



*April 2025*

Prepared for the members & friends of:

St. John's United Church of Christ (Huntersville)

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*From the Pastor . . .*

We are a resurrection people. I say that phrase a lot. Mostly to myself. Often when I am feeling all the feels, in those moments where things seem hard or sorrows cascade. I say it to myself when I am worried about the world or the state of the Church (universal, not St. John's). I say it in those moments when I need the reminder of good news, of new life. But right now? Right now it is a glorious spring day. Worship the past few weeks has been lovely. March Madness is ongoing (whether or not my bracket is busted) and baseball is right around the corner. In other words, do I need this message right now?

The answer, of course, is yes. I need the message of the resurrection when times are hard. But I also need it when times are pretty good, or when they are just ordinary. Because the message of new life, of resurrection is broader than just a pick-me-up, it is wider than just a reminder that God is in control when things seem off. It is more than just a reminder that death- of programs, of our expectation, of ourselves- is not the end of our story. To say that we are a resurrection people is to declare that new life and renewed life is always our focus. Always where we are pointing. This is true in both good times and bad. True when we need the reminder... and when life is good and we feel it in our souls.

During this month, we will be celebrating Easter, our highest of high holy days, the morning on which we celebrate the resurrection and new life. But our call as a resurrection people invites us to celebrate this every day of our lives. We are invited (joyously) to always remember the good news of new life. And the powerful transformation of the renewed life offered in Christ Jesus. Our lives can always reflect the reality that nothing on this earth, not good times or bad, is the end. It is all a step on the journey, because we are a resurrection people. And we live pointing always towards Easter... and the resurrection yet to come that we have been promised by God.

Friends, this is news we always need to hear. It is a reality that I, for one, never tire of hearing. Easter promises us that nothing here is the end. But that God, who is at work in the world, who is at work in us, is also preparing something new. That new life and resurrection are the end towards which we are pointing. This is the promise that grounds us. And it is good news. We are a resurrection people. Thanks be to God!

Shalom,

*Pastor Joe*

### *Monday Morning With Pastor Joe*



Amack's Well, Monday from a little after 9am until noon. (You can find him upstairs.)





## **“A TRIBUTE TO RALPH VAUGHAN WILLIAMS”**

Greatly influenced by English folk songs and music of the Tudor period, Ralph Vaughan Williams was a prolific composer of hymns, symphonies, orchestral, religious and secular vocal pieces, chamber music, ballets, operas and large scale choral works.

Ralph Vaughan Williams was born on October 12, 1872 in the village of Down Ampney, Gloucestershire, England. He was the third child of Rev. Arthur Vaughan Williams (1834-1875) and Margaret (Wedgewood) Vaughan Williams (1842-1937) of the Wedgewood pottery family. He was baptized at the Down Ampney Church by the Rev. Hyde Wyndham, pastor at a neighboring village, who dropped the baby, but he was caught by his mother, who was able to grab his christening gown. He served in the British Army, during WWI, as a stretcher bearer, volunteering at age 42.

Vaughan Williams began piano lessons at age five, and violin at age six. In 1880, he enrolled in a correspondence course in music from Edinburgh University. He attended Trinity College, Cambridge, graduating with his Bachelor of Music in 1894, Bachelor of Arts in 1895 and Doctorate in Music in 1899. From 1895 to 1899 he was organist and choirmaster at St. Barnabas Church in London.

Ralph Vaughan Williams was married to Adeline Fisher in October, 1907. She died at age 80 in 1951. He married Ursula Williamses in February, 1953.

From 1907 to 1908, he lived in Paris, France, where he studied with Maurice Ravel. He was also friends with composer Gustav Holst.

Vaughan Williams was a conductor, teacher, writer of articles for musical journals, and was visiting lecturer at Bryn Mawr College in Philadelphia. Dr. Vaughan Williams was an editor for the ENGLISH HYMNAL in 1906. He was composer of the motet, “O Taste and See” for the coronation of Elizabeth II in 1953.

In the 1950’s he was a leading figure in “The Society for the Promotion of New Music.”

Although in excellent health, Ralph Vaughan Williams died suddenly at Hanover Terrace, London, on August 26, 1958. His ashes were interred in Westminster Abbey.

Twenty-five of his original hymns, arrangements and harmonization’s are included in our hymnal. Of his original hymns, “Come Down, O Love Divine,” set to the tune DOWN AMPNEY (#330), named for the village of his birth, and was written in 1906. The text was translated by Richard Frederick Littledale, an Irish hymn writer (1833-1890) from a poem by Bianco da Siena (1350-1434) in 1867.

An original hymn tune, KING’S WESTON, appears on page 321. The text of “At the Name of Jesus,” a paraphrase of Philippians 2:5-11, was written by Caroline Maria Noel (4/10/1817-12/7/1877) in 1870.

“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence,” (#232), tune, PICARDY, is a paraphrase of the communion liturgy by Gerard Moultrie (1829-1874). Also set to this tune is “With the Body That Was Broken” (#691), a communion hymn written by Carl P. Daw, born in 1944 in Louisville, KY.

Written for All Saints Day in 1864, the hymn “For All the Saints,” tune SINE NOMINE, (“Without Name”) is a setting of the text by William Walsham How, (12/13/1823-8/10/1897), a priest in the Church of England, based on Hebrews 12:1. A more recent poem using this tune, “Give Thanks For Life,” (#518) is by New Zealand poet Shirley Erena Murray (3/31/1931-1/25/2020).

Other hymn tunes that were either arranged or harmonized by Ralph Vaughan Williams are:

- ✠ QUEM PASTORES LAUDAVERE; “Like a Mighty River Flowing” (#20),
- ✠ LASSTUNS ERFREUEN; “All Creatures of Our God and King” (#23), and “God’s Holy Ways Are Just and True” (#663),
- ✠ HYFRYDOL; “God, the Spirit, Guide and Guardian” (#149), “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus” (#153), “Alleluia, Sing to Jesus” (#320), “I Will Sing of My Redeemer” (#356),
- ✠ SUSSEX CAROL; “On Christmas Night All Christians Sing” (#222), “As Man and Women We Were Made” (#611),
- ✠ KINGSFOLD; “The Hands That First Held Mary’s Child” (#237), “O Sing a Song of Bethlehem” (#242), “To Mock Your Reign” (#278), “O Come to Me, the Master Said” (#346), “If Christ Had Not Been Raised From Death” (#434),
- ✠ FOREST GREEN; “Two Thousand Years Since Bethlehem” (#540), “As Saints of Old Their First-fruits Brought” (#570).

*“Come down, O Love divine, seek out this soul of mine.”*



## ♥ Anniversaries This Month

- 1 Erik & Jamie Arkenberg
- 9 Mike & Janet Schumacher
- 12 Wally & Eunice Meyer
- 16 Nancy & Ed Lochard, Katie & Chris Sapp
- 21 Traci & Mason Graham
- 22 Lawson Gutzwiller & Mallory Martin
- 25 Doug & Marlene Emsweller,  
Ken & Lisa Slagle
- 27 Sandy & Whitey Weberding
- 28 Daren & Nikki Sarringhaus



## Birthdays This Month

- 1 Sarah Meyer, Janet Shields
- 5 Brian Blanton, Eric Thie
- 6 Elton Sarringhaus
- 8 Dave Johnston
- 9 Jim Bauman, Molly Weiler
- 10 Jenni Fullenkamp
- 12 Decklyn Day, Peter Frye, Alina Sarringhaus,  
Chris Weiler
- 14 Shane Akridge
- 15 Brenda Becker, Gerald Huffmeyer,  
Denise Richards
- 16 Stephanie Anderson, Gerald Bessler, Rick Dial
- 17 Jeremy Owens
- 20 Dick Placke
- 21 Linda Westrup
- 22 Austin Meyer
- 24 Carson Weiler
- 29 Nathan Cornett, Pastor Joey Feldmann,  
Shan Gardner, Nick Schaeffer
- 30 Rhett Davis, Alison Meyer

MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

### SUNDAY SCHOOL EASTER EGG HUNT

Our Annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held Saturday, April 19<sup>th</sup>. A light breakfast will be provided at 9:30am with the hunt starting at 10am. Please feel free to invite family and friends to this longstanding tradition. Hope you can make it!



### St. John's April Liturgist Schedule

- 4/6.....RD Kitchell.....BAMA (the Food Pantry)
- 4/13...Serenity Feldmann .....Granny Connection
- 4/20...Peter Frye .....St. John's Youth Fund
- 4/27...Danny Narwold.....Global Ministries (UCC)

## Thank you

Thank you St. John's, once again for your most generous contribution to our troop. We are so grateful to have your support. We have made some much needed improvements to Camp Mesty thanks to your help. ~ Troop #634

### A note from Alice Steiner's family:

A quick update on my mother, Alice, she turned 90 years old on February 9<sup>th</sup> and is doing fairly well. She continues to live in an independent living apartment but has a recent medical diagnosis of moderate Alzheimer's disease. My sister Kathy and I live in Cincinnati and we are helping our mother as she navigates these challenges.

Our parents (Don & Alice) loved St. John's UCC. Pastor Joey you were the absolute best helping when my dad was ill and coming to their house and singing hymns on his last few days. You were a new pastor at the church then and hadn't formally met them but were persistent with the outreach. *Thank you* so much. We were also extremely grateful to the wonderful church members who helped put together a meal after our father's funeral service. It was over five years ago, but all of your kindness and love meant so much to our family.

Our mother still will read the monthly church newsletter, and if we drive to Batesville, we drive by St. John's and she remembers.

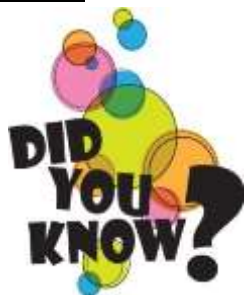
~ Peace to you, Joyce Steiner



*Earth Day - April 22, 2025*



**FROM OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL  
BOARD WITH FACTS  
YOU MAY OR MAY NOT  
KNOW ABOUT THE  
CHURCH PICNIC.**



**ROAST BEEF**

**DID YOU KNOW.....**

- Many years ago, the meat for the roast beef sandwiches for the Sunday School Picnic was roasted in members' homes and then brought to church to sell for the picnic. Later the meat was roasted in the gas ovens in the church basement, and then taken to the locker for slicing. For a few years the locker would roast and slice the meat for the picnic. In 2019 to the present there are 4 ladies who now roast the meat and prepare the gravy at church.
- Currently we roast 325 lbs. of beef. In 2017 we roasted 225 lbs.
- The beef is ordered from The Village Store in Oldenburg the first week in June. Someone from the SS Board will go to Oldenburg the Tuesday before Picnic, so it is at church to roast on Wednesday.
- We use approximately 20 roasters which are sprayed with Pam and filled with water. The roasters are placed throughout the kitchen and dining room (being mindful of placement so as not to trip a breaker). The process of preparing the beef starts at 7:30 am. The meat is rinsed, rubbed and placed in the roasters. The meat is roasted at 325 degrees and after 2 hours of roasting the temperature of the beef is checked. The temperature needs to be 140 degrees at the thickest part to be done.
- When the meat is done, the roasts are moved to containers to cool.
- The gravy is then made from the broth of the roasted meat. 4-5 white ice cream buckets are filled with gravy to cool. The process is completed at 4:00 pm.
- The beef is then taken to The Village Store to be sliced.
- Saturday morning, the day of the picnic, the sliced beef is picked up from The Village Store and brought back to church.
- 5-6 folks of the church sit and trim the fat off the sliced meat. The beef is then ready for the ladies in the kitchen to prepare for the Sandwiches for Church Picnic to sell by 5:00 pm



**2025 Lent/Easter Schedule**

Here are the final weeks of our Lenten services.

**April 2 @ 6:30pm:** Dinner and Bible Study: Join us for dinner provided by Church Council (spaghetti!). Then, as we wind down our table fellowship, we will have a brief Bible Study led.

**April 9 @ 7pm:** Standard service with dialogue sermon: We will end our five weeks as we began, gathering to worship as we so often have.

**April 13 @ 9am:** Palm Sunday Service

**April 17 @ 7pm:** Maundy Thursday Service with Communion.

**April 18 @ 7pm:** Good Friday Service

**April 19 @ 9:30am:** Sunday School Breakfast & Easter Egg Hunt at 10am

**April 20 @ 6:30am:** Sunrise Service, featuring the Ecumenical Easter Cantata Choir

**April 20 @ 9am:** Easter Service with Communion

**April 27 @ 7pm:** Encore Presentation of the Ecumenical Easter Cantata Choir



**MISSION TRIP**

**INFORMATIONAL MEETING:**

There have been enough people interested in an adult mission activity that we will be moving forward. The current plan is to have an organizational meeting soon after Easter to discuss and decide some specifics. If you would still like to be a part of this group, please let Pastor Joey know and he will make certain you are invited to the meeting.

# BATESVILLE FOOD PANTRY

I am writing a second major article this month for one purpose. To let you know that the Food Pantry has asked for our help.

Arriving soon, will be a letter to all of the BAMA congregations asking them to consider a special fundraising drive in 2025 above and beyond what they already give to the Pantry. The reason for this drive is a deficit over the last few years in our budget. For a few years running now, the BAMA food pantry has ran a deficit between \$12-15K. This has been (and continues to be) manageable because of a combination of past generous support from our congregation and a fundraiser from over a decade ago. These combined to give us a very healthy savings account that we have been using to fund this deficit. But as we all know here at St. John's, using saving to fund budget gaps is a short to medium term solution. The hope of the BAMA fundraising committee is that a drive this year (and plausibly in years to come) will help make up the gap and leave our emergency savings for just that- an actual emergency.

Here is where we at St. John's (and all the other BAMA congregations) come in. We are being

invited to "sponsor" any number of families for the year 2025. BAMA spends approximately \$50/ month to feed a family of four for the month. That means to sponsor one family for the whole year would cost \$600. In other words, for less than \$2/ day, a family of four can receive all of the help and benefits that BAMA offers for a whole year.

How will we participate in this drive? We will have a jar in the back of the Sanctuary for people to give donations during the entire month of April. Any donation given during this month will be our gift to the Food Pantry for this drive. How many families can we collectively sponsor in April? I am hoping the answer is more than one. After all, we average around 90 people in worship on a Sunday. That means if every person who attends worship gives just \$20 ONCE during the month of April, we will have sponsored three families. We will also have helped the Food Pantry make up almost 1/6 of the annual deficit.

I know from my experience that we here at St. John's are very generous when it comes to supporting and caring for our community. So I am asking us to do so once again. Let's give generously this month and sponsor multiple families. Let's give so that our Food Pantry can remain strong and be able to help serve the people in need within Batesville for decades to come. I know we can do it.

- Pastor Joey



If you would like to place an Easter flower or Heavenly bouquet (*monetary donation to help maintain the beauty of our altar*) in the Sanctuary in memory/honor of someone on Easter Sunday, please fill out the form below and place it in the offering tray or turn in it to the office. All forms ***MUST*** to be turned in to the office no later than **Sunday, April 6<sup>th</sup>**. **Please have all flowers to the church Friday, April 18<sup>th</sup>, the Columbus Ave door will be unlocked all day.** You may pick up your flower after service on Easter Sunday, April 20<sup>th</sup>.

I would like to place (*circle one*) an Easter flower in the sanctuary or donate a Heavenly bouquet in (*circle one*) Memory of or In Honor of:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Given By: \_\_\_\_\_

# COME *to the* CROSS *and* REMEMBER

**ALL ARE WELCOME**

TO ST. JOHN'S UCC 41st ECUMENICAL CHOIR CANTATA  
A MUSICAL WORSHIP SERVICE TO CELEBRATE EASTER  
OVER 50 SINGERS FROM 11 AREA CHURCHES

**Easter Sunday, April 20th, 6:30AM**  
**Sunrise Service And Breakfast**

**And Sunday, April 27th, 7:00PM**  
**Refreshments Following**

**St. John's United Church of Christ**  
**300 N. Huntersville Rd., Batesville, IN**  
**812-934-4144**





# April 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 Confirmation Class 6pm Lenten Service 7pm	3	4	5
6  Men's Choir Singing	7 Sunday School Board Meeting 6pm Ecumenical Choir Practice 6:30pm	8 Council Meeting 7pm	9 Confirmation Class 6pm Chancel Choir Practice Lenten Service 7pm	10 BAMA 1:30	11	12
13 Chancel Choir Singing	14 Ecumenical Choir Practice 6:30pm	15	16 Confirmation Class 6pm Lenten Service 7pm	17 Maundy Thursday Service 7pm BAMA 1:30	18 Good Friday Service 7pm	19 Easter Egg Hunt 9:30am 
20  Ecumenical Cantata @ 6:30am	21	22 	23 Confirmation Class Chancel Choir Practice Messenger Deadline	24 Ecumenical Choir Practice 6:30pm	25	26
27 Chancel Choir Singing Ecumenical Cantata @ 7pm	28	29	30 Confirmation Class 6pm			

May 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31



SO WE  
DO NOT  
LOSE  
HEART.

THOUGH OUR  
OUTER SELF  
IS WASTING AWAY,



OUR INNER SELF IS

BEING RENEWED  
DAY BY DAY.



2 CORINTHIANS 4:16, ESV