Englewood United Methodist Church Newsletter



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MARCH 1, 2024

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RESURRECTION AND ETERNAL LIFE



I am, once again, in the middle of an important season with the Board of Ordained Ministry. We have recently completed interviews with candidates looking to become provisional members of our United Methodist Conference as either Elders or Deacons, and we are preparing to interview candidates who have finished their provisional period and are seeking to become members in full connection. A lot of questions are asked, but two of them center on big beliefs for Christians and our denomination. What is your understanding of resurrection and eternal life?

Have you ever wrestled with these Christian themes? If we sat down for a conversation and I asked you, perhaps you would have an answer ready to give. The truth is, there are a lot of misconceptions we have about these topics and, as we journey towards Easter, it would benefit us to have a refresher. Let's begin with resurrection and an easy question. What did the women and the disciples find in the tomb on Easter morning? Don't worry! I'm not trying to trick you! They found no body. Jesus was no longer there. This means that at some point, Jesus walked right on out. I know that we are familiar with this important detail, but do we know what that means for us?

A lot of times, we reduce resurrection to going to heaven. Though it is our firm belief that when we pass on from this world, our souls go to be with Christ. I find great comfort in this truth when I find myself in the midst of loss or as a pastor ministering to a family grieving loss. But the ultimate hope of Christians is not that we will remain in that place with Christ, but that our bodies, too, will experience the same resurrection when God's plan for creation is complete. Like Jesus, our bodies will be restored and walk out of the grave. We will be uniquely us, as God created us, but we will be transformed by putting on Christ's imperishability, impervious to sickness, pain and death. The ultimate hope is not that the world as is will one day disappear, but that the new Jerusalem will come out of heaven, plug into our creation, and restore it to what it was intended to be. Heaven comes here! That is a pretty exciting hope to put our faith in!

What about eternal life? What if I told you that eternal life is not just living forever with God when we die? Did you know it can begin today? Our theology as Christians and as United Methodists is that eternal life is more than just living forever and ever. Rather, it's really talking about a life spent with God. Like the Kingdom of God is something here and not yet, breaking into this world, but not fully here, eternal life is something we can begin to tap into here and now. Once we accept the truth of God's presence and commit to following Christ, we have the opportunity to, hear and now, experience eternal life. This is a life motivated, not by the wisdom of this world, but the wisdom of God, seeking to love more fully God and our neighbor. It is a life with a purpose beyond just existing for ourselves, but existing for God as we were created to be.

Resurrection and eternal life. These are the promises we hold onto as we journey through the wilderness of Lent. They are the light at the end of the tunnel we celebrate every Easter. Though we experience them now imperfectly, God promises we will know them fully as his Kingdom breaks through and God takes up residence in God's creation once again to wipe every tear from our eyes. Now ask yourself what these hopes mean to you? How are you experiencing life with God right now? And if you ever have to come before the board of ordination, I've given the start of some good answers to these questions. At least I'll smile when I read them!

Pastor Nathan



Our Sympathy Is Expressed To:

Dot Honeycutt and family upon the death of her husband, William Rex Honeycutt on February 14, 2024.

Paul Dunn and family upon the death of his wife, Theodosia Ingrid Cortele-Dunn on February 25, 2024.

> In Memoriam WILLIAM REX HONEYCUTT February 14, 2024

In Memoriam **THEODOSIA INGRID CORTELE-DUNN** February 25, 2024

Congratulations to Allison & Eric Tolston upon the birth of their son, Bowen Reid Tolston on February 16, 2024. Grandmother is Glenda Hortman. Big sisters are Adelaide and Marissa Tolston.

Congratulations to



Alex & Ashley Trull upon the birth of their daughter, Ava Elizabeth on February 19, 2024. Grandfather is Donald Trull. Big sister & Big Brothers are Aubrey Claire, Ayden Michael

and Ashton Dean Trull.

Thank You

Pastor Nathan, Congregation, Committees, and Ministries,

Thank you for this wonderful expression of God's true work. Your church is truly a beacon to our Lighthouse and that is how God works "Lamps unto each other".

> Thank you all, Vanessa Scaife Director of The Lighthouse for Women



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

02	Laurel Currie
02	Samuel High
02	James Horan
03	Joshua Lee
05	Deborah High
05	Alex Trull
06	Amy Quigley
07	Kathryn Wright
08	Sawyer Mills
08	Ryan Nichols
08	Lindsay Stanislaw
10	Jack Watson-Batts
11	Brooklyn Batts
11	Leslie Belfance
13	Robert Coats
15	Jay Quigley
17	Brian Collins
17	Patsy Lepak

Rick Cline

- 18 Shelton Meade Lee Pullen 18
- 19 Laura Earp
- 20 Glenda Hortman
- 20 John Wilson
- 21 Theresa Nettnin
- Jane Seeger 22
- 23 Brad Dunn
- 23 Mary K. Landis
- 23 John Vickers
- 24 Nancy Johnston
- 24 Douglas Lynch
- 24 Mauguerite Wilson
- Michael Bunn 26
- Everette Stanislaw 27
- 27 Seth Varney
- 29 Gus Kanai
- 31 Harriett Dobbins

Thank You

To the Prayer Shawl / Blanket Ministry,

My thanks for the beautiful prayer shawl I received recently. Your thoughts and prayers are greatly appreciated.

Thanks to Janice Roberson for delivering the prayer shawl.

Mattie Bullock

Thank You

Many thanks for the flowers. I received lots of joy and pleasure from them.

They gave my room brightness for several weeks. I also enjoyed the visit and conversation with Sharon.

Thanks for your service to our Lord.

Blessings to you.

I pray with love,

Dot Parrish

Thank You

To the Flower Ministry,

Our thanks for the beautiful flowers we have received at several times over the past few months. Your thoughts and prayers are greatly appreciated.

Thanks to Jo Lynn Wilson, Pat Bunn and Terrie Buckner for delivering flowers to us.

Mattie & W. B. Bullock



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United Women in Faith News



ſ	March 2	9:00 a.m.	Heritage District UWF Study - Fellowship Hall The EUMC UWF is hosting this district event so it will be nice to have a strong showing of EUMC UWF members. The study is titled: Living the Kin-dom: Exploring the Lord's Prayer as a Spiritual Practice for Social Transformation.
	March 19	10:00 a.m.	Women of the Way - The Lighthouse Home for Women (Meet in church parking lot at 9:30 a.m. to carpool)
	March 21	6:00 p.m.	Lydia's Sisters' Circle - Fellowship Hall Set up and decorate for the Lydia's Sisters' Tea
	March 23	11:00 a.m.	Spring with Me to the Lydia's Sisters' Tea - Fellowship Hall

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY



Tuesday, March 12

Tuesday, March 5 10:00 am - 12:00 pm Parlor

10:00 am - 12:00 pm Fellowship Hall (Blankets)

Shawls and blankets will be placed on the altar rail for blessing on Sunday, March 17th.

Do you know someone who would be comforted by receiving a Prayer Shawl or a Blanket? Forms are available on the table outside the church office for you to request shawls/blankets. You may call the church office at 252-443-2926. You may also contact Betty Poplin at 252-985-0950.



Women of The Way Circle

The Women of the Way Circle met February 20th in the Aldersgate Classroom. Sharon Roth gave the devotion "Finding God's Peace". The Hebrew word for peace is shalom and true peace is not just a feeling but a state of mind. Giving our troubles to God will afford us His perfect peace.

The program was given by Kathleen Fleming, Foundation and Volunteer Services Director at Nash UNC Health Care. She gave us an update on the many ways the Foundation serves this community: 1. Patient Food Pantry; 2. Patient Assistance Program (meds, food, transportation, etc.); 3. Community Paramedic Program; 4. Patient Support Specialist Program; 5. Volunteers.

An update was given on those Circle members who have incurred medical issues. The Circle continues to support Faith Christian Ministries with food products and The Lighthouse with paper products. Terrie Buckner reported that dishcloth bunnies will be sold at Lydia's Sisters' Circle Tea and Glenda Hortman will be selling Rada knives. New handbooks were distributed to the members present and those who missed the January meeting completed pledge cards. A card from the Lighthouse women thanking us for the two ceiling fans at Christmas was passed around to the group.

The UWF will be serving at the Lenten luncheon on February 28th and at the District Mission Study on March 2nd. Volunteers were solicited for both.

The March 19th meeting will be held at the Lighthouse with a Bible study for all present. Members were asked to meet at the church between 9:30-9:40 a.m. to carpool to the meeting.

On April 16th, we will be visiting the Nash County Arboretum for our meeting. There will be no formal meeting in May. Instead, the group will have a fellowship dinner here at the church and include the women from the Lighthouse. All women of the church are invited to join us at any or all of these meetings.

Lydía's Sísters' Tea



Saturday, March 23rd 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Englewood UMC Fellowship Hall

Tickets are \$15 each and will be sold in the church lobby from March 3rd to March 17th before and after worship on Sundays.

FAITH CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES OF **NASH COUNTY - MARCH NEEDS**



Thank you for continuing to support this mission project by donating food to feed the hungry in Nash County. Donations were extremely low in February, less than a dozen items. Won't you please consider adding more food to our donation boxes? It only means 1 extra item to your

grocery cart each week, but it will mean the world to a hungry person. Remember, this agency supports all of Nash County, not just Nashville.

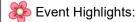
Starting Sunday, March 3rd, the <u>"Meals of the</u> Month" donation will be Tuna and Tuna Helper. There is a LOVE CAN located in the area beneath the name tags in the church lobby, labeled "FCM MEALS OF THE MONTH". Please donate these food items to help stock their food pantry throughout the month of March. This is another wonderful opportunity for this generous congregation to help others who can't help themselves.



Princess Tea: March 9

Velcome to the Princess Tea Party!

You're invited to join in a magical experience where dreams come true and tiaras reign supreme. Our Girls' Princess Tea is a whimsical celebration, inviting young royalty to step into a fairytale world filled with enchantment and grace.



- Royal Tea Service: Sip on exquisite refreshments and nibble on delectable treats fit for princesses.
- Dress-Up Corner: Transform into a regal princess with an array of enchanting costumes and accessories.
- Magical Crafts: Engage in delightful crafts, creating princess-inspired treasures to take home.
- Royal Storytime: Gather around as captivating tales of princess adventures come to life.
- Interactive Games: Enjoy laughter and camaraderie with fellow princesses through enchanting games.

Tickets: Secure your spot at the royal affair! Sign up at www.englewood-umc.com/princess-tea and purchase tickets through our Children's Ministry representatives or in the Church Office (252-443-2926). The cost is \$15 per princess.

Attire: Princess attire is encouraged but not required. Let your imagination guide your outfit!



Join us for a magical day of tea, tiaras, and treasured memories. Reserve your place in the kingdom of enchantment today! Let the magic begin!



Easter Egg Hunt - March 30

It's almost time for our annual Easter Egg Hunt! All children and families are invited to join us on Saturday, March 30th at 10:00 a.m. for this fun event. We'll hear the Easter story together, hunt for Easter eggs, and finish the morning off with games and crafts! Don't forget to invite your friends!! Here are some ways our church family can help:

ENGLEWOOD UMC CHILDREN'S MINISTR

11 O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING ENGLEWOOD UMC BALLROOM

(FELLOWSHIP HALL)

All young ladies are invited to join us for a special meal. princess

lessons, and more. We'll be joined by some exciting royal guests!

SATURDAY, THE 9

OF MARCH

- Donate candy for the eggs by March 20th (individually wrapped candy only, and smaller candy fits better in the eggs)
- Come help us stuff the eggs on Wednesday, March 20th at 1:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall
- Volunteer for the day of the event We can always use adult volunteers to hide the eggs, supervise the egg hunt, and help with games and crafts!

Touch-A-Truck Event: April 13

Get ready for the ultimate boys' adventure at our Touch-A-Truck Event!

On Saturday, April 13th from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., prepare for a day filled with excitement and exploration as our young adventurers are invited to get up close and personal with an impressive lineup of trucks, vehicles, and machinery that make everyday life extraordinary.

Event Highlights:

- Touch, Explore, and Climb: Engage with a diverse array of trucks, construction vehicles, emergency response units, and more!
- Interactive Demonstrations: Witness exciting live demonstrations showcasing the capabilities of various vehicles.
- Driver Meet-and-Greet: Meet the skilled drivers and operators behind the wheels, ask questions, and learn about their fascinating work.
- Hotdog Lunch: Enjoy a lunch of a hotdog, chips, a drink, and a cookie for only \$5 each.

Don't miss out on the chance for your young explorer to see, touch, and experience the world of big machines in a safe and interactive environment. There is no cost to attend or need to sign up ahead of time. All are welcome!! Let the exploration begin!



ENGLEWOOD UNITED METHODIST MEN



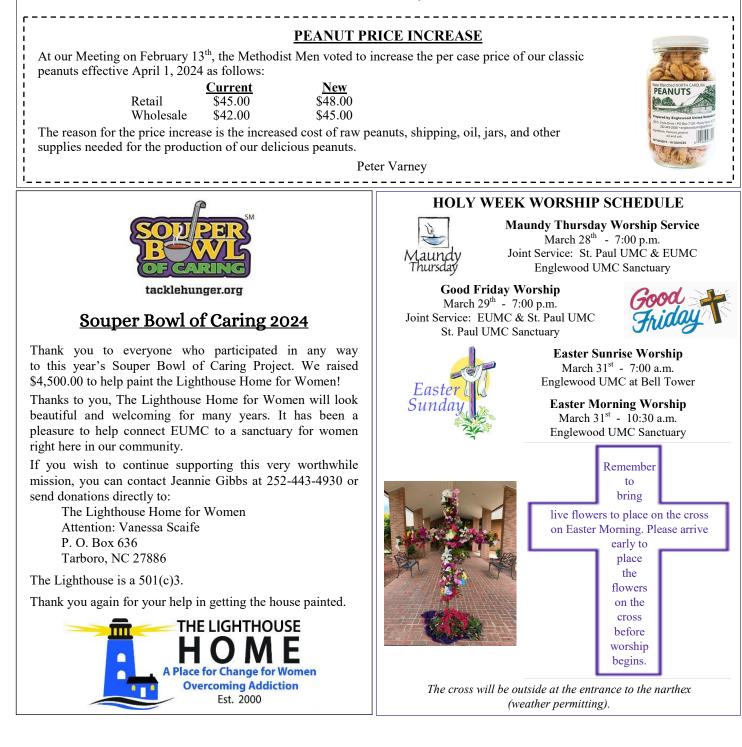
The Methodist Men will meet on **Tuesday, March 12th** at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall for our regular meeting. Our speaker will be Liz Macam from the Rail Division at the North Carolina Department of Transportation She will talk about the 23% increase in rail passenger ridership between Raleigh and Charlotte in 2023 overtaking the record of 522,000 passengers in 2022. She will talk also abut the U. S. Department of Transportation award of a grant of \$1.1 billion to design and build the first segment of a high

speed passenger rail line connecting Raleigh to Richmond, the full cost of which is estimated at \$11 billion. Ms. Macam will talk about these developments and others at the Rail Division.

Please mark your calendar now and plan to attend. Jeff Smith will prepare a great meal for us very reasonably priced at \$5.00 (free for first time visitors).

We will have a brief business session following the presentation from our guest speaker. I look forward to seeing you there.

Peter Varney



Mid-Week Bible Study



Rev. Doug's Mid-Week Bible Study will resume on Thursday, April 4th, at 6:30 p.m. in the Aldersgate Room. We hope you will join us for this time of study and a fun time.

> Blessings, Doug Geeting



Our Autism Meeting for March will be cancelled due to scheduling conflicts. Please stay tuned for our announcement concerning our April Fundraiser to Honor Autism Recognition Month.



Caring Card Ministry

Many thanks to Beverly Ann Williams for her dedication to creating our special card for our Caring Card Ministry. Please take cards available in the church office hall and the church narthex

to share with our congregation and others as you need.



SENIOR ADULT FELLOWSHIP

Due to the Lenten Worship & Lunch schedule at noon during the month of March, the Senior Adult Fellowship will meet in the Fellowship Hall for Bingo at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 6th

at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 20th.



The deadline for receiving information to be included in the APRIL Newsletter is Wednesday, March 20thI

The Sounds and Smells of Fellowship

Walking into the back hall of our church, I heard the joy of friends sharing stories and the delectable odor of delicious foods. That in itself is not strange, except all folks had eaten and left the building! The special EUMC fellowship lingered and left us wanting more! Many members want to exchange the wonderful recipes, the Lighthouse Ladies need to be welcomed back and many suggestions were received to continue this type of event. It really began with the Val's Diner then the Souper Bowl meal, capping off with the wonderful Pancake Supper. We are hungry for laughter, conversation and fellowship with each other and everyone said Let's Keep This UP! Each of these events took a team of caring EUMC people and we want to say a BIG THANKS!!!!

Barbara Batts

Stewardship Campaign Update

YTD Stewardship Pledges* \$34,183 \$37,117 YTD Stewardship Giving (Actual)

*Annualized monthly average from \$403K Stewardship Campaign Pledges

Financials as of January 31, 2024

Total Receipts Total Expenses \$38,076 \$34,363

ways to give

online

in person



2024 FLOWER CALENDAR

The 2024 Flower Calendar is now available for your use in reserving that special Sunday to place flowers in the sanctuary in memory of your loved ones or in honor of a special event in your family. The 2024 Flower Calendar is now online on the church website (www.englewood-umc.com). Under the Worship heading click on Flowers. Scroll down for instructions to use the calendar to reserve a date. Click on the Sunday you would like to provide flowers. If the date is available, provide your name, email and the message you would like placed in the bulletin regarding the person(s) or event being honored by the flowers. Click 'Submit'. You should get an email confirmation that your date has been reserved. If you have questions or are unable to make your

reservation, call the church office (252-443-2926) and we will be happy to help you. If the Sunday you would like to reserve has already been scheduled and you would like to place flowers in the narthex, please call the church office. As in the past you will receive an email or phone call reminder the week before your scheduled Sunday.

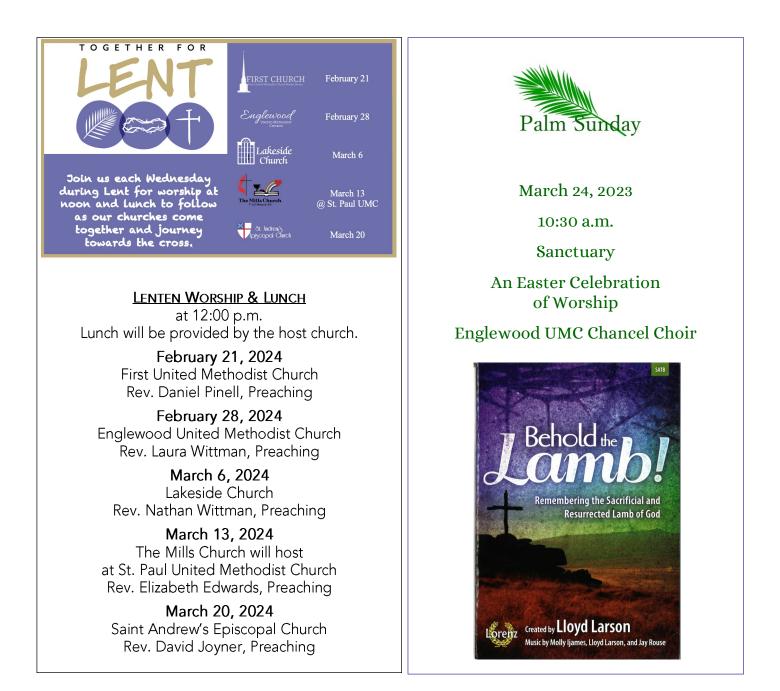
LENTEN STUDY ON SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES

Pastors Nathan and Savanna are leading a joint study on Spiritual Disciplines each Monday during Lent at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. There is no need to sign up and there will not be a book to purchase. Please join us!

The schedule is as follows:

- February 26 A Disciplined Life Study Scripture
 March 4 A Disciplined Life Study Meditation
 March 11 A Disciplined Life Study Service
 March 18 A Disciplined Life Study Journaling
- March 25 A Disciplined Life Study Prayer







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Let's Love On Our Teachers!

Let's Love on our teachers!! We are excited to connect with the teachers and staff of Englewood Elementary School and show them God's love as they shape the children of our community. We will do this by putting snacks and drinks in teachers' rooms, providing an occasional meal to strengthen the school staff physically, and give them inspirational gifts on special occasions. We can also provide a safe place where they can decompress and verbalize needs and concerns to support them emotionally; as well as providing scripture verses and prayer times in person, through an email, text or a GroupMe to support them spiritually. We also hope to do an ice cream social at the end of the year!

The Principal and Guidance Counselor at Englewood Elementary are excited about our suggestions! They also like the idea of giving the teachers a little more day-to-day support by volunteering in the following ways:

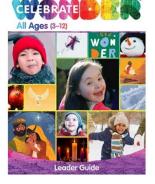
- •Assisting in the cafeteria during lunch so teachers can have a break to eat
- •Being present during arrival and dismissal
- •Shelving books in the library
- •Reading to the children
- •Making and holding inspirational signs during EOGs (testing)
- •Making and holding signs for teachers at the beginning and end of year

We've already gotten started by sending candy to the teachers and staff on the school's designated "Random Act of Kindness Day" on February 22nd. We're also planning to serve a meal on March 11th for a staff meeting, when we'll get to share more with the teachers in person.

We'd love to have as many volunteers as possible to shine the light of Christ in the school! If you're excited to help with this, contact Lu Czar at 252-985-8126 (call or text, please leave your name) or let Savanna know. All volunteers at the school need to visit <u>https://www.ncpschools.net/page/volunteer-information</u> to fill out a volunteer form and complete a background check.

If you don't have time to help, you can always make a check out to EUMC and put Love on Our Teachers in the memo line. Thank you in advance for your support!

Children's Sunday School



Children 5th grade and younger are invited to join us on the children's hall for a time of learning, fellowship, and fun on Sunday mornings at 9:30! Our younger children will have a special activity in our nursery, while our older children journey through the Bible one week at a time.

Date	Торіс	Helper
March 3	Jesus Washes Feet (John 13:1-17)	Susan Hayes
March 10	The Last Supper (Luke 22:14-20)	Patsy Lepak
March 17	Praying in the Garden (Luke 22:39-46)	Lu Czar
March 24	Jesus Enters Jerusalem (Matthew 21:1-11)	Helper Needed
March 31	Fellowship Breakfast	



Children's Church & Nursery

Our children and adult leaders are having such a wonderful time learning about God's Word in Children's Church during worship on Sunday mornings! Children are invited to join us in worship with their families at 10:30 a.m. After a special children's message just for them, our children can go back to the children's hall for more awesome activities! Parents can pick up children on the children's hall after worship ends.

Children's Church Schedule

We're continuing our focus on Jesus in a series called "New Testament Life Lessons". Each week we'll learn about a different story from the New Testament that shows us something about who Jesus is and who he calls us to be as his followers. It's going to be a great journey - we hope all our children will join us!

Date	Торіс	Leader	
March 3	Jesus Raised a Dead Girl; He Raises Us Too	Beth Ezzell	
March 10	Jesus Multiplied the Loaves & Our Gifts Too	Phyllis Woodley	
March 17	Where'd They Get the Nerve?	Savanna Becker	
March 24	Palm Sunday & Holy Week	Jessica Ezzell	
March 31	Easter!	Savanna Becker	
Nursery Schedu	ule: Date	Helper	
	March 3	Theresa Cruz	
	March 10	Susan Jackson	
	March 17	Carolyn Carter	
	March 24	Laura Earp	
	March 31	Helper Needed	

Saturday Morning CAFE (Children And Families @ Englewood)

Our Saturday Morning CAFE (Children And Families @ Englewood) is an opportunity for our children and their families to get together and explore our faith in fresh ways. The CAFE is for families with children in 5th grade and younger, and is designed for grownups to stay and enjoy the activities with us.

We will not have a CAFE in March or April because of the Easter Egg Hunt, Princess Tea, and Touch-A-Truck Events. We have so many exciting things going on!! Our next CAFÉ will be on Saturday, May 18th at 10:00 a.m. and our theme is Spring! We'll learn all about how God gives us new life, just like nature gets new life in the springtime. We'll also have snacks and other activities that focus on our theme. We hope we'll see all of our children and families there!





UMYF MARCH SCHEDULE

Sunday	March 3	9:30 a.m. 5:00 - 7:00 pm	Confirmation Class Youth Group
Sunday	March 10	9:30 a.m. 5:00 - 7:00 pm	Confirmation Class Youth Group
Sunday	March 17	9:30 a.m. 5:00 - 7:00 pm	Confirmation Class Youth Group
Sunday	March 24	9:30 a.m. 5:00 - 7:00 pm	Confirmation Class Youth Group
Sunday	March 31	10:30 a.m.	Confirmation Service No Youth Group Meeting

UMYF Dinner Signups

Our UMYF meets on Sundays from 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. for dinner, Bible study, games, and fellowship. If you are able to provide a meal for our UMYF one Sunday evening, our group would really appreciate your help! You can either bring the meal or donate financially toward our meal fund. The sign-up list is in the church lobby. Thank you for your ongoing support of our UMYF!

<u>Date</u>	Theme	Provided By
March 3	Mexican Food	
March 10	Comfort Food	
March 17	Breakfast Food	
March 24	Sandwiches	
March 31	No Meal Needed	

YARD SALE - May 4, 2024

Our spring yard sale is just around the corner on Saturday, May 4th, and our youth are collecting donations of items to sell. Please bring your donations to Room 5 ("The Rock") on the Fellowship Hall hallway; larger items such as furniture can be placed in the room behind the stage. *(*Note: Please do not leave yard sale items in the youth room.*)* All proceeds from the yard sale will benefit the Youth Mission Fund, helping to support the awesome summer experiences we have planned for our youth!



Outside spaces (parking space) may be rented for \$10.00 each in the church office during office hours (Monday thru Thursday).



TRUSTEES CORNER!

Each Sunday we hear that our members in church and those who are watching our Stream, are becoming more acclimated to our new AV system. We are very blessed to have volunteers learn this system and some more

experienced members in this field offer their suggestions. It has taken a very diligent team to accomplish our goals and we will continue to develop our skills. Be sure to **Share** on your phone and invite a friend to sit with you in church. *Our Trustees are:*

Barbara Batts, Rod Buckner, Brian Collins, Jeff de los Santos, Jerry Lee Ezzell, Janet Hagan, Lisa Hicks, Terry Von Elling & Terry Woodley



YOUTH PANCAKE SUPPER THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who supported our EUMC Youth by participating in our Pancake Supper Fundraiser! The money we raised goes into our Youth Mission Fund, which will be used for our summer mission experiences like Workday Wednesdays. We have a great summer ahead, and it wouldn't be possible without your help!