



From the Pastor's Desk

Greetings to all in Christ Jesus!

Church family, we have so much to be thankful for and to rejoice over.

“The night is nearly over; the day is almost here. So let us put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light.” Romans 13:12

We serve a Risen Savior, He's in the world today! And we are blessed with the opportunity to gather and celebrate Him together this Holy week with more and more freedom.

Friends, as the Covid numbers continue to get better and better, the vaccine spreads, the days grow longer and brighter, and restrictions continue to lift, let us come into the light of Jesus and gather together for worship this Holy Week. We finished March with a blessed time in worship on Palm Sunday. Now let us gather at 7PM, April 1st to remember Jesus' acts on Holy Thursday in blended worship. Then on Good Friday we will gather for a traditional style service at 7PM, April 2nd, to remember Jesus' history altering actions on that blessed day. Then Easter Sunday morning we have three opportunities to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ, gather, and invite friends and family: 6:30AM for Sunrise Worship outdoors, 9AM for Traditional Worship and 10:30AM for Praise Worship with our egg hunt at 10AM.

I pray that this is an exciting time for us all! As Jesus was resurrected from the grave, so may our precious Lord resurrect His church. As we continue with our masks and good social distancing, know that our numbers restrictions are slowly lifting and we are allowed to sing together again. In light of these changes, and as our Church Council has planned since January, I am excited to tell you we will begin a fuller Sunday morning worship experience April 11th. The schedule will be as follows: 9AM Traditional Worship, 10AM Sunday School for all ages, and 11AM Praise Worship. As has been the case, preregistering for worship is NO LONGER required! All are welcome in person and we will continue to live stream our worship.

Again, we need each other. It's been too long. It's time.
Our church exists ***“to know Jesus and make Him known, together.”***

“Best of all, God is with us!”

Blessings to all,
Pastor Danny





Our Special Easter Offering 2021: “Let the Children Come”

In the midst of this journey that we continue on as a congregation, country, and world through this global pandemic I don't want us to forget that we are also in the midst of a big

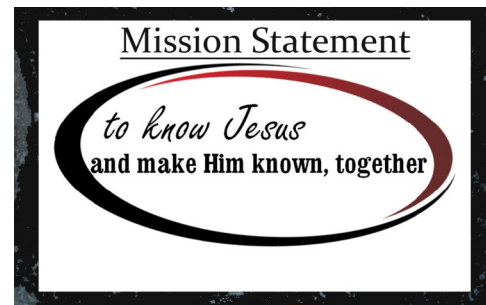
transition (and we pray for an exciting future) for our Children's and Youth Ministry at MUMC. Our mission must be to help as many children and youth as possible to come to saving faith in Jesus Christ. As such, one of our main commitments needs to be to help as many children and youth as possible to have opportunities to meet and be transformed by Jesus Christ. We must commit to ensuring that no child or youth should ever not get to go on a spiritual formation event for financial reasons. If they are willing to go, and available to go, we need to help make that happen!

Therefore, we are setting up a specifically designated fund called ‘Let the Children Come’ to help our children and youth attend spiritual formation events who may need assistance. What kind of events am I talking about? Events designed to help young people meet Jesus: mission trips, Christian camps, Christian retreats (Fire-Up, Ignition, Lightkids, Revo, etc.). Let's work together to help make sure the next generation gets as many chances to dedicate their lives to Jesus as possible! What is more important?

Your Easter Offering Envelope is attached to this newsletter or you may select “Let the Children Come” through our on-line giving link at anytime.



1	7:00 PM	Holy Thursday	17	10:15 AM	Book Club (by zoom)
2		Good Friday Office Closed	18	Noon	Confirmation Class
	7:00 PM	Good Friday Service			Youth Picnic-Giant City
3			19	9:00 AM	Last Day for Yard Sale Drop-Off
4	10:00 AM	Easter Egg Hunt	19-23		Yard Sale Work-Week
5		Easter Monday Office Closed	19		Meals On Wheels Week
6	6:00 PM	Cubs Scouts		9:30 AM	Quilters
	6:00 PM	Kung Fu	20	6:00 PM	Cub Scouts
7	11:00 AM	Staff Meeting		6:00 PM	Kung-Fu
	6:00 PM	Choir	21	11:00 AM	Staff
	6:00 PM	Youth Fellowship		1:30 PM	Nurture & Care
8				6:00 PM	Choir
9	9:00 AM	Stretching w/Rosie		6:00 PM	BLAST
10	7:30 AM	UMM-Breakfast		6:00 PM	Youth Fellowship
11	10:00 AM	Sunday School Classes Resume	22		
11	Noon	Confirmation Class	23	9:00 AM	Stretching w/Rosie
	Noon	Prayer Walking		3:00 PM	Yard Sale
12-16		Week of Yard Sale Drop-Off 9-3 pm each day	24	9:00 AM	Yard Sale
12	10:00 AM	Bible Journaling	25	Noon	Confirmation Class
	7:00 PM	Staff Parrish		Noon	Our Neighbors Table
13	6:00 PM	Cub Scouts	26		
	6:00 PM	Kung-Fu	27	6:00 PM	Cub Scouts
	6:00 PM	Board of Trustees		6:00 PM	Kung-Fu
	7:00 PM	Finance Committee	28	9:00 AM	Holy Folder
14	6:00 PM	Choir		6:00 PM	Choir
15				5:00 PM	Agape House- Desoto Park
16	9:00 AM	Stretching w/Rosie	29		
			30	9:00 AM	Stretching w/Rosie



UNITED METHODIST MEN Saturday, April 10th at 7:30 a.m.
 The men will gather for breakfast, and a devotional. **All men of the church are invited to attend.**

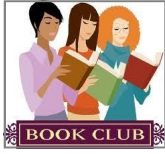
Children in 3rd through 6th Grade are needed for Acolytes. If your child/Children are interested in participating as Acolytes. Please contact Sheila Stewart at 618-201-3328, (call or text) or email: sstewart61356@ gmail.com, or you may let the office know.



Reminder the May compass deadline is April 19th !

NEW service times
 Starting April 11th
 9:00 Am - Traditional
 10:00 Am - Sunday School
 11:00 Am - Praise

MUMC
Saturday
Morning



Saturday Book Club
Now meeting via Zoom.
Each of us in our own living space, but all meeting in a common space to talk about books.

April 17th, 10:30

The Choice: Embrace the Possible
by Dr. Edith Eva Eger

At the age of sixteen, Edith Eger was sent to Auschwitz. Hours after her parents were killed, Nazi officer Dr. Josef Mengele forced Edie to dance for his amusement and her survival. Edie was pulled from a pile of corpses when the American troops liberated the camps in 1945.

Edie spent decades struggling with flashbacks and survivor's guilt, determined to stay silent and hide from the past. Thirty-five years after the war ended, she returned to Auschwitz and was finally able to fully heal and forgive the one person she'd been unable to forgive—herself.

Edie weaves her remarkable personal journey with the moving stories of those she has helped heal. She explores how we can be imprisoned in our own minds and shows us how to find the key to freedom. *The Choice* is a life-changing book that will provide hope and comfort to generations of readers.

Read ahead for May: *Nothing Daunted: The Unexpected Education of Two Society Girls in the West* by Dorothy Wickenden.

If you are not on the Zoom invitations list you can join by contacting:
Susan.patterson37@yahoo.com or Laverne_cline@yahoo.com

Mark your calendars Church Family.
The long-awaited Annual Yard Sale is about to happen!!

MUMC YARD SALE

Friday April 23

3 pm to 6 pm

&

Saturday, April 24

8 am to noon.



See April Compass for more information or contact Lynn Pierson 684-3601

Perhaps you have been storing items and are ready to get them out of your house. We are extending the times to bring items to the church as follows:

Monday thru Friday, April 12-16 and Monday, April 19 -- 9 am to 3 pm and after 5 pm those evenings by APPOINTMENT ONLY. Saturday drop-off will also be by appointment only. You may bring items after church on Sunday (April 11 & 18) while the church is open. Furniture items should arrive on Friday morning, April 23.

All items should be CLEAN and in good working order.

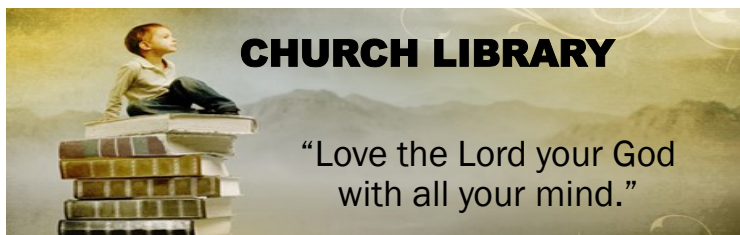
We cannot accept large (heavy/console) TVs or cellphones. Computers, printers, etc should have all personal data removed. We will be using the carport outside for items that can survive a little moisture and possibly the pavillion as well.

We needs lots of help to pull all of this together. We receive great fellowship from our time working together and we get to enjoy the blessings of seeing happy shoppers finding good bargains.

If you have questions please contact Lynn Pierson at 618-684-3601.



LAST SUNDAY OF EVERY MONTH



The Library Corner: Books for This Moment in Time?

Last April we were all reeling with the shock of the pandemic, with no clue about how long it would last. Good thing we didn't know it would last this long! This April the return to "almost normal" seems in sight—and perhaps soon, the re-opening of the Church Library? Meanwhile, here are some of the books and DVDs recently featured by the United Media Resource Center (UMRC) that may speak to the times we are in. The UMRC offers Christian materials for loan—delivered straight to your door. (See Box)

Courage: Jesus and the Call to a Brave Faith. DVD study by Tom Berlin which explores elements of what we call courage with Jesus as our guide and focus.

Be the Bridge: Pursuing God's Heart for Racial Reconciliation by Latasha Morrison, a leading advocate for racial reconciliation. She offers a clarion call for Christians to move toward relationship and deeper understanding in the midst of a divisive culture.

Wondering About the Bible with Children by Elizabeth Caldwell. Help the Bible become a life-long companion for faith and spiritual growth for the children in your life. Chapters: What story does the Bible tell?; How can we use children's natural curiosity to help them read the Bible?; Taking time and making space for God with children; Stories that form us for a life of faith; The spiritual lives of teachers and parents; Recommended Bible storybooks.

Five Loaves, Two Fish, Twelve Volunteers: Growing a Relational Food Ministry, by Elizabeth Mae McGill. Chapters include: Feeding Jesus; Problems with direct-service charity; Listening; Cultural conflict; Everyone can volunteer; Leadership teams; Let volunteers lead; Living with chaos; Unexpected learnings; Interdependence; Creating networks; Eating together is church; Go out into the world.

Rural Church RESCUE: A Call to Restore Healthy Churches to Rural North America by Jon Sanders. Speaking from his experience as both a rural church pastor and firefighter, Sanders has a unique perspective on common problems facing the rural church. He outlines six principles necessary for rural churches to be healthy and reclaim the vital role God has called them to in their communities. Chapters: Dream job; Do what?; If God can speak through a jackass; Recognize the mission; Execute strong leadership; Speak a compelling vision; Cover the community; Unleash the volunteers; Embrace the future but honor the past. Appendix: Can multi-site work in a rural context?

Perhaps one of these books speaks to an interest, concern, or hope that you have? Feel free to borrow these materials or others from the UMRC.

The UMRC is a lending library of Christian books and other materials for United Methodist churches, classes, and individuals. To find out more about the Center, including its online searchable catalog, go to the UMRC website, www.igrc.org/UMRC. Materials can be mailed directly to your door. The only cost is the return postage when you return the materials. If you need help contact Jill Stone, the Director of the UMRC, at jstone@igrc.org. She will be glad to help you!

Service & Missions



As Easter approaches the service & missions committee is excited to announce the resumption of activities of mission and ministry. We have been working & praying and want to tell you all about some of those things.

First Easter is April 4 this year. Jesus calls us all to go and make disciples. We have purchased door hangars to invite people to worship with us either in person or online on Easter morning. Please pray about which neighbor or friend you can invite. Either for the Sunrise outdoor traditional or praise service. We are praying each family might invite at least 5 friends or families.

Next, (see article elsewhere) the yard/ rummage sale is back!! April 27 28. Lynn Pierson is chairing the event and needs all the help she can get in the week or so before the sale and also during and after. If you can help please contact Lynn.

Next please mark your calendars!!! May 14,15, 16 2021 is Methodist in Mission to Murphysboro!!! We are making every effort to have some activity during that 3 day period for every member of the church from preschool up to be a disciple by participating in a ministry or service project in or for the community we live and worship in. More details will be in the weekly bulletin as soon as they are finalized in the next few days. Please pray about how you might participate as you hear of specific opportunities.

The projects will be geared in 2 ways; to make Jesus better known in our town, and to let Murphysboro know that as a church we care about our community and want to show that love in tangible ways.

Next April 28 we will be in ministry at the Desoto village park with a food & worship event for the Agape House youth as well as adults and anyone else in the community. Please contact Michelle Parker Clark or Roger Smith if you would be willing to help or just come join our worship and fun from 5-7 pm. Please be in prayer for us as we attempt to become more Bold for Christ & encourage you to join us.

Finally the members of The service & missions team want to thank you for supporting the rummage sale. The items donated enable people who might have needs to meet them affordably and the money we collect has in the past helped to fund ministry of Murphysboro UMC including youth and adult mission trips purchasing a new refrigerator for the church kitchen and many other worthy projects



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



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





ATTENTION ALL ADULTS – SUNDAY SCHOOL RESUMES ON SUNDAY, APRIL 11 AT 10:00 AM

We are so happy to announce that our Sunday School program is restarting on Sunday, April 11 (one week after Easter). We will be meeting from 10:00 to 10:45 am in the Fellowship Hall to allow for proper social distancing, and we will continue wearing masks. This class is for ALL adults of any age. So, if you have been in a Sunday School Class in the past, please come. If you haven't been in a Sunday School Class before, please come.

We will begin with a six week DVD study by Max Lucado – JESUS The God Who Knows Your Name. In this video Bible study, Max Lucado reveals that because Jesus became human, it is now possible for us to see God and hear His voice. If we want to know what matters to God, all we need to do is look in the Bible to see what matters to Jesus. If we want to know what God is doing in our world, we need only ponder the words of Jesus. By learning more about the person Jesus was and is, we come to understand more

clearly the people we were created to be. The six sessions include: God with Us, Friend of Sinners, Compassionate Physician, Great Teacher, Miracle Worker, and Victorious Sacrifice. Study guides will be available for use and/or purchase.

Again, adults of all ages are welcome and encouraged to attend. We value your presence, your input, and we look forward to seeing you on April 11!

If you have any questions, please contact Michelle Parker-Clark at 618/922-3587 or at mumc.visitationminister@gmail.com.

Holy Week AT MURPHYSBORO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

			
PALM SUNDAY MARCH 28 9:00 & 10:30AM	HOLY THURSDAY APRIL 1 7 PM	GOOD FRIDAY APRIL 2 7 PM	EASTER SUNDAY APRIL 4 6:30, 9:00 & 10:30AM



AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

MUMC Fellowship Hall
Friday, May 21st from 11-4 pm

For more information contact
Gene Schwebel 618-521-0879

Methodists on a Mission Relay for Life

Fried Chicken Dinner
Drive-Thru Only
Sunday, MAY 16
11 am to 1 pm

Plum Street Association
formerly the Murphysboro KC Hall

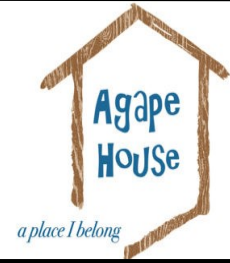




Happy Easter

THE SPIRIT OF EASTER IS ALL ABOUT
Hope, Love, and Joyful Living.





Greetings Youth and Parents!

Midway through the spring, we are excited by our youth program and the growth and learning we've been able to engage in together this spring! As summer gets closer, be on the lookout for fun activities we plan, VBS which is a great opportunity to volunteer, and any camps or retreats you choose to sign up for! We will do our best to help financially with spiritual formation events we offer or you sign up for through the conference!

Many blessings to you all in Christ Jesus,

Pastor Danny

YOUTH GROUP GATHERINGS: We have been back and going strong at youth group on 1st and 3rd Wednesdays from 6-7:30PM! Our next Sunday outing is a group picnic April 18th! Contact Diane if you can come and please invite friends and let's keep growing!

SPRING Youth Group SCHEDULE:



April 7th	Wednesday: Youth Group 6-7:30PM at church
April 18th	Sunday: Picnic and hiking at Giant City!
April 21st	Wednesday: Youth Group 6-7:30PM at church
May 5th	Wednesday: Youth Group 6-7:30PM at church
May 19th	Wednesday: Youth Group 6-7:30PM at church
May 2nd	Confirmation Sunday

CONFIRMATION CLASS:


We have been meeting each Sunday (though we will not meet Easter SundayJ). Our eight confirmands had an awesome retreat to the Creation Museum and Ark Encounter last month! Keep them all in prayer as they continue to learn, grow and affirm their faith in Jesus Christ!



MISSION TRIP I am so excited that we have as team of 15 signed up and ready to serve this summer on our mission trip! June 26th-July 3rd we will be headed to Cedar Springs, Michigan to work for Jesus on a Group Workcamp site! We will announce prep meeting dates soon which will fall on Wednesday evening at 7pm following youth group! Keep the team in prayer as we prepare to serve!

Workcamps • Home Repair

CEDAR SPRINGS MICHIGAN



SPRING EVENT

We have an outdoor event planned at the park in DeSoto on Wednesday, April 28 from 5-7pm. There will be food, fun and worship!

Confirmation

Had a Wonderful Confirmation Retreat! Big thanks to my main helper Karen, and Mom & Dad (Becky & Gary Motta) for helping lead our group through the Creation Museum & Ark Encounter! Also to the drivers: Scott Heller & Brant & Amanda Wingerter!



Retreat 2021



Family Scripture Reading Challenge

Our April theme is... **JOY!** We hope your family is

April

30-DAY FAMILY
SCRIPTURE CHALLENGE

JOY

● Isaiah 24:14	● Philippians 4:4	● Psalm 81:1
● Psalm 16:11	● Romans 12:12	● Psalm 97:11-12
● Isaiah 55:12	● 3 John 1:4	● Psalm 105:43
● Psalm 33:3	● Psalm 71:23	● Psalm 126:3
● Psalm 51:12	● Psalm 92:4	● Luke 24:50-53
● Psalm 100:1-2	● Isaiah 12:6	● Romans 15:13
● Job 8:21	● Luke 1:11-14	● Psalm 118:15
● Psalm 47:1	● Luke 2:10-11	● Luke 1:58
● Psalm 94:19	● Philippians 1:3-6	● Acts 2:28
● Psalm 98:4	● 1 Thessalonians 2:19-20	● Psalm 20:5



BLAST is scheduled to return on Wednesday, April 21st!

We are excited to be getting back to BLAST! We will get back to our regular schedule of 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month from 6-7:30pm.



A special **thanks** to all the wonderful volunteers that helped paint the Children's Ministry area!



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



AGAPE HOUSE
211 W Lincoln St
DeSoto, IL 62924

**CROSS & FLAME
MINISTRIES**

WORSHIP SCHEDULE:

Sunday Traditional Service: 9:00 a.m.
Sunday Praise Service: 10:30 a.m.
Both Services On-Line
Thursday Prayer Service: 5:15 p.m.

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



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
Pianist/Organist Cameron Taylor
Choir Director Elaina Crenshaw
Nursery Attendant Ashlee Sanders/Leah Wachtel
Technology Vacant

Agape House Staff:

Children/Youth Ministry Vacant
Caretakers Mike & Casey Johnstone

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