

March 2023

THE GOOD WORD

Taylorsville United Methodist Church
4356 Ridge Road, Mount Airy, Maryland 21771
www.taylorsvilleumc.org
Joshua Gillen, Pastor
Phone: (410) 875-4101 E-mail: taylorsvilleumcmd@gmail.com

March is here, and the church is already into Lent. The Lenten Bible Study has already begun, and if you missed our first meeting, that's okay. You can find the recorded audio on our podcasts, and if you plan to join us next Sunday, read chapter two and be ready for a robust conversation. Later this month, we plan to celebrate Scout Sunday and one of my favorite holidays, Saint Patrick's Day. So don't forget to put on some Irish or green on the nearest Sunday to Saint Patrick's Day. And don't forget to check out our church fundraiser. We are selling flowering bulbs in time for spring.

March seems to have much going on in it this year for the church. That's not always the case. Some years March can seem to drag on as we long for winter to turn over into spring. The word Lent is an older English word that means spring-time. It's funny how sometimes Lent begins in winter and can end in winter. I remember a few years when Easter saw snowflakes and flowers.

But maybe the Lent of the church isn't a meteorological season of spring but a spiritual season of spring. It starts in a time of barrenness as we till the soil of our lives in repentance. It continues as we plant seeds of faith as we pray and seek God's grace. Then it begins to sprout and grow to full flower as we seek a way to act faithfully in the world. Eventually, the fullness and blossom of new life are demonstrated on Easter morn as we celebrate the resurrection of Christ and the promise of a new life for us all.

If your Lent needs a pick-me-up and you are tired of the same old season of fasting and abstaining, remember that it's not supposed to be a slog. It is supposed to represent the hope of spring, as new life takes hold in your life and you remember that God is good and remakes us in the image of Jesus.

And in case you need one, here are two Irish blessings for Saint Patrick's Day to share this season.

"May the roof above us never fall in.
And may the friends gathered below it never fall out."

"May the strength of three be in your journey-Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen."
Pastor Josh



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

5	John Bennett	15	Steve Iden
8	Joey Martin	18	Karl Petro
10	Lew Wimmer	24	Bonnie Petro
12	Billy Shankle	29	Joe Martin
13	John Eaton, Sr.	30	Sam Grimes

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

20	Jeff and Debra Taylor
25	Ray and Candy McConchie

If your Birthday or Anniversary is not listed in the Newsletter, please let the office know.



April
Newsletter
Deadline is:
March 23rd

Inclement Weather Policy:
 In case of extremely bad winter weather, a decision of cancelling church will be made by the Trustees, the Lay Leader and the Pastor. The website and Facebook page will have that decision posted no later than 8:00 am and the announcement will be placed on the WTTR radio station (1470 AM). We also have a list of people to call without internet capability.
Office Closing Policy:
 The office will follow the county school closing. In the event the office is closed, e-mail and voice mail will be monitored.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

USHERS/GREETERS
 March - Hearl & Sandy Wright
 April - Sam & Anna Grimes

READER
 March - Dee Haines
 April - Cindy Harris



Saturday, March 4th
 9:00 AM -
 Going to Buttersburg Inn in
 Union Bridge, MD
 Contact John Eaton with questions



March
Mt. Airy Net is
Collecting:

Peanut butter, jelly,
tuna, paper towels



Scripture Readings and Sermon Titles this March

March 5, 2023

2nd Sunday in Lent

Communion Sunday

Genesis 12:1-4, John 3:1-17

Sermon Title: A Call From Above

March 12, 2023

3rd Sunday in Lent

Scout Sunday

Exodus 17:1-7, John 4:5-42

Sermon Title: Is the Lord Among?

March 19, 2023

4th Sunday in Lent, UMCOR Sunday

Ephesians 5:8-14, John 9:1-41

Sermon Title: Stumbling Block or Opportunity?

March 26, 2023

5th Sunday of Lent

Romans 8:6-11, John 11:1-45

Sermon Title: Set Your Mind on the Spirit



Lifting Our Hearts In...Prayer

- Pray for our World
- Friends of Taylor's, Bill & Glee Butts, facing Bill's health issues
- Eileen's sister, Judy-has scoliosis-had extensive back surgery, came home yesterday, prayers for healing
- Gail's friend, Donna-prayers for healing
- Dona Wilson-prayers for severe back pain
- Bonnie's great niece, Micah-leukemia
- Jenny's pregnancy with twin girls, concern for growth of one twin
- Earthquakes in Turkey and Syria
- Friend of Taylor's, Heidi-broke her ankle in 2 places
- Brad & Hannah Keenan, triplet babies-Colton, Peyton, Cooper
- Rev. David Cooney surgery went well.
- Ann Lawson-herniated disc, healing from surgery
- Sue's granddaughter-protection for trip to Italy
- Sharon's niece, Jackie Eyler-complications from major surgery.
- Sue's cousin, Tom Pyles-now has pancreatitis, other health issues
- Prayers for homeless near and far
- John's daughter-in-law, Patti-cyst on her brain
- Linda Cole-cancer-remission-continued prayers for healing
- Taylor's niece, Becky multiple health concerns, prayers to be able to have surgery
- Sharon's friend's daughter, Whitney-cancer
- Eileen's brother-in-law, Jim, cancer
- Pray for teachers, students, staff in school
- Sue's cousin, Steve-pancreatic cancer, about 1 year to live, pray for more time
- Gail's friend Rita-had kidney transplant, needs prayers for continued healing
- Pray for Peace
- Eileen's father and mother adjusting to life in Allentown, PA Sr. living
- Prayers for Ukraine
- Those that are sick with COVID, other illnesses
- Those grieving the loss of loved ones
- Taylorsville UMC
- The United Methodist Church
- Pray for our Country
- For those in assisted living facilities, and employees. Our member in assisted living is Bud Kibbe, Hagerstown

Praise

- 41 in church last Sunday
- 26 at Ash Wednesday service
- UWIF had fun fellowship with lots of chocolate!
- Great pancake supper



Prayers for Service Persons

Sean Grimes
(U S Navy-Tampa)
Thank you for your service Sean!!

The United Women in Faith Group is planning a trip and you are invited!

SIGHT & SOUND



The shows at this theater are spectacular!
You will not be sorry you went.

Thursday, May 25, 2023

Cost: \$70.30
If paying by check make it payable to T UWIF, not the church.

We need to pay ahead to reserve the seats.

We are checking into options for bus transportation, or we will carpool from the church.

Please let **Dee, Maria, Gail, or the church office** know if you would like to go.

We want to keep our prayer list as up to date as possible. Please let the office know if there is a prayer request that we have missed or one we need to take off the list. Thank you for your help with this.



Adult Sunday School Class in Basement - Fellowship Hall ~ 9:00 a.m. Contact: Dee Haines

In our spring quarter we will explore some of the most basic principles of Christian faith: that Christ's invitation is open to all people, that his resurrection changed everything, and that those who put their faith in Jesus and anticipate their own resurrections are Jesus' chosen community. March highlights accounts in which Jesus disregarded artificial societal barriers, choosing instead to reach people on the margins. Emotions, biases, and ignorance can stand in the way of accepting people as Jesus did. But the welcome of the prodigal son in Jesus' parable sets the scene for all sorts of surprising people who can find their place in the kingdom of heaven. Humble children, foreigners, women, and even the formally demon-possessed can find their place within Jesus' community.

How often are we unable to hear God's call, to perceive God's choice, because we are blinded by our own incomplete knowledge and conditional love? These lessons call us to examine our hearts and motives in order to see who we might think to be excluded from the kingdom . . . but whom Jesus has called to join Him.

We meet on Sunday morning at 9 in the church social hall. We invite you to join us.

Adult Sunday School Class 8:50 a.m. in the Ed. Bldg. Contacts: Steve Novick and Jeff Taylor

Sunday School & Podcast News from Jeff Taylor:

The TaylorsvilleUMC webpage now has a section dedicated to podcasts produced by our church.

This page can be reached through the following link: <https://taylorsvilleumc.org/podcasts>

It also has a menu item at the top of the home page. <https://taylorsvilleumc.org>

On it you will find three different playlists. A playlist is a group of podcasts related by subject matter.

You simply click on the displayed video to access all videos in the playlist.

The first playlist is a collection of Pastor Josh's weekly sermons called "Just Preach Jesus".

The second is a collection of our 9:00 am *Sunday school* class discussions currently centered on Jewish/Christian Reflections on the Lord's Prayer.

The third is a collection of podcasts by me on various topics regarding religion, theology, and history.

A fourth playlist will be added early in March.

It will contain the six Lenten study Zoom sessions for the Easter season.

These podcasts are not just for members of our church but are designed to appeal to the wider community.

So please feel free to talk about them and share the links with anyone you feel may be interested.

This is all part of TaylorsvilleUMC's plan to grow our on-line congregation.

Cemetery



We will be clearing the cemetery of all fall and Christmas decorations on **March 18th**. Please remove all decorations that you wish to keep.

Shrove Tuesday



Pancake Supper

The Mission team thanks everyone that donated supplies and came to support the supper. **\$536.00** was

raised to support mission projects and outreach.

See pictures on page 8 of the newsletter.



United Women in Faith

Our next UWIF meeting is **Thursday, March 23rd**. We will be filling Easter baskets for The Shepherd's Staff. The list to the right has the information. You can buy items to help fill a basket or pick an age and fill a basket(s). Please bring with you to the Meeting at 7:00PM in the fellowship hall.

Children in Carroll County will really appreciate our generosity.

The Shepherd's Staff's EASTER basket drive

Help us celebrate Easter by donating small baskets or buckets with folding handles to be given to children in Carroll County! Last year we collected and distributed over 950 baskets and we need your help again. If you or your group would like to make Easter baskets to donate, here are some ideas of items to include:

- | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------|---------------|
| Coloring Books | Craft Kits | Play Dough |
| Christian Story Books | Sports Balls | Brain Teasers |
| Crayons | Small Toiletries | Candy |
| Ear Buds | Shower Puffs | Snacks |
| Stickers | Card Games | Baby Rattles |
| Small Puzzles | Small Toys | Teethers |
| Bubbles | Yo Yo's | Sippy Cups |

Please mark gender and age. We are collecting baskets for children ages infants through teens. Please call for an appointment to deliver finished baskets to The Shepherd's Staff at 30 Carroll Street, Westminster between

**February 27, 2023
through March 24, 2023**

Hours of operation are M-T-F 10am-2pm and Thurs 1-5pm.
410-857-5944 info@shepstaff.org

Baskets will be distributed March 27 - April 7, 2023
(by appointment only)



Our Flower Bulb Fundraiser is ready!

Let's Raise Some Money!!!

Order forms are available at church.

Orders are due to **Cindy Harris** by **March 12** and items will be available for pick up at the church approximately 2 weeks later.



Bazaar News....March is here and the bazaar is in **November**. That is 8 months until the big day and this day is our biggest fundraiser. Mark your calendar now. The date is Saturday, November 11, which is also Veteran's Day. That is easy to remember, and we need everyone to help in some way that day.

We could also use some new ideas and additional ways to draw in the community. It has been suggested to drop "Rudolph's Fleas". So we would have one portable available. Let me know if you have an idea or suggestion, no matter how small or big.

Our first Christmas bazaar started sometime when Cliff Webner was our pastor. His wife, Carole, and some ladies started the event. If anyone knows the year, please let me know. I am guessing around 1990. That is when the new directory was printed with Pastor Webner.

Thank you,
Sue Leppert
slepp@comcast.net

Exciting News from Teresa Leyh.....I have signed up for the AIDS LifeCycle bike ride June 4th – 10th this year. For those not familiar with AIDS/LifeCycle, it is a 7-day, 545-mile long bike ride from San Francisco to Los Angeles that raises funds and awareness for AIDS and HIV. Each year, more than 2,800 people from across the nation and world come together and ride down the coast. This will be a mental and physical challenge for me so I would really appreciate your prayers and well wishes. Additionally, I have a personal fundraising goal of \$3,500 so if you are able to financially support me in this challenge, that would be amazing. My donation link is included below. Feel free to reach out to me (teresaleyh@gmail.com) if you would like to learn more or hear about my experience!

<https://giving.aidslifecycle.org/participant/Teresa-Leyh>

Fourteen Questions of Jesus ~ For use in Lent or Good Friday

This selection of questions of Jesus is intended for open-ended, contemplative, prayerful personal meditation, and group conversation. Here, the questions are presented out of their contexts in the gospel narratives. Those contexts are well-worthy of study and consideration. But here, you can fit Jesus' questions into your own contexts, imagining how they address or challenge your own life-experience. The questions are presented here as "koans" - spiritual "monkey-wrenches" - tossed into our minds to break us loose from habits that get in the way of Divine Love. There are no right answers. It may be enough to mindfully contemplate the questions rather than trying to answer them! How can these questions bring us closer to the true Divine Nature within, and draw us closer to loving community? After each question, I offer some prompts for reflection and response.

14 Questions of Jesus

1. **And can any of you, by worrying, add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? (Matt 6:27-28)** *(What are your worries? When and how do they arise? How do they manifest physically?)*
2. **Why do you see the speck in your neighbor's eye, but do not notice the log in your own eye? (Matt 7:2)** *(What are the logs in your own eyes? What prejudices and assumptions and judgments get in the way of your ability to see things as they are, on their own terms? How clearly can you see these "logs"?)*
3. **Why are you afraid, you of little faith? (Matt 8:26)** *(What are you afraid of? What is the root of your fear? When/how do these fears arise? How do these fears affect your life and the lives of others? How do your fears manifest in your body?)*
4. **Do you believe that I am able to do this? (Matt 9:28)** *(What do you need to do? Do you believe you can do it? Examine your beliefs about what you can and cannot accomplish.)*
5. **How many loaves have you? (Matt 15:34)** *(What do you have to work with - what are your resources to deal with the challenges before you? Are they sufficient? Can you "make do"?)*
6. **But who do you say that I am? (Matt 16:15)** - What is your name? (Luke 8:30) *(Who are you, in your essence? If you lovingly observe yourself in prayerful, mindful contemplation, who/what is it that is doing the observing?)*
7. **What do you want me to do for you? (Matt 20:32)** *(What kind of help do you need? Are you willing to ask for it?)*

(Continued on page 9)

8. **So, could you not stay awake with me for one hour? (Matt 26:40) - Simon, are you asleep? (Mark 14:37) - Why are you sleeping? (Luke 22:46)** *(In what ways are you "asleep", spiritually/emotionally/mentally/socially/politically? What would help you come "awake"?)*
9. **My God, My God, why have you forsaken me? (Matt 27:46)** *(Is there any part of you in despair? What is the root of that despair?)*
10. **Can you see anything? (Mark 8:23)** *(In what ways are you blind - unable to "see" important aspects of life within and around you?)*
11. **For who is greater, the one who is at the table or the one who serves? (Luke 22:27)** *(In what ways are you a servant, and in what ways are you a master? What is it like to be in each of those roles? Are there situations in which those roles should be reversed for you? How can you be more of service to your community, country, and the world?)*
12. **What are you discussing as you walk along? (Luke 24:17)** *(What chatter is going on in your mind right now? What are you thinking right now? What kind of inner dialogue is going on in you right now?)*
13. **What are you looking for? (John 1:38)** *(What do you want? Is anything missing in your life? What do you want to do about it? What are you willing to do about it?)*
14. **Do you want to be made well? (John 5:6)** *(In what ways are you not well? What is your level of desire to become well? What difference might it make if your desire was stronger?)*



Jim Burklo serves as pastor of United Church of Christ of Simi Valley, Calif. He retired in 2022 as Senior Associate Dean of Religious and Spiritual Life at the University of Southern California. His posts are re-published from his blog, Musings, on ProgressiveChristianity.org.

*You can also engage with the Stations by contemplating them as **Stations of the Cross**.*

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14 Questions of Jesus developed by Jim Burklo

Accessed from

<https://um-insight.net/in-the-church/practicing-faith/14-questions-for-lent/>
2/22/23



Burning Palms






2023

Office Hours
M, W, TH
9:00AM-2:30PM

TAYLORSVILLE UMC

Mt. Airy Net
Collecting: peanut
butter, jelly, tuna,
paper towels

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
5 COMMUNION Mission Giving Sunday 9:00AM Sunday School 10:00AM Worship- Facebook live/website 7:00PM Zoom Lenten Study	6 7:00PM Council Meeting	7	1 6:30PM Choir	2	3	4 9:00AM Men's Breakfast- Buttersburg Inn
12 Scout Sunday 9:00AM Sunday School 10:00AM Worship- Facebook live/website 7:00PM Zoom Lenten Study Bulb Fundraiser Orders Due	13	14	15 6:30PM Choir	16	 17	18
19 9:00AM Sunday School 10:00AM Worship- Facebook live/website 7:00PM Zoom Lenten Study	20	21	22 6:30PM Choir	23 7:00PM UWIF Newsletter Deadline	24	25
26 9:00AM Sunday School 10:00AM Worship- Facebook live/website 7:00PM Zoom Lenten Study	27	28	29 6:30PM Choir	30	31	Looking Ahead: April 2nd-Palm Sunday-covered dish luncheon, egg hunt



Sue Leppert volunteers at the Mission. She has some tickets available for this event. Tickets are going fast. Contact Sue if you are interested.

Ladies' Auxiliary Tea

Saturday, April 22, 2023

10:30-1:00 pm

Westminster Baptist Church

354 Crest Lane | Westminster | Maryland | 21157

Featuring

tea sandwiches, scones, salad, pastries & tea
silent auction and craft tables
guest speaker Phylcia Perry, founder of SOS
(Sisterhood of Servants)

Tickets

\$20 per person or \$160 for table of 8
Sponsor a table and decorate it with your own china!

Contact for Tickets & Info

Michele Downs
443-985-6839
micheledowns4@gmail.com

Judy Andrews
410-552-9522 ext.7
jamusic53@yahoo.com

Make checks payable to WRMLA c/o Faith Family Church
4150 Sykesville Road, Finksburg, Maryland 21048

Come for a great time of
fun and food while supporting

Westminster Rescue Mission



 **Taylorville
United Methodist Church**
Church Phone: 410-875-4101
Email: taylorvilleumcmd@gmail.com

Our Mission of Purpose

We of Taylorville UMC are a community of faith who believe in Jesus Christ and who value Bible study, prayer, mission and growing in discipleship. We will connect with our unchurched neighbors through small groups that present opportunities to share our faith and worship God together.

We're on the Web!
www.taylorvilleumc.org



*Join us for Worship
each Sunday at 10AM*

To unsubscribe or to receive this through e-mail please call the church office at 410-875-4101 or e-mail taylorvilleumcmd@gmail.com

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