



From the Pastor's Desk

Greetings to all in Christ Jesus!

We have so very much to be thankful for! It is a great and important practice to list some of those things together from time to time!

Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever!
-Psalm 118:1

I am very grateful to say that, ever since Palm Sunday, we have been seeing more and more dear sisters and brothers of our MUMC family coming back to worship on Sunday mornings! This is such a joy to see! Along with that, I am very grateful for the safety precautions that have been relaxed from the Conference allowing us to sing and return to Sunday school! Another blessing, the Yard Sale! Lynn Pierson and her team were truly blessed this Spring and through their hard work raised nearly \$6,000 for missions! If all that wasn't enough to be excited about, we will be confirming eight wonderful young people in worship on the first Sunday of May (the 2nd)! Please do your best to be in either the first or second service that week to bless and support our confirmands!

The sermon series has been on 'Resurrecting' different vital aspects of our life together as the Body of Jesus Christ. We've talked about the importance of resurrecting our worship on Sunday, which we all want to work together to build back with the Spirit's help. Resurrecting discipleship was the next topic and I know we all want to see our Sunday school program for all ages as well as other small groups growing and thriving again! At the end of April, we focused on resurrecting prayer in our congregation and we were all encouraged to rededicate ourselves to passionate, persistent prayer in Jesus' name. In the coming weeks, we'll be hearing from God's Word in the sermons about resurrecting, our future (on Confirmations Sunday), fellowship, service, and the Spirit of God in our midst. I hope to see you all in worship this month!

As part of our discussion on resurrecting service, everyone is encouraged to team up with our missions team, and serve our community in a special way May 14-16. Roger Smith and his team have put together a number of service opportunities for all ages, and skill levels with the hope that every member of the congregation will have the ability to connect with one or more of the mission opportunities and serve our community in Jesus' name that weekend. For more information, please see the Mission Team's article. We want to be salt and light for the Kingdom of God here in Murphysboro! After all, our church exists **"to know Jesus and make Him known, together."**

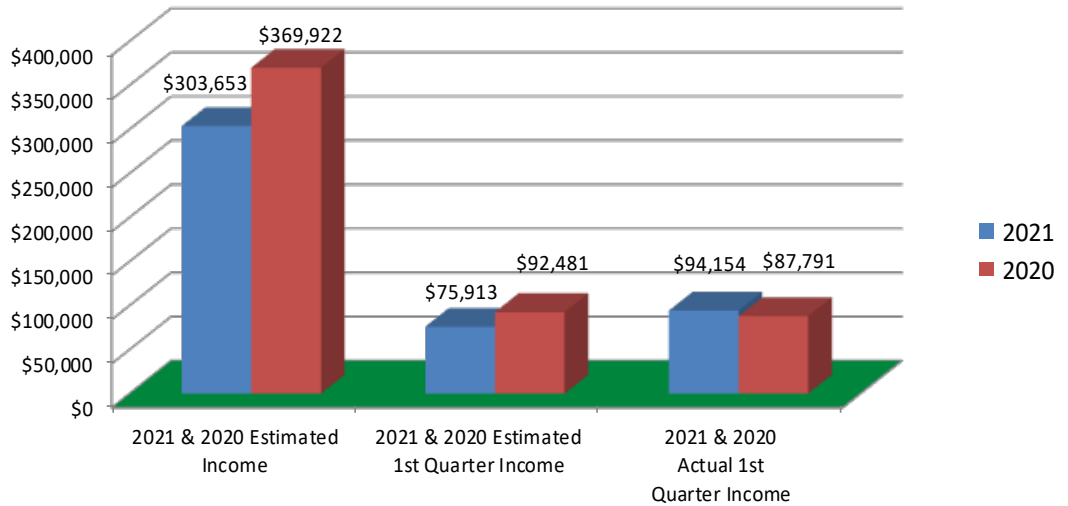
"Best of all, God is with us!"

Blessings to all,
Pastor Danny

MUMC

Q1 2021
FINANCIAL
SNAPSHOT

2021 Annual Income Estimate,
1st Qtr Income Estimate & 1st Qtr Actual Income
Compared to Same 2020 Data



Your Finance Committee is pleased to begin sharing quarterly financial snapshots. We will follow up with 2nd, 3rd and 4th quarter snapshots in July, October and January, respectively.

At the time we provided our church family with this year’s budget, we mentioned that 2021 estimated income is down over \$66,000 from 2020. We mentioned also that Finance Committee worked very hard to cut staffing and other expenses. Our saving grace this deficit budget year was: a) diminished 2020 spending due to COVID; b) dollars available in Special Funds to augment our Youth program; and c) a Paycheck Protection

Program (PPP) “Loan.” One takeaway we see by comparing 2020 with 2021 Estimated Income columns above is that were it not for these three extraordinary factors “carrying” us into 2021, we would have had to make

serious, detrimental decisions about staffing and ministries. We should all be thankful that the Lord is meeting our needs during this season when giving estimates are insufficient to maintain the critical staffing and

programming levels of 2020.

A second takeaway from the 2021 data illustrated above relates to the Estimated and Actual Income columns. At first quarter (25% of year) we calculated \$75,913 (middle blue column) as Estimated Income. Looking at Actual Income (right blue column), you can see that we’ve received \$94,154, exceeding estimate. This is due to several major factors. First, pledges are being honored at a stellar level!!! Non-pledged gifts

estimates are lagging only slightly behind where we predicted at 1st quarter. Last, but not least, an additional \$21,351 has been deposited into our Operating Budget from a second PPP “loan.” Bottom line: first quarter Actual Income at just over 31% is a good thing. Again, the Lord continues to meet our needs.

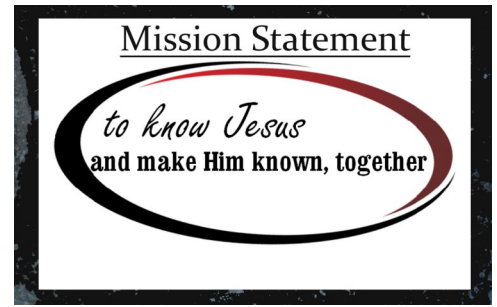
First quarter expenses were as follows: Salaries—\$33,127.64; Benefits—\$9,617.30; Contractual Staff—\$4,408.56; Nurture & Care—\$19.60; Worship—\$400.75; Adult Spiritual Formation—\$97.52; Children & Youth—\$2,062.94; Utilities—\$8,977.80; Finance (includes Apportionments & Parsonage Mortgage) - \$6,483.51; and Administration (primarily office expenses)—\$8,242.79, for total expenses in the amount of \$73,438.41. 1st Qtr Income at \$94,154.07 minus 1st Qtr Expenses at \$73,438.41 = \$20,715.66 1st Qtr Net Income.

You may arrive at other takeaways from the data provided, but surely we all grasp that we must keep our church and its ministries in our daily prayers. Also, we must all continue to do our parts to wisely steward what the Lord has so generously provided, both as individuals and as a church family.

Any comments/questions you may have can be directed to Finance Committee: Nancy Vallino

(924-3781), Bob Eaton, Nancy Fager, Shannon Green, Vanessa Lirely, Ben Snyder, Nicci Steele, Terrin Thies, Rob Williams or our Financial Secretary, Christine Nolan.

1			18	6:00 PM	Cub Scouts
2		Confirmation Sunday		6:00 PM	Kung-Fu
3			19	11:00 AM	Staff Meeting
4	6:00 PM	Cubs Scouts		1:30 PM	Nurture & Care
	6:00 PM	Kung Fu		6:00 PM	Choir
5	11:00 AM	Staff Meeting		6:00 PM	Youth Fellowship
	6:00 PM	Choir		6:00 PM	BLAST
	6:00 PM	Youth Fellowship	20		
	6:00 PM	BLAST	21	9:00 AM	Stretching w/Rosie
6	6:00 PM	Scouts of the Round Table		11:00 PM	Blood Drive
7	9:00 AM	Stretching w/Rosie	22		
8	7:30 AM	UMM-Breakfast	23		
9	Noon	Prayer Walking	24		
10	10:00 AM	Bible Journaling	25	6:00 PM	Cubs
	7:00 PM	SPRC		6:00 PM	Kung-Fu
11	6:00 PM	Cub Scouts		6:00 PM	Youth Fellowship
	6:00 PM	Kung-Fu	26	9:00 AM	Holy Folders
12	6:00 PM	Choir		6:00 PM	Choir
13			27		
14	9:00 AM	Stretching w/Rosie	28	9:00 AM	Stretching w/Rosie
15	10:30 AM	Book Club—In-Person	25	Noon	Confirmation Class
16	11:00 AM	Relay 4 Life-Chicken Dinner	30	Noon	Our Neighbors Table
17		Meals on Wheels Week	31		Memorial Day
	9:30 AM	Quilters			Office Closed
	6:00 PM	Church Council			



UNITED METHODIST MEN Saturday, May 8th at 7:30 a.m.
 The men will gather for breakfast, and a devotional. **All men of the church are invited to attend.**

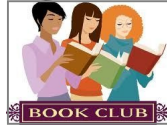


Reminder the June compass deadline is May 17th!

Thank you so much to John and Nancy Vallino for donating the beautiful antique print of Mary and Jesus to our church. The photo doesn't do it justice, so stop by Room 202 where it is now on display. An additional thank you to Richard Tierney for hanging the picture for us.



MUMC
Saturday
Morning



Wow! We are meeting in person for the first time in over a year!

Join us in Room 202
May 15th, 10:30

Nothing Daunted: The Unexpected Education of Two Society Girls in the West
by Dorothy Wickenden

In the summer of 1916, Dorothy Woodruff and Rosamond Underwood, bored by society luncheons, charity work, and the effete men who courted them, left their families in Auburn, New York, to teach school in the wilds of northwestern Colorado. They lived with a family of homesteaders in the Elkhead Mountains and rode to school on horseback, often in blinding blizzards. Their students walked or skied, in tattered clothes and shoes tied together with string. The young cattle rancher who had lured them west, Ferry Carpenter, had promised them the adventure of a lifetime. He hadn't let on that they would be considered dazzling prospective brides for the locals.

Nearly a hundred years later, Dorothy Wickenden, the granddaughter of Dorothy Woodruff, found the teachers' buoyant letters home, which captured the voices of the pioneer women, the children, and other unforgettable people the women got to know. In reconstructing their journey, Wickenden has created an exhilarating saga about two intrepid women and the "settling up" of the West.



LAST SUNDAY OF EVERY MONTH

AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE
Fri, May 21st 11-4 pm

Workers, Snacks, & Donors Needed See your May Compass for more information!

Contact Gene Schwebel at 618-521-0879 or Church Office if you would like to help!

We will be hosting this blood drive in our Fellowship Hall on May 21st. We are in need of at least 4 Volunteers to work at the event from 11 to 4pm. This may include taking temperatures at the door checking people in and hosting the refreshment area. We will also need snacks donated for the refreshment area. If you are interested in helping in either of these ways please contact Gene Schwebel

You may also help us by signing up to give blood that day. You can sign up by calling the Red Cross at 1-800-733-2767, or at www.RedCrossBlood.org and then enter: MurphysboroComm.



Our 2021 Yard Sale is in the books! Look for more information about how it went in our June Compass.



God Bless All the Mothers!

“Give her of the fruit of her hands; and let her own works praise her in the gates.” Proverbs 31:31

RELAY FOR LIFE LUMINARIES ARE NOW ON SALE PLEASE FIND THE ORDER FORMS ON THE LAST PAGE OF THIS NEWSLETTER.



The Library Corner: Library Awakening

It feels like the Church Library has been in hibernation! Due to Covid circumstances the library team has been unable to do very much for the past year. And in the months ahead we will be working on clearing out, organizing, and re-vitalizing the library. But you can visit the library now—you don't have to wait till that work is done. Come on in and check out books and DVDs as you have in the past—it will be a welcome return to normalcy!

Here are some things to be looking for:

New books! They'll be on display when we are able to get them processed, so be on the lookout for new items to appear.

A display space in the new children's section in the upstairs hall. There will be plenty of books for kids, and also a few books of interest for parents.

A new adult books display table in the welcome center by the Sanctuary.

As Mother's Day approaches look for books of interest by or about women and their roles. As always, we celebrate mothers, but we also celebrate the accomplishments of women in general.

May also brings us Memorial Day, and we think of all of those who have passed on before us, especially those who were involved in past wars. Southern Illinois has a special relationship to Memorial Day through the Civil War General John A. Logan, who helped start the practice of honoring those who died in the war.

General Logan, called "Black Jack" by the men he led into battle, was also important in influencing southern Illinois to support the Union, and he did so as he changed his own mind about the issues involved. This was such an interesting time in the history of Murphysboro and southern Illinois. Read about it in the book **Black Jack: John A. Logan and Southern Illinois in the Civil War Era**, which will be on display along with other books related to war or to southern Illinois.

And a final note: Don't forget the Little Free Library! The Little Free Library (LFL) is the colorful little box by the sidewalk near the pavilion. It is a book exchange box, and everyone in the community can participate—it's simple! Just bring an interesting book or two and place them in the box. If you see a book in the LFL that you are interested in, take it with you.

We try to keep some religious books in the box, but there will be books of many types in it. Many different people bring books or take books from it. And—we are especially interested in having good children's books in the box. Those are the books that go the fastest! So, participate if you can—it's like being part of a treasure hunt. Bring a treasure—and if you are lucky you may find a treasure!





Coming this Summer will be three exciting days of Methodists in Mission in Murphysboro! At MUMC we have long spoken of being disciples and making disciples. You have hopefully heard us speak of “on the trail” a path plan to discipleship. The weekend will be an opportunity for every member of the Body of Christ in our congregation to resurrect discipleship as a physical practice.

We are going to be doing projects in an area that lets the community know that we care about them at the same time we will be showing God that we are willing to be His hands and feet to our neighbors. The activities will range from singing outside of a retirement community for the children, to physical service projects and hopefully some in conjunction with other community groups. All of these will allow everyone to share Christ’s love as they work.

There is a community worship event at the Smysor pavilion on a Saturday including music, witness, food, and games. Plus an event in the afternoon for those willing to step out witness, and spend time in prayer with individuals in their vehicles.

Please contact Roger Smith if you are willing to serve as a leader for one of these projects. There is a joy that comes from serving that you can never know until you try it. Look for Information on Facebook and in the weekly bulletin, announcements, and emails. Wherever you are on your trail to discipleship this is a chance to take the next step. Watch for information, pray about how God wants to grow you during this event.



1	Mary Ellen Tierney	16	Daxton Hargraves
2	Karen Motta	17	Kristi Miller
2	Terri Twenhafel	18	Alex Baughman
4	Peggy Schuster	21	Bethany Jenkins
5	Jason Nimmo	22	Mara Motta
6	Ethan Zimmerman	23	Carol Wehmeyer
8	Ryan Finke	24	Dolores McNitt
9	Jeff Patterson	26	Carolyn Sauer
9	Madison Runge	27	Roger Medlen
9	Candace Watt	29	Richard Pierson
13	Landess Mills	30	Diane Cardwell
14	Vanessa Lirely	31	Debbie Korando
14	Hallee Ticer		
15	Jordon Williams		



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





Just a reminder that Adult Sunday School has resumed. Adults of all ages are welcome and encouraged to attend as we continue our DVD study of *Jesus The God Who Knows Your Name* by Max Lucado. There is plenty of space for social distancing in the Fellowship Hall, so please join us for a time of study and open discussion

Ice Cream Social

Sunday, JUNE 6
3-5 pm
Fellowship Hall

Bring your favorite Ice Cream or Cookies



Tickets will be on sale before and after the 9am service on Sunday May 9th. Or can be purchased from any team member or in the Church office. Please note this is a Drive-Thru only even at the Plum Street Assoc formerly the KC Hall.

Methodists on a Mission Relay for Life

Fried Chicken Dinner Drive-Thru Only

Tickets On sale now \$15.00 available in the Church Office or from a Relay for Life team member

Sunday, MAY 16
11 am to 1 pm





One Step at a Time

So we have a new mission statement: To know Jesus, and make Him known, together. Our Service and Missions Team must have agreed that one way to make Jesus known would be to deposit colorful Easter invitation door hangers at homes in our community and elsewhere. Sounds easy enough, right? Being a team player, I scooped up ten door hangers, and once home, I deposited them on our kitchen table. Sadly, those door hangers remained on the table for days. Husband John took a door hanger to share with a family member, leaving nine door hangers. Every day I would say to myself, "You've committed to inviting folks to church. Now get it done." Yet, day after day those "nagging" door hangers stayed on that kitchen table. Definitely, a task such as this was not coming easily for me. Finally, toward the end of Holy Week (when time was running out to extend invitations) I mustered up the courage to take the door hangers with me as I ran errands. I planned driving to a single parking spot within a single neighborhood where I would take door hangers door-to-door and be done in a jiffy. Thank God the Holy Spirit impressed upon me that maybe, just maybe, I might actually enjoy the possibility of making Jesus known in this simple way. And, if true, maybe the wham-bam plan in mind might not be the best path. So I prayed. I asked God to give me a heart for the community and take me where He would have me go. We ended up driving to four different neighborhoods, and We ('We' is capitalized since the Lord was with me) scouted out nine special homes where, God willing, residents within recognized currently or in the near future that they need Jesus as I do. Knowing Jesus is awesome, but sharing Him with others is our mission in life. Through this simple task I was reminded that following Jesus always begins with one step, and we're never alone on the journey!

~Nancy Vallino



UPCOMING EVENTS

Family Scripture Reading Challenge

The May Scripture theme is FAITHFULNESS

May 30-DAY FAMILY SCRIPTURE CHALLENGE

Faithfulness

- Lamentations 3:22-23
- Psalm 57:10
- Psalm 85:11
- Isaiah 38:19
- Psalm 92:1-2
- Psalm 100:5
- Psalm 18:25
- Psalm 40:10
- Psalm 86:15
- 2 Thessalonians 3:3
- Proverbs 3:3
- Psalm 89:5
- 2 Samuel 2:6
- Psalm 71:22
- Psalm 86:11
- Psalm 91:4
- 1 Corinthians 1:9
- 2 Timothy 2:13
- 1 Thessalonians 5:24
- Deuteronomy 32:4
- Psalm 89:8
- Psalm 119:30
- Psalm 119:90
- Psalm 117:2
- Psalm 143:1
- Isaiah 25:1
- Psalm 115:1
- Hebrews 10:23
- Psalm 31:5
- Deuteronomy 7:9

BLAST Schedule:
Wednesday, May 5 | May 19
June 2
 We will break for the summer and return in September!

But the LORD is faithful, and he will strengthen you and protect you from the evil one.
2 Thessalonians 3:3

We are so excited to announce that VBS WILL BE HAPPENING this summer!

July 18-22 we'll be hosting VBS called BOLT: Totally 80s.

Together, we're taking a five-day, totally tubular trip through the early church—and we want your kiddos to join us! Each day will be jam-packed with music, games, crafts, and an incredible Bible story that will help your kids better understand what it means to love and follow Jesus!

Pre Register your child at <https://form.typeform.com/to/nLMWuuzn> or scan the QR Code





Brianna Mae Carnes
 Preston Keen Fletcher
 Phoebe Amelia Heller
 Maya Ruby Jenkins
 Asa Dominic Joseph Motta
 Mara Louis Irene Motta
 Greta Jean Snyder
 Logan Andrew Wingerter

Church camp information was mailed out the Middle of April. It is also available on the table in the back of the Sanctuary. If you need more information please contact the church office.

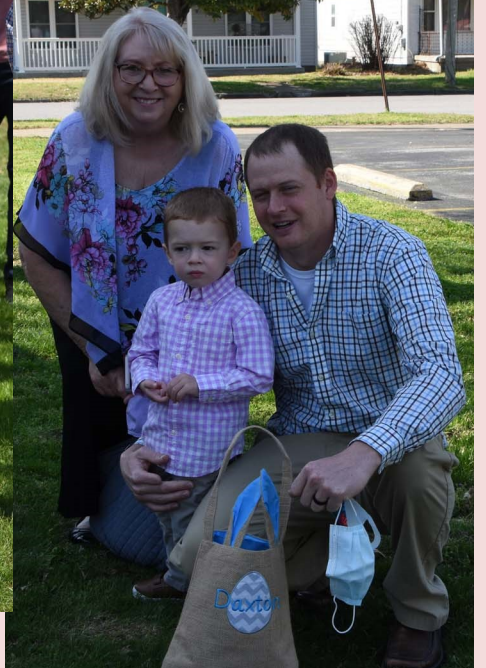


The United Methodist Men's group is currently planning the 2021 Graduate Breakfast that will be held in June this year. If you or your child/grandchild will be graduating this year please let the office know as soon as possible so we may start sending out invitations to you and your family as well as make sure we recognize each individual graduating.

Youth Picnic at Giant City Park



ended up a little damp this year!



Easter Egg Hunt 2021 was a great success.
Thank you for everyone who donated and/or helped out this year!



American Cancer Society
Relay For Life of Jackson Co-Murphysboro
2021 Luminaria Order Form

During the week of May 30 - June 4, 2021 Relay For Life will be held at the Courthouse Square. Luminaria (candles in white paper bags) will be lit on the Courthouse steps. The luminaria will be lit in honor of cancer survivors and those who have lost their lives to cancer. The community is invited to attend.

We want to give everyone an opportunity to pay tribute to their loved ones and friends and help fight the disease that claims so many lives. You do not need to be an actual participant to take part in this tribute. With your donation, the names of individuals you designate will be printed on luminaria bags.

If you would like to participate in our candle lighting and provide support for the research, education, advocacy and services of the American Cancer Society, fill out the form below. The more we fight this disease, the more lives we save.

Please light a candle in honor of my loved one and/or friend who has survived or lost their life to cancer. I understand the proceeds go to the American Cancer Society.

YOUR NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE #/EMAIL: _____

LUMINARIA NAME: _____

Living: Deceased:

LUMINARIA NAME: _____

Living: Deceased:

LUMINARIA NAME: _____

Living: Deceased:

LUMINARIA NAME: _____

Living: Deceased:

By May 30th, enclose a minimum of \$10 for each luminaria via a check payable to **Methodists on a Mission**. Place form and payment in the offering plate, give to a team member, or mail to Wilma Westerfield, 303 S. Pecan St., Desoto, IL 62924



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Living: Deceased:

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Living: Deceased:

LUMINARIA NAME: _____

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**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
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Permit No. 63

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