



During the 11 a.m. service April 10, Pastor Peter welcomed Max Ridenhour as the new AV Technology coordinator. Max also transferred his church membership from Columbia's Missouri United Methodist Church back to UMCBurg, which was Max's home church when he was growing up.

## Max Ridenhour Named AV Tech Coordinator

Welcome back, Max! Max Ridenhour has accepted the AV Technology Coordinator position. He began April 6 and will shadow Sonia Manly for the next several weeks before her last day on May 29, 2022.

Max, who graduated from Warrensburg High School in 2018, grew up in our church and was active in the youth praise band, youth group and mission trips. He was the AV coordinator and set up the computer lab upstairs.

Max said, "I like being a part of the church. It's nice to be able to come back home and be back in my church family."

Pastor Peter commented, "Max has great passion for ministry, proven leadership and training skills, and years of experience in technology and troubleshooting."

Max said he welcomes any suggestions regarding the church's technology; he can be reached at [maxr@umcburg.org](mailto:maxr@umcburg.org).

In addition to the church's AV technology coordinator position, Max is the owner of PCMR in Warrensburg, which offers IT services to both individuals and small businesses.

## Nomination of Church Leaders

This month we are encouraging congregants to nominate leaders to serve on our church committees. Grab a nomination form in our office, atrium, or online. Please submit nominations by April 30, 2022.

## Church worship services

### Upcoming Messages

April 17 *Easter: Don't Be Afraid*  
April 24 *The Spiritual Life of the Student Years*  
*Confirmation Sunday*

### Service times for in-person and online worship

9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.

## Preparing for worship

### Scriptures for the coming week:

Mon. Apr. 18 Luke 2:41-52  
Tues. Apr. 19 Exodus 12:24-27  
Wed. Apr. 20 Proverb 3:4  
Thurs. Apr. 21 Matthew 7:28-29  
Fri. Apr. 22 Luke 3:21-23  
Sat. Apr. 23 Luke 4:16-22

## Prayers for our church family

Barry Hoskins, Carol Hassler's mother, Terry Austin, June Mellinger's daughter-in-law Felicia Brown, Jana Miller, Trudy Quibell, the Ukrainians and world peace

## Celebrating our church family

### Birthdays for the coming week:

Sun. Apr. 17 Cynthia Togom, Stanley Smith  
Thurs. Apr. 21 Barbara Carder, Gregory Lightfoot

### Anniversaries for the coming week:

Fri. Apr. 22 Larry and Sandi Bryan

## Warrensburg's CROP Hunger Walk 2022

When: April 24 at 12 noon  
Where: meet in FLC at First UMC  
What: 2.5 mile walk followed by meal for walkers

Sign up to walk or donate at [crophungerwalk.org](http://crophungerwalk.org)



### United Women of Faith Meeting April 19

United Women of Faith (formerly UMW) will meet April 19 at 2 p.m. in Room 141. Guest speaker is Deaconess & Home Missioner, Mandy Caruso-Yahne, who serves at Amethyst Place, Kansas City, MO. Amethyst Place helps women and children overcome the inter-connected cycles of poverty, trauma, and substance abuse to achieve a multi-generational impact.

Items are being collected for their household pantry. All church members are welcome. For more information call Vicki Ollison at 660-362-0044.

### UMCBurg Job Opening: Nursery Director

We are looking for someone who loves Jesus and kids to be the nursery director.

The nursery director will schedule and supervise all nursery workers and volunteers according to the Safe Gatherings safety and security procedures for all events. The director will also

- fill out necessary reports: child/worker accident reports, maintenance repair reports, and required reports of child neglect and/or abuse as mandated by the state of Missouri and Johnson County.
- provide a safe, clean, inviting, and nurturing environment for children birth-3 years old.

The nursery directory will be motivated to fill God's love in the nursery and with the nursery families.

<b>April 3rd</b> Peter's Denial Matthew 26:36-46	<b>April 10th</b> PALM SUNDAY John 12:12-19	<b>April 17th</b> EASTER John 20:1-18	<b>April 24th</b> Breakfast on the Beach Matthew 26:36-46
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I've seen the Lord - JOHN 10:18

**Coming Soon to**  
**First United Methodist Church**

**FOOD TRUCK PARTY**

Tuesday, May 31 thru Saturday, June 4  
VBS Sunday on June 5

PK - 5th Grade  
**RESERVE YOUR SPOT!**

Questions? Contact Vada (vada@umcburg.org)  
shineumcburg.org  
mycokesburyvbs

ON A ROLL WITH GOD!

## Giving To God's Work

Save the Date

May 9, 6 p.m.

### When Treasures and Hearts Come Together

Rev. Laura Murphy will return to our church May 9 and 6 p.m. to present the workshop *When Treasures and Hearts Comes Together*.

This workshop is intended to plant seeds and spur conversation around the idea of what it means to leave a legacy. The workshop will guide participants to reflect on what is nearest and dearest to their hearts and how to set up legacy gifts to reflect what is important to them. The workshop's intent is not to sell financial services; however, it will provide education around the variety of financial giving options.

Those of you who have attended other workshops that Laura has presented know this will be informative and entertaining.

Please call the church office at 660 -747-8158 and reserve your seat. If you have questions please call Robyn or me.

LEGACY GIFTS WILL PROVIDE THE FINANCIAL FUTURE OF OUR CHURCH!

Thanks for listening!

Dale Carder, [carder@ucmo.edu](mailto:carder@ucmo.edu)

Robyn Criswell Bloom, [rcriswellbloom@gmail.com](mailto:rcriswellbloom@gmail.com)

SUMMER  
**MISSION**  
TRIP

**Partnered with Clinton FUMC**

Working with Della Lamb and Restore KCMO

**June 9th, 16th, 23rd & 30th 2022**

Looking for a great way to give back and have fun this summer? Join us for a mission trip this summer in Kansas City.

**Who?**

Middle school and high school students

**Where?**

Della Lamb and Restore KCMO.

No cost for this mission trip.

Sign up on the Events page at [umcburg.org](http://umcburg.org).

## The Spiritual Life of Children

When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the people of Judea expected a military conqueror. They welcomed him with palm leaves as a hero who would lead them to fight battles. They felt low in status as a conquered people. They looked to Jesus to raise their status. Palm Sunday is a day in the Christian year when God invites us to question our expectations.

Jesus didn't meet the expectations of most people in the crowd that day. Instead of showing them that true greatness comes from the ability to show violence and control riding in on a war horse, surrounded by soldiers, he rode in on a borrowed donkey with unarmed disciples to show them that true greatness comes from humility.

Throughout his ministry Jesus had invited his disciples and followers to imagine true greatness as humility. Jesus asks us to reflect on the importance of children in our lives to help us understand the expectations God has for us as his disciples.

**Whoever becomes humble like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me. Matthew 8:4-5**

When he entered into Jerusalem, we read that children recognized Jesus as the messiah he truly is while many of the religious leaders are confused and angry with Jesus.

**The blind and the lame came to him in the temple, and he cured them. <sup>15</sup>But when the chief priests and the scribes saw the amazing things that he did, and heard the children crying out in the temple, 'Hosanna to the Son of David', they became angry <sup>16</sup>and said to him, 'Do you hear what these are saying?' Jesus said to them, 'Yes; have you never read,**

**"Out of the mouths of infants and nursing babies you have prepared praise for yourself"?**

**<sup>17</sup>He left them, went out of the city to Bethany, and spent the night there. Matthew 21:14-17**

Over the next several weeks we will be discussing how we mature in our spiritual lives as we go through the aging process. How each stage of life has opportunities and challenges. What do children teach about faith in God? Humility, trust, unconditional love, acceptance, to expect great things.

If children are surrounded by loving, healthy adults they can display great trust in others and unconditional love. They can display great dependence, trust and love for God with depth of emotion.

The children of black, brown, or white parents will play with each other and become wonderful friends unless they are taught prejudice by adults. The acceptance that young children show to us as adults is that each person is valued by God for who we are, not the work we do or what we accomplish.

One of our primary goals of ministry as a church at the First UMC Warrensburg is to raise the next generation in faith. We understand that in the early years of a child's life,

there is a wonderful opportunity to help them develop faith that will last a lifetime.

Goals for the spiritual life of children:

- Know that God loves them for who they are not what they do.
- Know that their family loves them.
- Know that their church family loves them and is there for them.
- Create fun environments for them to develop, friendships with other children, youth, and adults in the church family.
- Encourage our children to enjoy praying, reading the Bible, singing songs of faith, spending time with other Christians, spending time in church, giving to God financially, serving other people, being comfortable talking about God with other people,

**Shine children and young family ministry mission: "To provide children and their families an opportunity to grow in their faith, making an impact through mission and service."**

In preparing for today's message, I called and spoke with Sally Hart. Most Sundays, she and her husband John are in church with their kids and their grandkids, supporting each other in their faith formation.

She told me that she and John came to church every Sunday with their kids when they were young with the hope that they would continue this practice throughout their lives. Through Sunday School, mission trips, youth group and lots of things, lots of people knew their kids. All of these people have looked after them and helped them grow into adults. Their children learned from adult Christians that were doing good things for other people the importance of caring for others. Sally's dream is that her children and grandchildren will all believe in Jesus throughout their lives and continue to grow in faith by regularly coming to church.

As Vada, our children and young families minister, and I were preparing for today's message, we thought it would be good to encourage families to reflect on positive experiences that they have had in their church family. We ask you to dream and pray about what experiences you want your kids to have in our church.

When we invest in the lives of children, our own, or God's children from other families, we become more like Jesus. We share Jesus with them during a critical period in their development.

As we celebrate Palm Sunday and Jesus's triumphal entry in Jerusalem, let's pray that we can develop a little more humility, more dependence on God, more of the trust of a child.

**Continuing United Methodist Church in Missouri Conversation**

with Bishop Bob Farr



On Sunday April 24, 2022, Rev. Bob Farr, the bishop of Missouri, is hosting an informational session to talk about the future of the United Methodist Church.

One of the topics discussed will be how we are in ministry with LGBTQ persons. The regional informational session will be at Woods Chapel United Methodist Church from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.

All members of the United Methodist Church are invited to attend.

Woods Chapel UMC  
4725 NE Lakewood Way  
Lee's Summit, MO 64064  
You can register online at

[Continuing UMC in Missouri \(moumethodist.org\)](http://moumethodist.org)

***Celebration Sunday***

To the UMC Burg Family --

It is with great pleasure that we announce the date for our annual CELEBRATION SUNDAY event to be held Sunday, October 23.

This annual event is our opportunity to give thanks to all who, throughout the year, give so much in the way of time, talent and financial gifting. What this church family does within the needs of the church, community, state, nation and world is truly remarkable. This event is just a small token of appreciation to all who serve.

We will share more information with you through the coming months. The event committee is hard at work with preparations - if you are interested in being on this committee, please contact Russ Bloom at 660-238-4731 or bloom@ucmo.edu.

UMC Burg is truly blessed with many individuals who unselfishly give on so many different levels. This one day of giving 'thanks' is the least we can do in honoring everyone's efforts.

Russ Bloom, Celebration Committee Chair



***Good Friday***

**Worship at 6:30 p.m.  
Praise Band  
Stations of the Cross  
Scriptures and Reflection**

***Easter Sunday***

**Worship at 9:30 and 11 a.m.  
Christ Has Arisen!**