



Confirmation
Maggie Ridenhour and Reese Honan (left) were confirmed as full members of our church family after completing a year of study. They were joined by their families (below). Other confirmands will join the church April 24.



Baptism Wayne and Rhonda Rogers' three grandchildren—Emma, Maddie, and Wyatt White--were baptized Easter Sunday.

Church worship services

Upcoming Messages

April 24 The Spiritual Life of the Student Years
Confirmation Sunday
May 1 The Spiritual Life of Middle Age
May 8 The Spiritual Life of Maturity

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. 25	1 Cor. 3:1-4
Tues. Apr. 26	Heb. 5: 11-14
Wed. Apr. 27	Eph. 4:14-16
Thurs. Apr. 28	Col. 2:16-19
Fri. Apr. 29	1 Cor. 2:6-8
Sat. Apr. 30	Rom. 16:17-19

Prayers for our church family

June Mellinger's daughter-in-law Felicia Brown, Jana Miller, Trudy Quibell, Barry Hoskins, Nancy Scism, Carol Hassler, on the loss of her mother; Lynn Wilson, the Ukrainians and world peace

Celebrating our church family

Birthdays for the coming week:

Sun. Apr. 24	Susan Smith
Mon. Apr. 25	Alex Schumacher
Tues. Apr. 26	Benjamin Woodson
Wed. Apr. 27	Carris Cummings
Thurs. Apr. 28	Chase Farmer, Chloe Ridenhour, Fran Waller, Ivan Rogers, Linda Baker, Novella Perrin, Ron Holmes
Fri. Apr. 29	Alison Viehmann, Codi Viehmann



Kids Can Do Sunday

April 24

Bring your extra change to

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. Doug Christie is going to drive the church van to the meeting. Email doug@umcburg if you are interested in riding the van to the meeting.

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)

United Methodist Men Meeting Monday

The United Methodist Men will meet Monday, April 25, from 6-7:30 p.m. at The Rock. Larry Bryan will provide dinner, which is \$10. Doug Christie will speak about the CROP walk.

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.

Johnson County Food Center Seeks Manager

The Food Center is looking for a Food Pantry Manager. The manager will function as the primary coordinator, responsible for management of all operations and resources needed to effectively conduct the pantry services at The Food Center. The position requires the ability to work and communicate with a wide range of clients, volunteers, and community members daily. The position is part of a team and works in a highly collaborative environment.

Essential duties and responsibilities include client services, volunteer coordination, food procurement and distribution, recordkeeping, site management, and community engagement.

If interested, contact The Food Center at 137 E. Culton St., Warrensburg or phone 660-747-6188

First United Methodist Church
141 E. Gay St., Warrensburg, MO 64093

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

Robyn Criswell Bloom, rcriswellbloom@gmail.com

April's Disciple Gift: CROP Walk

This month's Disciple Gift focus is CROP, most commonly associated with the CROP walk held every April in Warrensburg—and all across the country.

Donations can be left in the offering plates on Sunday morning, mailed into the church office, or given through the church website, UMCBurg.org.

Join us for the CROP Hunger Walk at noon Sunday followed by lunch.

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



Rev. Peter Norton, Senior Pastor
Phone: 660-747-8158

Don't Be Afraid

My brother Phil lived for several years in South America teaching English as a second language. He taught several hundred students over the course of three years. He told me that in his observation, the students who continue to learn a language and improve share one quality in common. Do you want to guess what it is?



The willingness to be afraid and keep moving forward.

My brother told me that when it was time to learn and practice, most of his students would freeze up. They were afraid. Afraid of making mistakes.

The students who moved through their fear made a million

mistakes. They would embarrass themselves terribly. But they would progressively grow in understanding of the language. The impossible became possible. The possible became fun and then a joy to share with others.

Have you ever been afraid? Have you ever felt like the world was moving under your feet? You are in good company. When Jesus was arrested, and put on trial and crucified, his disciples were so afraid that they went into a room and hid. They were paralyzed.

Why do we have fear?

Fear can be helpful. It's a gift from God if we can master it rather than letting fear master us. Fear can help us to consider our options. Fear can help us to consider carefully taking out a loan and our ability to invest the funds and pay back the loan.

Fear can help us to avoid danger. As I've talked with parents over the years and become a parent myself, I've noticed a nuanced relationship with fear and adventure. I was at a pool party years ago where a dad told me that he wanted his kids to feel confident to swim in the water and explore *but* he wanted them to have a healthy fear of water as they were still learning how to swim. He wanted them to enjoy a lifetime of exploring while avoiding the danger of drowning in infancy.

Fear can be helpful. But we don't want fear to be the end of our story. The story of Easter is that God doesn't want us to be immobilized by our fear.

As a staff and church we often tell each other, **failure is okay—failing to try is not.**

Fear is inevitable. We were created by God to experience fear. But what does the resurrection of Jesus from the dead tell us about how God calls us to respond to our fear?

When Jesus was arrested and crucified, most of the disciples ran away and hid. They probably all felt like the world was moving underneath their feet.

But a few of the disciples--two disciples, two women--remembered Jesus's promise that he would overcome death. They remembered God's promise of a new world. They were afraid, but they pushed through their fear trusting in the promises of God. They were afraid, but they took the first step. They kept moving. God takes over and brings them new hope.

But the angel said to the women, 'Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, "He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him." This is my message for you.'⁸ So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Matthew 28:5-8

In this passage from Matthew, we read over and over again, don't be afraid. The author tells us that the women follow the angels and instructions and go to share the amazing news that through the power of Jesus life has overcome death. The author reminds us that as they are quickly going to accomplish this task, they were afraid, but they also were filled with joy. Because they pushed through their fear, they offered hope to the other disciples. They helped them to move out of their fear, to change the world.

Why does the resurrection have meaning for us today?

The resurrection of Jesus gives us the power to live as God calls us to. Even when we are lost, afraid, without hope, Jesus offers us the strength to keep moving. Jesus isn't offended by our fear. Ask for Jesus's help. Pray, yes, I am afraid. Guide me through my doubts, my fears.

When we baptize our children, we are saying, God I know I'm not a perfect parent, but I'm pushing through my fear, taking a step forward, calling on your grace to guide me to be the best parent that I can be. I want you, Jesus, to help me raise my children in love. I trust in you. I'm taking a step forward.

When we choose to be confirmed, we are saying, "I want to give my life to Jesus." I want to choose for myself as an adult to trust in God in the way that my parents and family and church family have showed me their trust in God. I trust that just as Jesus showed the disciples a way forward, God will guide me into a brighter future than I can imagine.

The message of Easter. The meaning of Jesus's resurrection is life overcomes death. Faith overcomes doubt. Hope overcomes fear.



Holy Week

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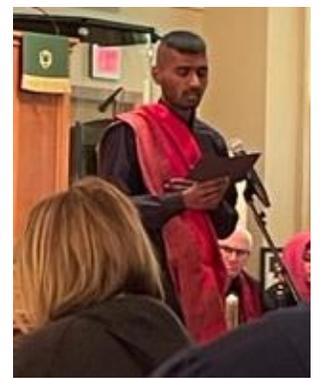


I'VE SEEN THE LORD - JOHN 20:18



Thank you to **Rev. Jim Downing**, Sedalia, for sharing the eight holy day plaques that can be seen in the atrium.

Maundy Thursday Service



The joint service with First Christian Church included our chancel choir, a mixed bell choir and a reader's theater that had 5 of 10 readers from our church: Shannon Bridgmon, Sri Sriramula, Glenda Goetz, William Bridgmon, and Dale Carder.

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
mycokeburyvbs.org

ON A ROLL WITH GOD!

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.

