

Jefferson United Methodist Church 125 East Jefferson Street Jefferson, OH 44047 440-576-4561 admin@jeffersonumc.com ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Office hours are 8:30 - 2:00 M-F Office closed 11:30 - 12:00 daily for lunch.

> Our Mission: To make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. Our Motto: Love God ~ Love Others ~ Serve the World

> > April, 2024 Volume 114





My girls love April Fool's Day. They consider it a holiday like any other. Thus, when April nears, and they are talking about what special days are coming up in the month to come, they always mention April Fools! And then they spend several days planning what innocent little pranks they are going to play on each other and on me and Carin. Let me tell you, they

usually come up with a pretty long list, though they usually only end up doing a few of them. It really is rather funny and cute to see them get excited about a silly day that is nothing more than a "gag," if you ask me!

This year, Easter falls just a day before April Fool's Day. And in 2017, it fell on the same day! Which got me thinking, wasn't the greatest April Fool's Day trick of all time the "trick" that Jesus pulled on those who crucified him?! I mean, they thought he was dead, gone, and they no longer had to worry about him. Why, he even tricked his own disciples! But three days later, guess what?! April Fool's! He's alive!!!

See, on that first Easter, Jesus' followers were left behind doubting. Jesus had foretold his death many times and had always followed it up by promising he would rise three days later. But no one seemed to hear him or understand him. And so, as we encounter Mary walking to the tomb, we sense the doubts and fears everyone was experiencing – all those who believed Jesus was dead and gone. For despite what Jesus had said before, his followers weren't about to succumb to what they believed to be a fantasy. Dead was dead, and that was it. No one in their right minds would doubt it when the Romans said a prisoner was dead. They were experts at killing! They knew how the world worked. Dead was dead, and that was it. No April Fool's joke here...just reality. The Jesus they loved and followed was gone.

And you know what? We're not that different today. We live in a media-centered world – a world which demands proof. We live in a world where the second something happens, it's all over the news. Facebook, Twitter (or X), and all the other social networking sites flood with the news of something that has happened. We demand to have instant proof of something and if it doesn't appear in our news feed or on a tweet, then we have a hard time believing it. It's this instant access to news which has hurt our faith. The faith of people in this world has gotten weaker because of this ability to receive proof instantly. No longer can we believe without seeing because we don't have to.

The same thing goes with Jesus' resurrection. In a media-centered world, far too often people do not act through faith. Thus, that is how they see the resurrection. Nice idea, but it didn't really happen. It is an April Fool's joke Christians tell to rile everyone up. Yes, our

world today lives in a sea of doubt. And when you're swimming in doubt, it's hard not to get wet, to have that doubt seep into your way of thinking.

But into that doubt is exactly where Jesus comes to us — in an invisible way...through his Word. For every time we hear the Word of God, Jesus steps into our life and says, "Peace be with you." And every time we receive the Lord's Supper, Jesus is right there, through his body and blood — chasing away our doubts and filling us with faith, hope, and trust in him. Yes, through the Word and through the sacraments, Jesus appears to us and speaks to us — just as he appeared and spoke to Mary.

Indeed, the resurrection is no April Fool's joke...it is the absolute truth! Jesus Christ is risen!! The real "joke" was on those who arrested and crucified him. They thought he was dead and gone for good. But he wasn't! He isn't! He is alive!!! And now, as those who follow him, we are called to be an Easter people and proclaim this truth to all that we come in contact with: He is risen! He is risen indeed! Jesus Christ is alive!!! No fooling!!! Alleluia!!! Happy Easter everyone!



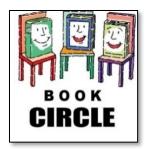


- 2 Bill Painter
 - Michael Housel
- 3 John O'Neill, Sr.
- 11 Celeste Esquivel
- 13 Joyce Zigmont
- 15 Robin Czayka
- 19 Hannah Jo Woodruff
- 27 Allie O'Neill
- 28 Terris Wilcynski









We've switched to the 2nd Tuesday of the month!

Tuesday, April 9 at noon.

Meet at the church. We'll buy & share pizza again. Let Mary Howe know if you'll be attending!

April

One in a Million Boy by Monica Wood

May

Nature's Best Hope
by Doug Talamy (all-county read)

Open to other suggestions for books to read!!

Please join us & keep reading!





But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If 1 all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many members yet one body.

- 1 Corinthians 12:18-20

Voice of the Day

We are all one, and if we don't know it we will learn it the hard way.

- Bayard Rustin

Prayer of the Day

God of all, remind us that we are one body working together for the good of each other amid your creation.



Thank you to all who honored someone with a donation to the Easter butterflies. And, thank you to all who contributed through the Lenten coins. All will be added to our Change the World fund to help those here in the county, in the US, and around the world!



Heartsaver CPR/AED Classes

JERD (Jefferson Emergency Rescue District)

11 South Market Street, Jefferson

216 319 0233

April 9th 12-2 PM

April 23rd 5-7 PM

May 7th 5-7 PM

May 23rd 12-2 PM

June 4th 12-2 PM

June 18th 5-7 PM

SCAD (South Central Ambulance District)

3100 US Highway 6, Rome

440 563 5619

April 18th 6-8 PM

May 30th 6-8 PM

Please consider taking a CPR/AED Heartsaver class – it could save someone's life!

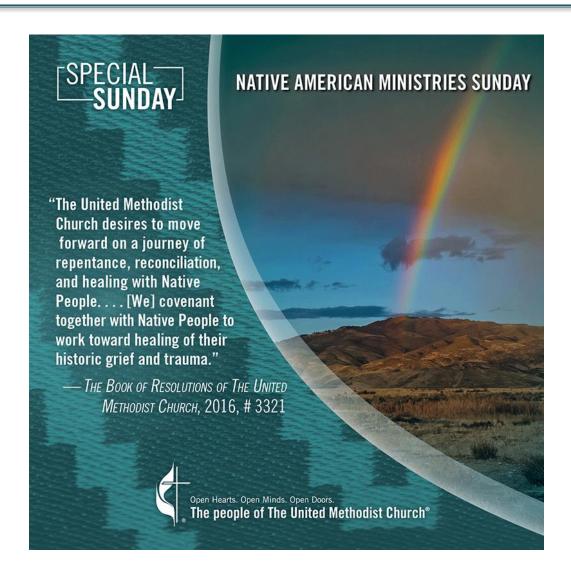
Both have on line sites for signing up for classes, or call the number listed for additional information. Classes do not require kneeling and do not include mouth to mouth breathing. If you need additional information, please contact me.

Martha Haluszka. Health Ministry 440 862 2331



In April, now that Easter is past and we have given away Easter dinners and baskets, Manna has an unusual request. We would like anything that is gluten free. These items could range from cereal, to baking items, to snacks, rice, pasta, etc. So, if you have such items, or could purchase them, it would be very much appreciated.

Lorna Westlake, Director of Manna Food Pantry



Native American Ministries Sunday is April 14. This offering bolsters the work of the United Methodist Church in rural and urban settings with Native Americans. It also provides scholarships to those studying at United Methodist schools of theology.



Easter Butterflies

In Memory Of...

Dr. John R. Patterson

Dr. Kenneth Q. Patterson

Cindy Lou Patterson

Scott Garner Eberly

Duane A. Woodruff

Gary D. Woodruff

Mildred Ramga

Cecil Ramga

Rochelle Ramga

Dick Ramga

Kathleen Howe

M.J. Howe

Jim Howe

Becky Sutherland

Jim Wilson

John Wilson

Rita and Daniel Wesley

Margaret and Glenn Jackson

Helene and Robert Hinderer

Dana and Lloyd Hawkins

Richard Bly

Betty Johns

From...

Donna Patterson

Donna Patterson

Donna Patterson

Kay and David Eberly

Hannah Jo Woodruff

Hannah Jo Woodruff

Mary and Jack Howe

Fran Wilson

Fran Wilson

Danielle and Glenn Jackson and family

Danielle and Glenn Jackson and family

Danielle and Glenn Jackson and family

Madelyn Jackson and family

Esther Blevins

Doreen Cole





In Memory of...

Herb and Vonnie Housel
Thomas Mountjoy
Oral and Bea Champlin
My Parents
Gerald Berrier
Mike and Helen Czayka
Rev. John Roseberry

Joshua Roseberry

Jack/Doris Roseberry

Margaret/Kennett Yeager

Susie Frizell

John Kampf
Geraldine Jerome
Allan Jerome
Bill and Ruth Mary Service
Lester Marrison
Vicki Potts
Bob Kepiro

From...

Kathy and Greg Housel Kathy and Greg Housel Nancy and Greg Hamper Jackie Bernardo Robin and Mike Czayka Robin and Mike Czayka Pastor Jeremy, Carin, Kylie, Paisley, and Aubrie Roseberry Judy Kampf Lori Jerome Lori Jerome Lori Jerome Ann Marrison Marcia Kepiro Marcia Kepiro





In Memory of...

Gerald Berrier
Evelyn and Clarence Berrier
Louis Burlingame
Clarence (Sam) and Margaret Spencer
Donna Williams Wilcynski

In Honor Of...

COL Timothy L Woodruff Nita Mountjoy Bonnie Yost David and Kim Beverly Berrier Alison and Jake Alex and Natalie Macyn Bryn Bodey **Dominic** Baby Czayka My siblings My nieces and nephews The children of JUMC Levi Upton

From...

Bev Berrier Bev Berrier Beverly Burlingame Phil and Mary Spencer Edna Williams and Terris Wilcynski

From...

Hannah Jo Woodruff Kathy and Greg Housel Jackie Bernardo Robin and Michael Czayka Lori Jerome Lori Jerome Pamela Hodgkinson Ann Marrison



April, 2024

Mon 1 9am - Pickle Ball	Tue 2 10am - Ministry Team	Wed 3	Thu 4	Fri Fri	Sat 5
	2 10am - Ministry Team			gam WIC	5
	Tours frameway	Cicobin Den Circu			
10:30am - Yoga -	4pm - Christian Cafe @	7pm - Chancel Choir	10:30am - Women's		
6:30pm - Boy Scouts		0			
6:30pm - Yoga - Slow					
8	9	10	11		12
Eclipse	10am - Ministry Team	5:30pm - Praise Team	9am - Pickle Ball	8am - WIC	8:30am - Stephen Min.
9am - Pickle Ball		6:30pm - Bell Choir	10:30am - Women's		
12pm - Blood Drive		7pm - Chancel Choir	12pm - Quilters		
6:30pm - Boy Scouts					
15	16	17	18		19
9am - Pickle Ball	10am - Ministry Team	5:30pm - Praise Team	9am - Pickle Ball	8am - WIC	
10:30am - Yoga -	4pm - Christian Cafe @	6:30pm - Bell Choir	10:30am - Women's		
6:30pm - Boy Scouts 6:30pm - Yoga - Slow		7pm - Chancel Choir	4pm - Finance		
22	23	24	25		26
9am - Pickle Ball	10am - Ministry Team	6:30pm - Bell Choir	9am - Pickle Ball	8am - WIC	10am - Quilters
10:30am - Yoga -		7pm - Chancel Choir	10:30am - Women's		
6:30pm - Boy Scouts			12pm - R & R Pasta		
6:30pm - Yoga - Slow			i		
29	30	1	2		3
9am - Pickle Ball	10am - Ministry Team	6:30pm - Bell Choir	9am - Pickle Ball	8am - WIC	
10:30am - Yoga -		7pm - Chancel Choir	10:30am - Women's		
6:30pm - Boy Scouts					
		Slow 8 10am - Ministry Tea 4pm - Christian Cafe outs 10am - Ministry Tea 4pm - Christian Cafe outs 10am - Ministry Tea 22 10am - Ministry Tea outs Slow 29 10am - Ministry Tea	Slow 8 9 10am - Ministry Team 5:30pm - Praise Tea 6:30pm - Bell Choir 7pm - Chancel Choir 20 15 10am - Ministry Team 4pm - Christian Cafe @ 6:30pm - Bell Choir 7pm - Chancel Choir	Slow 8 9 10am - Ministry Team 5:30pm - Praise Team 6:30pm - Bell Choir 7pm - Chancel Choir 12pm - Quilters 15 16 5:30pm - Praise Team 4pm - Christian Cafe © 6:30pm - Praise Team 4pm - Christian Cafe © 6:30pm - Bell Choir 7pm - Chancel Choir 10:30am - Women's 7pm - Chancel Choir 10:30am - Women's 7pm - Chancel Choir 10:30am - Women's 10:30pm - Bell Choir 10:30am - Women's 10:30am - Pickle Ball 7pm - Chancel Choir 10:30am - Women's 10:30am - Pickle Ball 10:30am - Women's 10	Slow 8 9 10am - Ministry Team 5:30pm - Praise Team 9am - Pickle Ball 10:30am - Women's 15 16 17 10:30am - Women's 18 10am - Ministry Team 6:30pm - Bell Choir 10:30am - Women's 18 10 10:30am - Women's 10:3