC Green Team?

Save the Dates!

Important

Happenings

in the Life of ESUMC

Mobile Food Pantry church parking lot the **2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month**. Cars start lining up at 9 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 Tuesday to be added to our limited delivery schedule.

Naturals Baseball Faith & Family Night, Saturday, August 17. Christian concert with Ryan Stevenson from 4:50-5:30, first pitch is at 6:05. Sign up sheet in Narthex (Sundays) or church office. Also donation jar for tickets to take some of our homeless people.

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

Al-Anon 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, 47pileated@gmail.com.

Shower/Laundry &
Homeless Ministry
Requested Items

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 thru Thursday from 9 AM till 1:30 PM.**

Pantry Current needs: Food staples, ingredients to make nutrient-dense meals; refried beans, peanut butter & crackers, granola-type bars (the soft kind because they often have dental issues), moisturizer lotion, men & women sturdy sneakers/hiking boots. Donations can be dropped off at the church. **We are looking for volunteers to come in once a week to give the showers a good cleaning.**

Mobile Food Pantry

The Mobile Food Pantry serves Carroll County residents in need of food staples. Our **next pick-up date is Wednesday, July 24, 8:30 AM.** We deliver food items on a very limited basis, only to those with no transportation or someone to pick up for them. Deadline for delivery requests is Noon on Tuesdays so that the schedule can be finalized & disbursed to volunteer drivers. We are very appreciative of our loyal band of volunteers who make this happen rain, heat, sleet, and sunshine.

Chapter and Verse

Chapter and Verse: If you want to delve deeper into the Bible, The New Testament (Video/225/Ehr) may be a good place to start. This set consists of four DVDs and a guidebook. New Testament scholar, Bart D. Ehrman, approaches the New Testament from a historical perspective in 24 lectures of 30 minutes each. These lectures are well-researched and well-presented. They will give you a better understanding of the New Testament and the individuals and communities who created its texts.

NATURALS
BASEBALL! FAITH &
FAMILY NIGHT
Saturday, August 17

Group Tickets are \$10 if reserved in advance with minimum of 11 people. Christian singing artist, Ryan Stevenson will perform and share testimony from 4:50-5:30 pm. The first pitch is 6:05 pm. There is a sign up sheet in the narthex, or call the church office.

Jesus, the First 300 Years

Beginning this week we delve into a different type of "bible study" by examining the first 300 years of church history — how the Bible developed, how the early creeds were created, how the idea of Jesus changed over time, and the varieties of Christianities that were thriving until Constantine. We will be using Dr Bart Erhman's Great Courses Lectures for the first 30 minutes and then using some study questions to start a discussion. 6 PM Wednesday nights in the library.

Opportunities to get
Involved & Serve

We are looking for volunteers of form a Worship Planning Team for special services. Contact Blake or the church office if interested: blakelasater@gmail.com, 479.426.2547.

We are looking for volunteers to come in once a week to scrub & sanitize the showers. We are very appreciative of our current two volunteers, but would like to add more to the team to make this less burdensome. Contact the church office (479.253.8987) or Blake if interested: blakelasater@gmail.com or 479.426.2547.

Summer Meal
Deliveries for Kids
VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED!

Eureka Springs Schools has asked for our help delivering **summer meals to students**. There are nearly **300 kids** signed up for these weekly meals. Contact Bill Featherstone by texting 479-981-1991 or email billfeatherstone@cox.net. **Deliveries runs thru the first week of August.** We meet up on **Thursdays at 1:30** at the high school. No commitment to drive every week, just raise your hand when you can. Please provide name, email, and cell #. **We are in need of many more volunteers!**

August

2024

July						
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			

September						
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					

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
The End is Just the Beginning: a Hope Filled Future August's Sermon Series						
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
"Creation & New Creation"	Yoga 9 AM Al-Anon/ Mixed 10 AM Youth Room	Yoga 9 AM Al-Anon/Women 10 AM Youth Room	Parkinsons Group 10 AM Library Widow(er)s Support Group Noon in Library Jesus: the 1st 300 Years 6 PM Library	Al-Anon-Mixed 10 AM Youth Room		
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
"Falling & Healing"	Yoga 9 AM Al-Anon/ Mixed 10 AM Youth Room	Yoga 9 AM Al-Anon/Women 10 AM Youth Room Caregiver's Support Group 1 PM Library	Quilter's Retreat 8-5 Fellowship Hall Mobile Food Pantry 9 AM Jesus: the 1st 300 Years 6 PM Library	Al-Anon-Mixed 10 AM Youth Room		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
"War & Peace"	Yoga 9 AM Al-Anon/ Mixed 10 AM Youth Room Theology on Tap 5-6:30 Gotahold Brewery	Yoga 9 AM Al-Anon/Women 10 AM Youth Room	Widow(er)s Support Group Noon in Library Jesus: the 1st 300 Years 6 PM Library	Al-Anon-Mixed 10 AM Youth Room		
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
"From Death to Life"	Yoga 9 AM Al-Anon/ Mixed 10 AM Youth Room	Yoga 9 AM Al-Anon/Women 10 AM Youth Room Leadership Team Meeting 5 PM	Mobile Food Pantry 9 AM Jesus: the First 300 Years 6 PM Library	Al-Anon-Mixed 10 AM Youth Room		