

Tidings

“Developing Followers of Jesus Christ to Serve the World”

Dear church family,

We are in the middle of the season of Lent—a time of preparation for the grand celebration of the Resurrection. Easter has its greatest meaning when we participate in all the steps leading up to the great event.

Growing up, I had friends from a different denomination who practiced the spiritual discipline of giving up something during Lent. Some would give up chocolate, soda, etc. One friend gave up broccoli for Lent—saying he did not like it anyway. That tradition never spoke clearly to my heart.

As I have gotten older, I think more about adding something to my spiritual development during Lent. One year I read a Psalm a day during Lent; another year I prayed for every member of our church during the forty days.

I want to encourage you to give up a little time and self centeredness for the remaining days of Lent—and perform “Random Acts of Kindness.” These are simple acts that make life a little better for someone else. Call a friend you have not spoken to for years. Visit someone who is ill. Bake a pie or cake for someone for no good reason. Send a thank you note to someone who has touched your life. Practice the love of God in ways that help others.

Then—email me (ed@unionumc.org) or mail me your random acts of kindness “RAK.” I will publish them as starting points for others—all replies will be anonymous. Let’s add RAK to our Lenten pilgrimage this year! And, it is okay to give up broccoli, too!

Pastor Ed



2-3

Worship • Study • UMW
Service • Greeters

4-5

Children • Youth • Childrens
Choirs • MOMs/ MOMsNext

6-7

New Athens UMC • Journey

8-9

Lent • Parish Nurse Notes
Aldersgate •

10

Music Tidings

United Methodist Men

Third Wednesdays
Krause Room 5:30 pm

Ruth Circle Quilters

Every Thursday
Krause Room 9:00 am

Touch of Class Dinner and Silent

Auction for
Youth Mission Trips

March 14
McKinley Hall

Elizabeth Circle

March 17, 7:00 pm
home of Karen Buehler

Miriam Circle

March 27, 1:00 pm
Krause Room

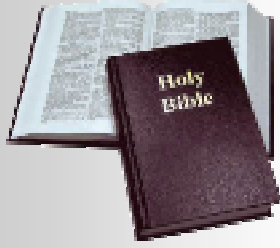
Palm Sunday, March 29

Maundy Thursday, April 2

Good Friday, April 3

Easter, April 5

**Godspell, Junior 9:00 am and
11:15 am on April 12 in the
Sanctuary**



Dear friends:

Thanks to your generosity, we have all the pew Bibles we will need!

Blessings

Pastor Ed



Tidings

Volume 59 Issue 5
Union United Methodist Church
721 East Main Street
Belleville, Illinois 62220
618-233-6375
sheri@unionumc.org

The Tidings is published bi-monthly. The copy deadline is generally on the second and fourth Mondays at 10:00 am. Contributors may attach copy to email or place it in the editor's mailbox in the church office. laneclasse@gmail.com

Zona Ludlum, Editor
Rev. Ed Weston, Senior Pastor

FORUM CLASS BEGINS NEW STUDY APRIL 12 THROUGH MAY 3

You have read the Word of the Lord, now meet the Lord of the Word



in a new way . . . join the Forum Class in April to examine new insights into the mission and teachings of Jesus Christ.

We will study Jesus' life and ministry through the writings of Philip Yancey in *The Jesus I Never Knew*, and Timothy Keller's *Encounters with Jesus: Unexpected Answers to Life's Biggest Questions*.

Discover the living reality of Jesus Christ in

your life as we explore:

- **Showdown in the desert with the great enemy.** Did the confrontation between Jesus and Satan take place or is this account allegory?
- **The Beatitudes: Blessed are the Beleaguered.** Why do some of us find this aspect of Christ's teaching so disturbing?
- **Christ's Ministry of the Supernatural:** Discover the ways in which the miraculous healing ministry of Christ is pertinent to your every day life.
- **Ascension: A Blank Blue Sky:** How do we, as the Body of Christ, contend with the challenges of Christian ministry in the face of the blank blue sky that He left behind after his ascension?

Please join the Forum Class during this four week session led by Suzanne Hutcherson on Sunday, April 12, 19, 26, and May 3, 2015 from 10:30 am to 11:15. All are welcome.

TOUCH OF CLASS SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 2015

The evening begins with appetizers in McKinley Hall at 4:30 pm followed by an elegant meal at 5:30 pm. *Layered Salad; Chicken Breast; Tilapia; Rice/broccoli casserole; green beans; delicious dessert.* The after-dinner entertainment in the sanctuary will be *Instruments of Faith, A Gospel Quartet.*



CROSS WALK WORSHIP

You are invited to the Table of the Lord this Sunday. He says come just as you are. Invite a friend. There is peace at His Table. Come feast.

See you Sunday!

Beth
March 8

Communion, King's Kids singing
Crosswalk Praise Band "The Table"
Congregational Singing "Cry Of My Heart," "Strong Tower,"
"Jesus Messiah"

March 15

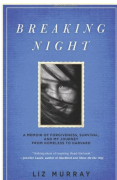
Crosswalk Praise Band "Washed Over Me"
Congregational Singing "Blessed Be Your Name," "Today,"
"Mighty To Save"

Dot Heuman, president of the District UMW, will speak on her recent trip to the holy land at the regular UMW meeting on March 11 at 10:30 am in McKinley Hall.

UMW BOOK REVIEW AND FRIENDSHIP TEA

APRIL 18, 2015 AT 2 PM

Mary Lou Bretsch, a retired librarian and professional storyteller, will present the book *Breaking Night: A Memoir of Forgiveness, Survival, and My Journey from Homeless to Harvard* by Liz Murray. *Breaking Night* can be read on-line in multiple locations.



Tickets will cost \$10. Anyone interested in serving as a hostess for the Friendship Tea, please contact Jenny Johnson, jcjohn@ezeeweb.com or 618-792-7810 or contact Fran Hager, hager900@att.net or 235-8237.

UNION UMC GREETERS SCHEDULE FOR MARCH

Join us for coffee and fellowship after worship in McKinley Hall.

Date	Narhex	Welcome Center	East Main
March 8	Fran Hager	Geoffrey & Pam Taylor	Bill & Joan Juergens
March 15	Jane Bonaldi	Carl & Karen Buehler	Jack & Carolyn Burke
March 22	Barb Edwards Sue Davis	Bob Dintelmann	Edith Robinson Mary Duncan
March 29	Marlene Frazer	Gary & Faith Lehr	Joe & Janet Lanius

THE MIRIAM CIRCLE . . .

will meet on March 27 at 1:00 pm in the Krause Room. The program will be presented by Geri Thomas and members are asked to contribute by sharing inspirational Bible verses, poems, and articles.

The Hostesses will be Marvina Lee, Bonnie Holweck and Gerry Schneider.

All are invited to join us.

Pearl Spies

THE ELIZABETH CIRCLE . . .

will meet at the home of Karen Buehler, 604 Leighigh Drive, Swansea on March 17 at 7:00 pm. Joan Juergens will present the program. All are invited.

Fran

Thank you to all the women and Dick Frette who helped with set-up, food prep, and clean-up to make the UMW Lenten Meal a blessing.

We presented "Soup and Sacrifice" and the money that was donated will go to the Food Pantry. Thank you to the congregation for your generosity.

Sincerely,

Jane Peters
UMW President

REVISED

SINGING SCHEDULE FOR KING'S KIDS,
JOYFUL NOISE, YOUTH CHOIR

Sunday, March 8, King's Kids will sing "Lord I Want to Be a Christian."

Sunday, March 22, Joyful Noise will sing "We Had a Share," and Youth Choir will sing "Behold the Shepherd,"

Sunday, March 29, all three choirs will sing "Gaudeamus Hodie," Joyful Noise will sing "Little Grey Donkey," Youth Choir will sing "Hosanna."

Sunday, April 5, all three choirs have individual selections.

Sunday, April 12, Godspell, Junior



KIDS-ON-THE-GO

K-O-T-G will be going to the Kids Light Conference on Saturday, March 28 from 8:00 am. until 2:30 pm. We will meet in the upper parking at 8:00 am and return at approximately 2:30 pm.

The cost is \$10.00 for each child and \$15.00 for each adult. The money and waiver are due now. Please contact Donna at donna@unionumc.org

JUNIOR YOUTH SCHEDULE MARCH 2015

UUMC JUNIOR YOUTH MEETS SUNDAY EVENINGS

IN

MCKINLEY HALL 6:00 PM TO 7:30 PM

Schedule subject to change.**Community Service Projects dates to be added.**

03.08.15 Discussion: TOC and what is expected of the youth and Bacon

03.13.14 Touch of Class set up

03.14.15 Touch of Class

03.15.15 Discussion: Easter; Part 1 and Kickball

03.22.15 Discussion: Easter; Part 2 and Human Tic Tac Toe

03.29.15 Discussion: Easter; Part 3 and Bacon

**** Participation in TOC is mandatory for youth attending the summer mission trips**



TABS FOR RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE UPDATE

Approximately 3,000 tabs were donated in February, including one donation of about 2,600 tabs, for the Ronald McDonald House. Thanks to everyone for your continued support by collecting and donating tabs for the Ronald McDonald House.

The tabs raise money to provide a "home-away-from-home" for families so they can stay close to their hospitalized child at little or no cost.

The collection jar is located on the counter in the Welcome Center and will be picked up on Sunday mornings.

If you have questions, contact Steve Smith at 539-5377.

TRIP TO WICKS ORGAN COMPANY IN HIGH-
LAND PLANNED . . .

for Tuesday, March 17. The Wicks Organ company was founded in 1906 after the local priest asked one of the Wicks brothers to learn the organ and become the church organist.

The three brothers built a pipe organ using their skills as a watchmaker, jeweler and cabinet maker and their reputation quickly spread. A walking tour lasts from 30 to 60 minutes with places to sit and demonstrations.

After the tour, lunch will be at Michael's. The tour is free and limited to 25 people. Please call the church office (233-6375) to reserve a spot.

WALK WITH JESUS, A NEW FAMILY EASTER EVENT AT UUMC

FREE CELEBRATION OF EASTER FOR YOU AND YOUR CHILDREN,
ages kindergarten through sixth grade,
by sharing some amazing moments with Jesus.

March 21, 2015

Free tours begin at 4:00 pm and the last one begins at 5:30.
Reservations are requested. Sign up at the Welcome Center or
call Leanna Kaemmerer at 979-4951.

Volunteers are needed. Please contact Jane Peters at 235-3804 or
Donna Shock at donna@unionumc.org



REMINDER: ORDER GIFT CARDS FOR EASTER GIFTS IN MARCH!

In addition, we've updated our retailer list, so please come look at our new order form at the Welcome Desk or on the church's website under MOPS. Our next order will be placed on Sunday, March 8.

Please drop off your order and payment (check or exact cash) between 10:00 and 11:00 at the Welcome Desk. Orders will be ready for pickup at the Welcome Desk on March 15.

A HUMOROUS PRAYER COULD BE FOR LENT FROM MYRTLE

I was going through some old documents at Memorial's Auxiliary and found this article in one of the old Mur Mur newsletters from 1970. I love it and can't help laughing every time I read it. Thought you might enjoy it too.
Love,

Myrtle
TO THE POINT

So they took
branches of palm trees
and went out to meet him,
shouting, "Hosanna!
Blessed is the one
who comes
in the name
of the Lord!"

John 12.13



MOPS/MOMsNEXT

MEETING

(MOTHERS OF PRESCHOOLERS INFANT THROUGH
KINDERGARTEN) (MOTHERS OF SCHOOL AGE - FIRST
GRADE—THROUGH FOURTH GRADE)

You are invited to attend our meeting on Wednesday, March 25, from 5:15 pm to 7:45 pm. Dinner with your children will be in McKinley Hall from 5:15 pm to 5:45 pm. Lenten dinner will be served with a children's option. Mom-time will begin at 5:45 pm to 7:45 pm in the MOPS room on the fourth floor. The topic for March is "Courage to Forget Comparisons," spiritual gifts and Easter devotional.

Please R.S.V.P

unionumcmops@gmail.com or
Donna Shock

at donna@unionumc.org. Hope to see you all there!

We are happy to announce the cast selected for the ensemble for worship

April 12, 9:00 and 11:30 am,
UUMC's production of

Godspell, Junior:

Jesus: Stephen Elm ore

John the Baptist/Judas:

Alex Petraborg

Ensemble: Jordyn Walz, Sera Keiser,
Abby Wehrmeyer, Alex Wehrmeyer,
Emma Petraborg, Owen Buescher,
Nicole Elmore, Holle Wagner, and
Erich Wusstig. Directors: Zona Lud-

lum, Julie Petraborg,
vocal music and cho-
reography, Ginger
Jones, lights and
sound, Gail Long,
instrumental music

