



From the Pastor's Desk

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Greetings to all in Christ Jesus!

“Best of all, God is with us!” -John Wesley. This remains and will always be the defining Truth of our existence, both in this world and the next! We now know that *This Journey* we are all on together will extend at least to the end of this month (May). This means, among other things, that we have another whole month of listening to talking heads, public figures, political leaders, denominational leaders, friends, posts, blogs, vlogs, articles and even commercials telling us how we ought to feel, what we ought to be processing, what’s important right now, and what we ought to do about it...

If I may be very bold for a moment... allow me to slice through all of that noise with you...

When it’s all been said and done, the only voice that really matters is God’s.

What has God been saying to you during this time? What has God shown you in His Word? What new worship practices have you learned? What direction or clarity has God given you about your life, service to Him, purpose while on this earth? And finally, what is Jesus asking you to do about it, both now and when the crisis begins to de-escalate?

I pray you find this to be True. Seek the face of our Lord Jesus Christ! Focus on *His voice* during this time and as often as you need to... **BLOCK OUT ALL THE OTHERS!**

I pray that we are allowed to begin to carefully gather again for worship soon. When we do, let’s extend extra grace to everyone as we figure out how that will work and what it will look like. And let’s reflect carefully on the voice of God as He’s been speaking to us on the *This Journey* when we begin to discern how He’s calling us to reengage in ministry to each other and our community on the other side.

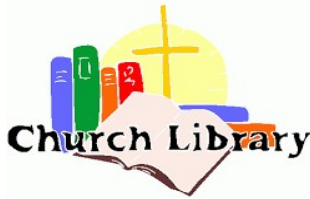
“God is with us—best of all!”

Blessings to all in Jesus’ name,
Pastor Danny

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

Join us during Shelter
in Place each Sunday
on Facebook Live at
10:00 am for Sunday
Worship together.





The Library Corner: Lives of Women

Greetings, readers! As I write this, we do not yet know when we will be back to our communal church life-- but hoping it will be in May! (Now we know) Whenever the church opens the library will be open too, with items of interest for May and beyond. Our feature this month is on women who have made contributions to the life of faith or to the larger society, including some who have risked their lives in doing so. Here are a few of the books that will be on display:

Hearts of Fire: Eight Women in the Underground Church and Their Stories of Costly Faith by the Voice of the Martyrs. These stories of women who became leaders in underground churches in countries such as China, Pakistan, and Romania reveal remarkable courage, faith, and dedication.

Irena's Children: The Extraordinary Story of a Woman Who Saved 2,500 Children from the Warsaw Ghetto, by Tilar Mazzeo. As a young social worker, Irena Sendler was allowed into the Warsaw ghetto. When Irena came to understand what was happening there, she began to ask families if they would entrust their young children to her. With the help of a network of others, she managed to smuggle children out in a variety of daring ways and place them in homes on the outside.

The Zookeeper's Wife: A War Story by Diane Ackerman. Before the Nazi invasion of Poland, Jan and Antonina Zabinski, Christian zookeepers in the Warsaw Zoo, lived an almost idyllic life on the zoo grounds taking care of a large array of animals. The dream turned nightmarish at the invasion, and with the horror of Nazi racism. Their response: Jan helped smuggle Jews out of the ghetto, and Antonia helped devise a system of hiding them on the zoo grounds, or in the house itself—all at a time when even to give a Jew a cup of water was to risk death.

Here If You Need Me: A True Story by Kate Braestrup. This is Braestrup's memoir of enduring the sudden and tragic death of her husband, Drew, leaving her with four children and deep grief. What next? What was next for Kate turned out to be attending seminary and becoming a chaplain for the Game Warden Service of Maine. As chaplain she deals with many harrowing situations—children lost in the woods, suicide, drink and drug caused deaths, and accidents. Braestrup's book alternates between telling about her life, and sharing stories of her service as chaplain.

There are many other types of books, many of them written by women for women—thoughts on motherhood, stories of faith, stories of hard times, and good times too. For thoughts about

the good times, try Luci Swindoll's **Simple Secrets to a Happy Life: 50 Ways to Make the Most of Every Day**. This would be a great time to read that book!

P.S. Have you been deep cleaning the house during this time at home? Perhaps not! But if you have found some overdue books from the Church Library, please bring them in and leave in the return basket upstairs or in the library. We don't charge fines, and would be happy to welcome the wayward books back home!

Graduates

Help us Celebrate our Graduates.

If a member of our congregation is graduating this year please send to the Church office by email; a photo of them (can be one from their 1st day of school & one from this year, or just one you love of them),

CLASS of 2020 where they are graduating from, grade, degree, and the name you would like us to use.

We need this information no later than May 21st. We will be honoring them during our May 31st service.

[Email: murphysboroumc@gmail.com](mailto:murphysboroumc@gmail.com)

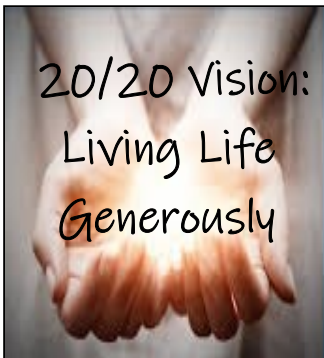


Summer Camp & Mission Trip Updates

We have been notified by the IGRC that all Methodist Summer Camps have been cancelled for the 2020 Summer Season.

This will also include the Youth Mission Trip that was planned for this summer.





20/20 Vision:
Living Life
Generously

**“DO ALL THE GOOD YOU CAN,
BY ALL THE MEANS YOU CAN,
IN ALL THE WAYS YOU CAN,
IN ALL THE PLACES YOU CAN,
AT ALL THE TIMES YOU CAN,
TO ALL THE PEOPLE YOU CAN,
AS LONG AS EVER YOU CAN.”**

~ Author Unknown

Wouldn't it be amazing if in 2020 we find fresh, creative ways to be generous, shine our lights before men, so to speak, to glorify God? **Being generous doesn't always involve money.** Being deliberate (or spontaneous) to carry out both small and large acts of kindness is one facet of living life generously. One act of kindness carried out by our church family this past month:

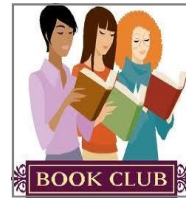
On two Sundays a month when we leave the house we do not go directly to church. Instead we head in to Carbondale to pick up two ladies who are very eager to come to church, but have no way to come unless someone takes them.

The ladies are very appreciative of this opportunity to participate in the church service, but as is often true, this is a "good deed" that we enjoy just about as much as those we are helping.

Sometimes these opportunities to help bring their own reward with them! Mike and Michelle Clark share this transportation opportunity with us on alternate Sundays. -The Pattersons

You, too, can make 2020 amazing by finding ways to shine your light before men to glorify God. Consider making Living Life Generously ideas a part of your daily devotional time or a component of dinner discussion. If you would like to share one of your/your family's acts of kindness to inspire others, please contact Nancy Vallino, Chair, Finance Committee, at nancy.vallino@yahoo.com or 924-3781.

MUMC
Saturday
Morning



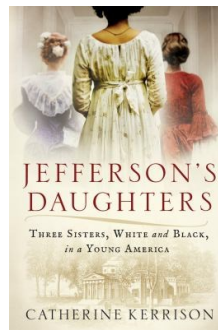
**Join the Saturday Book Club
In the church library**

The Saturday Book Club is supposed to meet in the library on the third Saturday in May (May 16th) Since the church has not been able to re-opened for groups to meet. We will either arrange another date to meet, or wait until June 20th.

Our current book is listed below. Meanwhile keep reading, and come to the next meeting with ideas for the next good book for the group to read!

Jefferson's Daughters: Three Sisters, White and Black, in a Young America by Catherine Kerrison

Thomas Jefferson had three daughters: Martha and Maria by his wife, Martha Wayles Jefferson, and Harriet by his slave Sally Hemings. In *Jefferson's Daughters*, Catherine Kerrison, a scholar of early American and women's history, recounts the remarkable journey of these three women - and how their struggle to define themselves reflects both the possibilities and the limitations that resulted from the American Revolution.





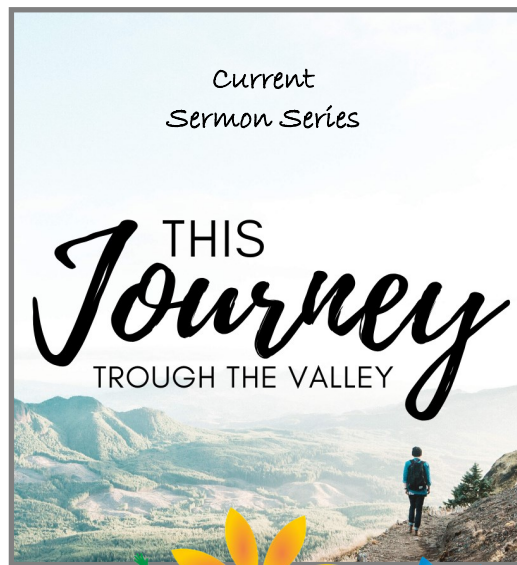
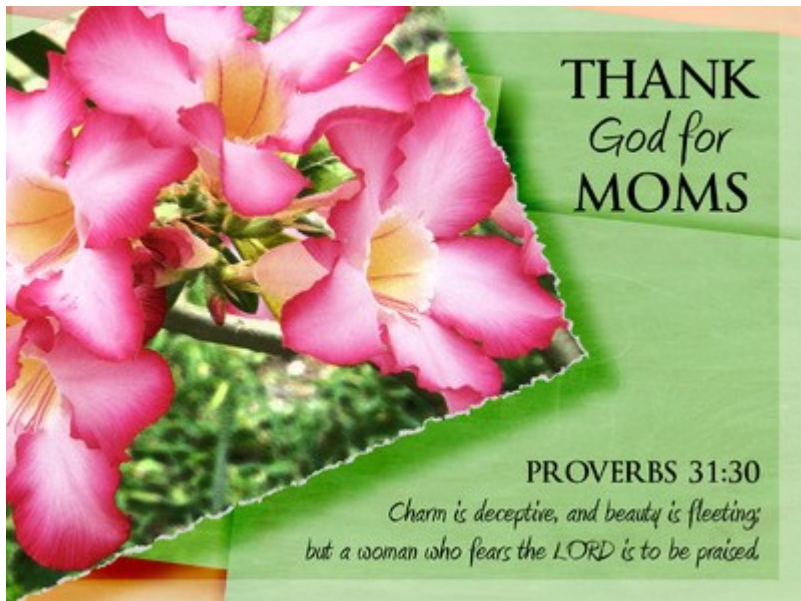
VBS Plans for Summer 2020 – This is no ordinary time.

This is no ordinary time--now that is an understatement! Our families have all probably had to change our spring plans to some extent and now many of us are having to adjust our summer plans as well. The church has also had to make a shift in summer plans. Many of you may know that all UM Church camps have been canceled and our Jr. High/ Sr. Youth Mission trip with Group WorkCamps has also been canceled.

After many conversations and much deliberation, we have decided to CANCEL our regular summer Vacation Bible School program. Please know that this decision was very difficult. We love VBS! However, with the uncertainties of the COVID-19 pandemic, we know it is the best decision. We hope that later in the summer or early fall we are able to bring some sort of VBS/Back to School fun to Murphysboro kiddos, so please stay tuned.

As Pastor Danny has remained us as we walk *This Journey* together, **Best of All--God is with us!**

Grace + Peace
Karen Motta



Methodist On a Mission
Relay for Life
Chicken Dinner will be
Rescheduled for a later date.



Please join us on Facebook Live during the current shelter in place as we continue our weekly Prayer Service. We will be praying for Our Church, Church Family, Family, Friends, Community, Government, Our current state with the Corona Virus and any Special needs. Join us to help lift these up to the Lord.

Upper Room Devotionals



The Upper Room Devotionals for May & June can be found on the front porch of the Church Office. If you would like to make a donation for yours you can mail it to the church or select Upper Room Devotionals on the online giving link on our website.



1	Mary Ellen Tierney	14	Vanessa Lirely
2	Ali Bradford	14	Halle Ticer
2	Karen Motta	15	Jordan Williams
2	Terri Twenhafel	16	Daxton Hargraves
3	Allen Bigham	17	Kristi Miller
4	Peggy Schuster	18	Alex Baughman
5	Jason Nimmo	21	Beautiful Bradford
6	Ethan Zimmerman	21	Bethany Jenkins
7	Cheyenne Abadusky	22	Mara Motta
8	Ryan Finke	23	Carol Wehmeyer
9	Jeff Patterson	24	Dolores McNitt
9	Madison Runge	26	Carolyn Sauer
9	Candace Watt	27	Roger Medlen
10	Da'Vaughn Graves	29	Richard Pierson
12	Belinda Nation	30	Diane Cardwell
13	Landess Mills	31	Debbie Korando

PENTECOST SUNDAY

WEAR RED THIS SUNDAY!

PENTECOST SUNDAY IS A COMMEMORATION AND CELEBRATION OF THE RECEIVING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT. WE WEAR RED TO SIGNIFY THE WORK OF THE SPIRIT AND TO REMIND US OF THE FIRE OF THE SPIRIT.

On May 31st
Wear Red to
celebrate
Pentecost.
Show
us your Red!



2	Rick & Durice Runge	24	Ron & Hillary Brooks
8	Chad & Holly Fletcher	27	Dan & Kathy Bratton
11	Jeff & Leah Patterson	27	Andy & Nancy McNitt
19	Ed & Jennifer O'Donnell	31	Curt & Cindy Presley
19	Bill & Thelma Pierson	31	Roger & Cheryl Smith
19	John & Nancy Vallino		

Remember Our Shut-Ins

In this time of Social Distancing Please remember our Shut-Ins. If you don't have their contact information call the church office or email us we will get it to you. Give them a call, have your kids make them a card or color them a picture. They will really appreciate the gesture.





God,

I am thankful for Mommy!





MEMORIAL DAY WORDSEARCH



Y R A W R M E S N G U E N T H
F N Z C E E O C R G T O N N O
R O O D K L S A I U K E S K N
E W A M D N T P L V M X F O O
E L R I E I O A E U R W M B R
D J E E T R S W N C J E G S Y
O R D U A H E O L G T A S E R
M Z D R J T M C W E W Z D R E
C E B Y Q O H B C A D D F V T
C O M M E M O R A T E G B A E
X K E T U B I R T Z L Z E N M
L B W E B C V E T E R A N C E
C N E P R Z I S S X T X T E C
T R O O P S C M I F X O Q U V
Y R A T I L I M Y F H D E I M

ACKNOWLEDGE
CEMETERY
CEREMONY
COMMEMORATE
FREEDOM

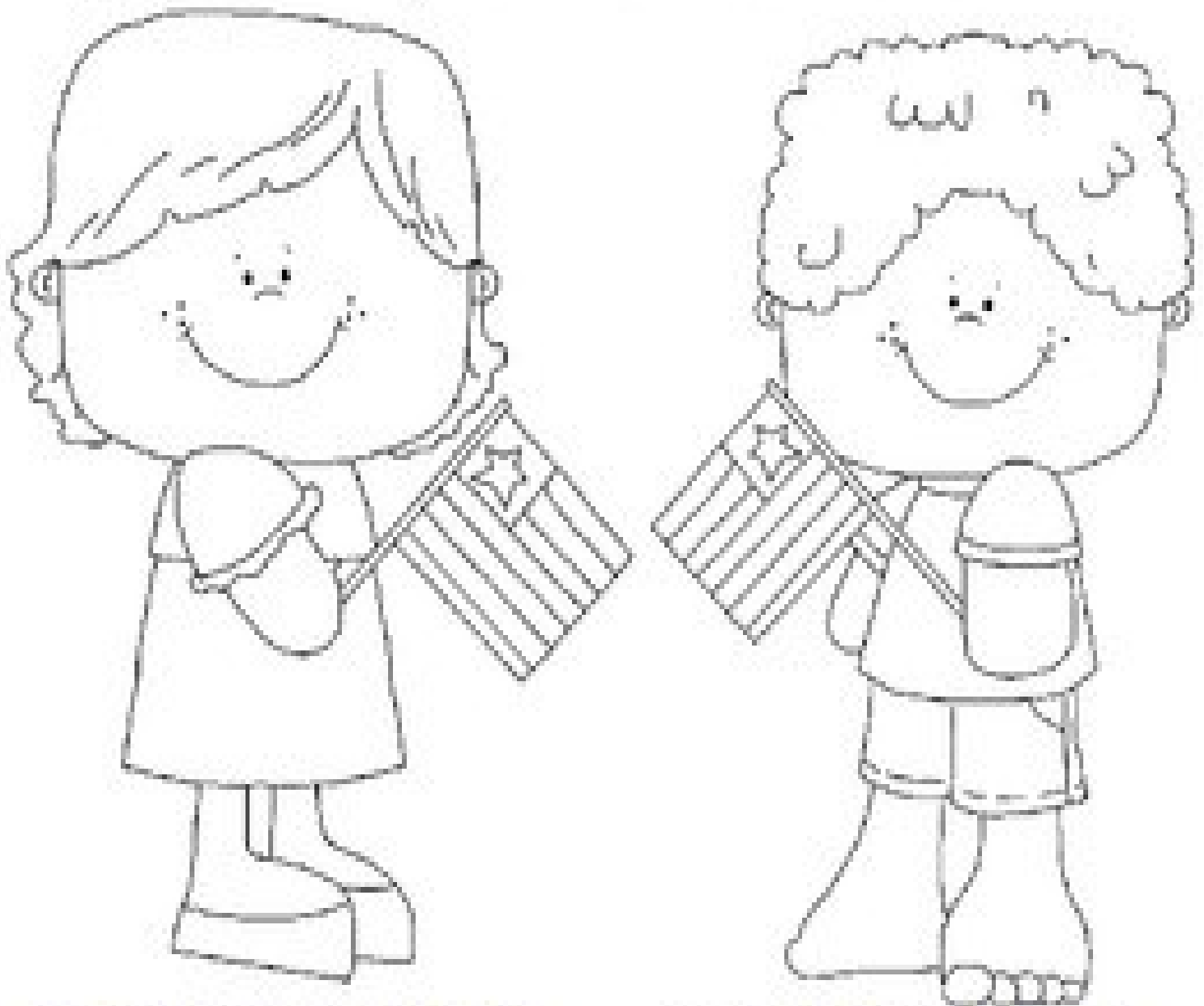
GRATITUDE
HONOR
MEDAL
MILITARY
MONUMENT

OBSERVANCE
RESPECT
SALUTE
SERVICE
SOLDIER

TRIBUTE
TROOPS
VETERAN
WAR
WREATH

Memorial Day

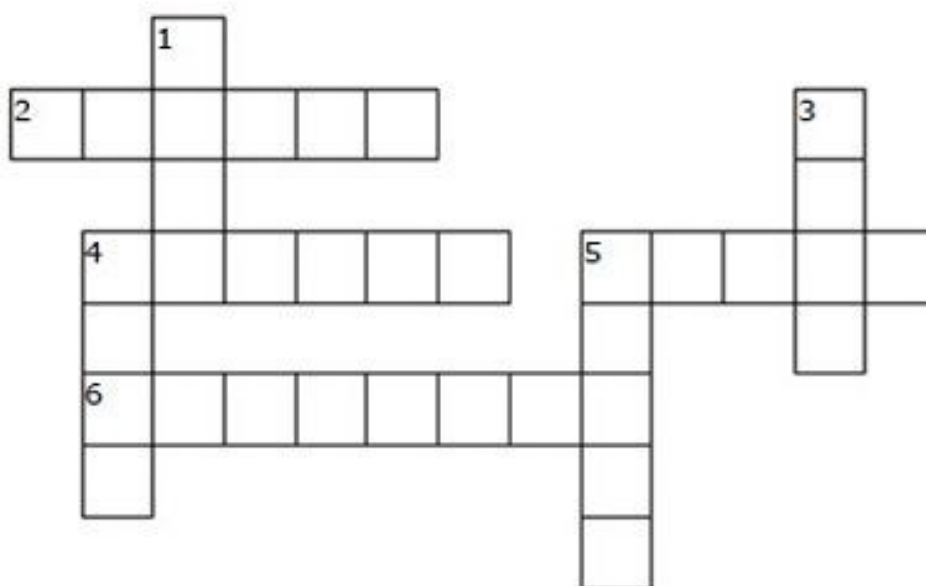
On this day in May, we honor the men and women who have given their lives so that we may have the freedoms that we enjoy in our country, the United States of America!



The Day of Pentecost

All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. Acts 2:4 (NIV)

Based on Acts 2:1-21



ACROSS

2. A being that cannot be seen, like a ghost
4. The place where God lives
5. Something that can be heard
6. Means of communication used by the people of a particular country

DOWN

1. A destructive burning
3. Blowing air, especially that which would move the leaves on a tree
4. Something that is pure and good, such as God's Word
5. To say words, to use the voice

LANGUAGE
SPIRIT

FIRE
HEAVEN

HOLY
SOUND

WIND
SPEAK



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



**CROSS & FLAME
MINISTRIES**

AGAPE HOUSE
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



**WORSHIP SCHEDULE:
MUMC:**

Sunday Traditional Service: 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School: 10:10 a.m.
Sunday Praise Service: 11:15 a.m.
Thursday Prayer Service: 5:15 p.m.

Desoto:

Wednesday Agape House: 5:30 p.m.

Cross and Flame Staff

Ministers The Congregation
Pastor Danny Motta
Minister of Visitation Michelle Parker-Clark
Financial Secretary Christine Nolan
Custodian Pat Sullivan

MUMC Site Staff

Ministry Director Michelle Parker-Clark
Church Secretary Melba Ziegler
Ministry Support Asst Lacey Brown
Pianist/Organist Rotating
Choir Director Brianna Sitton
Nursery Attendant Ashlee Sanders/Leah Wachtel
Technology John Wachtel

Agape House Staff:

Children/Youth Ministry Sage Lintner
Caretakers Mike & Casey Johnstone

Return Service Requested

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Murphysboro, IL
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**Cross and Flame Ministries
Desoto & Murphysboro
United Methodist Churches**
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Murphysboro, IL 62966