



Jefferson United Methodist Church
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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

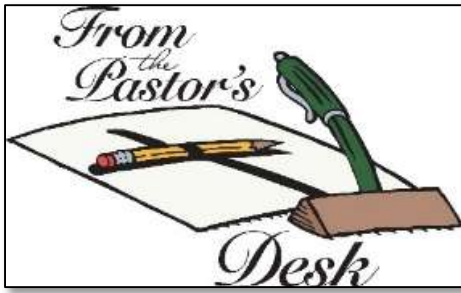
Office hours are 8:30 - 2:00 M-F
Office closed 11:30 – 12:00 daily for lunch.

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

April, 2025

Volume 129





THE MUSIC AND NEW LIFE OF GOD'S CREATION

Well, it appears that Spring may finally be on its way, after what seemed like a particularly long winter this year. Thus, in the last couple weeks, I have found myself outside enjoying the beauty of God's creation. And as I watched the girls playing or just spent some time taking in the sunshine and fresh air, I found myself sitting back and listening to the music around me – the music of nature. Yes, nature can indeed be a form of music – birds chirping, the sound of flowing water, a warm and gentle breeze, etc. What a remarkable experience to be able to just sit and listen to God speaking, reflecting on what a magnificent feeling it is to be a part of God's creation! My life may be stressful at times, and there are certainly instances when the world makes me just want to scream, "Enough is enough," but all those feelings seem to disappear during times like this. Nothing can beat this feeling – the feeling of spring and the promise of new beginnings.

One of my favorite hymns in the *United Methodist Hymnal* is "This Is a Day of New Beginnings." The words to this hymn talk about how each ending is a new beginning. No matter what endings we have in our lives, there is always a beginning on the other side – a chance for God to reveal God's glory to us.

My thoughts also trailed off to all the praises and thanksgivings which I have in my life. Admittedly, I am as guilty as the next person in focusing on concerns rather than joys. Too many times my prayers are "help me, help me, help me" rather than "thank you, thank you, thank you." But as I sat in that beauty, I was forced to change my tune and think about all the praises in my life – all the moments in which God has blessed me and in which I can feel God's presence. Though there may be rough times in life, I know that God is with me and will continue to be with me through it all. God is present in all my comings and in all my goings – I just seem to forget that sometimes.

Thank you, God, for being there for me and for being with me through everything. I am grateful for the chance to serve you and to minister to those in need. You have blessed me in so many ways – a great family, amazing friends, a loving wife and 3 beautiful daughters, a caring Church family, good health...the list goes on and on. As I go about my day, I experience your presence in all that I do. The birds chirping outside remind me that in you there is always a new beginning. The sound of moving water is a sign that you are indeed the living water and in you I will never be thirsty. Through the blowing breeze, I feel your Holy Spirit and experience your breath being blown on and through me. How amazing you are!

I could go on for hours describing how in tune with my spiritual self I get through sitting in nature. In my opinion, there is no greater way to get in touch with the divine. The creation which God afforded us the privilege to live in is overwhelming and is a reminder of how truly blessed each of us is.

So, I challenge you all to do the same. With Easter coming less than a month from now – carrying its promise of new life with it – take some time to reflect on new beginnings. Praise God for what you have been given. Enjoy the spring weather and rejoice in the hope it brings.

As we complete our Lenten journey of reflection, confession, and repentance, we approach the empty tomb as transformed people with a renewed spirit. Take these promises with you the rest of the year and celebrate all the goodness which God has given to you. Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed! Go and live and tell your story as an Easter people filled with the love and hope of our risen Savior!



Believe it or not, Holy Week will be here soon!!!

Jefferson UMC Holy Week Services:

- **Thursday, April 17, 7 p.m.** – Maundy Thursday Service with Holy Communion
- **Friday, April 18, 6 p.m.** – Jefferson Community Cross Walk, beginning at Baptist Church
- **Sunday, April 20, 8 a.m.** – “Son-Rise” Service by the Cross out front
- **Sunday, April 20, approx. 8:15 a.m.** – Easter Breakfast (please bring a dish to share)
- **Sunday, April 20, 9:30 a.m.** – Easter Worship



APRIL
Birthdays

- | | |
|----|--------------------------------|
| 2 | Michael Housel
Bill Painter |
| 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 |



HAPPY
Birthdays



do JUSTICE

Verse of the Day

We are afflicted in every way but not crushed, perplexed but not driven to despair, persecuted but not forsaken, struck down but not destroyed.

- 2 Corinthians 4:8-9

Voice of the Day

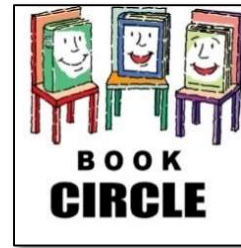
While women weep, as they do now, I'll fight. While little children go hungry, as they do now, I'll fight. While men go to prison, in and out, in and out, as they do now, I'll fight. While there is a drunkard left, while there is a poor lost girl upon the streets, while there remains one dark soul without the light of God, I'll fight. I'll fight to the very end!

- William Booth (English Methodist pastor who founded the Salvation Army)

Prayer of the Day

God of might, strengthen us to endure hardship and fight for justice, knowing you are with us until the end.

do JUSTICE



Join us at the church on Thursday, April 17th at noon with your own lunch and beverage to talk about:

The Lion Women of Tehran

by Marjan Kamali

Upcoming books:

May

The Lotus Shoes

by Jane Yang

June

James

by Percival Everett

We'd love to have you join us!



SUSANNA'S CUPBOARD

In case you have been wondering what goes into Susanna's Cupboard:

- EVERY DAY our guests can count on spaghetti sauce, pasta, tomatoes, peas, mixed veggies, carrots, corn, baked beans, and green beans.
- EVERY DAY we offer mashed potatoes, sliced potatoes, or varieties of pasta, canned meat (tuna, chicken, hash, chili).
- EVERY DAY we have peanut butter and jelly, fruit cups, and canned pasta, and cereal, (including oatmeal packets and quick cook in the large cylinders)
- EVERY DAY 2 quarts of shelf-stable milk, pudding mix, 4 packets of Ramen noodles, 2 cans of soup and 2 packets of crackers.
- EVERY DAY we offer things that people cannot buy with EBT or SNAP cards: 2 wrapped toothbrushes, 2 razors, 2 rolls of toilet paper, feminine hygiene items. Rolls of paper towels 3 times a week.

What we would love to offer, but cannot afford, would be cocoa mix, tea bags, coffee, sugar, flour, salt, condiments, salad dressing

NOW we are coming to the end of knitted hat and sock season and will probably run out in April. HOWEVER, we will save any remaining hats and socks for next year's cold weather.

If you would like to become a member of Susanna's team, you could be filling the cupboard, shopping to keep the stockroom ready, and assisting with planning and execution. If this sounds to you like a way you would like to serve Jesus, please call Annette Sheldon at 440-479-8252.





Heartsaver CPR and AED Classes

JERD (Jefferson Emergency Rescue District)

11 South Market Street, Jefferson
216-319-0233

- April 7th 12-2:30pm
- April 22nd 5-7pm
- May 13th 12-2:30pm
- May 19th 5-7pm
- June 11th 12-2:30pm
- June 24 5-7pm

SCAD (South Central Ambulance District)

3100 US Highway 6, Rome
440 563 5619

- April 24th 6-8pm
- May 29th 6-8pm
- June 26th 6-8pm
- July 31st 6-8pm

If you haven't already taken a current CPR/AED Heartsaver class, please consider taking one. It could save someone's life!

Applause to all who have participated in our classes here at church.

Both sites providing classes have online sign up, or call the number listed for additional information. Both locations charge a fee for the class.

SCAD's fee is \$5.00. JERD's fee is \$30.

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

REMEMBER OR HONOR A LOVED ONE

BY SUPPORTING OUR CHANGE THE WORLD MISSIONS THIS EASTER.

This Easter, we are inviting you to give missionally and fill our worship space with symbolic new life in the form of seed paper butterflies. Each butterfly will represent a donation made in memory or honor of a person of your naming. The funds donated will support the important ministries supported by our Change the World Fund. (There will be some lovely flowers decorating our worship space as well.)

Request butterflies by **Sunday, April 13** by using the forms below. Your donation can be made by a check to the church with the memo "butterfly".

A full list of those remembered or honored will be included in the Easter bulletin as well as the May newsletter.

After Easter, we invite you to come take your butterfly from our display or request it be mailed to you. You can then plant your butterfly to enjoy lovely spring flowers. (Directions will be included for planting.)



Butterfly Request Form

All forms and payments are due to the church office by Friday, March 31.

If mailing a check to the church office, please write "butterfly" on the memo line.

Name(s): _____ Phone or Email: _____

(in case we have questions)

My donation is made in

memory of:

honor of:

After Easter, I wish to...

- take my butterfly from the church display.
- donate my butterfly.
- request that my butterfly be mailed to me to the address below.

Mailing Address: _____

Susanna Wesley Ministries

Phnom Penh, Cambodia

Susanna Wesley House

Shine Project

Children's Ministry

Seize the Opportunity *(Written by Nya - GMF)*



This month, we welcomed two volunteers from Korea to serve at Hope Vocational School. They generously dedicated their time to teach basic Korean language and music classes. We are deeply grateful for their commitment and service to God's ministry in Cambodia. Their willingness to share their knowledge and

experiences has been invaluable. We feel fortunate to have them, as it provides an incredible opportunity for our students to experience a new culture and build connections. Their presence also reminds us that one day, we too might have the chance to serve others in God's ministry.



Valentine's Reflection *(Written by Nya - GMF)*

On this Valentine's Day, we took a moment to reflect on the true meaning of love. As 1 John 4:7-8 reminds us, love comes from God; those who love have been born of God and know Him. God is the source of love, and without love, we cannot truly understand God. True love is not merely a feeling; it is an action. 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 describes love as patient, kind, and selfless. It does not envy, boast, or hold grudges. We pray that we may continue to love one another as God loves us and share His love with those around us.



Shine Project - Vocational Training Program

We are grateful to God for the four participants who have joined us this month. They are thankful to have found our program as a way to pursue their dreams. We pray that their futures will exceed their expectations. We believe that many other young women also need our support. *(Written by Youlika)*



Children's Ministry

Thank You for Support



Some churches are not only using a television for children's activities but are also utilizing it to teach young adults computer skills and English classes. This tool has proven to be beneficial for Sunday school teachers and pastors alike. The total cost to purchase a 55-inch TV and a stand is \$450.

How to Support: An annual tuition for most of the universities in Phnom Penh is about \$600.

Online support: <https://advance.umcmission.org/p-393-children-and-youth-scholarships.aspx>
Children and Youth Scholarships - Advance # 3020791

To donate by check: Please make your check payable to **Advance GCFA** and write the **Advance # 3020791** on the memo line. (Address: Advance GCFA PO Box 9068 GPO New York, NY 10087-9068)

Contact: Reasey Long (Susanna Wesley Ministries Coordinator) - reasey1155@gmail.com

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>Loose Change Sunday</p> <p>9:30am - Worship</p> <p>10:30am - Fellowship</p> <p>10:30am - Sunday</p>	<p>9am - Pickle Ball</p> <p>10:30am - Yoga -</p> <p>6pm - Missions</p> <p>6:30pm - Scouts</p> <p>6:30pm - Yoga - Slow</p>	<p>10am - Ministry Team</p> <p>4pm - Christian Cafe @</p>	<p>6:30pm - Handbell</p> <p>7:15pm - Choir</p>	<p>9am - Pickle Ball</p> <p>10:30am - Bible Study</p> <p>2pm - Community</p> <p>4:30pm - Girl Scouts</p> <p>6pm - Bible Study</p>	<p>8am - WIC</p>	<p>4am - training</p> <p>8am - Men @ Mugs</p>
<p>9:30am - Worship</p> <p>10:30am - Fellowship</p> <p>10:30am - Sunday</p> <p>1pm - Private Event</p>	<p>9am - Pickle Ball</p> <p>10:30am - Yoga -</p> <p>6:30pm - Scouts</p> <p>6:30pm - Yoga - Slow</p>	<p>10am - Ministry Team</p> <p>6pm - Ad Board</p> <p>7pm - SPRC</p>	<p>6:30pm - Handbell</p> <p>7:15pm - Choir</p>	<p>9am - Pickle Ball</p> <p>10:30am - Bible Study</p> <p>12pm - Quilters</p> <p>2pm - Community</p> <p>4:30pm - Girl Scouts</p>	<p>CHRISTO retreat</p> <p>8am - WIC</p>	<p>8am - Men @ Mugs</p> <p>8:30am - Stephen Min.</p>
<p>9:30am - Worship</p> <p>10:30am - Fellowship</p> <p>10:30am - Sunday</p>	<p>9am - Pickle Ball</p> <p>10:30am - Yoga -</p> <p>12pm - Blood Drive</p> <p>6:30pm - Scouts</p> <p>6:30pm - Yoga - Slow</p>	<p>10am - Ministry Team</p> <p>4pm - Christian Cafe @</p>	<p>5:30pm - Praise Team</p> <p>6:30pm - Handbell</p> <p>7:15pm - Choir</p>	<p>9am - Pickle Ball</p> <p>12pm - Book Circle</p> <p>2pm - Community</p> <p>4:30pm - Girl Scouts</p> <p>7pm - Maundy</p>	<p>8am - WIC</p> <p>6pm - Community</p>	<p>8am - Men @ Mugs</p>
<p>8am - Son-Rise</p> <p>8:15am - Easter</p> <p>9:30am - Worship</p> <p>10:30am - Sunday</p>	<p>9am - Pickle Ball</p> <p>10:30am - Yoga -</p> <p>6:30pm - Scouts</p> <p>6:30pm - Yoga - Slow</p>	<p>10am - Ministry Team</p> <p>6pm - Safety meeting</p> <p>6pm - Starting Point</p>	<p>5:30pm - Praise team</p> <p>6:30pm - Handbell</p> <p>7:15pm - Choir</p>	<p>9am - Pickle Ball</p> <p>10:30am - Women at</p> <p>12pm - R & R Pasta</p> <p>2pm - Community</p> <p>4:30pm - Girl Scouts</p> <p>6:30pm - Trustee</p>	<p>8am - WIC</p>	<p>8am - Men @ Mugs</p> <p>10am - Quilters</p>
<p>Loose Change Sunday</p> <p>9:30am - Worship</p> <p>10:30am - Fellowship</p> <p>10:30am - Sunday</p>	<p>9am - Pickle Ball</p> <p>10:30am - Yoga -</p> <p>6pm - Children</p> <p>6:30pm - Scouts</p> <p>6:30pm - Yoga - Slow</p>	<p>10am - Ministry Team</p>	<p>6:30pm - Handbell</p> <p>7:15pm - Choir</p>	<p>9am - Pickle Ball</p> <p>10:30am - Women at</p> <p>2pm - Community</p> <p>4:30pm - Girl Scouts</p>	<p>8am - WIC</p>	<p>8am - Men @ Mugs</p> <p>9am - Private event</p>