

Table of Contents Page Calendars 2 Church Library 3 Welcome New Staff 3 **Book Club** 4 Opportunities for Growth 5 Youth 5 **DeSoto Updates** 6 Moment for Service 7 **Worship Participants** 8 Sermon Series 8

WEEKLY BULLETIN DEADLINE

is Wednesday at 10:00 a.m.



April *Compass* Deadline is March 20th THANKS

Noisy Mission Offering In March is going to Little Grassy Camp

From the Pastor's Desk

The season of Lent is upon us and for the next 40 days (excluding Sundays) we enter a season of prayer, fasting and self-examination. I really do not think the early church, as they formed the liturgical calendar and seasons, intended Lent to be an emotionally depressing time. However, our spiritual journeys are not complete without some understanding and experience of the radical love of God for us as expressed in the passion and death of Jesus.

We do not remember the pain and suffering of Jesus as some degree of morbid punishment for our sin. We remember the passion events to better understand the desire of God to reconcile all humanity and the limitless extent to which God was willing to go. No event more clearly expresses how precious you are to God than the passion of Jesus. It is not a pretty picture like a baby in a manger. It is a dark, harsh, cruel picture which reflects the worst of humanity but also the best of God. There is an old gospel hymn: Beneath the Cross of Jesus. The fourth verse talks of two wonders found there: the wonders of God's glorious love and my unworthiness. This is the message Lent; the grace and power of God to hold these two wonders together and by doing so change the world forever.

See you in worship, Larry

Adjustments to the Communion Schedule in April:

There will be several opportunities to celebrate Communion during Holy Week, so we will not be offering Communion on the first Sunday of April.

Communion will be celebrated during the 4/13 Maundy Thursday service and on Easter Sunday.

स्वास्त्र स्वास्त्र स्वास्त्र स्वास्त्र स्वास्त्र स्वास्त्र स्वास्त्र स्वास्त्र स्वास्त्र स्वास्त्र

9:00 am Handbells

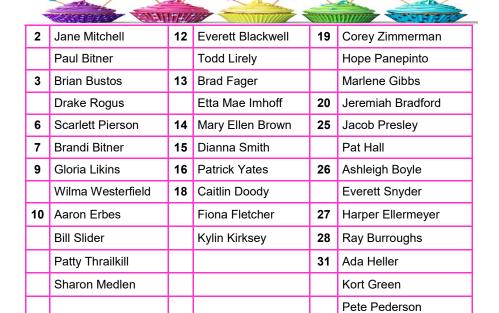
10:00 am AA

					, ,				
1-3	8:00 am	Stephen Ministry Training		3:30 pm	n Confirmation Class (makeup)			Meals on Wheels Week	
1	9:00 am	Worship Team		7:00 pm	Evangelism Training		6:30 pm	Bald Knob Cross Funds Dev	
	6:00 pm	Boy Scouts			AA Big Book		7:00 pm	Evangelism Training	
		Choir Practice	14	12:00 pm	Young at Heart			AA Big Book	
	7:00 pm	Ash Wednesday Worship Service		6:00 pm	Board of Trustees	21	9:00 am	Precept Bible Study	
		AA and Al-Anon			Cub Scouts		6:00 pm	Cub Scouts	
2	6:00 pm	Scout Roundtable		6:30 pm Praise Team Rehearsal			6:30 pm	Praise Team Rehearsal	
4	9:00 am	Handbell Practice		7:00 pm	Finance Committee	22	6:00 pm	Boy Scouts	
	10:00 am	n AA		9:00 am	Nurture and Care Team			Choir Practice	
	4:30 pm	Morgan-Stephens Wedding		6:00 pm	Boy Scouts	A		AA and Al-Anon	
5	1:30 pm	Leadership Retreat			Choir Practice	23	5:30 pm	Daisies & Brownies	
	5:00 pm	Precept Bible Study		7:00 pm	Service & Missions	6:45 pm Gir		Girl Scout Juniors	
6-10	8:00 am	Stephen Ministry Training			Staff Parish Relations	25	9:00 am	Handbell Practice	
6	7:00 pm	Evangelism Training			AA Al-Anon		10:00 am	n AA	
		AA Big Book	18	9:00 am	Handbell Practice	26	12:00 pm	Our Neighbor's Table	
7	9:00 am	Precept Bible Study		10:00 am	AA		5:00 pm	Precept Bible Study	
	11:30 am	n A-Team		10:15 am	Book Club	27	7:00 pm	Evangelism Training	
	6:00 pm	Cub Scouts	19	10:15 am	DeSoto Informal Worship			AA Big Book	
	6:30 pm	Praise Team Rehearsal		5:00 pm	Precept Bible Study	28	9:00 am	Precept Bible Study	
8	6:00 pm	Boy Scouts					6:00 pm	Cub Scouts	
		Choir Practice	amn Regi	stration	will be conducted after		6:30 pm	n Praise Team Rehearsal	
	6:30 pm		both worship services on April 2nd. Info is at			29	9:00 am	Holy Folders	
	7:00 pm	AA and Al-Anon ba	ick of the c	hurch.	:		6:00 pm	Boy Scouts	
9	5:30 pm	Daisies & Brownies	- # PARCE C					Choir Practice	
	6:45 pm	Girl Scout Juniors	AMNOVERSARY					AA and Al-Anon	
10	9:30 am	Feeder of the Pack		707	11/2				
11	7:30 am	UMM Breakfast	1 Kell	ee & Steve	licer	40	Day	s of Prayer	

	2018 2018 2018 2018 2018 2018 2018 2018
1	Kellee & Steve Ticer
10	Mary Ellen & Richard Tierney
11	Scarlett & Rick Pierson
18	Lou Anne & Jon Lough
31	Caroline & Pete Pederson

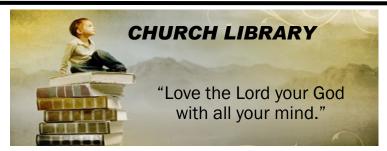
40 Days of Prayer

Please join others in the MUMC congregation who will commit to praying daily for our DeSoto site. Weekly worship begins at DeUMC on Sunday, April 2. Will you include the congregation, ministries, outreach events and Agape House activities at DeUMC in your prayers during this season of Lent?





Prayer calendars will be distributed at worship services at MUMC on Feb 26, and will be available on the table at the north entrance to the Sanctuary throughout Lent.



The Library Corner: Lent and Easter

During Lent many people feel a need to study and reflect more deeply on the meaning of Jesus' life and sacrifice for us on the cross. If you are one of those people, here are a few resources from the church library.

Adult:

He Chose the Nails: What God did to Win Your **Heart** by Max Lucado

24 Hours That Changed the World by Adam Hamilton. Walk with Jesus on his final day. Follow him to the cross.

Final Words from the Cross, by Adam Hamilton. **Book and Audio editions**

The Passion of Jesus Christ: Fifty Reasons Why He Came to Die by John Piper

Children/Youth:

Why is There a Cross by Kathleen Long Bostrom Breakfast with Jesus by Mark Taylor The Easter Story DVD; Greatest Adventure Series Several Child / Youth Bibles that tell the stories of Jesus death and resurrection.

Look for these and other materials on the Library table upstairs, or in the library.

The most amazing, most important, and most awesome (in the very serious meaning of that word) event happened a little over two thousand years ago. lust as it is impossible to overstate the importance of Jesus' life and Jesus' death, all for us, it is also impossible to fully grasp the depth of love and grace poured out over the world. But that shouldn't keep us from trying.

The church library has a variety of resources to deepen our thoughts, awaken our hearts to gratitude and love for God.



AMANDA WINGERTER Webmaster Extraordinaire

Amanda Wingerter has been the master of "all things MUMC website" since 2013. [If you haven't already done so, take a few minutes to check out our awesome website at www.murphysboroumc.com.] In 2014 she began developing the creative pre-service announcement slides we enjoy weekly. She also funnels promotion requests to individuals for inclusion in the weekly bulletin, Compass and worship leader announcements and serves on the Publicity & Promotions Team. In January the church was able to bring Amanda onboard as a part-time staff member. At that time she added to her long list of things to do graphic arts design for special projects and events. So while her official job title is "Webmaster," Amanda is so much more. She serves as a volunteer in Sunday School and other youth programs.

Beyond all you may be learning about Amanda's mostly behind-the-scenes handiwork in her home church, do you also know that she possesses a Bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering/minor in Mathematics and a Master's degree in Environmental Engineering? Or how about this: she loves to spend any spare time quilting, reading, and studying Spanish! El Señor te ha bendecido, Amanda! [Translation: The Lord has blessed you, Amanda!]

Amanda finds time to share her blessings by teaching kids, kindergarten through college, in mathematics, SAT and ACT preparation, reading and other subjects at Sylvan Learning Center in Carterville.

Amanda is a daughter to MUMC congregation members Ron and Clara Kiser, wife to Brant, and mommy to Logan and Abigail.

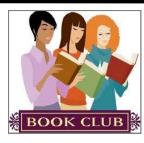
~Staff Parish Relations Committee

The Compass MUMC Book Club Page 4



Saturday





Saturday Book Club members love their January meeting! During the other months, we all read the same book and discuss it at our meeting. In January, we all read different books and then tell our fellow book lovers about them. We never know what books we will hear about in January, and this year's picks were a surprise— our book choices through the year are usually fiction, yet this month every single book was non-fiction. Here are this year's January picks—hope you find one you too would like to read.

<u>The Zookeeper's Wife</u> by Diane Ackerman Read by: Emily Hargraves



This book is based upon journals of Antonina Zabinski, who, along with her zookeeper husband helped to hide Jewish refugees during Nazi occupied Warsaw, Poland. Although it is a fascinating true story, the book was hard to follow- with very little connection felt between the reader and any of the characters.

Wishful Drinking by Carrie Fisher Read by: MaryAnn Hinchcliff



An autobiography written after electroshock therapy. Finding herself again and reminiscing about growing up in Hollywood with celebrity parents.

Nights in Tents: On the Front Lines of the Occupy Movement

by Laura Love Read by: Gaye Auxier



Acclaimed musician Laura Love writes about the year she spent participating in the occupy movement and how she used resources she had to help people make change.

My Family and Other Animals by Gerald Durrell Read by: Mary Ellen Brown



A true story based on the Durrell family's relocation from England to Corfu. Describes the natural history of the island but also his family and all of their wild experiences when living in Corfu. Also, a series on Masterpiece Theater.

<u>Capital Dames</u> by Cokie Roberts Read by: Susan Patterson

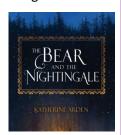


Capital Dames is about the women of Washington D.C. leading up to and during the Civil War, and a little bit afterwards. Roberts is able to give observations from these women using letters, notes, journals, newspapers, and also just historical accounts to give the flavor of the atmosphere. Some of these women had very strong opinions and played roles in politics in their own way, seeking to have influence over various matters. One of the most interesting stories is about Rose Greenhow, who acted boldly and smartly as a spy for the Confederacy.

Join the discussion on The Bear and the Nightingale by Katherine Arden Saturday, March 18th at 10:15 am

At the edge of the Russian wilderness, winter lasts most of the year and the snowdrifts grow taller than houses. But Vasilisa doesn't mind—she spends the winter nights huddled

around the embers of a fire with her beloved siblings, listening to her nurse's fairy tales. Above all, she loves the chilling story of Frost, the blue-eyed winter demon, who appears in the frigid night to claim unwary souls. Wise Russians fear him, her nurse says, and honor the spirits of house and yard and forest that protect their homes from evil.



After Vasilisa's mother dies, her father goes to Moscow and brings home a new wife. Fiercely devout, city-bred, Vasilisa's new stepmother forbids her family from honoring the household spirits. The family acquiesces, but Vasilisa is frightened, sensing that more hinges upon their rituals than anyone knows.

And indeed, crops begin to fail, evil creatures of the forest creep nearer, and misfortune stalks the village. All the while, Vasilisa's stepmother grows ever harsher in her determination to groom her rebellious stepdaughter for either marriage or confinement in a convent.

As danger circles, Vasilisa must defy even the people she loves and call on dangerous gifts she has long concealed—this, in order to protect her family from a threat that seems to have stepped from her nurse's most frightening tales.

Read Ahead:

The Book for April is

The Boys in the Boat: Nine Americans and Their Epic Quest for Gold at the 1936 Berlin Olympics

by Daniel James Brown

March 14th ST PATRICK'S DAY (WEAR GREEN) 12:00 pm NOON Fellowship Hall



MENU:

Meat loaf, peas, mashed potatoes with gravy, green salad, rolls, and cupcakes with green icing.

Meals are \$6 a plate.

Program: Ed Hoke, Minister of Mission Expansion at Little Grassy Camp, will talk about his role and give an update on camp ministries.

Please sign up on the attendance pad. If plans change and you cannot attend, please contact the church office by the Monday before. Otherwise YAH members must pay for the meal that was ordered for you. Thanks.

> Young at Heart is a group of senior adults that meet monthly, on the second Tuesday, for food, fellowship and a program.



UNITED METHODIST Saturday, March 11th at 7:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall, men of the church will gather for breakfast and a devotion.

All men of the church are invited to attend.

SAVE THE DATES: JULY 28 & 29 LIFEWAY MAIN EVENT IN NASHVILLE Cost \$65

WATCH FOR MORE DETAILS COMING SOON



LAST SUNDAY OF EVERY MONTH

YOUTH GROUPS

Leader-organized events happen throughout the year. Some events include all groups and others are age specific.

Questions? Contact a leader for your group. CYF: Children's Youth Fellowship (3rd - 5th grade) Leaders: Jennifer Watson 618-713-5269 and Irma Bigham 618-318-0435

JYF: Junior Youth Fellowship (6th - 8th grade) Leaders: Diane Schingel 618-303-3757 and Laurie Nehring 618-303-2777

SYF: Senior High Youth Fellowship (9th - 12th grade) Leaders: Stephanie Finke 618-713-4059 and Shannon Vincent 618-525-4183



JUNIOR HIGH AGE YOUTH

are invited to attend a fun outing to play laser tag at The Edge in Belleville on March 26. Sponsored by JYF.

Sign up by March 19 by submitting \$5 along with the attendee's name in the drop box on the youth bulletin board. Friends are welcome with a signed permission slip and registration. Participants should meet at MUMC before 2:00 pm on March 26, and will arrive back to the church by 7:30 pm. Pizza, drinks, and devotion time included.

HEY CYF KIDS! Mark your Calendars for April 1st!



Join us for this one day event. Saturday, April 1, 2017

9:00 am to 2:00 pm **Aldersgate United Methodist Church** Marion, IL

Signing up is simple:

Fill out a youth event envelope, put in \$2 and drop in the Youth Mail Box by March 19th.



SAVE THE DATES:

Join us for HERO **CENTRAL Vacation Bible** School

July 9 -13, 2017

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Be a hero - contact Tonya Walker to offer your help. twlkr73@gmail.com

The Agape House ministry at DeUMC continues to be the heart of what we are doing with the merger project. Attendance is increasing, relationships are strengthening, and commitment is deepening. Watching God work through this ministry is one of the most precious things I have ever been a part of. I am humbled by His invitation to participate in showing His love to these children and youth. I encourage you to come some Wednesday night and witness what is happening at the DeUMC site. The work is a bit messy, but the blessings are straight from heaven.



40 Days of Prayer

During Lent, the MUMC congregation is being asked to commit to praying for the DeUMC site. Prayer calendars were passed out during the February 26 worship services. If you did not get one and would like to have one, it is not too late! Stop by the church office and pick one up for yourself and join others in 40 Days of Prayer. In addition to the prayer calendar, two prayer services will be held at the DeUMC site on March 11 and April 1 at 12:30 pm. Please consider joining us for one or both of these prayer services.

Decisions are currently being made on:

Improving the sound system in the sanctuary

Updating the lighting in the sanctuary, making it possible to dim the lights when videos are used Applying a fresh coat of paint throughout the church

Upcoming Activities

March 11 - Prayer Service & Walk the Town Outreach

March 18 - Family Carnival

March 19 - Final Service Preview

April 1 - Prayer Service

April 2 - Weekly Worship Begins

Recent Activities

February Walk the Town Outreach - 17 attended February Informal Worship Service Preview - 32 attended

MARCH 2017

APRIL 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			I Agape House		3	4							I Prayer Svc 12:30
			5:30 pm			II Prayer Svc 12:30;	2 Informal Worship	3	4	5 Agape	6	7	8
5	6	7	8 Agape House		10		10:15 am			House 5:30 pm			
			5:30 pm			Walk the Town Ip	9 Informal Worship	10	11	12 Agape House	13	14	15
12	13	14		16	17	18 2pm Family Carnival	10:15 am			5:30 pm			
							16 Informal Worship	17	18	19 Agape House	20	21	22
19 Informal	20	21	22 Agape House	23	24	25	10:15 am EASTER			5:30 pm			
Worship 10:15 am			5:30 pm				23 Informal Worship 10:15 am	24	25	26 Agape House	27	28	29
26	27	28	29 Agape	30	31		10.15 ta11			5:30 pm			
			House 5:30 pm				30 Informal Worship 10:15 am						

Office Volunteers

The willing hands of MUMC's office volunteers play a crucial role in the life of the church. Have you ever wondered how those calendars appear outside the classrooms every week, with their eye-catching graphics, or who sends the postcards for UMM every month, or where all those prayer cards come from for sharing "Joys and Concerns" on Sunday? Probably not – because you just assume "someone" gets these things done!

In many cases, that "someone" is one of the team of dedicated volunteers who donated over 940 hours of office work in 2016.

One major responsibility of the office volunteers is their work preparing for Sunday services, and processing information after services. Producing the bulletin and attendance sheets is done by **Nancy Vallino**, who works closely with church



Debbie Chapman with children's clipboards

secretary Deb Severa to pull names and dates and events from a multitude of sources in support of the many activities offered at MUMC. Three of the Holy Folders rotate weeks for taking the bulletins to the church and putting attendance sheets into the attendance pads. **Sally Moutardier**, and in her absence **Debbie Chapman**, conduct pew checks on Friday mornings, making sure there are Prayer Request and Visitor cards available, along with offering envelopes and children's worship guide cards. They also take the Sunday School attendance cards and envelopes around to the classrooms, along with the meeting room calendars that appear throughout the building. Debbie also sees to the children's activity clipboards each week, and keeps the Sunday School attendance count up to date. And let's not forget the huge task of



Nancy Vallino preparing weekly bulletin

entering the attendance and signups from two worship services every Sunday, which is done by **Sandy Lanzi**. Sandy stays after Praise Service to do this entry and send out the reports for all those signups.

Creating the weekly calendar posted throughout the church is often done by **Clara Kiser**, who also created the Children's Guide to Worship booklet on the activity clipboards and the related pew card.

Among the biggest responsibilities the volunteers carry is preparing this monthly *Compass* newsletter. The design and layout are done by a volunteer (currently **Jennifer O'Donnell**, and before her Paula Chapa). This is a skilled task, requiring knowledge of desktop publishing and a good eye for attractive page presentation, not to mention a flare for writing and an eye for detail. The church secretary helps assemble content and usually does the printing, then turns the stacks of paper over to the **Holy Folders**. This loyal group meets the last Wednesday of every month to fold, tape and label over 300 newsletters. There's even a volunteer who coordinates getting the group together every month, and for special projects as needed.

There are plenty of other small tasks the volunteers help out with – mailings, answering the phone and doors at the church office, creating special handouts, tracking information in the office's many spreadsheets, and whatever else their talents and willingness to serve the church can accomplish.

We often have need for additional office volunteers, with or without prior office experience or computer skills. Call the office at 618-687-2317 or email us at murphysboroumc@gmail.cm if you would like more information.



Holy Folders (standing) Ruth Verbal, Sharon Graff, and Lela Sternberg; (sitting) Judy Williams and Mildred Ward

Holy Folders:

Ruth Verbal (Coordinator)

Bonnie Pinkerton

*Judy Williams

Kathy Bratton

Kathy Ripley

*Lela Sternberg

Margie Stilley

Mary Ellen Brown

Mildred Ward

Nancy Fager

*Sharon Graf

	MARCH WORSHIP PA	ARTICIPANTS				
	TRADITIONAL	PRAISE				
	Worship Leaders mumcministries@gmail.com					
	Vanessa Lirely	Kristi Miller				
MAR	Welcome Hostesses					
5	Carolyn Ozburn and Kathy Blackwell					
12	Carolyn Ozburn and Kathy Blackwell					
19	Thelma Pierson and Kathy Bratton					
26	Thelma Pierson and Kathy Bratton					
MAR	<u>Acolytes</u>					
5	Briana Carnes and Wesley Graham					
12	Megan McNitt and Brandon Ottwell					
19	Harper Geis and Maya Jenkins					
26	Caroline Guthman and Harper Ellermeyer					
MAR	MAR Prayer Request Reader					
5	Gaye Auxier	Kristi Miller				
12	Lou Anne Lough	Kristi Miller				
19	Stephanie Finke	Kristi Miller				
26	Nancy Fager	Kristi Miller				
MAR	Children's C	hurch Leaders				
		Emily Hargraves and				
	Tonya Walker	Julie Wachtel				
12	Jennifer O'Donnell	Jennie & Ben Snyder				
19	Lacey Brown and Rene' Doody	Scarlett & Rick Pierson				
26	Diane Schingel	Patty Thrailkill				
MAR	<u>Liturgists</u>	Music Leaders				
5	Vanessa Lirely					
12	Nancy Fager	Brian Vincent				
19	Sharon Jones					
26	Rosie Wece	Angie Baughman				
<u>Ushers</u>						
Jin	k Runge, Kyle Quigley, n Hughes, Bob Eaton, na Eaton and Jay Graff	Matt Baughman and Don Abbadusky (3/5 & 26) or Jennifer Watson (3/12 & 19)				
<u>Stewards</u>						
Bob Eaton, Jay Graff, and Ron Moutardier						
Recycling: Diane Schingel						



Sermon Series: More Like Him

Do you desire to be more like Jesus? During Lent, we will examine the Jesus teachings on the kingdom of God. How must we live our lives in order to have a greater connection to the kingdom - to be More Like Him?

Ash Wednesday, March 1, 2017 "What Is The Kingdom?"

First Sunday of Lent, March 5, 2017 "What Kind of Priority?"

Second Sunday of Lent, March 12, 2017 "What Kind of Devotion?"

Third Sunday of Lent, March 19, 2017 "What Kind of Sacrifice?"

Fourth Sunday of Lent, March 26, 2017 "What Kind of Faith?"

Fifth Sunday of Lent, April 2, 2017 "What Kind of Patience?"

Palm/Passion Sunday, April 9, 2017 "What Kind of Decisions?"

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

The Carbondale Interfaith Council is in need of a coordinator for the annual Spirit of Christmas project. (The one we participate in annually) Dia Parr, who has coordinated for several years, can

provide detailed information on the structure and process for the Spirit of Christmas effort. There is an experienced team of volunteers from various churches and organizations in the area who assist with the project during the Advent season. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Dia at dialparr2@me.com or at 618-559-9269.

MURPHYSBORO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 1500 Pine Street Murphysboro, IL 62966



DESOTO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 211 W Lincoln St DeSoto, IL 62924

SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE: MUMC:

Traditional Service: 9:00 a.m. Sunday School:10:10 a.m. Praise Service: 11:15 a.m.

DeUMC:

Preview Service: Feb 19th 10:15 am Agape House: 5:30 p.m. Each Wednesday

OFFICE HOURS at MUMC

Monday-Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Phone: 618-687-2317 Fax: 618-687-2604

E-Mail: murphysboroumc@gmail.com Website: www.murphysboroumc.com

Find us on: facebook.

Cross and Flame Staff

Ministers	The Congregations
Pastor	Larry A. Gilbert
Minister of Visitation	Michelle Parker-Clark
Financial Secretary	Christine Nolan
Technology Coord	Anne Johnson
Webmaster	Amanda Wingerter
Custodian	Pat Sullivan

MUMC Site Staff

Discipleship Coordinator Teresa Gilbert DeSoto Site Staff:

Return Service Requested

Non-Profit Organization U.S. POSTAGE PAID Murphysboro, IL Permit No. 63

Cross and Flame Ministries
DeSoto & Murphysboro
United Methodist Churches
1500 Pine Street
Murphysboro, IL 62966