



# Messenger

## Uniondale United Methodist Church March - April 2017

5857 N. Main St.  
P. O. Box 115

Uniondale, IN 46791

Pastor Troy Drayer  
260-543-2256

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 UniondaleUnitedMethodistChurch

Sunday Worship Service – 9:00 a.m.

Sunday School – 10:15 a.m.



### *March and April Birthdays and Anniversaries*

#### March

1 – Kim Chaney  
17 – Martha Hix  
19 – Troy Drayer  
22 – Amanda Drayer

#### April

1 – Brent McAfee  
3 – Don Weaver  
16 – Steve & Martha Hix  
19 – Aubree Horne  
29 – Doris Emley  
30 – Troy & Mindy Drayer

### Upcoming Events

- Sunday, March 5 – Communion Sunday  
Fellowship Gathering after Sunday School
- Saturday, March 11 – Faith Circle-9 AM
- Sunday, March 12 – Daylight Savings Time starts-2 AM
- Sunday, March 19 – Food Bank Sunday-bring your food items  
Guest Speaker
- Sunday, March 26 – Kids Changing the World-bring your change
- Sunday, April 2 – Communion Sunday
- Friday, April 14 – Community Good Friday Service at St. Marks  
Lutheran at 6:30 PM
- Saturday, April 15 – Stations of the Cross-9 AM to 3 PM  
Easter Egg Hunt-east lawn at 10 AM
- Sunday, April 16 – Easter Fellowship Breakfast-8:15 AM  
Easter Service
- Sunday, April 23 – Food Bank Sunday-bring your food items  
Board Meeting-10 AM-Sunday School will meet
- Sunday, April 30 – Kids Changing the World-bring your change

#### **\*\*Don't forget\*\***

- \* Save your pop tabs and can tabs for Riley's Children's Hospital. Collection can at the back of the church.
- \* Save your change for Children Changing the World on the last Sunday of each month.
- \* Cut out your "Box Tops for Education".
- \* To sign up for CHURCH DUTIES on sheets at back table.



I am so excited about our 10 week sermon series called "Building God's Church." We have four more topics to cover in the next 5 weeks. It's been a refreshing and encouraging time to talk about ways to move our church forward for growth and outreach. Invite your family and friends to join us!!!!

Blessings, *Pastor Troy*



**\*\*Please remember\*\***

**Committee News**

**EMM Committee** (Education, Missions, Ministries)

The EMM Committee met on February 1, to organize its new three part committee. Members are Connie Andorfer, Kim Bennett, Coralee Bowley, Pastor Troy and Mindy Drayer, Connie Hix and Martha Hix. A Fellowship Gathering was set up for March 5, after Sunday School. We will be hosting the Annual Community Easter Egg Hunt on April 15, at 10 a.m. Mindy Drayer has reinstated Junior Church. With the help of Bill Hix, UUMC now has a nice ad in the Wells County Fact Book. Check it out!

**Faith Circle**

Faith Circle met on January 14, for our Winter Party, at the home of Mindy Drayer. With our time changed to 9 a.m., Pastor Troy and Mindy served a delicious breakfast to start our day. Our next meeting will be March 11, at 9 a.m., at the home of Martha Hix. Please join us for a great time of fun, food, and fellowship!

**Please remember that our UUMC Centennial Cookbooks are still available for purchase at \$6.00 each. Please call Mindi at 260-758-2303, or Connie at 260-750-0745 to order and arrange to pick up your cookbooks. They make wonderful gifts for family and friends!**

**SPR Committee** (Staff Parish Relations Committee)

The new SPRC consists of Sharon Espich, Connie Hix, Linda Houtz, Bob Imel, and Claudia Thompson. The committee met on March 2, with Rev. Kathie Jones, Assistant District Superintendent of the NE United Methodist Conference, to discuss the needs of our Uniondale UMC, as we move toward the appointment of a new pastor.

On behalf of UUMC, the SPRC would like to thank Jennifer Cook for her past service as church custodian. Jennifer recently resigned due to scheduling conflicts. We welcome Melanie Vitatoe, who has accepted the open custodial position, and we appreciate her willingness to tackle our cleaning needs.

Mary Etta Blessing  
3890 W. Oak Rd.  
Bluffton, IN 46714

Lura Burke  
Ossian Health & Rehabilitation  
215 Davis Rd.  
Ossian, IN 46777

Betty Cary  
300 Caylor Blvd. Apt.#200  
Bluffton, IN 46714

Barb Cook  
100 Caylor Blvd. Apt. #100  
Bluffton, IN 46714

Mary Cook  
Markle Health & Rehabilitation  
170 N. Tracy St. - Room 307  
Markle, IN 46770

Jeanette Gilbert  
100 Caylor Blvd. Apt. #115  
Bluffton, IN 46714

Mrs. Doris Emley  
300 Caylor Blvd. Apt. #214  
Bluffton, IN 46714

Margaret Hasler  
37446 Carson  
Farmington Hills, MI 48331



**Treasurer's Report Summary**

<b>February 2017 Budget Summary</b>	<b>February Actual</b>	<b>February Budget</b>	<b>February Variance</b>	<b>Year to date Actual</b>	<b>Year to date Budget</b>	<b>Year to date Variance</b>
TOTAL INCOME	4,442.35	4,209.92	232.43	9,149.71	8,419.84	729.87
TOTAL BUDGET EXPENSES	3,362.23	4,209.92	847.69	7,312.00	8,419.84	1,107.84
<b>INCOME LESS EXPENSES</b>	<b>1,080.12</b>	<b>0.00</b>		<b>1,837.71</b>	<b>0.00</b>	

# Birds, Bees, Flowers, and Faith



When the weather turns warmer and the grass grows greener, it's easier to understand the promise of new life and renewed hope that Christians proclaim as "Easter people."

As we celebrate the Easter season, [the 50 days after the Resurrection](#), we see reminders all around us. So be sure to keep an eye out on your next spring stroll.

## Birds

The robin, a very common bird in the U.S., has a red breast and a legend to explain it. Seems that once a gray robin flew to Christ's crown of thorns to draw out a thorn, and when it did, a drop of Christ's blood fell on its breast, leaving a stain forevermore.

## Bees

It takes lots of buzzing bees to spread the pollen and make flowers grow. The honey these creatures create is a biblical symbol of God's favor. The Torah agrees, for it describes God's promised land again and again as "flowing with milk and honey."

## Wesley's words

I believe in my heart that faith in Jesus Christ can and will lead us beyond an exclusive concern for the well-being of other human beings, to a broader concern for the well-being of the birds in our backyards, the fish in our rivers, and every living creature on the face of the earth.

—John Wesley

## Flowers

Long considered a symbol of hope and new life, the daffodil is one of the blooms most often connected to the Resurrection. Tradition says that giving a gift of daffodils will ensure happiness for the receiver—but always give a bunch: a single bloom signals doom.

The flowering shrub known as the forsythia is what I call the Easter tree, because when its spidery branches are moving with the wind, they seem to be arms waving in praise of the season. According to tradition, forsythia means anticipation—an appropriate companion word for Resurrection.

It is said the dogwood tree used to grow straight and tall, but after it was used as a crucifix for Christ, God made it short and twisted with a thin trunk so it could never be used as a cross again. The dogwood bloom has four parts, each with a rusty red color on the end and a small hole, a reminder of where the nails were driven into the cross. The center stamens look like the crown of thorns.

## Faith

[The traditions that developed around these spring symbols](#) helped explain the concept that God in the flesh took on death and came back to tell us there is life on the other side. [What fantastic news!](#)

This spring, [be a witness to the good news](#) that Christ is risen:

- Learn about the symbols and notice them when you are outdoors this season. Even better: plant some dogwoods and flowers in your yard and on the grounds of your church.
- [Fashion a cross](#) from cuttings of spring flowers. Invite others to help. Set it out in front of your church, or even your house, for all to see.
- Make (don't buy) a gift for someone who needs to be reminded of the love of God made known in the Risen Christ.
- Play. Not a video game or a phone app. Physically play. Move. Dance. Interestingly, the Irish jig and tap dancing have their roots in an early Saxon tradition called the "hop-egg." The purpose was to step among [a dozen eggs](#) as if walking the Stations of the Cross. This egg dance is likely the distant relative of hopscotch.

The Council at Nicaea in 325 AD gave the Church a revised creed. The last line reads: "[We look for the resurrection of the dead](#), and the life of the world to come."

As Easter people, we don't have to look further than spring for an exclamation point to that affirmation.

**By the Rev. Mark Price** - Price is Minister of Spiritual Formation and Facilities Manager at Christ United Methodist Church in Franklin, TN.

## The Garden Tomb



Jesus was buried in the Garden Tomb as seen in this photo. It was a new tomb provided by the converted Jew of Arimathea called Joseph (no relation to Joseph the father of Jesus). See [Matthew 27:57, 59](#) and [Luke 1:43, 23:50](#).

Along the entrance to the tomb is a narrow track on which a thin round stone resembling a silver dollar was placed.

This stone could be rolled open and closed along this track.

Inside the tomb was a flat slab where Jesus Christ was buried.

Many tombs in the day of Christ had two chambers. The first chamber had a ledge around it as a seat. The second chamber was a niche cut into the wall for the body. If extra room was needed for additional bodies, the bones of the first body were buried in a hole in the floor of the tomb and the new body was placed in the niche.

The Bible distinctly mentions that Christ's tomb was new. In other words, no bodies had to be removed and no bones had to be buried to make way for the Savior.

# Children's Page

Jr. Church is available for children each Sunday. We are learning about God's love through stories, crafts and fellowship.

(Thanks so much to those who are helping each Sunday.)



Come

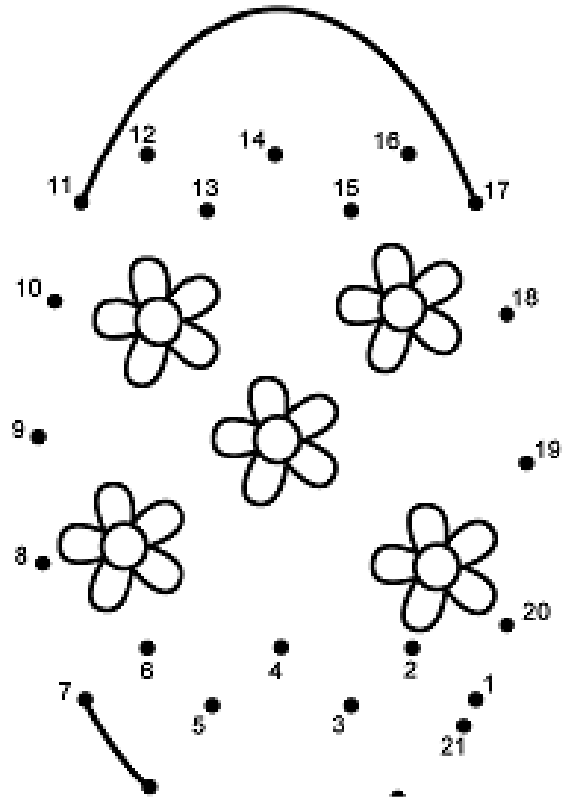


Join



Us!!!!

Our Children's Ministry



## Easter Day

*by Evaleen Stein*

Christ the Lord is risen to-day!  
Angels rolled the stone away  
From the tomb wherein He lay!

Little children, come and sing,  
"Glory, glory to the King,  
Christ the Lord of everything!"

