Pastor Bill has always preached that our primary goal as Christians is to make disciples for Jesus Christ. When you contribute to the undesignated fund of GBGM you are giving to mission priorities in 80 countries, including ours ,that do just that. This fund supports the 4 mission priorities of our church by connecting us in mission when we support and equip those people and places that are carrying out this primary goal.

The 4 goals of the GBGM are: 1. to make disciples of Jesus Christ; 2. to strengthen, develop and renew Christian congregations and communities; 3. to alleviate human suffering; 4. to seek justice, freedom, and peace.

Please considering contributing to this most important goal. Please make your checks out to FUMC or use the pew envelopes for cash donations.

News from Laos

Blessings, church family!

What a time we've had here at the Suntisouk Vocational and Language Center (SLVC).

Missionary Angie, former Center director who was moving into women's ministries, was having serious health issues for several months. Her home country is the Philippines. She returned for "just 10 days", to have a proper physical check-up. A large cancerous tumor was found, removed and she will go through 6 months of chemotherapy. Her husband is with her. They are currently staying with relatives. Please keep her in your thoughts and prayers.

As for the Center, I have been plugging away within our conference and supporting churches to get us the funds we need for numerous projects: roof is leaking (rain has a moldy hole formed above my office desk), plumbing problems (dripping faucets, unusable toilets, broken pipes), electrical issues (we almost had a fire in the larger room assembly hall – sparks flew from the ceiling lights!) and numerous other things. The electrician came and we are in the process of having all 8 classrooms, office spaces and assembly hall taken care of. Next will be plumbing and then the big project of the roof.

The staff and I spent an entire day, in nearly 100-degree weather, cleaning out the storage room. It was a mess. What a relief for me when the salvage guy came, looked over the outer courtyard things we lined up, offered us a price and off it all went. We received \$50 for the steel items. More money for the Center.

Shopping with my staff has been a joy. We now have: New desktop Dell computer, office cell phone (staff phones were being used before), 1 whiteboard, 5 bulletin boards, 2 upright filing cabinets, and an Epson projector (The projector is connected to computers for wall visual displays).

We are getting more fee-paying students. I now have a junior high class of 6 and my elementary class has increased to 8. My two other teachers, Amos (Angie's son) and Afiju (African short-term missionary) teach the adult classes and are holding steady.

I am very excited to be leading 2 weeks of fun English classes for the Laos Methodist pastors, during their bi-yearly training session. Amos and I have them 1 hour every morning. Most are from the countryside, with only a 5th grade education, if that. The idea of English is to challenge them, give them confidence in learning something new, and increase their understanding that in Christ, they are not alone. We are connected, despite different languages, cultures, and backgrounds.

Thank you for all that you do, in our Marshall community and around the world, through your prayers, service and generous giving spirit. Bless you all!

Connie Wieck
Director of the SLVC in Laos
Website: connieinchina.org
Facebook: Connie Wieck

THE MESSENGER April 2024 From the Pastor's Pen

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

I greet you in the name of the crucified and risen Lord, our Savior.

We have come again to the season of Spring, when the flowers are beginning to bloom, and the trees are budding. Soon we will hear the crack of the bat, and it won't be long until the children are out of school and ready to celebrate their summer vacation. These are all gifts from God; gifts to remind us of the wonderful creation He has made!

For many in the world, this seems to be enough. For all they truly want from God is for the sun to shine, and the grass to turn green and the flowers to bloom. For them, this is god, the god of nature. But there is far more to the God who created all things than just a wonderful exterior decorator. You see, our God is a god of love and justice, a god of grace and strength. He is all things. It was out of His great love that He created us and breathed into us the breath of life. But as His word says, our first parents, Adam and Eve, turned away, and went after their own ways. So, in Adam, all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God.

We recently came through the Holy Season of Lent, a time of self-denial as we focused our hearts on the sacrifice of Christ for us. Out of God's great love for us He gave His only Son to die on the cross that we might have salvation. But I am thankful that the same Son of God, Jesus Christ, did not just die and remain in the grave; He rose from the dead. We have just celebrated His resurrection in the day we call Easter. But Easter is more than a day, it is a season; a season made up of 50 days. During these Great 50 days of Easter, we celebrate the gift of eternal life, found only in Jesus Christ. Because He rose from the dead, we will rise also! We have eternal life as we believe on His name. But not just eternal life for eternal life's sake. This is not just an eternal life that is saved for us only in Heaven, rather it is to be lived out in our daily lives. We are Easter people, and the day of Easter, and the Great 50 days of Easter should not be the only time that we remember the power of the resurrection in our lives.

We can live the resurrected life, as the apostle Paul said, therefore, "If anyone is in Christ, they are a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new." 2 Corinthians 5:17. When we are in Christ, and have accepted Him as our personal Savior, we are made brand new. It is no longer necessary for us to live the life we once lived, but instead we can live the resurrected life, the new life, in Him. We are no longer bound by old guilt and old fear, but instead are set free to live this life anew.

Every time the trees start budding, the flowers start blooming, and the world comes to life as spring sets in, I am exhilarated by the joy and the promise of the life-giving springtime. But I am even more exhilarated in the fact that in Jesus Christ, life is filled with unending moments of New Birth and fresh starts. Each new day is an opportunity to begin again to live out our faith in the One who gave His life for us.

As we go into this new season of Spring, and as we continue in this Great 50 days of Easter, may it be a reminder to us of all the gifts God has given us, and especially the gift of salvation and eternal life through His Son, Jesus Christ.

And so, my dear brothers and sisters, let us live for Him this new life daily, in the sure and certain hope of resurrection, that we may live in His kingdom forever, and feast at His heavenly banquet.

Living in the joy of the Resurrected Life,

Paston Bill



Marshall Ministerial Alliance Food Distribution and Clothing Store needs your help! A large number of Clark County residents receive free food at our local food pantry each month. This can only be provided if the community supports Marshall Ministerial Alliance Food Distribution and Clothing Store with both monetary donations, donations to the clothing store, & especially volunteer time. Please remember to volunteer at the clothing store on the 3rd Saturday of every month from 8:30 to 12. Help is also needed on the 4th Tuesday of every month for food distribution from 12:00 to 4:30 PM. There will, also, be even more of a need volunteers when the new Thrift Store opens in late Spring.

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Hi! I'm a Lion of Judah, and I've come to bring some fun to your newsletter! I have a little buddy that looks just like me, only in black and white, and he's really, really small. Every month, he's going to hide somewhere in the newsletter, so you can find him as you read through

the whole thing. When you find him, call Heather at the Church Office, and if you're one of the first five people to tell her where you found him, you'll get your name in next month's newsletter!

Happy Lion Hunting!



Mark & Leanne Setzer	4/7
Roger & Mary Rayhel	4/9
Barney & Ann Calvert	4/10
Ethan & Audrey Claypool	4/13
Joyce Gwyn	4/14
Dennis & Debbie Miller	4/15
David & Sharon Miller	4/17

Dennis & Debbie Miller 4/15 David & Sharon Miller 4/17 April

April Volunteers

We still need volunteers for much of the upcoming year.

Ushers - April ushers are still needed.

Liturgist- Joe Schroeder Counters- Peggy Zoll

We still need a few counters for some of 2024.

Nursery 7th – Erica & Caroline Crumrin

14th – Amy Cannady & Nancy Crumrin

21st – Tara & Sadie Claypool

28th – Jody Green & Charlene Moore



HEODL

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Molly Farrell

Jackson Green

Jennifer Bishop

Greg Fairchild

Makayla Cline

Patty Macke

Mike Schultz

Kobe Brannan

Margaret Hintz

Libby Housinga

Lucy Cline

Darrell Kirby

Dana Ramsey

Parker Morey

Julia Cannady

Bella Fattal

Troy Sanzenbacker

Elizabeth Schultz

Birthdau!

Dustin Trudeau

Lisa Davidson

Halyee Siverly

Cole Boatright

Matthew Brown

Rebecca Jacobs

Ethan Claypool

Susan Renner

Jason Macke

Gordon Clark

Wyatt Geltz

Linda James

Tess Gard

Adrienne Hutson

Tawnya Fairchild

Ann Calvert

Leighanne Hildebrand

John Macke

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4/30

We need flowers for every week in April.



Lobby Watch We still need volunteers for ALL of April through the rest of the year.

We still in much need volunteers many kinds of volunteers for the rest of the year.

Greeters- 14th – 28th – Jo & Jim Vadas



Molly Macke (Patty & John's daughter-in-law), Family of Kathleen Coldren-Miller, Angie Broncano, Brenna Higginbotham, Family of Jim White, Eddie Gutierrez, Laura Irwin, Robin Lake, Flossie, Allyssa Henson(great granddaughter of Bev Smith), Mike Delp (Friend of John & Linda James), Unspoken (Beth Macke) Unspoken, Tim Bronkie (Pastor's friend), Marianne Wrone, Gail Glick, Israel, Diana Bailey, Tiffany Macke, Millie Swalls (Nora & Brad Swalls' granddaughter), Kinley Nash (Lois & David Nash's granddaughter), Rev. Ron Martz (Praise also, recently been told he is cancer free), Family of Bill Hutson, Bishop Frank Beard, D.S. Angie Lee, Chase Brady [Joyce Gwyn's great-grandson], Peg Hintz [Tom Hintz's mother], Julie Krietemeier [Beth Macke's sister], Angie Broncano [Missionary in Laos], Unspoken Request, All Long-term Healthcare Facilities in Clark County, Natural Disaster Victims, Our Missionaries

Our Military Personnel:

Our Nation, Our Nation's Leaders, and Armed Forces

Chris Bradford John Flowers Daniel Gard
Michael Holmes John Kuhn Shelby Sanborn

Lewis Sanborn Jake Hoalt Chaplain Jonathon Maloney

Our Homebound & Health Care Facility Residents

Violet Cook JoAnn Donehue Ray King
Mary E. Koutsoumpas Phyllis Boatright Dan Flowers
Fremont Schoeck Sharon Miller Ron Hicks

Holy Grounds Coffee Group meets every Tuesday. All are welcome to join!

9:00 AM-breakfast at Marshall Family Restaurant.

4/9 2:00 PM-at the Villas of Holly Brook

4/16 9:00 AM-at the Gypsy Queen

4/23 Lunch TBA

4/30 Moonshine

Seniors





Prayer Focus for the month: Peace

Spring District Gathering, "Loving All of God's Children", will be on Tues., April 16, from 9:15 to 2:00, at Effingham Centenary UMC. Shawna Bunnell, from Chaddock, will be the speaker. If you would like to attend, please let Jo Sanders or Karen Heighton know by Friday, April 12. We will meet at the church and carpool.

Gifts to be taken to the Spring Gathering:

Cunningham - Wash cloths, XL twin sheets, toothpaste, men's body wash, men's deodorant, white or black ankle socks (size 6-12), Walmart or Amazon gift cards Chaddock - Twin XL sheets, body wash, deodorant.

Lessie Bates Davis Neighborhood House - Gift cards: Walmart, Family Dollar, Subway, McDonald's, Dollar General, Target, gas cards & socks - all sizes for men, women, and children.

You can drop these items off in a box outside the office door before April 16.

Funeral Dinners: Thank you to everyone who is always so willing to help out with the funeral dinners. Our list of people willing to help is amazing. If you would like to be added to that list, please let us know. We try to rotate through the list. But if there is ever a time that you would really like to be asked to help with food, serving, or clean up, please don't hesitate to give us a call.

UWF Circle Schedule

- UWF Board Meeting Tues., April 2, 4:00 PM
- Sisters in Faith -Thurs., April 4, 6:00 PM-Fellowship Hall
- Esther Circle Thurs.,
 April 11, 7:00 PM
- Cunningham Quilt Show April 12th & 13th- Urbana
- UWF Retreat- Sat., April 13th, 9:00 AM Buck Valley Wildlife Preserve
- Susanna Wesley-Mon., April 15, 6PM, Fellowship Hall
- Spring East District
 Gathering -Tues., April
 16 9:15 AM-Effingham
- Faith Circle- Thurs., April 18, 9:00 AM, Chapel

Thanks, again.
Dianne Rardin, Diane Moore, Linda James, Jan Ridgway,
Alice Schroeder, & Karen Heighton

(Cont'd on next page)

(UWF Cont'd)

Mission Projects:

MMDC Sleeping Mats - We have just finished our second mat & are working on the third. Everyone's help with the weaving and cutting bags is greatly appreciated. I would love to weave with you! Give me a call. Karen Heighton

<u>Laundry Ministry</u> - Every month Sisters In Faith takes bags of laundry supplies & quarters to distribute to families at the laundromat. We have plenty of supplies but could use quarters or money for quarters. Thank you for helping support this project!

Don't forget to start on that spring cleaning. <u>Yard Sale is May 4.</u> Watch the bulletin for times to start dropping off items.

The annual United Women in Faith Yard Sale will take place Saturday, May 4th from 8 a.m. until noon. Items may be brought in Wednesday afternoon. Tables will be labelled so you may distribute your items. We do not take adult clothing or TV's. We will also be selling books, CD's, etc. Start clearing out now!

Mark Your Calendar:

Cunningham Quilt Show- April 12 & 13

UWF Retreat, hosted by Sisters In Faith - Sat., April 13

East District Spring Meeting - Tues., April 16, Effingham

Yard Sale - May 4

Mother/Daughter/Friend Dinner - Sat., May 11

Thank you all for your

Generous donations of dryer sheets and soap pods. We are in need of money to add to our laundry bags. Please help us by dropping money in the bucket on the information desk outside the office.

Thank you,

Sisters in Faith

Thank you for the lovely flowers in memory of Mom and your kind expression of sympathy.

The Family of Searoba Mascher



FUMC Shirts!

Order yours today!
Child short sleeve T -\$15
Short sleeve T-\$20
Long sleeve T- \$25
Crew necked sweatshirt- \$32
Hoodies- \$40

UMYF Fundraiser-Order forms available in the office

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Looking for a gift? Going out to eat?

Need fuel for your vehicle?

We have SCRIP cards for these vendors
and many many more!



Contact Angie Setzer or see Rick Manuell after church on Sundays.

Many thanks for calls, cards, prayers, etc. during my recent injury and recovery. I am forever grateful.

Laura Irwin

Dear Church Family,
Thank you for the flowers.
They are just beautiful!
Love,
Alane White & Family

Children & Youth Ministry



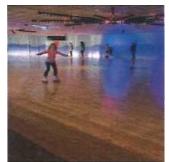


Figure 1-Christian Skate Night in Paris. Liberty, are super skaters. Fun teacher. evening!

A BIG thank you to everyone who helped with KFC this school year! 35 Kids participated. Thanks to everyone who taught, cooked, sang, played games, organized crafts, or helped in any way. We couldn't have managed without you. Hope to see you all next Fall!

The FUMC Shirt sales are going well. The order will be turned in on April 5 — so **let us know** which shirt you want. (I'm ordering a T shirt for summer and a hoodie for the rest of the year!)

Thanks to everyone who donated candy for our annual Easter egg hunt. Confirmation class is going well. The Kids are very diligent about showing up Lucy, Kathryn, and Henry and participating. The kids and I have learned a lot — Pastor Bill is a great

THANK YOU to Shannon Snedeker Chris

Fitzjarrald, Janet Eitel, Nancy Crumrin, and Laura Irwin - They do a fantastic job of leading Children's Church!!!

Upcoming Events

Noisy Change offering and KFC kids singing- April 7 Christian Skate Night- meet at the church at 5:30-April 8 High School YF- Bingo with residents at Willowbrook -April 14 YF is planning a Birthday party for some very special church



members. The invitations will go out near the end of the month. All church members keep June 2 open for a potluck after Sunday School.

College Scholarship Applications are available in the office. Figure 2 2024 Easter Egg Hunt Turn them in between April 1 & May 31.



igure 3 & 4 -Sr. High YF stuffing Easter eggs





Choir Practice is settling down now that the Cantata is finished. Thank you for helping make our performances meaningful. We truly enjoyed going to the Villages of Hollybrook on Tuesday. It was nice to be able to share the cantata with those who couldn't get out to join us on Friday, and to see some of our own church folks there to support us!



Our regular practice time is 6:30 on Wednesdays from now through the end of June. We have lots of fun singing and laughing together. You don't have to read music- we can help you find your notes! If you enjoy making a joyful noise, would like a bit of time away from the house, and might like to fellowship with some friends, Choir is for you! Come check it out.

Blessings to you as we work together in Christ's Service,

Becky



A PARTICULARLY BAD EASTER SUNDAY MORNING IN THE CHOIR REHEARSAL ROOM.

APRIL 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1. Office Closed Exercise- 8:30 AM Yoga- 9AM April Fool's Day	2. Holy Grounds- 9AM @ Marshall Family Restaurant UMW Board Mtg 4PM	3. No Power Lunch	4. Marshall Svc League Sisters in Faith Chapel 6PM	5. Exercise – 8:30 AM	6.
7. Noisy Offering Confirmation Class 3PM	8. Exercise- 8:30 AM Yoga- 9AM Eclipse Day Christian Skate Night Meet @ church at 5:30PM	9. Holy Grounds-2PM @ Hollybrook	10. Power Lunch Choir Practice 6:30	11. Esther Cir. 7PM	12. Exercise – 8:30 AM Cunningham Quilt Show	13. Quilt Show Women's Retreat Buck Valley 9AM
14. Confirmation Class 3PM YF Bingo @ Willowbrook	15. Exercise- 8:30 AM Yoga- 9AM Susanna Wesley 6PM Fellowship Hall	16. Holy Grounds-9AM @ Gypsy Queen East District Gathering 9AM Effingham Trustees- 6PM	17. Power Lunch No Choir Practice	18. Faith Circle-9AM	19. Exercise – 8:30 AM	20. Come volunteer at the Food & Clothing Bank from 8:30-12
21. Confirmation Class 3PM	22. Exercise- 8:30 AM Yoga- 9AM May Newsletter Articles Due	23. Holy Grounds- TBA Come volunteer at the Food & Clothing Bank from 12-4:30PM Church Council 6PM	24. Sisters in Faith 6PM Power Lunch No Choir Practice	25.	26. Exercise – 8:30 AM	27.
28. Confirmation Class 3PM	29. Exercise- 8:30 AM Yoga- 9AM	30. Holy Grounds-Moonshine meet at church 11 AM or at 11:30 there. Church Council 6PM				