

Pastor Peter's message notes from March 28, 2021

### Sins People Are Okay With: Violence

Recently Katharine and I thought it would be fun to watch a movie together. As we looked through Netflix, she found a romantic comedy that looked interesting to her but didn't seem very interesting to me. My expectations for the movie were pretty low, but as we started watching I started to get into the characters. I really enjoyed the film. It was almost easier to enjoy the movie because my expectations were so low.

Have you ever noticed that your expectations play a large part in determining how you perceive life? I mention all this because on Palm Sunday high expectations were placed on Jesus by the people in Jerusalem when he entered the city.

For over 600 years the Jewish people had been ruled by foreign powers. For generations they survived, but they longed for a country of their own. Over hundreds of years the writers of the Hebrew Bible developed the expectation that God would send someone to set them free, a king who would drive out the Romans. Jesus was intimately familiar with the Hebrew Bible and understood these expectations. But were these the expectations that Jesus came to accomplish?

What expectations do we put on Jesus today? Are the expectations we have for Jesus fair? Do we expect Jesus to keep us from disappointment and suffering? Do we expect Jesus to agree with us? Do we expect Jesus to condone our actions and beliefs?

The Romans would have been nervous that the Jews would start a rebellion during the Passover celebration. To show their power over them as a conquered people, Pontius Pilate and a Roman garrison would have entered the city of Jerusalem from the western gate of the city. There would be soldiers, war horses, trumpets, banners--all to communicate the power of Rome. I wonder if seeing this display of power year after year affected the expectations of the Jewish people for the messiah God would send?

When Jesus enters Jerusalem from the east gate, the crowd expects him to ride in on a war horse. Instead, he is riding a war donkey. Jesus draws on the image of God's humility in Zechariah 9:9.

Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion!  
Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem!  
Lo, your king comes to you;  
triumphant and victorious is he,  
humble and riding on a donkey,  
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

Many in the crowd expected him to be a king that brings revolution and rebellion. Jesus communicates that he brings victory not through the sword but through humility and peace.

Sometimes we expect things of Jesus that he never promised to us.

- We expect that because we follow him, we will never suffer. But he faced suffering and rejection, so why should we be different?
- We expect that he will agree with us, but we see him continually challenging and encouraging his disciples to see things differently.
- We expect him to bring vengeance against our enemies, but instead we see him praying for those who arrested and executed him.

What can we expect from Jesus?

- Jesus will love you.
- Jesus will always be with you.
- If you follow him, he will guide you into a new life that may not be easier, but that will be more meaningful than you could ever find on your own.

Join *First United Methodist Church*  
for worship during Holy Week

**Good Friday, April 2**

in person and online at 6:00 p.m.

**Easter Sunday, April 4**

in person and online at 9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

## Preparing For Worship

### Scriptures for the coming week

Monday, April 5	1 Samuel 17: 1-11
Tuesday, April 6	1 Samuel 17: 12-27
Wednesday, April 7	1 Samuel 17: 28-37
Thursday, April 8	1 Samuel 17: 38-47
Friday, April 9	1 Samuel 17: 48-58
Saturday, April 10	Psalms 9: 1-20

## Church Worship Services

### Upcoming Worship Messages

- April 2: GOOD FRIDAY 6:00 p.m. in person and online  
My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?
- April 4: EASTER SUNDAY! Why do you look for the living  
among the dead?
- April 11: David's Truth: Stopping Giants
- April 18: David's Truth: Saul and David
- April 25: David's Truth: The Promise
- May 2: David's Truth: Sin and Sorrow
- Service times for in-person and online worship**  
9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.

Remember when attending in-person worship, CDC protocols continue: masks, social distancing, hand sanitizer/washing, and no singing out loud by the congregation.

## Prayers for our church family

Linda Riddle; Camden Garcia; Irene Miller; Nancy Walters; Michael Smith (Hubert Neth's son-in-law); Jim Hudson; Alice Hanrahan; Waneta Lane; Genevieve Case's son Mark Case; Michelle Schubert, Bob Boyd's stepson Douglas Sparling, Bernie Haldiman, Hallie Wilson, Pete Blaszczyk, Jana Miller, June Mellinger's nephew Nathan

## Celebrating our church family

### Birthdays for the coming week:

Tuesday, April 6	Rhonda McClung
Thursday, April 8	Ally Hassler, Alyson Imboden
Saturday, April 10	Larry Yung

### Anniversaries for the coming week:

Sunday, April 4	Bob and Susan Denham
Monday, April 5	Jeff and Marilyn Imboden
Wednesday, April 7	Marion and Irma Woods
Saturday, April 10	Baird Brock and Rose Marie Kinder

## Nursery, Children's Church Re-Open Sunday

The nursery will be open both services starting Easter Sunday, April 4, for children ages birth to 3. We will also offer Children's Church during both services for children preschool-5<sup>th</sup> grade.

We still need volunteers to help with both. If interested, email [contac@umcburg.org](mailto:contac@umcburg.org) or [vada@umcburg.org](mailto:vada@umcburg.org)

## Confirmation Class Informational Meeting

We are excited to host a confirmation class starting in the fall of 2021.

If you are a youth, are a parent of a confirmation-age youth (6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade), or are interested in serving as an adult mentor for confirmands, please mark your calendar for April 21 at 6:30 p.m. in Room 235. Pastor Peter will lead a discussion about the structure and planning of the confirmation class.

Contact our church office for more information at [contact@umcburg.org](mailto:contact@umcburg.org).

## Register for Emergency Response Team Training

UMC-Burg is looking to resurrect an Emergency Response Team to work in conjunction with UMCOR. If you want more information or are interested in lending your time and talent to this mission, email [contact@umcburg.org](mailto:contact@umcburg.org) or call the church office at 747-8158.

You can become ERT certified by participating in a three-phase training via ZOOM (in the comfort of your home) on

- April 23 3:00 – 5:30 p.m.
- April 24 8:30 – 11:00 a.m.
- May 1 8:30 – 11:00 a.m.

Training is \$15 per person, and registration closes April 12. Use the following website to register:

<https://missouri-reg.brapp.com/ERTTraining2021>

Completely fill out the form and select Heartland for District and BASIC for course selection.

With this training, you are ERT certified for 3 years. Please contact UMC-Burg's front office when you successfully complete this training.



Lend a helping hand Saturday, May 1, from 9 a.m. to noon to do some spring cleaning inside and outside the church

## Volunteers Needed To Help Clean Church

Hello everyone. As our church is opening back up, your help is desperately needed to keep it in good shape. There are always areas that need a helping hand to keep her looking good.

Helping just one or two hours a week would be of great value. Dusting, sweeping, mopping and organizing would be the standard of the day. You don't have to clean toilets and just tell me if you don't do windows.

There are always outside jobs that need to be done as well, weed control for one, and I might even let you ride the mower if you promise to take care of my baby. One rule only: If you are asked to do anything that you would rather not, just tell me. Believe me, there are always a variety of tasks to choose from. Please consider being a helping hand to our church. If interested, send an email to [contact@umcburg.org](mailto:contact@umcburg.org) or [chuck@umcburg.org](mailto:chuck@umcburg.org) or call the church office. -Chuck Linville

## Nominations Sought For Leadership Committees

Each year new members are nominated to serve a three-year term on church leadership committees, which meet once a month. Most committees meet on Zoom.

This spring, the nominating committee is accepting nominations for church leadership committees. In March, April and May, the nominating committee will review all nominations and discern the most appropriate leaders to serve our congregation as we strive to live Jesus' mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

We are looking for people to serve on the following committees: Trustees, Pastor Parish Relations, Finance, Nominating.

Nomination forms are available on our website and at our church office. You can nominate yourself or someone else. Nominations can be turned in to the church office in person or via email at

[contact@umcburg.org](mailto:contact@umcburg.org).

Your nominations are welcome and much appreciated.

## Charge Conference To Be Held April 18

There will be a special church Charge conference April 18 at noon, directly after the 11 a.m. service, to approve a salary package for Susan Smith, associate pastor.

Pastor Susan has been volunteering her time since October 2019. It was at a charge conference at UMC-Burg approximately 15 years ago that Susan began her ministry, and she completed her course of study in 2015 through St. Paul's School of Theology. Susan was appointed to Norris and Chilhowee Methodist Churches, where she served for 10 years.

The Heartland District Superintendent Rev. David A. Gilmore will be in attendance to run the meeting, which is in accordance to the church discipline.

*Our Super Heroes Wear Masks and Deliver Meals to the Homebound ...*



*Won't you become a Super Hero to a Senior, too!???*

## Warrensburg Senior Center

needs

Volunteer Drivers

to

**Deliver Meals to the Homebound!**

Deliver one day a week or five. Volunteer as part of a business, civic or church group, pair up with a friend, or volunteer on your own. You will provide safe, contactless delivery to qualified older adults. Sometimes, your visit may be the only one a senior will get. Social interaction is more important than ever during COVID-19. Call us today to find out more about one of the most rewarding volunteer roles you will ever serve.

*Care Connection*  
for Aging Services

**660-747-2624**

### **Easter Lilies**

*The tradition of purchasing Easter lilies to honor or in memoriam of others returned this year. In fewer than two weeks, the orders reached 43.*

*The names will be shared during the countdown before the Easter services making it possible to acknowledge all online as well as in person.*



#### June & Tom Mellinger

In honor of Ed Woodrel  
In memory of Nita Woodrel

#### Ginny McTighe

In memory of those lost to COVID-19

#### The Holmes Family

In memory of Ron Holmes, Sr.  
In memory of Clark & Viola Barnett (Amy's grandparents)

#### Bettina Christie

In memory of Joachim Schmitz  
In memory of Connie Prime Ijams

#### Doug Christie

In memory of Elizabeth Hamilton Manly Ijams  
In memory of Elvira Isabella Palmer  
In honor of Earlene Christie  
In honor of Ingrid Schmitz

#### Robert Boyd

In memory of Marilyn Boyd

#### John & Cathy Culp

In memory of the Culp's & Kites  
In memory of Case & McGraw

#### Larry & Cheryl Yung

In memory of Eldon Yung  
In memory of Darlene Yung

#### Don & Bobbie Riffle

In memory of Barbara Riffle  
In memory of John Erickson

#### Wanda Dahman

In memory of Rozetta Martin  
In memory of Larry Clinton Waller  
In honor of Doug Dahman  
In honor of Melissa McKinnis

#### Jerry & Judy Murray

In honor of all those who prayed, sent cards, and prepared food after Judy's stroke

#### Glenda Goetz

With love to my mother, Waneta Lane

#### Wilma Bushmeyer

In honor of the Church Staff  
In honor of the Wednesday Crew  
In honor of the Aldersgate Class  
In honor of all the many, many volunteers that work in our church

#### Rick & Lisa Schmidli

In memory of Nita Woodrel & in honor of Ed Woodrel  
In honor of Lisa Schmidli  
In honor of the Boys of the Wednesday Crew both past & present

#### Vicki Ollison

In memory of loved ones

#### Russ & Robyn Bloom

In memory of Harry Criswell  
In memory of Judy Criswell

#### Marcella Fleer

In memory of Orville Welker  
In memory of the Welker Family

#### Susan Denham

In memory of dear, departed loved ones of the Denham family

#### Bruce & Susan Smith

In honor of the church's leadership  
In memory of our families' saints

#### Jeannine Goetz Wiltse & Family

In honor of my parents, David & Glenda Goetz  
In honor of my grandmother, Waneta Lane  
In honor of my grandparents, Bob & Rickey Goetz and Ira Lane

#### Jana Miller

In memory of Glen Miller  
In memory of Garred Miller

#### Steve Mills

In memory of Lynda Mills