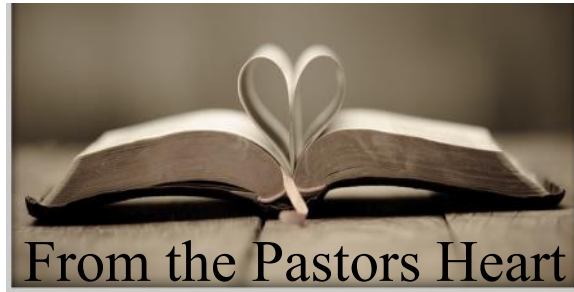


# THE GOOD NEWS

EUREKA UMC MISSION: TO KNOW, LOVE AND SERVE GOD

APRIL 2022

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I know the holiday of Thanksgiving is a few months away but I feel it is important to always be thankful. Each night in my prayers I say what I am thankful for. Here is a list of just some things I am thankful for as Pastor of Eureka UMC.

1. A terrific Youth Group! I can't say enough about how wonderful these young people are. In my retirement I will miss them very much.
2. A wonderful Administrative Assistant! Jenny is a blessing with her organizational skills and her empathy for the members of this church.
3. Nancy Hoelscher - Her help with the youth is invaluable.
4. Sandi Sylvester - Our fellowship time and other church meals receive a 5 star rating
5. Worship Team - Music - Tech - Greeters and Al Hinnen as our lay leader make each Sunday a day of blessing.
6. Generous Church - Not only your giving to Ukraine but your year round support to ministry.
7. A beautiful church building and parsonage - your parsonage is hands down the best in the Conference.
8. Your beautiful spirit - notes and cards of encouragement at times when I was down.

This church still has great days ahead.

Love you all,

*Rev. Ted A. Hartley*

# GROW IN FAITH

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## Sunday Sermon Series

**April 3** - 5th Sunday of Lent, Sixth Word “It is Finished” , John 19:30

**April 10** - Palm Sunday - Confirmation Sunday

**April 14** - Maundy Thursday, Seventh Word “Father, into your hands I commit my spirit” Luke 23:46

**April 17** - “Run Mary Run”, John 20: 1-18

**April 23** - Earth Day Sunday and Scout Sunday, “Leaving the Earth better than you found it”  
Genesis 2:15

## Palm Sunday

Weather permitting we will meet in the North Parking Lot and receive our palm branches and parade into the church to a fanfare by our Confirmation class. Those who feel they cannot walk that far can receive their branches and proceed into the church. We will have a Confirmation of 6 young people and after church a Baptism in a horse trough. We will also have Communion that day served by our class. After service, there will be a special reception.

## Holy Week Devotions

Monday - Thursday we will have devotions with a continental breakfast at 8am except on Thursday, when we’ll go to Cornerstone for breakfast. The devotions will connect with the last days and hours of Christ. The devotions will include prayer and be 45 minutes. There will be diabetic options.

## Maundy Thursday

There will be a service of Communion, a Hand Washing and stripping of the church. 7pm.

## Good Friday

Community Worship at the Presbyterian Church. Pastor Ted A. will deliver the message and our choir will join the other churches to present an anthem.

## Easter Sunday

Sunrise service at 7am - A service of joy and music to celebrate a risen Savior

Breakfast at 8am - A full breakfast for all to enjoy

Celebration service at 9am - Praise songs, choir anthem, and a message, “Run Mary Run”

Easter Egg Hunt at 10am - Easter Egg hunt for children 5th grade and below. The Youth Group will organize the hunt.

## Appointment Announcement



As we shared following Pastor Ted's retirement announcement, SPRC met with District Superintendent Jim Barnett this past Monday evening. At that meeting he shared several important pieces of information with us. There are over 20 retiring pastors this year and no new pastors coming out of seminaries to take their place. Because of that, Bishop Frank Beard, in consultation with the cabinet of the Illinois Great Rivers Conference of The United Methodist Church has announced a re-alignment of pastoral charges and appointments. A new dual charge has been created that will combine the Eureka United Methodist Church with the Roanoke United Methodist Church and will be served by the current Roanoke pastor the Rev. Bob Herath and his wife, Juliana.

Rev. Herath comes to us with 31 years of experience in pastoral ministry with 7 of those years appointed as an associate pastor in larger congregations with responsibilities in youth and family ministries. Pastor Bob and Juliana are looking forward to becoming a part of the Eureka United Methodist Church family. Their appointment will begin on July 1, 2022. With the appointment they will make their residence at our parsonage.

## New Chairs in the Sanctuary

We want everyone to feel welcome here at Eureka United Methodist Church. Recently it was decided that we needed some sort of seating for those that may be wheelchair bound or need some extra leverage when standing or sitting for worship. Thanks to the generous donors to Ron Schertz's memorial, and with Vada Schertz's blessing, 2 new chairs were purchased. They are installed in the sanctuary and are available for anyone to use.

## Missing You Visits

Edie and Lynn are making visits to church family that we haven't seen for a while. Carol Alexander (pictured here with Edie) was delighted with her visit! Rich and Margo Tennis were also visited!

You are encouraged to reach out to those you haven't seen in a while too! If you can't visit, try sending a "thinking of you" card!



# 8 Reasons Why Gathering with the People of God Matters



While most churches are still struggling to regain their pre-COVID attendance numbers, it's been good to think about *why* gathering with God's people matters. Here are some thoughts that come to mind:

- 1. Worshiping together is part of God's intent in making us relational.** He who is relational in Himself as Trinity created us needing one another (Gen 2:18). Worshiping with others is one expression of God's creative intent.
- 2. It reminds us that we're not alone in our Christian walk.** Many of us struggle most in being faithful—or worse, in surrendering to temptation—when we're by ourselves. At least for the worship service, we remember that others are walking the same path with us.
- 3. Our engagement in worship is encouraging to others.** We have learned that it's great to see brothers and sisters in person. Others encourage me, and I trust my being there strengthens them, too. The unity of heart and focus that true worship brings can help even the most discouraged believer find hope again.
- 4. Non-believers who see us worship might sense our love and awe of the Lord as we worship and praise Him.** This assumes, of course, that lost people are in our churches—but if those who are present sense genuine humility, deep gratitude, and heartfelt commitment to God, perhaps God will use that experience to turn their hearts to Him.
- 5. There's just something special about the people of God singing His praises together.** No matter what the worship style is, focusing on God and lifting His name together can be a powerful experience. Bob Kauflin puts it this way: "A worshipping community recognizes that passionate times of singing God's praise flow from and lead to passionate lives lived for the glory of Jesus Christ."<sup>[i]</sup>

**6. It is in our gathering together that we provoke one another to love and good works (Heb 10:24-25).** We do that through other means as well, but encouragement to persevere in faithfulness is one task of the gathered body. Walking arm-in-arm as we serve Him and knee-to-knee as we pray together compel us to faithfulness.

**7. The gathering together of the body of Christ to hear from their under-shepherd is a privilege, indeed.** A worship gathering is a primary means of corporate discipleship, when the pastor accountable to God for watching over their souls (Heb 13:17) directs listeners to Christ. It matters that we gather.

**8. It is what the early church did.** Scholars debate the size of their gatherings, but we do know they shared life together—including worship (Acts 2:42-47). Gathering together for them may have been a brief respite from a dangerous world, but it was also a place of encouragement to go out and face that world again with the hope of the gospel.

## **NEW WAY TO GIVE TO EUMC!**

The Finance Committee is excited to announce the introduction of an electronic option for making regular offerings. Contributions can now be debited automatically from your checking or savings account or processed using your credit or debit card. Our new electronic giving program offers convenience for you and provides donation consistency for our congregation.

Vanco Online and Mobile Giving allows:

- Anytime and anywhere giving, conveniently and securely.
- No need to write out physical checks or prepare envelopes.
- Schedule for and manage recurring offerings.
- View your complete online-giving history.

Make a donation online:

<https://secure.myvanco.com/L-Z55X/home>

You can also download the Vanco Mobile App through the Apple App Store or Google Play store. You will need to search for Eureka United Methodist Church.

**\*\*Note:** You will need to click on SIGN-UP to set up a profile the first time.

If you need assistance on getting this set-up, don't hesitate to reach out to Renee Hinnen. If there is a big enough interest, she will set-up a "training session"!

*We hope you enjoy this new way to contribute to our ministry!*

# MISSION AND MINISTRY

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Ministry and Mission members,  
We are blessed and thankful you will be a part of serving our church this year!

Be sure to turn in your meeting dates to the office as soon as you can.

If you would like anything published in the newsletter, please turn it in by the 20th of every month.



## Mission Spotlight for 2022

January - Heartline and Heart House

February - Midwest Mission Distribution Center

March - Joni and Friends

**April - Meals on Wheels**

May - Our Conference, Our Kids

June - Love Packages

July - The Salvation Army

August - Evenglow Lodge

September - Africa University

October - ADDWC

November - Amity Bible Foundation

December - St. Andrews Potato Project

Missionary Support

Alicia Wright - India

Connie Wieck - China

Priscilla Jaiah - Liberia

Jeff Spence - Taiwan

## Meals On Wheels

The Eureka Area Meals on Wheels currently offers meals to residents of Eureka, Roanoke, Metamora & Washington. They deliver lunch Monday-Friday.

They would be unable to fulfill their mission at Eureka Area Meals on Wheels without an amazing team of volunteers. They are grateful each and every day for those community members who rise and shine to meet the needs of our community. Everything about the Eureka Area Meals on Wheels Program is volunteer coordinated from the food order to meal preparation, packaging, delivery, as well as volunteer scheduling and coordination. It takes a village to nourish strong communities.

The Eureka Meals on Wheels program is not entirely self sustaining. They rely on donors like you to help with rising cost of food. Please consider donating to this community outreach program that is our April Mission Focus.

## Support for Ukraine

EUMC really came through for our brothers and sisters in Ukraine! Over \$1,000.00 was sent from our church alone! Together with our support and prayers, we do make a difference. Continue to pray for the peace and security of United Methodists in Ukraine and Russia and for all of their neighbors, and that tranquility will prevail over their lives and countries.

# CHILDREN & YOUTH



Since January six young people and their mentors have been on a journey toward becoming a Christian first and a member of Eureka UMC. This has been the best confirmation class I have ever had. They have learned, memorized, and grown in their faith. On Palm Sunday we will confirm six young people into faith and membership. Next months Newsletter we will have pictures and more on this special day.

## Childrens Church

Calling all kids! Join Children's Church following Children's message.

## Sunday School

Sunday School class for every age! Classes are Sundays following worship and everyone is welcome to attend. Grab a friend and we'll see you there!

## Youth Group Calendar

April 10 - 6pm, fill Easter Eggs

April 18 - Trip to Midwest Mission Distribution Center

April 24 - Bowling



# BLESSINGS AND PRAYER

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## Birthday Celebrations

13 - Joan McClean  
23 - Jon Lehigh  
24 - Diana Brehmer  
25 - Nancy Hoelscher  
28 - Leonard Savage



## Anniversary Celebrations

12 - Bob and Nancy Bishop  
20 - Al and Diane Hinnen  
26 - Michael and Joyce Borzello  
26 - Jack and Diana Brehmer



## Keeping you in Prayer

Pray for.....

our Pastor

our Congregation

those in our community suffering with COVID and other illnesses

those who are grieving, hurting or lonely

the least, last and lost and those who do not yet know Jesus

those in service to God, country and our community

Pray that you feel God's Love and Grace for you





## Easy Easter Hot Cross Buns

- 1 cup warm water
- 1 envelope of quick rise yeast
- 3 tbsp sugar
- 1 large egg
- 2 ½ cups all purpose flour plus 2 tbsp
- 1 tbsp olive oil
- 1 Pinch of salt
- 2 tsp ground cloves
- 3 tsp ground cinnamon
- ½ tsp ground ginger
- 1 cup dried raisins



### For The cross

- 1/2 cup all purpose flour
- ¼ cup plus 6 tsp of water

### For The Glaze

- ⅓ cup apricot jam
- 2 tbsp water

Line a baking tray with parchment paper and dust lightly with some flour. In the bowl of a stand mixer, add the warm water, yeast, sugar, egg, flour, olive oil, salt, cloves, cinnamon, ginger and raisins.

Using a dough hook attachment, mix the ingredients on low speed for about 4-5 minutes until they have come together. Dust your table with some flour and dump the dough onto the work surface.

Sprinkle some extra flour on top of the dough if it seems sticky and knead the dough into a ball shape.

Transfer the ball to a bowl that has been lightly sprayed with oil. Cover with plastic wrap and leave in a warm, humid place until doubled in size.

Once the dough has risen enough, dump it back out onto the table and knock out all of the air from it.

Roll the dough into a log shape and cut it into 12 even sized pieces.

Roll each piece into a tight ball and place on your prepared baking pan in a 4 x 3 pattern making sure to place each ball almost touching.

Cover with a clean towel and let rise for another hour or until they have started to rise and touch sides with each other.

Preheat the oven to 375° F.

While they are rising make the mixture for the cross. Mix the water and flour together to form a smooth paste. Once the buns are ready for the oven, using a piping bag with a very thin nozzle or zip lock bag with the corner snipped off, squeeze the cross mixture across the buns in both directions to form the cross.

Place in the oven and bake for about 20 minutes and golden brown.

Bring the apricot jam and water to a boil in a pot. Simmer until thin and runny. Glaze the buns and let cool.

# APRIL MINISTRY CALENDAR

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- 2 - **5pm** Scouts Blue and Gold Banquet
- 3 - **9am** Worship, **10am** Fellowship/Sunday School, **5:30pm** Jesus Meal, class and worship, **6pm** Confirmation
- 4 - **11am** Bible Study
- 6 - **5:30pm** Trustees meeting, **6:30pm** Bible Study
- 10 - **Palm Sunday/Confirmation Sunday - 9am** Worship, **10am** Fellowship/Sunday School
- 11 - **8am** Breakfast and devotions
- 12—**8am** Breakfast and devotions
- 13—**8am** Breakfast and devotions
- 14 - **Maundy Thursday - 8am** Breakfast (Cornerstone) and devotions, **7pm** Worship with Communion and Handwashing
- 15 - **Good Friday** - Noon Worship at the Presbyterian Church in Eureka
- 17 - **Easter Sunday Celebrations - 7am** Sunrise Worship, **8am** Sunrise Breakfast, **9am** Worship, **10am** Childrens Easter Egg Hunt
- 18 - **11am** Bible Study
- 19 - **6pm** Church Council mtg.
- 20 - **6:30pm** Bible Study
- 24 - **Earth Day Celebration / Scouts Sunday - 9am** Worship, **10am** Fellowship/Sunday School
- 25 - **11am** Bible Study
- 27 - **6:30pm** Bible Study

## April Greeters

- 3 - L. Anderson / R. Shanklin
- 10 - D. Brehmer
- 17 - D. Wettstein
- 24 - Crouch's



## May Greeters

- 1 - L. Anderson / R. Shanklin
- 8 - M. Lamb
- 15 - L. Hinnen
- 22 - Bown's
- 29 - Kenagy's