

# Tidings



Union United Methodist Church, Belleville, IL

April 3, 2025



*Blessed are you, spring,  
bright season of life's awakening.  
You gladden our hearts  
with opening buds and returning leaves  
as you put on your robes of splendor.\**

Spring is the season that reminds us to be resilient. Resiliency is the quality of being able to adapt to stressful life changes or uncertainty. Resiliency is the response that has us bouncing back from difficult circumstances. Some say bounding back!

I see evidence of the resilience of the Union family everywhere I look. Many long-standing traditions of the church have been renewed and are thriving, like the many children taking turns serving as acolytes every week, like the Mother's Day and Christmas pageants.

*Blessed are you, spring,  
season of resurrection, sacrament of promise.  
Like Jesus you rise up out of the darkness,  
leaving around you a wake of new life.\**

Resilience is the Biblical norm for Christians. The apostle Paul showed exceptional resilience; after he was stoned and left for dead, he got up and went back to the city where it had happened! (Acts 14:19-20) The Bible contains many admonitions to persevere in the face of trials (James 1:12) and to "press on toward the goal or the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus." (Phillippians 3:14).

The key to resilience is faith in the Lord: "Our steps are made firm by the Lord when He delights in our way; though we stumble we shall not fall headlong, for the Lord holds us by the hand." (Psalm 37:23-24) Godly resilience enables us to be undeterred from our mission.

Our mission at Union is to "develop followers of Jesus Christ to serve the world." That mission spurred on the work of the Vision Team as we established new goals with new ministries, identifying timelines and assigning accountability. Several initiatives are underway:

Confirmation class, monthly youth activities, financial updates every other month in worship and every issue of Tidings, planned giving presentation scheduled for the end of April, UWF circles' prayer chains, family "Lent in a Bag" prayer resource, quarterly events for families. We're especially excited about a partnership with Douglas School for mentoring kindergarteners. The communication team has been formed and has met. Let me assure you they are hard at work.

*Blessed are you, spring,  
season of hope and renewal.  
Wordless poem about all within us  
that can never die.  
Each year you amaze us  
with the miracle of returning life.\**

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FYI: Lent and Easter

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Journey

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Youth and Family  
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UWF

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Birthdays/  
Anniversaries

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Music Tidings

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**United Women in Faith**  
10:00 am  
Krause Room  
2nd Wednesday (not July)  
Special events posted in  
Tidings and the bulletin

**United Methodist Men**  
Third Wednesday 5:30 pm  
Krause Room

**Ruth Circle**  
**Quilters/Stitchers**  
Each Thursday 9:00 am  
Krause Room

**Horticulture**  
Each Wednesday, 9 am  
Coffee, 8 am  
Krause Room

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**Junior Church**  
(Kindergarten – 4th  
Grade)  
Junior Church is held  
during the 9:00 am  
worship service

The people of Union are resilient! We continue to persevere and press on! We claim the promise of this spring season of resurrection, of hope, of new life.

In Christ alone,  
Pastor Allynn

\*from poem by Joyce Rupp & Macrina Wiederkehr



**SAVE THE DATE** for the ImpactLife  
Blood Drive on Wednesday, May 7,  
2:30 pm - 5:00 pm in McKinley Hall.



**If you have submissions for the Tidings**, please note deadline change for the next issue:

**April 21**

Union UMC live stream services

**9 am service:**

<https://www.youtube.com/user/Kent5122>

or later through YouTube

Union United Methodist Church,  
Belleville, Illinois

**11:15 service:**

[https://www.facebook.com/](https://www.facebook.com/CrosswalkUnionUmc)

[CrosswalkUnionUmc](https://www.facebook.com/CrosswalkUnionUmc)

## Tidings

Union United Methodist Church  
721 East Main Street  
Belleville, Illinois 62220  
618-233-6375

Pastor: Rev. Allynn Walker

Thel Lemons, Editor

Please attach copy to email or text the  
information to the editor:  
chefthel@aol.com  
618/530-8435

**Upcoming Tidings  
deadlines (12 pm):**

**April 21**  
**May 30**  
**June 27**

### A CHRISTIAN APPROACH TO PLANNED GIVING

For those interested in making a gift to the church or charity in their will.

- Why a Will?
- Why a Trust?
- What are some tax advantaged ways to make a donation?
- What happens if I don't have a will?
- Can I make a charitable gift but still leave something to my heirs?
- Do I have to make equal gifts?

And much more.....

Sunday April 27

5 pm Dinner    5:45 - 6:45 pm Presentation    6:45 Q & A  
Cost: \$10 per person

*RSVP by contacting Sheri in the church office no later than April 21.*

Presented by Rev. Edward R Weston, Director of Development, Preachers' Aid Society and Benefit Fund - IGRC. Ed is a former senior pastor at Union UMC, and for the past 8.5 years has been raising funds for Preacher's Aid and Benefit Fund, assisting local churches with financial issues, conducting capital campaigns, and enabling generous stewards to make charitable gifts through planned giving.

Ed has a BS in Business Administration, a Masters of Divinity and a Masters of Business Administration. He has certification in fundraising, capital campaigns, and planned giving from Indiana University, Lily Family School of Philanthropy.

### Administrative Council Update

The Administrative Council met Monday, March 24 at 6:30 pm. Several business items were addressed. We have 10 confirmands in our 2025 confirmation class. Pastor Allynn is looking for prayer partners and mentors for these students. If you wish to be a partner/mentor, please contact Pastor Allynn. Significant maintenance work is going on or has been completed around the building (fixed the boiler, will replace the roof, repair of the step on the west end of the church) and we are in relatively good shape financially. The Administrative Council approved the request of SPRC to increase Angela Rawson's hours from 20-30 hours a week to accommodate her new responsibilities on the communications committee. The council approved Mark Tiemann as Chair of the Administrative Council effective June 1 and Thel Lemons as Recording Secretary effective March 24. For additional details, see the meeting minutes.

It has been my honor to serve as the Chairman of your Administrative Council for the past 2 ½ years. It is time for my husband and me to start a new chapter as grandparents; we are moving May 22 to Lebanon, Indiana to be near our daughter, son-in-law and grandson arriving June 25. I know you will show Mark the same support and encouragement you have given me.

Blessings,  
Jenny

**Lenten Meals 2025**  
**5:15 - 6:15**

April 9

Nurture: Pulled pork, slaw, chips, brownies

**Lenten Services**

Wednesdays, 6:30 pm  
*Please join us for the meal at 5:15*

APRIL 9

Special music with men's quartet: "Take Up Your Cross"  
 Michael Woodruff, Michael Howland,  
 Jim Eckert, and Terry Mueth

Rev. Walker's message:  
 "The Cross Question, Am I not to Drink the Cup?";  
 John 18:1-11

**Searching for Our Savior:  
 Multi-Generational Easter Egg Hunt**



Learn about the events of Holy Week through this unique, interactive, multi-generational Easter Egg Hunt.

Saturday April 12

Join us anytime between 9:30-11:00 am to hunt eggs and enjoy refreshments

Union UMC Welcome Center (Upper Level)

For more information, please contact Jan Wiggs at [jlwteach@aol.com](mailto:jlwteach@aol.com)

**We Can Do It**

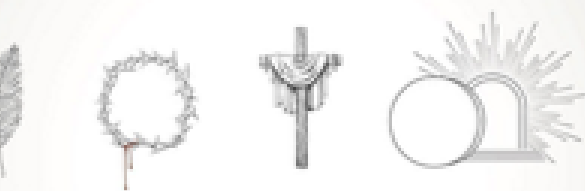
What an exciting time to be at Union! Our church has begun an adventurous journey with our new Vision work.

We are called by God's Spirit to go out of our doors onto Main Street and to meet our neighbors where they are. They're just outside our doors, walking down the sidewalk in front of our church on a Saturday around lunchtime. But how do we reach them?

How about offering them a free hot dog and water as they walk by? As they "doctor up" their hot dog with ketchup and mustard, what about asking them if they have anyone or anything that they want to pray for? And then bowing our heads and praying a simple prayer with them?

Our Free Hot Dogs Project will begin again in late April-late June. Look into your heart and see if you are able to offer 2 hours on a couple of Saturdays in April, May or June. Please contact Julie Callaghan at [gidelgirl@gmail.com](mailto:gidelgirl@gmail.com) or (314) 397-3334.

*"Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these, you did it to me" (Matthew 25:40b).*



A LOT CAN HAPPEN IN SEVEN DAYS

Maundy Thursday, April 17, 6:30 pm

Sanctuary Choir anthem:

"O Sacred Head Now Wounded"- Hassler/Bach  
 Jubilation handbells will ring  
 Communion

Good Friday Service, April 18, 12 noon in the Chapel

**Easter Lily Order Form**

(Please Print)

In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

In Celebration of: \_\_\_\_\_

\$15.00 each (you may order as many as you like)

# of Lilies ordered: \_\_\_\_\_ Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Donated By: \_\_\_\_\_



**Please place in  
 the  
 offering plate or  
 bring to the  
 church office by  
Monday, April 14**



### Dollars and Sense News (part 2)

This is part 2 of our series detailing how the financial management system works at Union UMC. In part 1 we discussed how the annual budget is built for Union. This month we will tackle how actual spending is executed.

How is the budget administered as the year progresses? Just as in any business or family budget an ongoing process is used to pay bills and update the budget accounts as the year progresses. Each function spending money submits their requests/bills to the Comptroller for disbursement. She checks the balances in the individual accounts, pays the bills, and documents each expenditure. She then provides a monthly report to the Finance Committee for all Union and Journey accounts. The Finance Committee reviews all revenue and expenditures to determine if the budget remains balanced and bills are paid. The Finance Committee then reports the financial status with recommendations for any changes to the Administrative Council for final approval.

What happens if expenditures are greater than the revenue? Just as in any business or home financial review, the Comptroller highlights any issues to the Treasurer as they occur. The Treasurer decides if the expenditure can be covered given the annual budget line for an item. Since we carry some cash reserves an over-expenditure in a given month may not be a problem. Just as a family might spend all of their vacation money in one month, a function might spend a large portion of their budget in a month as long as they do not exceed the annual amount. The Treasurer then advises the Finance Committee of these discrepancies at the monthly meeting and they review and report to the Administrative Council discrepancies with a recommended solution for their action. The council then makes a final decision on spending adjustments.

What happens if there is a serious revenue decline? As has been the case in some previous years when revenue dropped significantly, the Finance Committee may make a recommendation to the Administrative Council to freeze some or all spending in discretionary accounts. Nondiscretionary bills such as the mortgage, utilities and insurance must be paid. Other areas' spending authority might have to be reduced. If the mismatch between revenue and expenditures appears to be a trend, then more drastic action must be taken.

How does the financial picture look for 2025? The short answer is good, but too early to tell. As you know Union has significantly reduced our budget since 2016 and a large piece of that reduction has been in paid staff expenditures. Many members have stepped up to volunteer their time to help in this effort. Therefore, we have a very good chance to have a solid financial year if the revenue comes in as projected from the pledge drive.

How is money held as it comes to Union? Good question. In the next addition we will provide a full look at where all of the Union and Journey funds are held as they come in.

If you have finance questions please ask the Treasurer, Dick Frette, the Finance Committee Chairman, Mike Engel, or any of the Finance Committee members.



Escape Room!



## JOURNEY CHURCH

900 NORTH STATE STREET, FREEBURG, IL 62243  
618-710-0224 WWW.JOURNEYUMC.ORG

### Continuing the Journey What's Happening in Freeburg

The new Lunch Bunch met for a potluck on March 19<sup>th</sup> with 12 in attendance – a great start! We had three guests who had never been to our church. Everyone else is from Journey or was a friend of someone there. It will continue to occur the third Wednesday of each month from 11am-1pm. So the next date is April 16<sup>th</sup>.

Confirmation classes are underway with two students who are fairly new to Journey and the UMC. They are meeting as a part of youth group right now.

Our next First Wednesday Dinner will be April 2<sup>nd</sup>, and will feature pulled pork. Everyone else is to bring a side or dessert to share.

We plan to have a Good Friday service at 6:30 p.m.

*"Cathy O"*

Cathy Obernuefemann  
Journey Worship Leader



#### EVERY WEEK

- Worship - Sundays at 10:15 am with Pastor Mike Olson
- Bible Study – most Wednesdays (not first Wednesdays) at Journey at 6:00 pm
- Youth Group - Sundays at 6:00 pm with Jenny Olson 618-979-3937 or jolson@nashville-k12.org (see calendar below for current date / time changes)
- AA and Al-Anon - Thursdays at 7:00 pm; Contact Eric G., 618-406-0366

#### CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

April 8 – Confirmation / Youth Group at 6 pm instead of Sunday  
April 15 - Confirmation / Youth Group at 6 pm instead of Sunday  
April 16 – Lunch Bunch, 11 am - 1 pm  
April 18 – Good Friday service, 6:30 pm  
April 20 – Easter; No youth group



Pre-concert Meal



Pictures by Dave Philip

### Outreach Committee Update: Serving Our Community Together

As we move through this season of Lent and into Easter, our church family continues to live out Christ's call to serve others. Here's how you can be part of our ongoing outreach efforts:



- Operation Diaper Drop – Ending March 31

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to our diaper drive for the Metro East Diaper Bank! There's still time to donate before the deadline on March 31. Please bring any remaining diaper donations to the Atrium for delivery.

- 40 Items for 40 Days – Now Through April 20  
During Lent, we are collecting essential items to support those in need. If you've been participating, thank you! If not, it's not too late to join. Please bring your collected items to the Atrium, where they will be delivered to the Shelter Shop, benefiting the Violence Prevention Center.

- Every Saturday at 9:00 AM is an ongoing opportunity to pack Sack Lunches.

- Upcoming Event: Hot Dog Ministry

Your generosity makes a real difference in our community. For more details or to volunteer, contact Laura Koehler

*Thank you For Sharing God's Love,  
One Smile at a Time ☺*



#### FINE ARTS JAZZ CONCERT





## YOUTH NEWS

Angela@unionumc.org

The youth group has been up to some exciting things, and we've seen incredible progress over the past month! On average, we have 8 youth attending Sunday nights, 11 joined us for the lock-in, and 10 are participating in Confirmation.

We are truly blessed to have such amazing youth in our church, and we could not do this without the dedication and support of our volunteers and parents. Thank you to everyone who prays, helps, and supports our youth – you truly make a difference!

Upcoming Youth Events:  
April 20: Confirmation Sunday  
*Location:* Union UMC

*Time:* During 1st Service  
Reception in honor of confirmands following service

May 18: End of School Year Party  
*Time:* 3 PM - 5 PM

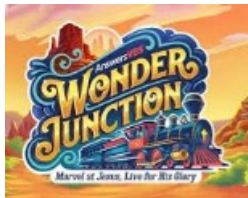
*Location:* Union UMC

*Activities:* Fun games, gifts, giveaways, and a special surprise!

**No youth for the month of June due to Mission Trip, VBS, Children's Day Camp, and Youth Camp.**

### VBS SAVE THE DATE

This year's VBS is  
**Wonder Junction** *Marvel at Jesus, Live for His Glory*



Theme verse: "From the rising of the sun to its setting, the name of the LORD is to be praised!" Psalm 113:3

Date: Sunday, June 22 - Friday, June 27  
Time: 6:00-8:00 pm



### Hobby Time returns April 23!

Join us on Wednesday evenings,  
6-8 pm  
McKinley Fellowship Hall

Bring yourself, friends,  
snacks & your portable hobby!

Call Becky Keiser with questions: 618-795-0317

## Family Ministry Schedule

Angela@unionumc.org

### Family

#### May 3: Game Night

Where: Union UMC Krause room

Time: 6 PM - 8 PM

Bring your own snacks and drinks, and feel free to bring a game, though we'll have plenty of games available to enjoy!



### Children

#### June 9 - 13: Heartland Camps

*Location:* St. John's UMC in Edwardsville

*Time:* Monday - Friday:

- 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM (If you're taking your child yourself)
- 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM (If your child is being bused, drop-off and pick-up will be at Union UMC. Please contact Angela Rawson if you need this option.)

Camp activities include Bible studies, crafts, outdoor games, water time, rock climbing, and archery!

#### *What to bring:*

Clothes for water activities

Towel

Sunscreen

Bug spray

Water bottle

Closed-toe shoes

Sack lunch (snacks provided, but lunch is not)

*If you have any questions or would like more information, please reach out to Angela Rawson.*



Meetings are held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month  
from 10:00 – 11:30 in the  
MOMSConnect Room on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor

April 27 – Teacher's Gifts

May 18 – Schedule for 2025-2026

### Raise Right

Order: April 6; Pickup: April 13

10:00 - 10:15 at the Welcome Desk  
(check or exact cash)

Please visit RaiseRight.com for a full list of retailers, or contact Stephanie Pierce at 618-406-7960 for more information.



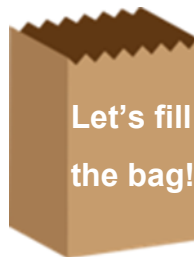


## Easter Food Baskets

The Outreach Committee of Union UMC invites you to join them in providing an Easter meal and treats for four people, as well as a grocery gift card so families may purchase their own protein. Fifty families whose children attend Douglas Grade School will receive the baskets.

We invite the Union UMC family to assemble one or more sturdy shopping bag(s), filled with the following items:

- 2 - cans of pork and beans
- 2 - boxes of au gratin potatoes
- 2 - cans of carrots
- 2 - cans of green beans
- 1 - jar of apple sauce
- 1 - box of biscuit mix
- 1 - white cake mix
- 1 - lemon icing
- 1 - bag of jellybeans
- 1 - bag of M & M's
- Easter chalk
- 2 - dozen plastic Easter eggs



Assembled food bags may be delivered to the Church Office between 9:00 A.M. and 12:00 P.M., the week of March 31st to April 4th. Also, on Sundays, March 30th and April 5th, you may bring bags to the Welcome Center.

If you want to donate money towards the purchase of gift cards for the protein, make your check payable to "Union UMC" and note that it is for the food baskets.

All Easter food baskets will be delivered to Douglas School by April 11th.



The Bags of Bounty church garden crew kicked off season two with a garden cleanup and some seeding of cool season vegetable crops. Bill Koehler, a real gardening veteran, joined the group. Our next gathering is Saturday, April 11, at 10 am. All are welcome.

**DINNER & THE WORD** will meet the 1st Friday of the month at the home of Bruce & Marjie Simms. We will begin with a potluck dinner & then watch one episode of "The Chosen" followed by a short discussion.

### Mark your calendar:

April 4 (Italian theme)

May 2 (Mexican theme; please RSVP by April 30)

Hosts are Bruce and Marjie Simms: 618-623-9279; address, 1745 St. Andrews Dr., Shiloh.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

## "2nd Tuesday BBQ"

On the 2nd Tuesday of every month, the men of Union UMC are invited to get together for a time of fellowship, fun, prayer and BBQ! Please note that we are meeting at a **new** time, 6:00 pm. On Tuesday, April 8th, we will meet at Sugarfire 64, 1425 N. Greenmount Road, O'Fallon, IL



No reservation needed, just show up at 6 pm. Questions? Contact Joe Milton at 618-235-5344 or joseph.milton@att.net.



The sign-up for altar flowers is now available in the Welcome Center (look for yellow folder).

Arrangements are \$25 and you may take them home with you after the service. You may sign up for as many Sundays as you wish.

**Coming soon!!** April is Child Abuse Prevention Month. How can we help to alleviate this dreaded problem in our communities? Often children will talk to someone who is not as close to them as others because they are afraid or ashamed. Be willing to lend an ear if you think a child has a problem.



If you suspect anything, please call 1-800-25-Abuse or local authorities.

Sunday, April 6, will be observed as Child Abuse Prevention Awareness Day. Special blue pins will be provided. This is to remind us of a hopeful future our children deserve.

United Women in Faith  
Carole Schneider and Connie Stein

## United Women in Faith News April



We had a wonderful turnout for our Lenten dinner on March 12! My apologies to those members who didn't get a plate after we sold out. Special thanks to Barb Cleland and Marvina Lee for coordinating the meal.

I hope you picked up a bag in the Welcome Center for the Jericho Walk. This bag contains symbols, scripture, and activities for your journey through Lent. Thanks to Laura Koehler for assembling these 'Lent in a Bag.'



I also want to thank Bob Dintelmann for donating a copy of Joyce's cookbook that was put together by her grandchildren. Joyce was a fabulous cook and the picture on the cover is memorable! The cookbook is in the UWF library. If you want your own copy, it is available on [www.blurb.com](http://www.blurb.com) 'Grandma's Kitchen Where Kids Eat Free' by Joyce Dintelmann.

April is shaping up to be a busy month. Please contact Helen Rinehart if you wish to attend the Festival of Quilts at Cunningham Children's Home in Urbana, IL on Friday, April 4. We will be taking the church van; departing the church back lot at 8 am, returning about 5-5:30 pm. Cost to ride the bus is \$5.

Circle chairs should have received their assignments for the Easter Tea on April 13. If you have any questions, please contact JoEllyn Lynn.

Card ministry for April is Ruth Circle.

Our May 14 meeting will be our annual retreat. Laura Koehler is planning a special Spiritual Growth retreat for us. Lydia Circle has the luncheon and Executive Board has the May card ministry.

Blessings,  
Jenny

### UWF Calendar

Apr 4	8-5:30	Bus Trip to CCH Helen Rinehart
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### Liturgists needed for the 9:00 worship service

To volunteer to read scripture, please contact Lisa Koerkenmeier at [koer1922@gmail.com](mailto:koer1922@gmail.com) or 618-979-2085 (always leave a message).

Violence Prevention Center of Southwest Illinois presents

## MORE THAN **just** **desserts**

food + music + friends = support survivors

Join Pastor Allynn at this Silent Auction & Tasting Event

Friday, April 25, 6 – 10 pm

Gateway Classic Cars

\$50 per person OR if we get a table of 8, only \$44

If interested, email [allynn@unionumc.org](mailto:allynn@unionumc.org)

Miriam Circle is busy supporting the church's activities and beginning the preparation for Operation Christmas Child. We also continue to stock Health Care Kits for those in need. Our April meeting will be on the 25<sup>th</sup>, and we welcome all.



Bucket List checked off! Marjie Simms took Myrtle West to her first ever pedicure. A fun time was had by both!



The Easter Tea, sponsored by UWF, will be Palm Sunday, April 13.

UWF appreciates donations of two dozen homemade cookies from members of the congregation for this event. Cookies are also delivered to shut-ins from our church.

Your contribution can be dropped off Saturday, April 12, between 10 and 11, or on Sunday, April 13, by 8:30 am. As always, thank you in advance for making this a special event.

Jo Ellyn Lynn and Sandy Patrick



# MAY



## BIRTHDAYS

- |                      |                      |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| 1 Jennifer Blondin   | 19 Beth Walz         |
| Ashlee Baysinger     | Renee Foster         |
| 2 Bob Edwards        | Dennis Poole         |
| 3 Alex Petraborg     | 20 Gary Cunningham   |
| 5 Nancy Weston       | John Lynn            |
| 6 Holly Wood         | 23 Valerie Petrouske |
| 9 Mardy Eisloeffel   | 24 Gay Arnold        |
| 10 Robin Worthington | Maxwell Ticknor      |
| Austin Luberd        | 26 James Eckert      |
| 12 Mattox Ticknor    | 27 Stephanie Pierce  |
| Julie Petraborg      | 29 Myrtle West       |
| 16 Roger Harszy      | Stephanie            |
| Carol Rasch          | Dintelmann           |
| 17 Edith Robinson    | John Johnson         |
| 18 Greg Hughes       | 30 Walter Miller     |
|                      | Carol Vonderheide    |



## ANNIVERSARIES



May 2, 1969  
John & Jo Ellyn Lynn

May 6, 1978  
Wally & Sheri Hill

May 7, 1982  
Joseph & Lisa Melton

May 16, 1964  
Gus & Dianne Hilgert

May 17  
Dave & Debbie Baumann

May 17, 2014  
Austin & Katie Luberd

May 19, 1984  
Thom & Jane Peters

May 25, 1996  
Phillip & Barbara Elmore

May 25, 2019  
Richard & Bette Frette

May 28, 1983  
Gary & Karen Voelker

May 29, 1976  
Carl & Karen Buehler



### Visitation and Other Good Stuff with Dr. Joe Scheets

April

**"I miss seeing you in church, Joe.  
Everything okay?"**

Thank you for asking! By the grace of God, I'm...

1. HERE. As I wrote in my 2024 Charge Conference Report, **I'm still happily on staff here part-time.** A difference is that since the beginning of 2024, at the direction of the Finance and Staff Parish Committees, my primary ministry here is now hospital visitation.

**Please remember that not all hospitals tell us who and when is admitted, so if you are, or if you know of a friend or family member who is, let me know ---**

**JoeScheets3@gmail.com**  
**Or 217.377.8049**

I'd much rather be told more than once than not at all. If I don't know where, I can't get there.

2. THERE. **At least two Sundays a month I preach at the Wanda UMC (near Wood River and Edwardsville and Roxana), where I'm officially appointed by our Bishop part-time as a retired pastor.**

Why? Because we have a horrible shortage of available pastors and those we used to call Certified Lay Speakers. I believe God still calls people into both roles...maybe including you...I'd love to talk and pray with you about this.

3. Almost EVERYWHERE. On Sundays **when I'm neither here nor there, I'm usually wearing my Associate District Superintendent hat either literally or figuratively, filling in for our District Superintendent.** Sometimes I'm a guest in a pulpit, or leading a meeting, or in a pew being overtly and intentionally supportive of the appointed pastor, or fulfilling the proverbial other responsibilities as needed.

4. THEREFORE. "I miss seeing you in church, Joe. Everything okay?" **Thank you for both asking and for understanding. Be certain that I miss you, too!**

And as you ask me, for which I'm grateful: "Everything okay?" RSVP

Yours in Christ,  
Joe

**217.377.8049**  
**joescheets3@gmail.com**



*Join us for coffee and fellowship in  
McKinley Hall  
following 9:00 am worship.*



Union United Methodist Church  
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Belleville, Illinois 62220  
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Thanks to all our musicians for their Lenten Service music and the Sanctuary Choir members, and co-chairs Karen Milton and JoEllyn Lynn for the great Lenten Dinner.

Also, many thanks to all those who helped with the FINE ARTS JAZZ CONCERT: Dave and Mary Philip, Joe and Karen Milton, Susan Botula, Lisa Zahn, JoEllyn Lynn, David Braswell, Marjie Simms, Dick Frette and Ann Glover. It was a great evening!



Handbells practice April 3 & 10 for the Maundy Thursday Service.

Rehearsals are from 6:00 - 7:00 PM in the choir/handbell rehearsal room.



## CROSSWALK

Sundays at 11:15  
Chapel

<https://www.facebook.com/CrosswalkUnionUmc>

## MUSIC TIDINGS



Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord all the earth. Sing to the Lord, praise his name; proclaim his salvation day after day. Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous deeds among all peoples.

Psalm 96: 1-3

### SUNDAY, APRIL 6

9 am - Sanctuary Choir anthem: "Ave Verum" - Mozart

Rev. Walker's sermon:

"Were You There: Joseph of Arimathea"; Matthew 27:57-61

Communion



### PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 13

9 am - Sanctuary Choir anthem:

"Hosanna in Excelsis" - Purifoy with brass quartet

Palm Processional

Children's choir: "Ride On, King Jesus"

Rev. Walker's sermon:

"Were You There: The Women"; Luke 8:1-3, Luke 23:55 - 24:1

*UWF Spring Tea follows the service*

### EASTER & CONFIRMATION SUNDAY, APRIL 20

9 am - Sanctuary Choir anthem:

"Hallelujah Chorus" - G.F. Handel with brass quartet and timpani

Children's choir will sing

Rev. Walker's sermon:

"Were You There: The Emmaus Travelers"; Luke 24:13-32

*Reception honoring confirmands follows service*



### SUNDAY, APRIL 27

9 am - Sanctuary Choir anthem: "Rejoice, the Lord is King" - arr. Young

trumpet: Michael Howland

Message by Angela Rawson:

"Pray Like You Mean It"; Luke 22:39-44; Psalm 5:1-3