



ITEMS OF INTEREST:

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## Directions for the Trail

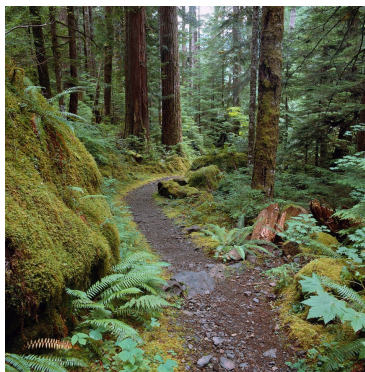
### FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



**Th**ere are many things, which happen in the life of our church, which not everyone knows about. Some of these things are very routine and ordinary while others are quite special but just do not touch a large population. Recently our church was involved in reaching out to a special group of people in this low key way and I was privileged to be a part of that effort.

Several youth in our church lost a close friend through circumstances that appeared to have been a suicide. He was a teammate on their summer football team, someone they ran with; worked out with; hurt and sweated with; won and lost with. Suddenly he was gone with no warning, no time to prepare, and no explanation why; just gone. His death left a hole where a person use to be and many unanswered questions for everyone effected by his loss.

As the plans for his services began to take shape some of the parents and coaches wanted a place where the team could meet and just be together. They wanted a place where they could gather in order to pay their respects to the family as a team and then spend some time just being with each other.



Members of our congregation offered our church as that place of gathering. We then offered to provide a meal after the team returned from the visitation for all the team and their families so that they could continue to be together and support each other. That Sunday evening we feed about 70 people, transported

some of them in one of our church vans, and provided profession-counseling services for any who wanted to partake.

We asked nothing from them; just the opportunity to serve in a time of crisis and need. As I looked around the fellowship hall that evening I had no idea who most of those people were and may not even see many of them again. But I am confident for one evening they felt the hospitality and support of Christian community. I think it is exactly what Jesus would have done and I for one felt honored to play a very small role in helping it happen.

Your servant in Christ,  
Larry A. Gilbert

### 50th Annual Murphysboro Kiwanis Pancake Day



April 21st  
6:30 am to 11:30 am  
Murphysboro Middle  
School

\$6 in Advance  
\$7 at Door  
Child 5 & under—free

Anyone interested can purchase tickets from Earl Renshaw, Bob Hall, Bob Eaton, Pam Graham, or Vanessa Lirely





## APRIL CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 1 - Camp Registration after worship service
- 2 - Relay For Life, 5:30 pm / Girl Scouts, 6 pm / Lenten Bible Study, 6:30 pm
- 3 - Mom's Small Group, 6:30 pm
- 5 - Scouts Roundtable, 6 pm / Maundy Thursday Service, 7 pm
- 6 - Adult Spiritual Formation, 8 am / Community Good Friday Service, 12 pm
- 8 - Easter Sunrise Service & Breakfast, 6:30 am  
Easter Service, 9 am / Easter Egg Hunt during Sunday School
- 9 - Girl Scouts, 6 pm / Nurture & Care Meeting, 7 pm
- 10 - Young @ Heart Lunch, 12 pm / Board of Trustees, 6 pm / Finance Meeting, 7 pm
- 11 - Staff Meeting, 9:30 am
- 14 - UM Men's Breakfast and Work Day at Church, 7:30 am
- 15 - Confirmation Sunday
- 16 - Girl Scouts, 6 pm
- 17 - Mom's Small Group, 6:30 pm
- 21 - Young at Heart to Dogwood Festival in Charleston, MO, 8 am
- 22 - CYF/JYF, 5 pm / Community Prayer Walk, 6 pm
- 23 - Girl Scouts, 6 pm
- 24 - "Serving From the Heart" Small Group, 6 pm / Mom's Small Group, 6 pm
- 26 - Girl Scouts



Tuesdays: Cub Scouts, 6 pm  
 Wednesdays: Chancel Choir Practice, 6 pm / Boy Scouts, 6 pm  
 Saturdays: Handbell Practice, 9 am / AA Meeting, 10 am

# APRIL

### Ushers

*Todd Lirely  
 Scott Ballard  
 Sandy Hewrering  
 Ralph Bastien  
 Dick Graff*

### Sunday Stewards

*Bob Eaton  
 Ralph Bastien  
 Andy McNitt  
 Bill Quigley  
 Dave Auxier*

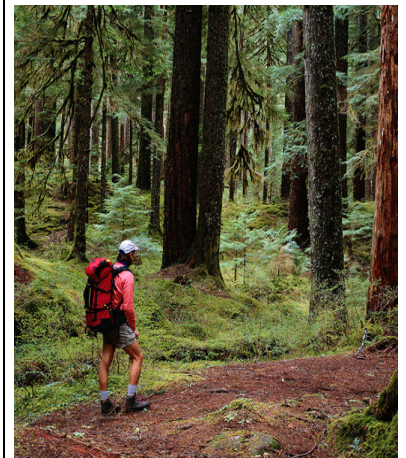
## Youth Group News



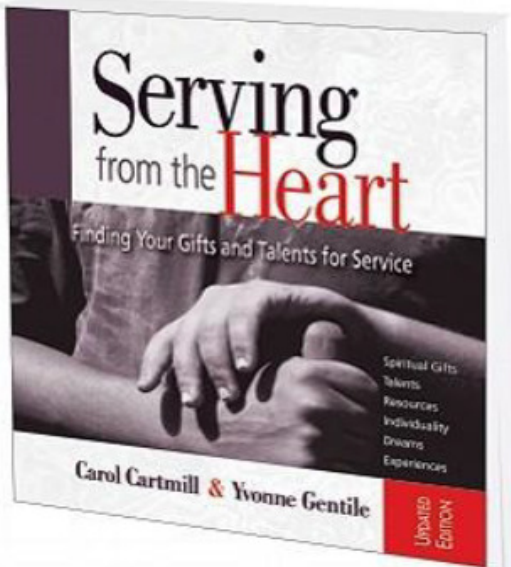
**April 8 Easter Sunday:** no youth meetings

**April 22:** CYF/JYF meeting from 5-6:30 p.m. at the church.  
The youth will participate in the Community Prayer Walk

- \*CYF: Christian Youth Fellowship (3rd - 5th grade)
- \*JYF: Junior Youth Fellowship (6th - 8th grade)
- \*Sr. UMYF: United Methodist Youth Fellowship (9th - 12th Grade)







Attention MEN & WOMEN

Learn about  
**YOUR**

Spiritual Gifts

Led by Teresa Gilbert

Tuesdays; 6:30-8:30 p.m.

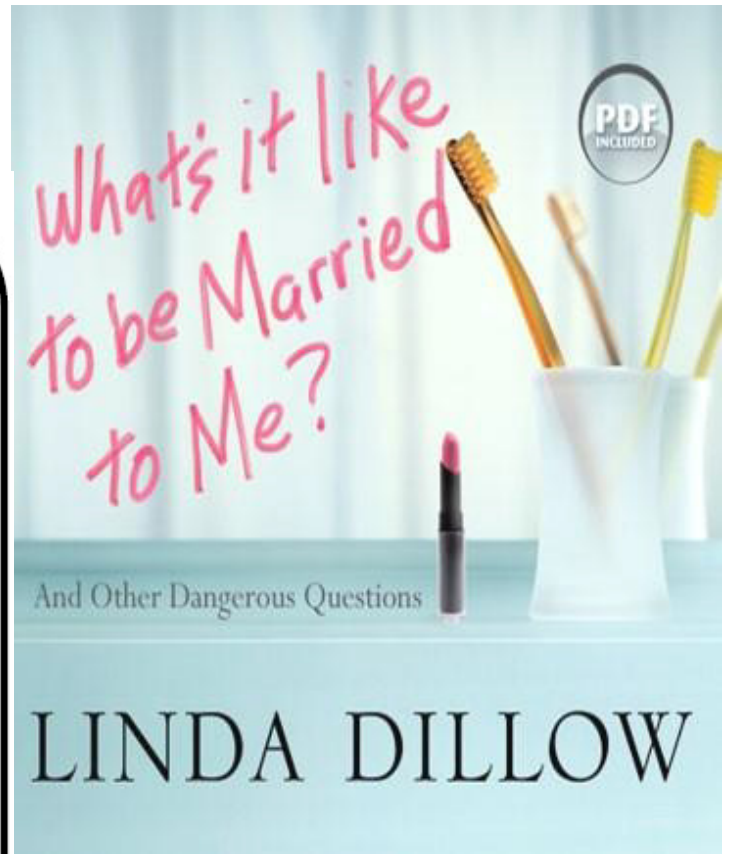
April 24<sup>th</sup>-May 15<sup>th</sup>

(ONLY 4 WEEKS)

Sign-up in the Welcome Center or  
Email Trina at [trina-eaton1@gmail.com](mailto:trina-eaton1@gmail.com)

Registration: \$13; Deadline: April 15<sup>th</sup>

IS THIS YOUR NEXT STEP?



**MEN's and WOMEN's  
BIBLE STUDY**

Learn how to study  
your bible.

HOWARD G. HENDRICKS  
WILLIAM D. HENDRICKS

June 12<sup>th</sup> – July 31<sup>st</sup>  
10-11:30 a.m.

MORE THAN 300,000 SOLD  
**LIVING  
BY THE  
BOOK**

Video based study  
Led by Scarlett Pierson  
Sign-up coming soon!



This is a Bible study  
curriculum is tailor-fit to  
equip and train you to  
be able to study the  
Bible in an organized,  
systematic way with  
easy to follow  
instructions and  
guidelines.

*Revised and Updated*  
FOREWORD BY CHARLES R. SWINDOLL



# “SWEETER THAN HONEY”

## Woman's Prayer Breakfast Saturday, May 5, 2012

9:00 – 10:30 a.m.

Murphysboro UMC Fellowship Hall

*For women of all ages, 13 and over*

Day Care will BEE provided

Buzz.... on in for a time of fellowship, music, a light breakfast fit for a Queen, and a time of heartwarming fellowship with other Sweet women.

Suggested donation is \$6.00 per ticket. Beginning **April 1st**, tickets will BEE available after church and Sunday School in the Fellowship Hall.  
Reservations can be made for a table of eight.

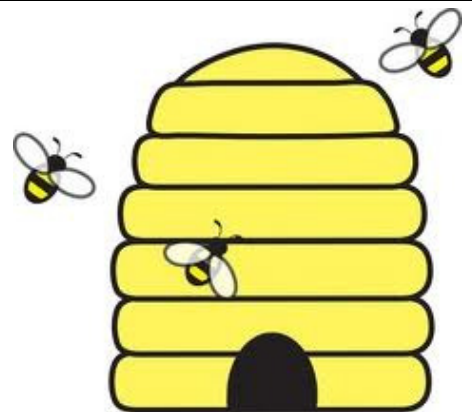
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*Mark your calendar today.*

Reach out and invite other sweet women to join you.

*Let's get our buzzin' going in the right direction and live life to the fullest for the Lord!*

If you have questions or desire to help with this event, please contact the Queen Bee, Rosie Wece, at 618-687-3309 or [gwece@wecefarms.com](mailto:gwece@wecefarms.com)

*Sponsored by the Adult Spiritual Formation Ministry*





## PRAY WITHOUT CEASING...

*1 Thessalonians 5:17*

*Is improving your prayer life  
your next step on 'The Trail'?*

Do you want to feel more comfortable  
praying aloud?

*Would you like to know more about  
different types of prayer?*

Then you are covered!

On **April 22<sup>nd</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>**, the Adult Spiritual Formation Ministry Team is distributing ***Devotions for Disciples*** books after the worship service. This is a devotional book written by UMC of Murphysboro members. Intended for use as a devotional during the month of May, (and many years to come) these devotions are heartfelt, powerful, and written by your friends that you sit next to in church and Sunday school.

**Each Sunday in May, Pastor Larry is sharing a sermon series titled "The Practice of Prayer" where he will preach about four modes of prayer: praise and adoration, confession and renewal, intercession, and thanksgiving.**

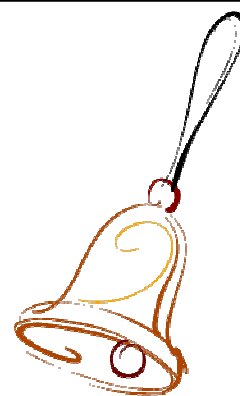
Then, in June, a workshop  
Led by Pastor Larry  
Called:

**'Learning to Pray Out Loud'**  
**Thursday, June 7th, 14th, & 21<sup>st</sup>,**  
**at 6:30-8:30 p.m.**

So come join in on a prayerful life at UMC of  
Murphysboro!  
**See You on the Trail!**

The handbell choirs of  
Grace United Methodist  
Church of Carbondale,  
The First United  
Methodist Church of  
Carbondale, and The  
United Methodist Church  
of Murphysboro invite  
you to a **handbell**

**concert 7:00pm,  
Saturday, April 28<sup>th</sup>, at Grace United  
Methodist Church, 220 N. Tower Road, in  
Carbondale.**



"This year I'm prepared with  
my egg-hunting app."



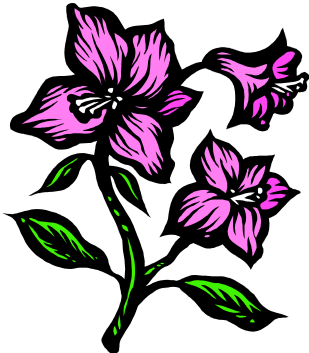
# WE ARE GOING TO THE AZALEA-DOGWOOD FESTIVAL!

The 44th annual Azalea-Dogwood Festival is the weekend of April 20-22. Young at Heart is sponsoring a trip to Charleston, Missouri on April 21. There are approximately 20 signed up as of this date. Come join us! The sign up list is on the table at the back of the north sanctuary. There is a six mile tour of azalea-dogwoods winding through the residential streets of Charleston. It's one hour, 15 minutes to



Charleston.

Cost will be for lunch and a share of gas expense. We will leave the church parking lot at 8:00 a.m. There will be a concert with sixteen pianists playing eight pianos and an organist. This musical concert will feature all kinds of music played simultaneously on the instruments. Those who have heard this concert affirm it as a great experience.




## Blessing of the Pets Co-Sponsored by:



**St. Francis  
Community  
Animal  
Rescue and  
Education**

6228 Country Club Rd  
Murphysboro, IL 62966  
(618) 687-2079  
[www.stfrancis-care.org](http://www.stfrancis-care.org)  
[st.franciscare@yahoo.com](mailto:st.franciscare@yahoo.com)

**UNITED  
METHODIST  
CHURCH**

1500 Pine Street  
Murphysboro, IL 62966  
(618) 687-2317  
[www.murphysboroumc.com](http://www.murphysboroumc.com)  
[murphysboroumc@frontier.com](mailto:murphysboroumc@frontier.com)

Bring your pet or pets for a blessing!  
There will be information and goodies for all ages and species.  
Please bring all pets on leashes or in a carrier.  
The service will be outside under the pavilion  
in the parking lot of the United Methodist Church.

**What: Blessing of the Pets**  
**When: Sunday, May 20, 2012**  
**Time: 4 p.m.**  
**Where: Pavilion on 16<sup>th</sup> Street in United Methodist Church parking lot.**  
**Who: The Community and their pets. All are invited!**





## Did You Know?

Bob & Mimi Rice transferred their membership to our church on March 25th. Help welcome them to our congregation. They live at 501 Pump House Road.

IT'S GREAT TO VISIT [www.Murphysboroumc.com](http://www.Murphysboroumc.com). The website for United Methodist Church of Murphysboro is getting a major increase in hits. It's amazing how many people have visited the site.

Each Sunday we video our worship for the website. If you miss worship, you can go to the website and see each Sunday major portions of our worship. You will see and hear the reading of the word, Pastor Larry's sermon, the anthem by the Choir, the Children's Moments, and other special portions of worship.

This is a service to shut-ins of the church. If the shut-in has computer capability, the service can be watched at any hour during the week. Consider how this can be a ministry to families who are looking for a church home! If you are out of town, you can experience our service. Our worship is world-wide. Ron & Sally Moutardier were vacationing in Arizona for two months and each week were able to worship with all of us. Several other new options are also available on our site. We give praise to the work that is being done by our producers. That's why you see at least two persons operating cameras during worship.

### PATHFINDERS' CLASS

We have a new adult Sunday school class that is being led by pastor Larry Gilbert and Rick Runge. The class is for adults of all ages! It's an exciting new adventure. The study book is **The Holy Mystery: A United Methodist Understanding of Holy Communion.**

The class has met two Sundays so far. The first week there were 27 in the class and the second week there were 25. Participants are from college age young adults to..... (we won't mention names at the other end of the spectrum.) It's for all ages and seems to be meeting a need.

New ministries are starting up and some really good things are happening. Your thoughts and ideas as to how we can make disciples of Jesus Christ for the conversion of the world (and Murphysboro) are welcome. New people are coming to worship every Sunday.



## HOLY WEEK

April 1

**Palm Sunday**

Service, 9:00 am

April 5

**Maundy Thursday**

Tenebrae Service, 7:00 pm

Holy Communion Served

April 6

**Community**

**Good Friday Worship**

Church - 12 Noon

St. Andrew's Catholic Church

Rev. Ken Staib, Speaker

April 8

**Easter Sunday**

Easter Sunday

Sunrise Service begins at the Church Pavilion,  
continues in Church Sanctuary - 6:30 am

Breakfast by Boy Scout Troop #114

in Fellowship Hall

Service, 9:00 am

**Easter Egg Hunt**

During Sunday School

## The Library Corner: News from the UMC Library



### Can We Ever Be Grateful Enough?

If we are talking about Christ dying on the cross for us—for you and me, and indeed for the whole wide world, the answer is . . . no. We can never quite grasp it all, never quite understand it all, never hold it all in our minds and hearts.

But all the more, especially at this time of year, we should be thinking of Jesus—of his life and of his death, and of his resurrection into a new life. What do we know of him? What do we understand of him and of his sacrifice, given with immeasurable love to the world?

Here are a few books from the library that can help you focus your mind and heart on Jesus:

**The Jesus I Never Knew** by Phillip Yancey. Those of you who have read anything by Yancey, editor of the "Christianity Today" magazine, know that he writes with thoughtfulness and depth. The description of this book notes that Yancey writes about Jesus as a "complex character who generates questions as well as answers; a disturbing and exhilarating Jesus who

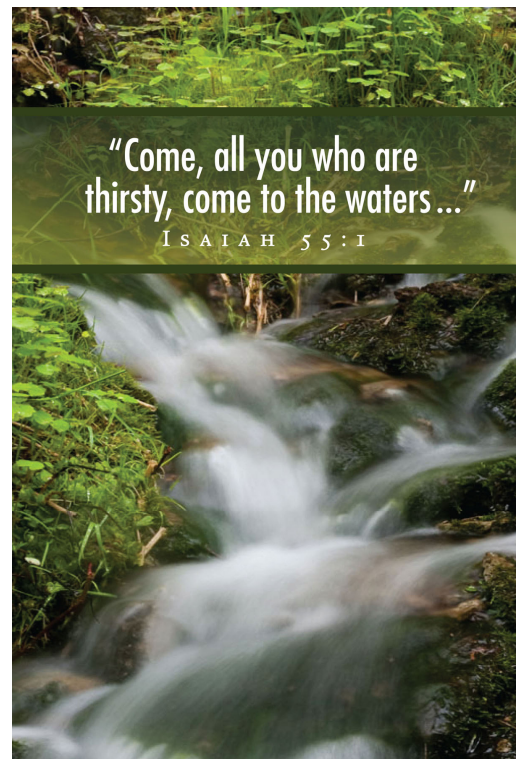
wants to radically transform your life and stretch your faith."

**Jesus: the Greatest Life of All** by Charles Swindoll. This is the ninth volume of Swindoll's series on *Great Lives* from the Bible. He writes of Jesus as child, rabbi, "substitute" (for us all), and King.

**Case for Christ: A Journalist's Personal Investigation of the Evidence for Jesus** by Lee Strobel. In this widely read book Strobel asks tough questions about the life of Jesus and gets answers from credible sources in his own journey from un-belief to belief.

And finally two books by Max Lucado, **He Chose the Nails** and **No Wonder They Call Him the Savior**. Lucado tells the stories of Jesus—and then he turns to the reader, and brings it right home to the present—our present, our lives.

We wish to honor the arrival of new babies to our church family and we need your help. Please notify the church office if you have a new child or grandchild!



"Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the waters..."  
ISAIAH 55:1





## April Menu

Spaghetti/Meat Balls  
Lettuce Salad  
Garlic Bread  
Lemon Cake

Cost of lunch is \$5.00  
We are trying to keep  
disciples healthy!



Young at Heart

### Program:

Paula Reeves of the  
Arthritis Foundation.

Many people experience arthritis, so it will be a helpful program. Lunch will be at noon, April 10th in the Fellowship Hall. Please make your reservation on April 8 on the church

## COMING IN THE MONTH OF MAY.....

Watch for more information about...  
a special gift of inspiration created by  
disciples.....



for disciples!

# Resurrection COUNTDOWN

Make this interactive craft to use as  
Easter approaches.

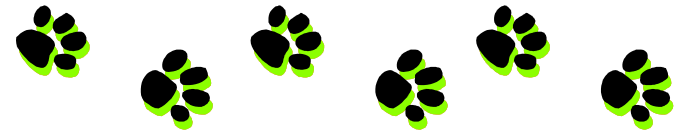
### What you need:

- An empty egg carton
- Scissors
- Tissue paper (a dark color)
- Pencil
- Bible
- 12 slips of white paper
- Glue
- Marker



### What you do:

1. Cut the lid and side flaps off the egg carton.
2. Lay the carton open-side down on tissue paper. Trace and cut out the rectangular shape.
3. On the paper slips, write 12 verses from John 12 about Holy Week (including one about Easter).
4. Place each slip in an egg cup, in order, starting at the top left and ending (with the Easter verse) at the bottom right.
5. Put glue around cups and carton edges. Lay the tissue paper on top.
6. Gently mark numbers 1-6 on the tissue paper along the top row and 7-12 along the bottom.
7. Before Easter, punch through one cup each day and read the verse.



Dear Friends,

From the time we moved to Murphysboro with two little boys and a baby and were welcomed by Rev. Bill Lewis and Frank Harris, the Christian fellowship, support, and many opportunities for spiritual growth in this church meant a great deal to us and our family. Moving to Edwardsville last December to be near our daughter and her family seemed to be the right thing to do, but it was not easy to leave beautiful Southern Illinois and our friends in Murphysboro. There are many people we could name as having been special friends and mentors in the church, but I am afraid I would omit someone.

We do want to thank the Auxiers and the McNitts for setting an example for how to start over and become part of a new church family. We are attending St. John’s UMC, the church that Karen and her family attend and where we were again welcomed by Bill and Janet Lewis as well as Robert and Elaine Smith. Although I never knew my grandfather or great-grandmother, it is special to know that, 100 years ago, they were members of this church as well. Bob is helping with the church’s community garden whose produce will go to the food pantry, and in a little while, I’ll be heading to the church to prepare sack lunches that will be taken to the homeless.

In Christian love and thanksgiving for all of you,  
Sylvia and Bob Frank  
(618)659-9947



What’s tiny and Yellow and can take you DOWN?..... **POLLEN**.....

Yes it is that time again. We in beautiful Southern Illinois know that pollen can be a health problem to us and our children. What can we do? How can we help those we care about that are suffering.

Each spring, summer, and fall, trees, weeds and grasses release tiny pollen grains into the air. Some of the pollen ends up in your nose and throat. This can trigger a type of allergy called hay fever. Symptoms can include:

- **Sneezing, often with a runny or clogged nose**
- **Coughing and postnasal drip**
- **Itching eyes, nose and throat**
- Dark circles under the eyes

Taking medicines, using nasal sprays and rinsing out your nose can relieve symptoms. Allergy shots can help make you less sensitive to pollen and provide long lasting relief. Drink plenty of fluids. Hot showers can relieve stuffy noses. Unlike a clod, pollen allergies will stick around as long as the pollen does.

Common sense can make your life easier also. Do not sleep with the windows open. (Have you seen the pollen on your car in the morning?) If you hang clothes outside, finish them up in the dryer to remove pollen spores that sticks to the moist surface. Leave the flowers in the yard. Enjoy them safely through your window. Happy Spring.

From your Health Ministries Team





## YOU ARE INVITED



Directions and more info coming soon.

## Where did our pastor go?

You are invited to a “Still Under Construction” Open House to come see where Pastor Larry and Teresa now live.

Saturday, April 14

1:00-4:00 p.m.

2575 Edgewood Lane,  
Carbondale.

No gifts please.

Carpool available from church.

## *Fine time for Feinstein Donation*

It is time for the annual Feinstein Foundation food and dollar drive campaign. Every year the Feinstein Foundation, which is based in Rhode Island, donates \$1 million dollars to community food banks as part of a partial match for every dollar raised and pound of food donated between now and April 30<sup>th</sup>. The collection point for food items at our church is at the collection box at the top of the stairs in the education wing. All monetary donations can be by individual check mailed directly to the Murphysboro Food Pantry or made out to the church designated for the pantry. The *Noisy Collection in March* was designated for the pantry so we are off to a good start!

The latest statistics provided by Feeding America for Jackson County reports that 10,490 or 17.9 % of the population fall into the hungry category or who are now called the “food insecure population.” This past year the Murphysboro Food Pantry served close to 30,000 persons. Recipients can pick up food boxes once a month so the 30,000 served are duplicated numbers. We serve 12 Jackson County cities and towns.

We thank the United Methodist Congregation for not only their continued financial and donated food support but also for all the volunteers who take their turn working at the pantry and serving on the board.

*The Murphysboro Food Board*



United Methodist Church  
1500 Pine Street  
Murphysboro, IL 62966

Ministers: The Congregation  
Pastor: Larry A. Gilbert  
Coordinator of Ministries: Earl R. Renshaw  
Discipleship Coordinator: Teresa Gilbert  
Office Secretary: Chris Breznikar  
Financial Secretary: Christine Nolan

Phone: 618-687-2317  
Fax: 618-687-2604  
E-mail: murphysboroumc@frontier.com

**We're On The Web!**  
[www.MurphysboroUMC.com](http://www.MurphysboroUMC.com)

#### Prayer Chain...

If you desire prayer, please contact Janis Crews at 534-9404 or Barb Zimmerman at 687-4514, cell 559-8063.



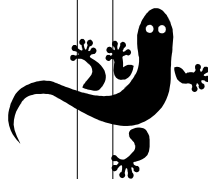
**Open Hearts.  
Minds.  
Doors.**

The United Methodist Church

## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

**Worship Service:  
9:00 A.M.**

**Sunday School:  
10:10 A.M.**



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

Return service requested

# Birthdays & Anniversaries

## In April

3-Cliff Buchholz	20-Cadence Brown
4-Perry Patterson	Nancy Fager
Gloria Stoker	Thelma Pierson
5-Caroline Guthman	21-Lacey Brown
7-Tom Ince	Megan Mileur
9-Katherine Yearian	William Mileur
10-Aiden McNitt	24-Jason Graff
13-Durice Runge	Bob Winters
15-Katy Abbadusky	26-Joe Melvin
16-Sam Chapa	Elene Swafford
18-Rosemary Cornell	27-Mildred Ward
	29-Megan McNitt
	30-Brittany Nolan

3-John & Sylvia Carvell  
Jerry & Janis Crews  
7-Cliff & Viola Buchholz  
8-Ray & Myrrl Burroughs  
20-Todd & Vanessa Lirely  
22-Elmar & Sandy McRoy  
29-Duke & Michelle Watson



If your birthday or anniversary does not appear in the Compass please call the church office.

All information for the Compass must be in the church office by the **20th** of each month.