

Faith Calls...

May, 2019

Pastor's Thoughts

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WHAT FOLLOWS EASTER?

Birthdays

5/1, Theresa Harvill
 5/14, Trinetta Barnes
 5/15, Abby Allen
 Travis Traxler
 5/21, Wanda Horton
 5/22, Carolyn Eubanks
 5/26, Anita Rutt
 Jean Campbell
 5/29, Bobbie Verser
 5/30, Jackie Stover

Anniversaries

5/4
 Dave & Carol Dyson

5/16
 Bro. David & Kim Hoffman

5/22
 Wanda & Gary Horton

5/31
 Bryan & Teresa Cozart

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The events of this year's Holy Week have been great. We tried a new type of worship for our combined Maundy Thursday service and it seems to have been well received. On Easter Sunday, we added two members to the roll at Geyer Springs, saw old friends and met some new people.

We tend to see Easter as one of the bookends of Christ's life and ministry, Christmas being the other. Christmas and Easter fall so close together in the calendar year, which leaves the better part of the year to pass until Advent rolls around again.

Pentecost should be celebrated just as much as Christmas and Easter. It marks the transition of Christ's ministry into a church. Most importantly, it marks the start of a new way of life for Christians. While the law still provides the backbone for our faith, strict adherence to the law is no longer how our faith is measured. Faith is our response to God's gifts of mercy and grace, Jesus' offer of salvation and the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. Faith is about the content of the heart and mind, as well as action.

Pentecost is a reminder of the existence of the Holy Spirit in each of us. When the winds began to blow and tongues of fire appeared on the heads of the apostles that day, everyone present knew something significant was happening. Then the preaching began. While offered in one language, it was heard by everyone there in his or her own language. That was the Holy Spirit, the advocate promised by Jesus, beginning its work in a new way.

We have the Holy Spirit in each of us. It began as a spark calling you to God's side. Once we have found God's side, what we do with that spark makes all the difference. We can let it burn out now that we have our "ticket" or we can tend the fire and let it burn bright. The bright fire does so much more than that small spark could, providing light to see, heat for cooking, and warmth to chase the cold away.

The success of the church depends on how bright it burns. A spark can be easily missed. A raging fire cannot.

The curious from all around come to see the fire. From the curious come those who want to be a part of tending the fire. Remember, the Bible frequently speaks of fire as a refiner, burning off the trash and leaving the pure precious metal for the artist's hand.

TEND THE FIRE! I realize that in the midst of turmoil and pressure both inside and outside the church, it is tough to maintain a bright fire. The time is now and you must do your part. Renew your work in existing ministries. Become a part of a different ministry. Find new ministries. Invite others to church.

Shalom,

Bro. David



March Stats

Date	Worship	Gen. Fund
3/3	57	\$4,358
3/6, Ash Wed.	28	121
3/10	58	3,064
3/17	53	793
3/17 Evening	93	429
3/24	53	2,623
3/31	51	<u>2,968</u>
Total		\$14,356
Noisy Offering	\$ 91	
Renovation	\$ 1,330	
Walkway repair	\$ 550	
Parent's Night Out	\$ 205	
UMCOR	\$ 552	

DON'T FORGET

Each one reach one.
 Each one teach one.
 Each one care for one.
 Each one share with one.

SAVE THE DATE

Each Monday, 10am, Prayer Watch

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

5/3, Faith Friends Dinner,
 Cajuns Wharf, 5:30pm

5/10, Parents' Night Out, 6:30pm

5/12, Mother's Day

5/27, Memorial Day, office closed

5/29-6/1, AR Annual Conference,
 in Hot Springs

6/15, Church Picnic, all invited

Observing Eastertide

Eastertide or the Great Fifty Days, begins on Easter Day and ends 50 days later on Pentecost. We focus 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)

This extended season gives us time to rejoice and experience what it means when we say Christ is risen. It's the season when we remember our baptisms and how through this sacrament we are, according to the liturgy, "incorporated into Christ's mighty acts of salvation." As "Easter people," we also celebrate and ponder the birth of the Church and gifts of the Spirit (Pentecost), and how we are to live as faithful disciples of Christ.

Put Faith into Action

"Everyone can be great because everyone can serve. You don't have to have a college degree to serve. You don't even have to make your subject and your verb agree... You only need a heart full of grace...a soul generated by love."

— Martin Luther King, Jr.

United Methodists have believed, from the beginning, that each of us is called to participate in the outreaching ministry of Jesus Christ. John Wesley called the early Methodists to live out their faith by "doing good of every possible sort, and, as far as possible, to all [people]" (The General Rules of the Methodist Church).

Putting our faith into action is at the very heart of our Christian calling. By volunteering to serve through programs such as United Methodist Volunteers in Mission or the Mission Volunteers program of The General Board of Global Ministries, every person in the church has the opportunity to serve and to live their calling more faithfully.

Many thanks for the donations made during Lent to help those at Methodist Family Health. All of the items will be useful for the children who are residents. Members of Faith UMC are always willing to help others. Again, thank you for the support. Watch for other opportunities in our church to serve.

Easter Activities at Faith



It was a blessing to have eight children visiting with Rev. Trinette during “Children’s Moments” on Easter morning. We had 102 members and visitors attending the Worship Service. On Saturday, the 20th, twenty-three children enjoyed Spring Fling and the Egg Hunt. Following the activities, the children and adults enjoyed hotdogs for lunch. It was a beautiful weekend to celebrate the resurrection of our Lord.

Lawn and Garden Clean-up Time!

Time for spring cleaning in the Garden of Faith and the playground. Let’s continue to make the outside look nice and inviting. Many of you enjoy weeding, sweeping, and tidying up. “Curb appeal” is important. We are having several visitors each Sunday, so let’s put our best foot forward. We want them to be impressed with the campus, before they even enter the sanctuary.

Special thanks to all who donate their time and talents by planting the annuals, trimming shrubs and rose bushes, raking, mowing, weed-eating, and deadheading. It takes a village!

Good News!

The new walkway leading to the Annex building has been completed. It is much easier for folks needing supplies to maneuver carts on this walkway. Donations from the congregation paid for this new project.

Pastor David is returning to our pulpit for another year. The Arkansas Conference of The United Methodist Church has appointed him as our Senior Pastor. We are delighted to have him with us. He has also been appointed to Western Hills United Methodist Church.

The Conference has appointed Rev. Trinette Barnes as Associate Pastor at Oak Forest UMC and to UALR Wesley Foundation as Assistant Director. She will be missed by her friends 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



Our Lenten Gift boxes were placed on the altar Easter morning. Thank you for your generous gifts totaling \$643.

May, 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
12:15pm, Nominating Comm. meets ↓			<i>1</i> <u>11:00 a.m.</u> , Dominoes/Bring your lunch <u>6:00 p.m.</u> , Choir Practice	<i>2</i> <u>11:30 a.m.</u> , Alzheimer's AR 224-0021	<i>3</i> <u>5:30 p.m.</u> , Faith Friends Dinner, Cajuns Wharf	<i>4</i> *that we will find comfort in the Bible
<i>5</i> <u>9:45 a.m.</u> , Sunday School <u>11:00 a.m.</u> , Worship Service, Communion <u>2:30 p.m.</u> , Central Dist. Conf., Trinity UMC	<i>6</i> <u>10:00 a.m.</u> , Prayer Watch Ministry at Faith or wherever you are	<i>7</i>	<i>8</i> <u>11:00 a.m.</u> , Dominoes/Bring your lunch <u>6:00 p.m.</u> , Choir Practice	<i>9</i> <u>11:30 a.m.</u> , Senior Networking	<i>10</i> <u>6:30-9:30p.m.</u> , Parents' Night Out	<i>11</i> Fellowship Hall (reserved) *we will discover new ways to serve God
<i>12</i> <u>9:45 a.m.</u> , Sunday School <u>11:00 a.m.</u> , Worship Service	<i>13</i> <u>10:00 a.m.</u> , Prayer Watch Ministry at Faith or wherever you are	<i>14</i>	<i>15</i> <u>11:00 a.m.</u> , Dominoes/Bring your lunch <u>6:00 p.m.</u> , Choir Practice	<i>16</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>18</i> *those who put worries aside
<i>19</i> <u>9:45 a.m.</u> , Sunday School <u>11:00 a.m.</u> , Worship Service	<i>20</i> <u>10:00 a.m.</u> , Prayer Watch Ministry at Faith or wherever you are	<i>21</i> <u>6:30 p.m.</u> , Administrative Board meeting	<i>22</i> <u>11:00 a.m.</u> , Dominoes/Bring your lunch <u>6:00 p.m.</u> , Choir Practice	<i>23</i> <u>11:00 a.m.</u> , Cure PSP	<i>24</i>	<i>25</i> *those who show kindness and compassion
<i>26</i> <u>9:45 a.m.</u> , Sunday School <u>11:00 a.m.</u> , Worship Service	<i>27</i> <i>Memorial Day</i> Church office closed	<i>28</i> <u>1:00 p.m.</u> , UMW	<i>29</i> <u>11:00 a.m.</u> , Dominoes/Bring your lunch <u>6:00 p.m.</u> , Choir Practice May 29-June 1,	<i>30</i> AR Annual Conf.	<i>31</i> In Hot Springs	*Our encouraging words will help others *Pray for the things listed

Scripture

"As God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience". —Colossians 3:12