

Faith Calls...

April, 2019

Pastor's Thoughts

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Join us TONIGHT, March 31, for the Lenten Service Series #4, at 6pm. We will meet at Sardis UMC, 10715 W. Sardis Rd., Bauxite, 72011. Rev. Ulysses Washington will deliver the message. See you there.

Birthdays

4/1, Nona Grady
4/4, Martha Quillen
4/5, Jerry Smith
4/7, Shelly Gross
Ruth Ward
4/10, Eloise Allen
4/16, Jacob Chatman
4/18, Lynai Leonard
4/22, Helen Carter
4/24, Emily Tucker
4/28, Kim Hoffman

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NEVER JUST ANOTHER EASTER

Our winter was not awful, but I'm happy spring is finally here. The rain, however, is another story. Just when we thought things were drying out another weather system would come through bringing more rain. I heard a comedian say he was glad for the rain because his mud was getting dehydrated.

The celebration of Easter is the greatest thing about spring in the church. Easter happens when things are being renewed. Winter gives way to the cheerful renewal of the earth in spring. It is more than just symbolic that Easter represents rebirth, it represents a hope and renewal for sinful humans. It means a "do-over" in our relationship with God.

I hope your Lenten discipline is going well. Lent encourages us to recall our sins and shortcomings to prepare our hearts for renewal in Easter. This is a great time to deeply search ourselves to discover those parts of us that have been hidden in the bleakness of our winter. We often do a spring cleaning of our

homes. We air the house to get rid of stale odors, we clean the corners of the cobwebs, and we chase the dust bunnies out from under the bed. The house looks better when we're finished. In the same way, Lent is a spring cleaning of our hearts and souls to be ready for God's coming to live in us.

Yes, just as the house gets dirty again, our hearts and souls can get dirty again through sin. The cure? Clean up the mess. Simple as that, clean it up just as you would a mess you make in your home. In the case of sin, just call on God, declare the sin and ask for forgiveness.

We find our homes need more than just cleaning, they need regular maintenance. Our relationship with God does as well. We should not save all of our remorse for Lent. The basic elements of maintenance of our soul is to seek God's will frequently and forgiveness when we fail. A daily (or more frequent) prayer routine is

the best way to maintain the soul. You can literally talk to God about anything. No special formula or pattern, just talk. God listens. And God answers.

I remember being told if something was worth having it was worth working for, or something like that. The most beautiful part of the Easter story is that Jesus did all the hard work for us. Our efforts are small in comparison. In our human brokenness we seek God and ask for forgiveness. Just remember that this is an ongoing, never ending process. Be sure to thank God for everything you have, spiritual and material, while you are at it. The reward of this well-maintained relationship is the wonderful gift of salvation and eternal life.

Shalom,

Bro. David



February Stats

Date	Worship	Gen. Fund
2/3	57	\$6,427
2/10	49	2,003
2/17	56	2,535
2/24	57	<u>1,799</u>
Total		\$12,764

Noisy Offering	\$ 101
Renovation	\$ 430
Walkway repair	\$ 100
GSUMC Pantry	\$ 180
Scholarship Fund	\$ 700

Good News...

Trinette Barnes has been appointed to Oak Forest UMC as Associate Pastor and to UALR Wesley Foundation as Assistant Director. She begins her new jobs July 1. Best wishes to Rev. Trinette as she begins these new positions.

SAVE THE DATE

Each Monday, 10am, Prayer Watch

Each Wed., 11am, Dominoes
6 pm, Choir Practice

4/5, Faith Friends Dinner,
Butcher Shop, 5:30pm

4/6, Indoor church clean-up, 9am

4/7, Lenten Sermon Series #5, 6pm,
Highland Valley UMC

4/12, Parents' Night Out, 6:30pm

4/18, Maundy Thur. Service, 6:00pm

4/20, Easter Egg Hunt, 10-noon

4/21, Easter Sunday

6/15, Church Picnic, all invited

Observing Maundy Thursday Service

Maundy Thursday is an alternate name for Holy Thursday, the first of the three days of solemn remembrance of the events leading up to and immediately following the crucifixion of Jesus. The English word "Maundy" comes from the Latin *mandatum*, which means "commandment." As recorded in John's gospel, on his last night before his betrayal and arrest, Jesus washed the feet of his disciples and then gave them a new commandment to love one another as he had loved them (John 13:34). This is why services on this night generally include acts of physical care as an integral part of the celebration.

While John's gospel does not record the institution of the Lord's Supper among the events of this night, the other gospels do. Christians therefore keep this night with celebrations at the Lord's Table (Holy Communion).

Join us Thursday, April 18, at 5:30pm for our Maundy Thursday Service at Faith UMC. Enjoy this solemn service as it sets the tone for the three days preceding Easter.

Lenten Service Series

The Lenten Service Series has gone very well. There were 75 in attendance at Hunter UMC, 93 at Faith UMC, and 123 at Salem UMC. Service #4 will be at Sardis UMC, and #5 will be held April 7, 6:00pm, at Highland Valley UMC, 15524 Chenal Pkwy. Faith UMC has been well represented at each service. Bro. David did an outstanding job delivering the message at Salem UMC, March 24. It has been a wonderful opportunity to meet others and to enjoy worshiping in other churches. Join us March 31, and April 7, as we worship together.

The Easter Season

The Easter Season, also known as Eastertide or the Great Fifty Days, begins on Easter Day and ends 50 days later on Pentecost. Focusing on Christ's resurrection and ascension and the sending of the Holy Spirit (Pentecost), Eastertide is the most joyous and celebrative season of the Christian year. We celebrate the good news that in Christ's death and resurrection we, and all creation, are continually being made new by God's love and saving grace. (umc.org)

Join us during Eastertide as we enjoy celebrating the risen Lord and singing "Alleluia!" again.

About You, Arkansas' Lifestyle Magazine, March 2019

One of our own, Gary Horton, was featured in "About You, Arkansas Lifestyle Magazine", March 2019". He is described as an advocate for people with disabilities. Owner of Horton's Orthotics & Prosthetics, Gary works primarily with orthopedic surgeons, rehab doctors, and neurosurgeons. He is called upon when surgery or medications do not help.

Gary and a team of specialists worked with scientist at NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Ala. They were to develop an orthotic knee joint which allowed braces to lock when weight was placed on the lower leg and bend when weight was lifted. This enabled the patient to have a more natural walking stride.

In 2009, Gary received the first Tamarack Prize for Outstanding Contributions to Orthotic Science and Practice by the American Academy of Orthotists and Prosthetists. He enjoys providing medical care to patients.

Gary and his family are big on giving back to the community and promoting activities for children with disabilities. They are advocates for all inclusive parks around our community so that children of all abilities can grow and play together.

Gary serves on the Administrative Board at Faith UMC, as well as Financial Secretary, and Chairman of the Safety Team. We value his experiences and skills.

Easter Egg Hunt

United Methodist Women are planning the Easter Egg Hunt to be held Saturday, April 20, from 10am until noon. They will certainly appreciate anyone willing to help. Candy will be needed for the eggs. Volunteers are needed to hide the eggs, help prepare hotdogs, coordinate indoor activities as well as outdoor events. A sign-up sheet is available on the FYI table in the sanctuary. Thanking you in advance for your help.

Church Clean-up Time!

Time for spring cleaning! Put on your gloves, get out the aprons, and roll up your sleeves. Sign up for this event and be ready to work April 6, 9:00am. Supplies will be here and you may select the area you'd like to work in. Tables and chairs need to be scrubbed. Windows need fingerprints removed. Dusting of wood work should be addressed as well as blinds. Stainless steel products need to be cleaned. Some may choose to clean out refrigerators. As you may see, there are many things that need attention. A list will be available on Sat. the 6th. See you at Faith.

Administrative Board

Ben Allen
Trinette Barnes
Harold Bristow, Chairman
Cliff Coker
Gary Horton
Becky Lay
Virginia McCastlain
Ellen McCloskey
Dianna Noe
Robert Rutt
Ginny Ryan
Brenda Smith



It's not too late to get your Lenten Gift Box. Take one home and put something in it each day.

Put your name on the box and bring with you on Easter Sunday. Boxes should be placed on the altar before the Worship Service begins.

April, 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<i>1</i> <u>10:00 a.m.</u> Prayer Watch Ministry at Faith or wherever you are	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i> <u>11:00 a.m.</u> Dominoes/Bring your lunch <u>6:00 p.m.</u> Choir Practice	<i>4</i> <u>11:30 a.m.</u> Alzheimer's AR 224-0021	<i>5</i> <u>5:30 p.m.</u> Faith Friends Dinner, The Butcher Shop	<i>6</i> <u>9:00 a.m.</u> Indoor cleaning *those who use gifts and abilities to help others
<i>7</i> <u>9:45 a.m.</u> Sunday School <u>11:00 a.m.</u> Worship Service, Communion <i>Highland Valley UMC, 6pm</i>	<i>8</i> <u>10:00 a.m.</u> Prayer Watch Ministry at Faith or wherever you are	<i>9</i>	<i>10.</i> <u>11:00 a.m.</u> Dominoes/Bring your lunch <u>6:00 p.m.</u> Choir	<i>11</i> <u>11:30 a.m.</u> Senior Networking	<i>12</i> <u>6:30-9:30p.m.</u> Parents' Night Out	<i>13</i> *those who see problems as opportunities
<i>14</i> <u>9:45 a.m.</u> Lenten Study <u>11:00 a.m.</u> Worship Service <i>Palm Sunday</i>	<i>15</i> <u>10:00 a.m.</u> Prayer Watch Ministry at Faith or wherever you are	<i>16</i> <u>6:30 p.m.</u> Administrative Board meeting	<i>17</i> <u>11:00 a.m.</u> Dominoes/Bring your lunch <u>6:00 p.m.</u> Choir Practice	<i>18</i> <u>6:00 p.m.</u> Maundy Thur. Service and Communion	<i>19</i>	<i>20</i> <u>10—noon</u> Egg Hunt *those who en- courage others to find a church home
<i>21</i> <u>9:45 a.m.</u> Sunday School <u>11:00 a.m.</u> Worship Service <i>Easter</i>	<i>22</i> <u>10:00 a.m.</u> Prayer Watch Ministry at Faith or wherever you are	<i>23</i> <u>1:00 p.m.</u> UMW	<i>24</i> <u>11:00 a.m.</u> Dominoes/Bring your lunch <u>6:00 p.m.</u> Choir Practice	<i>25</i> <u>11:00 a.m.</u> Cure PSP <u>6:00 p.m.</u> Central Dist. Leadership Team (meets here)	<i>26</i>	<i>27</i> *those who appre- ciate the gifts of God
<i>28</i> <u>9:45 a.m.</u> Sunday School <u>11:00 a.m.</u> Worship Service	<i>29</i> <u>10:00 a.m.</u> Prayer Watch Ministry at Faith or wherever you are	<i>30</i>				*Pray for those listed.

Scripture

*"Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged,
for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go. —Joshua 1:9*