



From the Pastor's Desk

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Teresa and I will celebrate our tenth Easter at Murphysboro this year, and sometimes we marvel over the changes we have experienced in those years. We came here with one grandchild and we now have five. Any child in the congregation under 10 years old had not been born yet, and the young men and women who today are now 18 or 19 years old were just 8 or 9 at that time. It seems that it is in the children that I notice the passing of time so clearly. Our children just do not remain children all that long, and those years of helping to mold and direct their lives pass rather quickly.

Once the years of childhood and youth are gone they cannot be reclaimed so whatever impact we want to make on their lives in those formative years we must act now to do so. This is not only true for parents, but it is also true for the church. Statistics tell us that the best time to form an individual's relationship with God is while they are still young. As a church we cannot wait till the time is convenient, or resources are plentiful to reach our children. We must always be ready to encourage each new generation to know and experience God.

As we gather again this year on Easter to celebrate the risen Lord, our offering will be used to support the various youth ministries of our church. Today we are doing more than ever in our church to provide support and spiritual encouragement to our children and youth. Weekly youth meetings, summer camps, confirmation experience, mission opportunities, and youth rallies are just a few of the ways we seek to not only connect them with God, but to enhance their relationship with him.

Your offering on Easter will be an investment in tomorrow's leaders of our church. But more than that it is an investment in each young person to help them find, and live the abundant life Jesus promised when we put our faith and trust in God.

Your Servant in Christ,
Larry A. Gilbert

WEEKLY BULLETIN
DEADLINE
is Wednesday
at
10:00 a.m.



May *Compass*
Deadline is
April 16th
THANKS

NOISY MISSION OFFERING



**In April is
going to
Senior Fest**

2	7:00 pm	Men's Book Study AA Big Book	12	4:00 pm	Stephen Ministries	21	9:00 am	Handbells
				5:30 pm	Daisies & Brownies		10:00 am	AA
3	11:30 am	A-Team		6:00 pm	GA		10:15 am	Book Club
	6:30 pm	Praise Team		6:30 pm	Girl Scout Juniors	22	6:30 pm	Executive Council
4	6:00 pm	Boy Scouts Choir	13	9:30 am	Feeder of the Pack	23	7:00 pm	Men's Book Study AA Big Book
	7:00 pm	AA Al-Anon	14	7:30 am	UMM Breakfast	24	9:00 am	Precept Class
5	6:00 pm	GA Scouts Roundtable		9:00 am	Handbells		6:00 om	Cub Scouts
			15	1:30 pm	Leadership Retreat		6:30 pm	Praise Team
6	8:30 am	Adult Spiritual Formation	16		Meal's On Wheels Week	25	9:00 am	Holy Folders
7	9:00 am	Handbells		7:00 pm	Men's Book Study AA Big Book		6:00 pm	Boy Scouts Choir
	10:00 am	AA	17	9:00 am	Precept Class		7:00 pm	AA Al-Anon
9	6:30 pm	Children's Spiritual Formation		5:30 pm	Service & Missions	26	4:00 pm	Stephen Ministries
	7:00 pm	Men's Book Study AA Big book		6:00 pm	Cub Scouts		5:30 pm	Daisies & Brownies
10	12:00 pm	Young at Heart	18	9:00 am	Nurture & Care		6:00 pm	Ga
	6:00 pm	Cub Scouts Board of Trustees		6:00 pm	Boy Scouts Choir	28	9:00 am	Handbells
	6:30 pm	Praise Team		7:00 pm	Staff Parish		10:00 am	AA
	7:00 pm	Finance Committee			AA Al-Anon	29	Noon	Our Neighbor's Table
11	6:00 pm	Boy Scouts Choir	19	6:00 pm	GA	30	7:00 pm	Men's Book Study AA-Big Book
	7:00 pm	Bible Journaling AA Al-Anon						



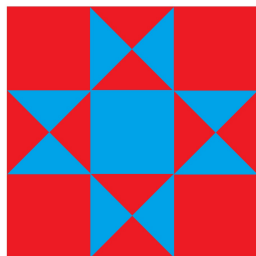
3	Clifton Buchholz	16	Sam Chapa	21	Megan Mileur
4	Perry Patterson		Glenda Martin		William Mileur
	Gloria Stoker	18	Rosemary Cornell	22	Sylvia Frank
5	Lou Anne Lough	20	Candance Brown	24	Jay Graff
	Mikaila Panepinto		Nancy Fager		Bob Winters
	Mya Rushing		Ed O'Donnell	27	Mildred Ward
6	Geraldine McConnell		Thelma Pierson	28	Tiara Bradford
10	Aiden McNitt	21	Angie Baughman	29	Megan McNitt
13	Durice Runge		Heather Bean	30	Brittany Nolan
15	Katlyn Abbadusky		Brianna Berger		
	Julie Wachtel		Lacey Brown		

3	Janis & Jerry Crews
8	Myrrl & Ray Burroughs
15	Mary Ellen & Patrick Brown
20	Vanessa & Todd Lirely
24	Tonia & Bob Purcell



Bus Trip to the AQS Paducah Quilt Show

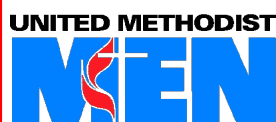
Saturday, April 21st
Schroder Expo Center
Paducah, KY



We will depart MUMC at 7:00 am and arrive in Paducah at 8:30 am. We will start the day off right with a Country Ham Breakfast at the Concord United Methodist Church. The all you can eat breakfast includes country ham, sausage, eggs, biscuits, grits, hash browns and juice/milk/coffee for \$6.00.

After a hearty breakfast, we will take the AQS Shuttle from the Kentucky Oaks Mall to the Schroeder Expo Center for a fun-filled day at the AQS Spring Paducah Quilt Show where we will view quilts from all over the world ranging from traditional designs that everyone knows to Modern Art quilts that reach outside the box with new designs and techniques.

After indulging our creative interests and browsing through displays of 100's of vendors, we will depart by 4:00 pm ready to share ideas for our own quilting projects. **The cost of admission for the quilt show is \$14.00.** Other costs are for breakfast, individual purchases from food and craft vendors, and donations toward gas for the van.



Saturday, April 14th at 7:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall, men of the church will gather for breakfast, devotional, and maybe a work project.

FREE

4/29
OUR NEIGHBOR'S TABLE
Hot Meal
Beverage
Dessert

LAST SUNDAY OF EVERY MONTH

April 10th 12:00
NOON
Fellowship Hall -
Celebrate Spring



MENU:
Backed Chicken,
Broccoli w/Cheese, Sunshine Salad, Rolls,
and Lemon Cake

PROGRAM: The Garden of Gethsemane, The Mount of Olives, The Sea of Galilee -- imagine walking where Jesus and His disciples walked as Dr. Loren Taylor, retired grade school principal and former owner of American Classic Tours, brings the sights and sounds of The Holy Land to Young at Heart through his travel experiences.



Please sign up on the attendance pad. If plans change & 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.



*Tenth Annual Women's
Prayer Breakfast
May 5th, 2018
MUMC Fellowship Hall
"Take Me Away."*

There will be a light breakfast, fellowship with other ladies, door prizes and time to recharge by resting and relaxing listening to God's Word. Child care will be available. Tickets go on sale in April. For all women age 13 and older.

Save the Date

ANNOUNCEMENT 

The Staff Parish Relations Committee (SPRC) is excited to announce some recent staffing changes.

After several years of service and guidance to our church, Teresa Gilbert, our Discipleship Coordinator, resigned her position at the beginning of March (please read her personal note in this newsletter). Like many jobs in the church, staff and volunteer, the job description was long and varied. In response to her resignation the SPRC divided her current work responsibilities. Her work of support to the SPRC and Lay Leadership committee was given with an increase in hours to our current Ministry Support staff person, Lacey Brown.

The program portion of Teresa’s role was put into a separate job description, and this new position was advertised. The SPRC is delighted to announce that our current Visitation Pastor, Michelle Parker-Clark applied for this position and was hired, beginning her new role in early March. Michelle will keep her former responsibilities and with an increase in hours will now cover the additional duties of Teresa’s former role. Michelle now has an office on the second floor of the Annex and can be reached there or by calling the church office. Michelle’s new job title is Ministry Director. She and our current Children and Youth Coordinator, Sage Lintner, will work closely to coordinate much of the church’s overall discipleship formation programming.

We want to thank Teresa for her many years of faithful service and look forward to the expanded work of two very capable staff members.



Cache River District Lay Servant Training

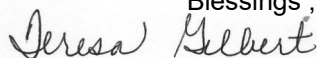
Life Together in the United Methodist Connection

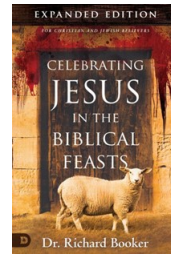
(UM Polity) – Counts towards Certified Lay Speaker track
Dates: Saturdays, May 5 & 12, 2018 (both dates required)
Times: 9am-3pm
Location: Anna UMC, 111 W Monroe St, Anna, IL
Cost: \$15 (includes lunch both sessions)
Registration Deadline: April 17, 2018
Instructor: TBA
Contact: Deb Johnston, djjohn5@yahoo.com
Required Text: *The Method of our Mission* by Lacey C. Warner (ISBN- 978-1-42676-717-3).

Individuals are expected to purchase the text and complete assigned work **PRIOR** to the first class.

A Note from Teresa...

Most of you probably know by now that Saturday, March 3rd, was my last official day to be on staff at MUMC as your Discipleship Coordinator. It has been a pleasure to serve in this capacity for the past nine years and I thank you for the opportunity to be involved in ministry in this way. Prayers and best wishes in your continued ministry!!

Blessings,




Jewish Feasts & Festivals

Tuesdays, 9:00-10:30 am
 April 17-May 15, 2018
 Murphysboro UMC

All sessions taught by Angie Baughman
 angie@livesteadyon.com | 618-201-0139

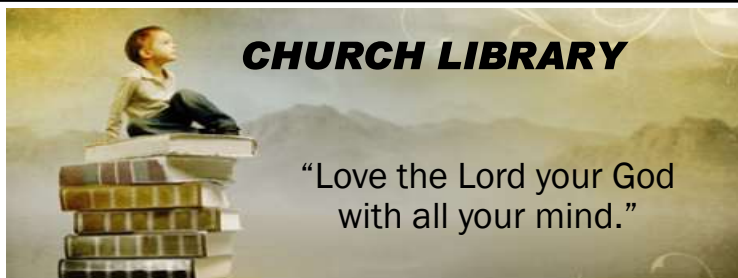
What Christians Can Learn By Studying Jewish Feasts

When I first began studying Jewish life and culture during the time Jesus was on earth, I was humbled by my lack of understanding. I had been a bible student for years and had read countless stories that mentioned Jewish feasts and festivals without ever pausing to ask myself about their relevance to me and my spiritual journey today. What I have learned over the past few years has made my heart so tender to the significance that lies within the feasts. As I have come to understand them better, I also see how over and over again God used these celebrations to pull His people back to Him and to point them to the Messiah who would someday come.

I am excited to offer five weeks of teaching on this fascinating subject and my hope is that through our discussions we, too, will feel God pulling us in closer connection with Him. I also pray that we will see the story of Jesus unfold in the meaning of the feasts in a way that will deepen our understanding of Christ's passionate love for us. Participants will need to acquire their own books and be prepared for the first session by reading the introduction and first chapter. I hope you will pray about joining us for this five-week class.

Required Book: *Celebrating Jesus in the Biblical Feasts* by Dr. Richard Booker

- Session One - Jewish Calendar, Christian Calendar, Psalms of Ascents
- Session Two - Passover ~ Session Three - Pentecost
- Session Four - Tabernacles ~ Session Five - Purim and Hanukkah



The Library Corner: What's New?

Something is new in the library every month. We consistently add to the collection—perhaps new fiction, or a new DVD study, or books for children. This month we have two new things to share with you—a new book in our “Local Authors and Local Interest” section, and something special for the children and youth of the church. Read on!

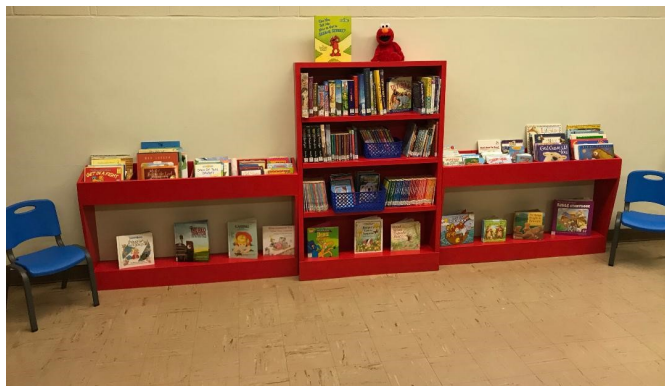
Jill Rogers, who attends Murphysboro UMC along with her husband Marty, has donated a book she wrote, **Shift Happens: Turning Your Stumbling Blocks into Stepping Stones**. Jill tells about many life experiences she has had, some very devastating, starting with a rape when she was a young woman of 23. That was traumatic, but it started Jill on a journey of discovery and growth that allowed her to deal with that situation, and others that followed.

Central to this process is her strong faith in God, as well as the willingness to keep her mind and heart open to change and new insights that strengthened her. She shares that journey with us in order to encourage others who are going through difficult times. She says:

My life has been thrown into so much change, one after another that tore my entire world in two, yet I adjusted and lived through it, which is why I'm here to tell you that if you get the right help you can do it too. . . through ANYTHING. . . This book is the witness of my life learning and being led by the Spirit of God. It is the only witness I have to give you from all I have learned. (p.53)

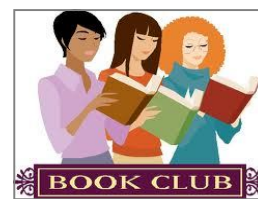
The most obvious “new thing” in the library is a lovely new child and youth section, provided through the hard work of Bob and Trina Eaton and Dan Bratton. We have added a youth bookcase, plus two book “bins” for younger children. It makes the youth section more attractive, and makes it easier for kids to look through and choose books and DVDs that interest them.

But a picture is worth a thousand words—here it is:



Stop in the library downstairs to see our new youth section in person. Better yet, bring a child with you!

MUMC
Saturday
Morning



Join the discussion on **Waking Up White: And Finding Myself in the Story of Race**

by Debby Irving
**Saturday, April 21st,
10:15 am in the Library**



Waking Up White is the book Irving wishes someone had handed her decades ago. By sharing her sometimes cringe-worthy struggle to understand racism and racial tensions, she offers a fresh perspective on bias, stereotypes, manners and tolerance. As Irving unpacks her own long-held beliefs about colorblindness, being a good person and wanting to help people of color, she reveals how each of these well-intentioned mindsets actually perpetuated her ill-conceived ideas about race. She also explains why and how she's changed the way she talks about racism, works in racially mixed groups and understands the antiracism movement as a whole. Exercises at the end of each chapter prompt readers to explore their own racialized ideas. Waking Up White's personal narrative is designed to work well as a rapid read, a book group book, or support reading for courses exploring racial and cultural issues.

YOUTH GROUPS

Questions? Contact a leader for your group:

JYF: Junior Youth Fellowship (6th - 8th grade)

Leaders: Diane Schingel 618-303-3757

Meets every Sunday from 4-6pm in Room 100.

SYF: Senior High Youth Fellowship (9th - 12th grade)

Leaders: Stephanie Finke 618-713-4059

Meets every Sunday from 4-6pm in Room 100.



**Adult-Teen Challenge
Choir**

April 29, DeSoto UMC

5pm - BBQ dinner; 6pm - Concert

Don't miss this second chance opportunity to see the Adult-Teen Challenge Choir out of Cape Girardeau, MO. Join us on Sunday evening, April 29th for this rescheduled event. Come early for a meal and stay for the music and ministry of the Challenge Choir.



**Friday, April 13th, 7pm
Murphysboro Middle School**

Youth event - For Youth who Preregistered.

Our group will meet at the Middle School around 6:45pm. Sage will be waiting by the ticket booth to escort children/youth into the building and to their seat.

There are several youth members from MUMC in the production! Please come and support these talented individuals! If you would like to purchase tickets in advance follow this link will to see available seats.

www.murphysborostudentproductions.org

Agape House welcomes youth for fellowship, study, and a light meal every Wednesday from 5:30 - 7:30 pm.

Agape House is a ministry of
DeSoto United Methodist Church.



**MUMC CYF Enjoying Light Kids Conference
Marion Aldersgate Methodist Church**



APRIL WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS		
TRADITIONAL		PRAISE
Worship Leaders mumcministries@gmail.com		
	Jon Lough	Kristi Miller
APR	Welcome Hostesses	
1	Pattie Shields Arlene Bitner	
8	Carolyn Saur Arlene Bitner	
15	Susan Patterson Adrienne Will	
22	Susan Patterson Adrienne Will	
29	Kay Bozarth Marcia Butler	
APR	Acolytes	
1	Phoebe Heller and Justin Maynor	
8	Leeland Ashworth and Landrie Green	
15	Nathan Ashworth and Briana Carnes	
22	Maya Jenkins and Harper Geis	
29	Caroline Guthman and Eli Guthman	
Stewards		
Dick Graff, Todd Lirely, Richard Pierson, Gene Schwebel		

APRIL WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS		
TRADITIONAL		PRAISE
APR	Prayer Request Reader	
1	Gaye Auxier	Kristi Miller
8	Lou Ann Lough	Kristi Miller
15	Nancy Fager	Kristi Miller
22	Gene Schwebel	Kristi Miller
29	Wilma Westerfield	Kristi Miller
APR	Children's Church Leaders	
1	Sage Litner	Scarlett Pierson
8	Cheryl Smith	Ben Snyder
15	Lacey Brown/Rene Doody	Pattie Thrailkill
22	Diane Schingel	Julie Wachtel
29	Diane Schingel/Sage Litner	Scarlett Pierson
APR	Liturgists	Music Leaders
1	TBN	Lacey Brown
8	TBN	Lacey Brown
15	TBN	Lacey Brown
22	TBN	Lacey Brown
29	TBN	Lacey Brown
Ushers		
Todd Lirely, Scott Ballard, Sandy Herring, Ralph Bastien, Dick Graff & Vanessa Lirely		Rick Pierson Brant Wingerter



Did you know that we have a Transportation Team?

Every week we bring people to church who would not otherwise be able to attend because of lack of transportation or because they can no longer drive. Volunteer drivers pick people up at their homes and take them

back either after the church service or after Sunday School. We are looking to expand this ministry to include some of our local assisted living facilities. So many of our seniors have the desire to worship with their church family, but they have no way to get here.

Wouldn't it be great if everyone who wanted to attend our church had that opportunity? Please consider joining this important ministry team.

If you can drive, you can help!



SAVE YOUR STUFF!!

The annual YARD SALE for MISSIONS is coming soon.

Watch next month's newsletter for details!

**MURPHYSBORO
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**
1500 Pine Street
Murphysboro, IL 62966



**CROSS & FLAME
MINISTRIES**
DESOTO • MURPHYSBORO

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

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.crossandflameministries.com



SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE:

MUMC:

Traditional Service: 9:00 a.m.

Sunday School: 10:10 a.m.

Praise Service: 11:15 a.m.

DeUMC:

Agape House: 5:30 p.m. Each Wednesday

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

Ministry Director Michelle Parker-Clark
Church Secretary Melba Ziegler
Ministry Support Asst Lacey Brown
Children/Youth Coord..... Sage Lintner
Pianist/Organist..... Jenny Kirby
Choir Director Joel Kirby
Nursery Attendant Caitlyn Boyd, Megan Gale

DeSoto Site Staff:

Children/Youth Ministry Jennifer O'Donnell
Nursery Attendant Tara Taborn
Mike & Casey Johnstone..... Caretakers

Return Service Requested

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
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**Cross and Flame Ministries
DeSoto & Murphysboro
United Methodist Churches**
1500 Pine Street
Murphysboro, IL 62966