

April Volunteers



April 2026

Greeters 5th Lisa Davidson & Alane White
 12th Jill Strohm & Alane White
 19th Cris Fitzgarrald & Alane White
 26th Cris Fitzgarrald & Alane White

Ushers Alane White, Kathy Brown,
 and Danielle Cline


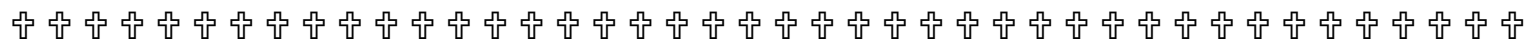
Lobby Watch 5th Jill Strohm
 12th Charlie Moore
 19th Ryan Arthur
 26th Rick Manuell

Counters Bev Smith and Doris Ellington

Liturgist Kelly Lindley

Nursery 5th Amy Cannady & Nancy Crumrin
 12th Erica & Caroline
 19th Danielle & Liberty Cline
 26th Lindsay Welsh & Jenna

We still have plenty of
 open days on our
 altar flower list.

Prayer List



Joys And Concerns: Diana Bailey, Daisy Bloodworth, Aaron Brush, Dave Culbertson,
 Rev. John Davis, Mike Delp, Gail Glick, Jennie O'Rourke, Phil James, Darrell Kirby,
 Molly Macke, Sandy Martin, Candy Painter, Donna Sens,
 Joyce Smithson, Sharon Welliver, Karen Wheat

Our Church and her leaders:

Marshall First UMC	Pastor Bill
Bishop Kennetha Bigham-Tsai	Bishop David A Bard
Our District Superintendent, Sarah Isbell	Connie Wieck and other Missionaries

Our Military Personnel:

Chris Bradford	John Flowers	Daniel Gard	Michael Holmes	John Kuhn
Shelby Sanborn	Lewis Sanborn	Jake Hoalt	Chaplain Jonathon Maloney	
Our Nation, Our Nation's Leaders, and our Armed Forces				

Our Homebound & Health Care Facility Residents

Phyllis Boatright	Gordon & Carolyn Clark	Violet Cook
Dan Flowers	Sharon Miller	

If you know of any changes in the status of these individuals, or have more who should be added to our Military Personnel or the Homebound/Healthcare Facility lists, please contact the office. Thank you.



Just to make you aware... The Church will be looking for someone to take over the choir after their summer break, and will be looking to hire a secretary as soon as possible, or find volunteers to take Becky's place doing the weekly bulletins and monthly newsletter. If you have any suggestions or would be willing to step up and volunteer, please contact Peggy Zoll, your SPRC chair.

Grace, peace, and resurrection hope to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We have come through the journey of Lent. We have walked the road to the cross. And now, we arrive at Easter. But Easter is not simply a day on the calendar. It is not only a sunrise service, a hymn we sing once a year, or even a single celebration we mark and then move past. Easter is the turning point of all history, and more than that, it is the beginning of a new way of life for all who belong to Christ.

When Jesus rose from the grave, He did not simply prove something, He began something. The resurrection is not only an event to remember; it is a reality to live in. Scripture tells us that we have been raised with Christ (Colossians 3:1), that we walk in newness of life (Romans 6:4), and that the same power that raised Jesus from the dead is at work in us (Ephesians 1:19-20).

That means Easter is not over when the service ends. It continues in the way we live each day.

- When hope rises where discouragement once lived.
- When forgiveness is chosen over bitterness.
- When we walk in obedience, even when it is difficult.
- When we remember that death, sin, and the grave do not have the final word, Christ does.

The early church did not celebrate Easter for a single day; they lived in the light of the resurrection. Every gathering, every act of worship, every step of discipleship was shaped by the reality that Christ is risen and reigning. That is the invitation before us now. Not just to celebrate Easter, but to live as resurrection people.

And as we do, we also recognize that seasons in the life of the church continue to unfold. In just a few weeks, Becky, Kathy and I will be preparing to move to the next place God has called us to serve. While that brings a mixture of emotions for all of us, it does not change the most important truth: Christ is still the head of His Church, and He is still at work among His people.

The same risen Lord who has walked with us in this season will continue to lead, guide, and provide for this congregation in the days ahead. The story of what God is doing here is not ending, it is continuing. Because the resurrection assures us that God is always bringing new life, even as seasons change.

So, this Easter, let us do more than celebrate a moment. Let us step fully into the life Christ has given us. Let us be a people marked by hope, shaped by grace, and confident in the power of the risen Savior.

And let us walk forward, trusting that the One who conquered the grave is faithful to lead His people every step of the way. In the hope and victory of the risen Christ, may it be so,

Your brother and fellow servant of Christ,

Pastor Bill



Kid's Korner



Thanks so much to all of you who help with our kids' activities! The Easter candy collection pot is full, Power Lunch sign-ups are filled each week, and people have stepped up each month to help with the KFC/church family dinners. We couldn't keep any of this going without you.

17 kids participated in the lock-in on March 15. So much fun! You can be very proud of your children. They were very well-behaved - they even slept all night! I won't hesitate to do it again.

Dawn is setting up the background checks for all who help with children and youth. We'll let you know when you can stop by for this.

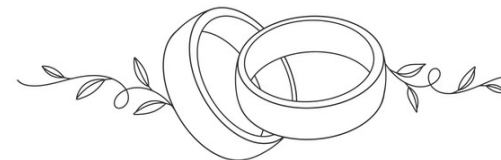
Spring KFC will begin on April 8 and continue until May 20. The kids will come after school until 4:00. Due to spring sports (and the fact that my volunteers have been doing this since September) we will have a shorter session each week until school is out.

Happy Easter

Kelley



April Birthdays & Anniversaries:



Ethan & Aubrey Claypool April 13
Dennis & Debbie Miller April 15

Jennifer Bishop	4 April	Elizabeth Shultz	14 April	Leighanne Hildebrand	22 April
Patty Macke	8 April	Parker Morey	15 April	Ethan Claypool	24 April
Michael Shultz	8 April	Julia Cannady	17 April	Sharon Davis	26 April
Kobe Brannan	9 April	Dustin Trudeau	17 April	Jason Macke	27 April
Lucy Cline	11 April	Lisa Davidson	19 April	Gordon Clark	28 April
Jack Crumrin	12 April	John Macke	20 April	Adrienne Hutson	29 April
Darrell Kirby	12 April	Matthew Brown	22 April		

April Mission News:

The Special Sunday we had in March is an opportunity to strengthen our connection to global ministries that provide disaster relief, aid for refugees, sustainable agriculture, and more. Every gift makes a life-changing impact. Your gifts cover UMCOR's operational costs, ensuring 100% of other donations go directly to relief efforts. Together, we can bring hope to those in need worldwide. We still have donation envelopes in the back of the sanctuary, or you can mark your check or donation "UMCOR" and it will get to the right place.



Dear Marshall UWF and Marshall Congregation Members,

As director of the Suntisouk English Center, one of my tasks is to set the schedule for our 3 terms. I did this in October of last year, noting that I had two dates open for our 2026 start: January 12 (my birthday) or January 19. I would say a majority of people given this opportunity would choose January 19. After a holiday of relaxation, what person wants to start up a busy, hectic new term on his/her birthday? But for me, it was not a difficult decision. Celebration of God's gift to me in this placement, and the gift of sharing that with others, has always been at the forefront of every day. And for that celebration of a new year in service to fall on my birthday? Well, the schedule was easily set: January 12 it was.

If you check out my Facebook page for those birthday reports, you'll see how that first evening of classes turned out: with cards, cakes, games and fun photos. No back-to-school blues here. Just a lot of joy.

That first day back likewise entailed my weekly Monday morning meeting with my staff: Suher (caretaker), Santi (office manager and teacher), and Shaloom (Global Mission Fellow's intern). The agenda was filled; the conversation was focused. Our opening prayer and devotional took place, then we dived right in. All had lists of needs. Suher: Toilet paper, 5 fluorescent lights for the hall and corridor ceilings, cleaning supplies. Santi: a box of A-4 paper, printer ink, laminating sheets. Shaloom: book copying money, new student folders, whiteboard markers. Connie: new advertising banners, restock for visitor refreshments, consider a new copy machine, get that hall roof repaired.

Sitting in that meeting, on my birthday, with one thing after another being added to the purchase list, was not a worrisome moment. What a relief that such items could be quickly purchased due to the generous donations of so many Advance supporters, including Marshall's UWF. Your \$300 has already taken care of quite a few of the above, with previous gifts helping with the pricier items.

Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows. – James 1:17

No shadows here! Just plenty of sunshine and grateful hearts for all you do helping to extend God's hands to us here in Southeast Asia.



Connie Wieck

Missionary to Southeast Asia



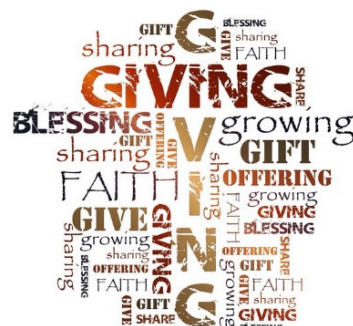
HOLY GROUNDS

Holy Grounds Coffee Group meets every Tuesday! It is mostly Seniors, but you don't have to be over a certain age to join us! We even enjoy having others from our community join us. So invite a friend and pop in for coffee or breakfast and some good fellowship.

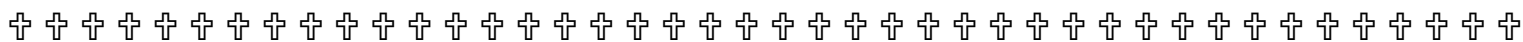
We're going to Paris Family Restaurant near Twin Lakes on March 31st. Meet at the church to ride the van at 11:00, or meet us there at 11:30!

And here's where you'll find us in April:

- 5th 9am at Marshall Family Restaurant
- 12th 2pm at Holly Brook
- 19th 9am at Gypsy Queen
- 26th 9am at Latte Dough



Our income so far this year is **\$64,232**, while expenses totaled **\$54,238**. Looking ahead, we will need approximately **\$22,000** monthly in order to meet all local church expenses. We are grateful for your continued faithfulness and partnership in the work God is doing through our church. Please prayerfully consider what the Lord would have you give this month toward our local church general fund. Any undesignated giving will go to cover our monthly local church expenses and ministry activities. Separate donations to cover Conference Apportionments are also still being collected regularly. To date, we have received \$5,720 of the \$29,580 the Conference asks us to send throughout the year. Please note that since March had five Sundays, these numbers do not include the March 29 offering.



We have two different women's circles who meet every month. All the ladies of the church are invited to join either circle at any time. February's meeting dates are:

- UWF Board – Tuesday, April 7 @ 4:00
- Susannah Wesley – Monday, April 20 @ 11:30am
- Sisters In Faith – Thursday, April 23 @ 6:00pm



United Women in Faith

- United Women in Faith will be taking the van to Cunningham Children's Home for their annual Quilt Show April 10. All women are invited. Tentative plans are to leave about 8a.m. Spend the morning, have lunch and return about 3.
- UWF Spring Meeting at Villa Grove April 18. A basket for love gifts is in the chapel hallway.
- On May 30 United Women in Faith will have a rummage sale in the Fellowship Hall from 8-noon. We like gently used items. but no clothing or TV's. Talk to Jo Sanders to find out where to bring your donations. Thanks.
- The United Women in Faith annual Mother/Daughter Banquet will be held May 9 at 5:30p.m. Reservations will be taken April 26 and May 3rd.

Please mark your calendar for all of these events and join in the fun.

The Love Feast



The Love Feast, or Agape Meal, is a Christian fellowship meal recalling the meals Jesus shared with His disciples during His earthly ministry and expressing the fellowship enjoyed by the family of Christ.

Although its origins in the early church are closely interconnected with the origins of the Lord's Supper, the two services became quite distinct, not to be confused with each other. While the Lord's Supper has been practically universal among Christians throughout Church history, the Love Feast has appeared only at certain times and among certain denominations.

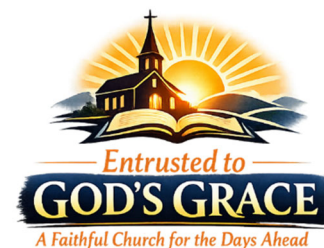
The modern history of the Love Feast began when Count Zindendorf and the Moravians in Germany introduced a service of sharing food, prayer, religious conversation, and hymns in 1727. John Wesley first experienced it among the Moravians in Savannah, Georgia, ten years later. His diary notes: "After evening prayers, we joined with the Germans in one of their love-feasts. It was begun and ended with thanksgiving and prayer, and celebrated in so decent and solemn a manner as a Christian of the apostolic age would have allowed to be worthy of Christ."

In the tradition of our forefathers and in worship of Jesus and in remembrance of His sacrificial life, we are joining in this Love Feast for Maundy Thursday. This is more than just a meal; it is a worship service that is sure to make your Easter Celebration more meaningful than you could imagine. The Love Feast includes the sharing of food, most often sweet bread to remind us of the sweetness of God's presence. Our Love Feast also includes the sharing of a fellowship meal of dishes brought by each family for all to share. In order to celebrate the Love Feast as a Church Family, we share our carry-in supper around a common table, family-style, instead of buffet-style.

Testimonies and praise are the focal point in most Love Feasts. Testimonies may include personal witness to God's grace or accounts of what God has been doing in the lives of others. Praise may take the form of hymns, songs, choruses or spoken exclamations. All should be done with the leading of the Holy Spirit. Wesley counseled that all be done decently and in order. Prayer is vital to a Love Feast. Along with fixed forms of prayer, spontaneous prayer requests and prayers may come from the people.

Since this Love Feast is being celebrated on the night in which Jesus was betrayed, in remembrance that after supper was over Our Lord instituted His feast (communion), we too will share in the Lord's Supper.

In order for us to set up for the Love Feast, we need to know how many people to plan for, so if you have not already signed up, please call the office or sign up in person on Palm Sunday. Thanks!



As we move toward the final weeks of our shared ministry together, we will take time to return to the foundations that help a church remain faithful in every season. In a time of change, it is important to remember what must never change. Together we will reflect on Christ as the head of the church, the authority of God's Word, the mission Christ has given His people, and the kind of life and character that marks a faithful congregation. This series is both a reminder and an invitation, to remain rooted in Christ and to move forward with confidence in His grace for the days ahead.

- Series Schedule:**
- April 19** – *Christ Is the Head of the Church* (Colossians 1:15–18)
 - April 26** – *What Must Never Change* (2 Timothy 3:14–17)
 - May 3** – *Why the Church Still Exists* (Matthew 28:18–20)
 - May 10** – *A Church That Lives the Mission* (Acts 2:42–47)
 - May 17** – *The Character of a Faithful Church* (Colossians 3:12–17)
 - May 24** – *The Future of a Faithful Church* (Philippians 1:3–11)
 - May 31** – *Entrusted to God's Grace* (Acts 20:24–32)

