

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.

The Season of Eastertide

10th of May 2026

[Happy Mothers' Day](#) to all the moms and all the women who at times have had to step in and 'mother' us. We have flowers for all of you, so whether you are a biological mom, an adoptive mom, a single mom, or a mom that has been a mother to someone, we are thankful for all the love you have given to make us who we are! We are nearing the end of **Eastertide**, the 50 days after the Resurrection and Easter. We have been following a sermon series on how "The Truth Can Set Us Free", and we'll be wrapping that one up today as we move into Ascension Sunday and Pentecost and then Trinity Sunday. After Pentecost I will be starting an 8-week sabbatical and will return on the 18th of July. The church will be in good hands, as our Lay Minister Janet Arnett will be preaching. I hope you will give her all the love and support you can, she has worked hard to become a lay minister and now it's her time to shine. Each Gospel has a different take on the Resurrection and the Empty Tomb. Luke and John add additional stories of what came after, Matthew keeps it tidy with Jesus sending his followers into the world to share the good news.

Mark is a bit darker, a bit perplexing. His is the first account to be written down, almost a decade before Matthew and Luke edit his story and add their own flavor to our tale. Of course it is always Mary Magdalene who finds the tomb empty -- all four agree on that -- but in Mark Mary and the other women are confused and afraid. A young man invites them to, 'return to Galilee', where Jesus will be waiting.

Instead, they flee in fear and tell no one (if your bible adds additional verses after that without explaining they are later additions, you need a new bible). Mark's a great storyteller; shocking endings have a way of unnerving us, pushing us to see beyond our narrow horizons. For these women in Mark, it's not about an empty tomb -- the tomb could be empty for many reasons: grave robbers stole the body or the Romans came back and dumped it elsewhere -- and yet there is no Resurrection appearance, no risen Jesus, just an invitation to see beyond a grave.

On my drive into work this morning some words from a song stuck in my mind -- the Lumineers, I think --

"Will you lay yourself down and dig your grave

Or will you rail against the dying day?"

An invitation. A decision to make.

Nadia Bolz Webber once remarked, "God is continually reaching into the graves we have dug for ourselves to raise us to new life." In Mark, the young man is the one holding out his hand with that very invitation -- do we let our graves define us, or will we, 'rail against the dying day?' And that is where Mark will leave us, beside our graves and the dying day, and we'll have to decide whether today's narrative of dead-ends and hopeless thoughts will define us, or will we rise up and take God's hand and believe a new day will come?

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>, or our YouTube Channel!

9:55 ~ Announcements

Sunday, 10th of May, 2026

Ushers: Dave & Martie Davis **Communion Stewards:** David & Lynn Baker, Sandy Dunn, John Stallcup **Offering Counters:** Janet Arnett, Chris Ritthaler

We Gather to Worship

Welcome		
Rising of the Light, Lighting the Paschal Candle*	"Alleluia"	page 2078 Faith We Sing
An Affirmation of Faith*	"An Affirmation from Romans"	page 887 UMC Hymnal
Song Response*	"Glory Be to the Father"	page 70 UMC Hymnal
Community Prayer & Lord's Prayer		Janet Arnett, Lay Minister

Songs of the People

"Come Christians, Join to Sing" page 158 UMC Hymnal*
"Christ is Risen" page 307 UMC Hymnal*

We Listen for God's Word

A reading from John 24:24-29
Janet Arnett, Lay Minister
"Alleluia", a Choral Response



"To Know the Love of God"

Arr: Robert Petter
The Chancel Choir

A Video Reflection — "Mothers' Day"

"The Truth Shall Set Us Free: A Friend of a Friend's Uncle Said So"

Rev Blake Lasater

We Give & Receive Love

Remembrance of our Baptism

Holy Communion

Song Response for the Gift of Communion "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" page 95 UMC Hymnal

(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 from UAMS Schmieding Center for Senior Health & Education.

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 for the **first Wednesday** of each month in the Church Library at **10 AM**. This is open to anyone in the community!

Bible Study Wednesdays

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

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.

Save the Dates!

CS Parking Lot Fundraiser downtown ES, Saturday, May 16. (aka easiest fundraiser ever!) In a couple weeks we will be passing around volunteer sign up sheets. Please consider taking a shift and spreading God's love and joy.

Important Happenings in the Life of ESUMC

UWF Meet following Sunday service:

May 17, Fellowship Hall after Sunday Service

June 21, Fellowship Hall after Sunday Service

Get Involved!

Mobile Food Pantry church parking lot the **2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month**. Cars start lining up at 7:45 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 Butch [2PM Monday](#) at 417.393.6113 to be added to our very limited delivery schedule.

Make New Friends

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

Make a Difference

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

Serve Others

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

Scouts **Tuesday and Wednesdays,** Youth Room **6 PM**

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

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. More volunteers are needed 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. Columbarium Contracts are located in the literature rack near the narthex desk. You can pick up a contract at the church office, call for more details, or visit our website to download a contract form.

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/FUtb9QuPNvj1g7A>

Lay Servant Training

Want to deepen your discipleship, discover your spiritual gifts, find your place to serve in the church? The Arkansas Annual Conference is bringing the Lay Servant Academy to Eureka Springs. Class size is limited to 20 students and lunch is provided. Class will be Saturday, July 25th from 8:30 till 4 with lunch provided. There is a \$15 registration fee. Please go to the following link to register..... <https://lay-servant-ministries-feb-2026.raiselysite.com/>



United
Women
in Faith

An Amazing Gathering!

Every four years United Women in Faith from around the globe gather for Assembly. The days are set aside for hands-on mission projects, worship, social action involvement, hearing inspiring speakers, having lively discussions and experiencing sisterhood in the best possible sense. From May 13 – 18 two members of our local unit will be immersed in Love in Action at Indianapolis, IN. Please pray for Nancy Wood and Lynn Baker to have safe travels and a meaningful mission experience.

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

May

2026

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
"Cherry Picking" Acts 24:1-23	Al-Anon 10:00	Yoga 9-10 FHall Al-Anon 12:00	5th Wednesday Widow(er)s Outing Jubilee Ringers 4:30 Bible Study 6 PM	Al-Anon 10:00	Virginia Voiers' Celebration of Life 10 AM	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
"Tin Foil Hats" Matthew 12:22-30	Al-Anon 10:00	Yoga 9-10 FHall Al-Anon 12:00	Parkinson's Group 10:00 AM Widow(er)s 12:00 Library Jubilee Ringers 4:30 Bible Study 6PM	Al-Anon 10:00		
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
"But Uncle Bob's Friend Says Otherwise" Acts 10:1-18	Al-Anon 10:00	Yoga 9-10 FHall Al-Anon 12:00 Caregivers Group 1:00 PM	Mobile Pantry 8am Eureka! Quilters 11:00 -1:30 FHall Jubilee Ringers 4:30 Bible Study 6PM	Ascension of the Lord Day Al-Anon 10:00		Graduation Party - FHall Carlie Luney CS Bank Parking Lot Fundraiser
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Ascension Sunday UWF Meet after Sunday Service	Al-Anon 10:00	Yoga 9-10 FHall Al-Anon 12:00 Leadership Team 4:30	Widow(er)s 12:00 Library Jubilee Ringers 4:30 Bible Study 6PM	Al-Anon 10:00		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Pentecost Sunday	Memorial Day Al-Anon 10:00	Yoga 9-10 FHall Al-Anon 12:00	Mobile Pantry 8am Jubilee Ringers 4:30 Bible Study 6PM	Al-Anon 10:00	Pastor's Sabbatical begins — thru 18th July	
31	1	2	3	4		
Trinity Sunday Janet Arnet, Lay Minister	Al-Anon 10:00	Yoga 9-10 FHall Al-Anon 12:00	Widow(er)s 12:00 Library Jubilee Ringers 4:30			

