As you know, as of 2/1/25 the church shifted to a designated giving method of providing tour apportionment givng funds to the Illinois Great Rivers Conference. Our apportionment bill for 2025 is \$31,956.00, or \$2663.00 per month.

It has been discussed that we, the different leadership councils and office staff, should make you further aware of where we are financially, as a church.

The Unified Leadership Council would like the congregation to be more informed about our churchy finances.

Transparency is always helpful. Please prayerfully consider how God is calling you to give in order to provide for the ministries of God a Marshall First

Below is information provided by the office to keep you informed.

| | 2025 Annual Budget | YTD 3/31/2025 Income | March Only Income |
|---|---|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| 2025 Finance Budget | \$376,618 | \$52,036 1 | \$14,178 |
| 2025 Apportionments | \$31,956 | \$5,013 2 | \$2,100 |
| | *************************************** | | |
| Monthly Budget Need (excl Apportionments) | \$31,385 | | |
| Weekly Need (excl Apportionments) | \$7,243 | | |
| | | | |



² YTD 3/31/2025 Apportionments "Income" includes \$2,350 Apportionment Income specifically received/earmarked since 2/1/2025 with the remaining amount represent \$2,663 represents Jan-2025 apportionment paid prior to 2/1/2025.





The office would also like to note that if you think you have any items in the lost and found, please come by to check. We have several shirts, jackets, and other personal belongings. We would like to have them in their proper homes before Easter Sunday. If items remain unclaimed, they will be donated to the food and clothing bank





THE MESSENGER





MARSHALL FUMC APRIL

From the Pastor's Pen

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

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

One of my favorite Lenten hymns is "The Lord of The Dance." It tells the story of Christ's presence and redemption throughout the history of the world. I believe when most of us think of Jesus, we think of the babe in the manger who lived a sinless life, died on the cross, and rose again. What we don't think of is that the world was created through Him and He holds all things together.

John 1:1-4 NLT1 says, "In the beginning the Word already existed. He was with God, and He was God. He was in the beginning with God. He created everything there is. Nothing exists that He didn't make. Life itself was in Him, and this life gives light to everyone." It is through Christ we exist. He is the agent of creation.

From the beginning, God knew our first parents would fall. Yet He desired a relationship with those He created. The only hope for fallen humanity was the sacrifice of God's own Son.

Jesus came, He lived as one of us, He went through all the kinds of things we go through. He was tempted in every way we are, yet He did not sin. (cf. Hebrews 4:15) He knew what it was like to suffer loss in the loss of his earthly father and the loss of friends. Christ knew what it was like to feel grief -- never more than when he was on the cross and His own Father turned away. In all of this, Jesus experienced a life like ours, that we might live in Him.

Our Lord, being innocent, went to the cross for our sins and died, paying the debt we owed. We cannot pay for our sins with good works, for Christ has paid the price. We must only accept His free gift of salvation. When we accept Christ as Savior, we are made new and are given His Spirit that we might each day grow into His likeness. By the benefit of His death and resurrection He has given us the privilege and assurance of a home in Heaven.

"LORD OF THE DANCE"

Words: Sydney B. Carter, 1963.

I danced in the morning when the world was begun, And I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun, And I came down from heaven and I danced on the earth, At Bethlehem I had my birth.

Refrain: Dance, then, wherever you may be; I am the Lord of the Dance, said he. And I'll lead you all wherever you may be, And I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.

I danced for the scribe and the Pharisee, But they would not dance and they would not follow me; I danced for the fishermen, for James and John; they came to me and the dance went on.

Refrain

I danced on the Sabbath when I cured the lame, The holy people said it was a shame; They whipped and they stripped and they hung me high; And they left me there on a cross to die.

Refrain

I danced on a Friday and the sky turned black; It's hard to dance with the devil on your back; They buried my body and they thought I'd gone, But I am the dance and I still go on.

Refrain

They cut me down and I leapt up high, I am the life that'll never, never die; I'll live in you if you'll live in me; I am the Lord of the Dance, said he.

Refrain

1963. 1989 Galliard. Ltd.

¹ 2025 Finance Income excludes 2025 Apportionments (shown as separate line item) and also excludes Faith Promise, Memorial and Scholarship Income

On Easter let us celebrate not only Christ's death and Resurrection, but also our new birth and the promise that we shall be raised with Him and live in His eternal Kingdom. Until then let us dance the dance of life in Christ knowing that He will be our dance partner and let us celebrate the Kingdom that is to come.

In Christ's Love,

Paster Bill

Pastor Bill

I can't believe it's already April! Time has just flown since the first of the year.

We've been working on a Good Friday Cantata, with several folks from Zion UMC joining us, and it's sounding wonderful. Please make plans to attend on Friday, April 18, at 7:00pm.

Invite your friends to come, too, to hear scripture and songs telling of Jesus' death for our redemption.

We are still practicing for our regular choir music on Wednesdays at 5:30. We would really love to have you join us to make a joyful noise! You don't have to be a strong singer - all our voices blend together well. We just need more voices so that our songs can be heard! You don't have to read music, either. We can help you follow the notes up and down easily enough. Why not try something new for a while, and join us!

Looking ahead, summer is coming, and with it will be a break for our choir. I am looking for people who would like to share special music throughout the summer. If you or someone you know would be willing

to sing or play an instrument, please let me know as soon as possible, so I can get started on the summer schedule. I have heard there are people right here in our congregation who play instruments. We'd love to have you share a song or two! You can find me in the office most Wednesdays. If I'm not there, feel free to call or text me personally or leave me a note. My phone number is 618-201-4955. You can talk to me on Sundays, too! (I'm just sometimes forgetful when too many people tell me things at once, so please write a note to help me remember.)

Serving HIM with you,



Children & Youth Ministry





A cold windy March did not slow down the kids here at FUMC. KFC is moving through the Fruits of the Spirit. The final KFC family dinner for this school year was on March 19. Tom Hinz prepared delicious pasta for us! Sisters in Faith provided the rest of the meal which was enjoyed by 55 kids and their families. The last regular KFC gathering will be April 9. *Then* KFC is trying something new. Beginning after school on

Wednesdays from April 23-May 21 we will meet until 4:00 for a snack/story/game time. All kids from

kindergarten through 6th grade are welcome!



FUMC sponsored March Christian Skate Night at Twin Lakes Roller Rink. 103 kids from the area skated and participated in prayer and devotions. The next skate night is April 14. Invite a friend and meet at 5:30 in the church parking lot.



Join us for a family bowling party on Sunday, April 6 at 5:00 at Marshall Bowl. All church members and guests are invited! Snacks will be provided. You don't have to be a professional bowler- just come join the fun!

Our annual Easter Egg Hunt will be on Saturday, April 12 at 9:00 am. Don't worry about the possibility of April showers- the bunny plans to hide the eggs inside. Bring your basket and meet in the chapel.

Kelly





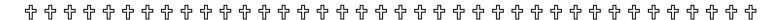


Prayer List



Bruce Gubbins (Laura Irwin's BIL), Doug Hosselton, The Heddell Family (friend of Heather's), Shaun Edwards (Kathy Brown's son), Pastor John Davis, Terry Alvey, Hannah (Cousin of Pastor Bill), Dave Culberstson, Our, Church, Bishop Kennetha Bigham-Tsai, Bishop David A Bard, New Orleans Victims, Gordon & Carolyn Clark, Eve (friend of Avis), Karen Wheat (friend of Kathy Brown), Gilbert Clark (Gordon Clark's Brother), Candace Painter, Frederick Shaw (friend of Linda James), Brian

Winkleman (brother-in-law of Eric Murphy), Bev Smith, Molly Macke (Patty & John's daughter-in-law), Angie Broncano (Laos missionary with cancer), Eddie Gutierrez, Mike Delp (friend of John & Linda James), Unspoken, Gale Glick, Diana Bailey, Tiffany Macke, Millie Swalls (Nora & Brad Swalls' granddaughter), Kinley Nash (Lois & David Nash's granddaughter), Bishop Frank Beard, D.S. Angie Lee,), Julie Krietemeier (Beth Macke's sister), Israel, 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 Sharon Miller

Phyllis Boatright Dan Flowers Ray King Gordon & Carolyn Clark

Seniors



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

- 1st Marshall Family Restaurant 9AM
- 8th Holly Brook 2PM
- 15th Gypsy Queen 9AM
- 22nd Gypsy Queen 9AM
- 29th MCL 11:15, Illinois time. We have a room reserved, or the van will leave the church at 10:30.



Prayer Focus: Our Church & Our Country



New Officers elected were Diane Moore, President and Evadene Crumrin, Vice-President.

Mark Your Calendar:

Tuesday: 4/1 – UWF Board Meeting in the chapel

Friday: 4/4-5 - Cunningham Quilt Show

Saturday: 4/5 - Resurrection Women Retreat at 9AM

Sunday: 4/13 - Sisters in Faith Bake Sale
 Saturday: 4/26 - East District Spring Gathering
 Saturday: 5/10 - Mother, Daughter, Friend Banquet

Weekly Events

Weaving from 10AM-12PM. Come join us. We have other jobs besides weaving or you might find the weaving fun or just the fellowship.

Circles:

Esther Circle - Thurs., April 10th @ 7:00PM Susannah Wesley - Mon., April 21st @ TBD

Faith Circle - Thurs., - April 17th @ 9AM in the chapel Sisters In Faith - Thurs., - April 24th @ 6PM in the chapel



EAST DISTRICT SPRING GATHERING

When? Saturday, April 26, 2025

Women Registration begins at 9:15-Enjoy Welcome Food until meeting begins at 9:45

Where? St. James UMC - 504 North Vermilion St. Danville IL (Parking is on Walnut Street)

Our program is **CASA for Kids**.

Come learn how they help children in these Illinois counties and how you can help.

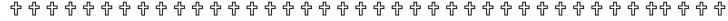
Please consider providing a gift to one or both organizations. Gifts can be dropped off at the East District Spring Gathering on Saturday, April 26

Cunningham Children's Home:

- Men's Stick Deodorant
- 15 lb. size Weighted Blankets
- Full sized Toothpaste
- Men's Body Wash
- Chapstick/Lip Balms
- Unscented, Aloe, Cocoa Butter or Lavender Body Lotions
- Gift cards to Walmart, Amazon or Visa in denominations of \$25, \$50 or \$100

Lessie Bates:

- Paper towels
- Male & Female deodorant
- Feminine hygiene items



Our Mission of the Month for April - Marshall Food Disbursement Center



Have you seen the new Marshall Food Disbursement Center that is just off the corner of 14th and Maple Streets? What a wonderful improvement the new building has been! The Food Pantry and Thrift Shop no longer take turns using one space, and there is enough room in the Food Pantry to allow for a store-like shopping experience. The clients love this and volunteers are thrilled. The Thrift Shop is also larger, with space for better and more shelving and clothing racks, making a much safer and pleasant shopping experience. This new facility not only sells very low-cost clothing and household items, but it helps our neighbors who struggle to feed themselves and their families. However, there are still things to do and items to

purchase to complete our building project, most of them with large price tags. For example, the parking lot needs work, floor maintenance equipment must be purchased, signs are needed for the building, and we want an awning in the rear for our Food Pantry clients. And of course, funding is always needed for food.

Most of us have *never* had to worry about having enough to eat, have we? But the nearly 400 individuals who utilize the Food Pantry monthly do, and they are thrilled that some people in Marshall care enough about them to volunteer and donate. If you would like to make a monetary donation, please make a check out to Marshall Food Disbursement Center and place it in the offering plate or leave it in the church office. Cash is also welcome. And so are volunteers!!!

God bless you! Nancy Claypool, MFDC Board Member



Celebrations

Anniversaries

Barney & Ann Calvert 4/10 Ethan & Aubrey Claypool 4/13 Dennis & Debbie Miller 4/15

Birthdays

| Molly Farrell | 4/01 | Julia Cannady | 4/17 |
|-------------------|------|----------------------|------|
| • | • | • | • |
| Jackson Green | 4/02 | Dustin Trudeau | 4/17 |
| Jennifer Bishop | 4/04 | Lisa Davidson | 4/19 |
| Makayla Cline | 4/06 | John Macke | 4/20 |
| Patty Macke | 4/08 | Cole Boatright | 4/22 |
| Mike Shultz | 4/08 | Matthew Brown | 4/22 |
| Kobe Brannan | 4/09 | Leighanne Hildebrand | 4/22 |
| Libby Huisinga | 4/09 | Rebecca Jacobs | 4/22 |
| Troy Sanzenbacker | 4/10 | Ann Calvert | 4/24 |
| Lucy Cline | 4/11 | Ethan Claypool | 4/24 |
| Darrell Kirby | 4/12 | Jason Macke | 4/27 |
| Elizabeth Shultz | 4/14 | Gordon Clark | 4/28 |
| Dana Ramsey | 4/14 | Linda James | 4/28 |
| Parker Morey | 4/15 | Adrienne Hutson | 4/29 |
| Bella Fattal | 4/16 | | |

April Volunteers

Liturgist 6th – Nancy Claypool

13th – Nancy Claypool 20th – Nancy Calypool 27th – Danielle Cline

Greeters- We will need greeters all month long

Ushers – All Month - Charlie and Diane Moore, and Russ Ross

Lobby Watch – 2nd-23rd –

Nursery -

Counter - All Month - Jan Ridgway



Altar Flowers

April – 13th Alane White

If you would like to order flowers in honor of, in memory of, or just to praise the Lord, we have many open Sundays.



Watch your bulletin for more information on the Love Feast. And make plans now to join us on Maundy Thursday at 6 PM.

Mother-Daughter- Friend Dinner

Time:5:30 99M

When: Saturday, May 10th

Where: First United Methodist Church

Fellowship Wall

Program: Nonduras Mission Trip-Angie Propst

Meal Prices:

\$ 11.00 Cldults

\$6.00-children 6-12 years old

No charge for chidren 5 and under

Menu: Swiss steak and mashed potatoes

Pork loin and dressing

Green beans, salad

Yeast rolls

Assorted fruit cobblers

You can make your reservations with your payment after church in the foyer or by contacting the office through May 5th.

All women, children and friends are welcome to enjoy an evening with good food and fellowship.

Catered by: A Taste of Country: Catering and Bakery

APRIL 2025

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|---|--|--|---|--|--|
| | | 1. Holy Grounds-9AM @ Marshall Family Restaurant UWF Board Meeting – 4PM In the chapel | 2. Weave from 10AM-Noon Power Lunch Choir Practice - 5:30PM April 2, 1792 - Congress established the first U.S. Mint at Philadelphia | 3. Burrito Day | 4. Exercise- 8:30 AM | 5. Resurrection Women Retreat @ 9AM The marriage of Pocahontas to John Rolfe. The Mayflower beginning its return adventure from Plymouth, Massachusetts to England. |
| 6. | 7. | 8. | 9. | 10. | 11. | 12. |
| Communion Sunday Bowling Party @ Marshall Bowl- 5PM | Exercise- 8:30 AM Yoga- 9AM Lenten Bible Study - 6PM @ Marshal Family | Holy Grounds-2PM @ Holly Brook | Weave from 10AM-Noon Power Lunch KFC Choir Practice - 5:30PM | Esther Circle 7PM National Hug Your Dog Day | Exercise- 8:30 AM Eight Track Tape Day | Easter Egg Hunt 9AM Passover begins |
| UMM Co-Op B'fast 7AM UMYF @ 5PM | 14. Exercise- 8:30 AM Yoga- 9AM Christian Skate Night Lenten Bible Study - 6PM @ Marshal Family | 15. Holy Grounds- 9AM @Gypsy Queen Trustees @ 7PM | 16. Weave from 10AM-Noon Choir Practice – 5:30PM | 17. Faith Circle 9AM Love Feast @ 6PM | 18. Exercise- 8:30 AM Carry the Cross 12PM Good Friday 7PM Worship & Cantata | 19. Come volunteer at the Thrift Shop from 8:30-12 |
| 20. Easter Sunday Sunrise Svc-7 AM Easter Breakfast-8 AM Easter Worship- 9 AM | 21. Office Closed Susannah Wesley @ 11:30 AM | 22. Holy Grounds- 9AM @Gypsy Queen Come volunteer @ the Food Disbursement Center from 12-4:30PM Unified Leadership - 6PM | 23. Weave from 10AM-Noon Power Lunch Choir Practice - 5:30PM | 24. Sisters in Faith 6PM In the Chapel National Pigs in a Blanket Day | Exercise- 8:30 AM Arbor Day | 26. |
| 27. UMYF @ 5PM | 28. Exercise- 8:30 AM Yoga- 9AM | 29. Holy Grounds -11:15 @ MCL in Terre Haute | 30. Weave from 10AM-Noon Power Lunch Choir Practice - 5:30PM April 30, 1948 - Palestinian Jews declared their independence from British rule and established the new state of Israel. | | All historical information was gathered from: https://www.historyplace.com/s pecials/calendar/april.htm | |