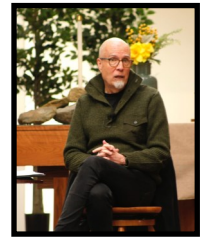




Easter Series
Page 6



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Church Next Page 15

Edinboro United Methodist Church

CROSS CURRENTS

“Death has been swallowed up in victory.” “Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?” ... But thanks be to God who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.”

(1 Corinth. 15: 54 & 57)

Easter 2023

Dear Friends,

The Lenten journey has drawn to its conclusion as I sit to write this letter. We waved palm branches and shouted Hosanna! We broke bread and shared the cup. We struggled waiting in a garden and watched helplessly as Jesus was arrested. We again witnessed the brutality of evil. We watched its power nail our Lord to a Cross, and wonder ... **Why doesn't he just come down and use his power to save himself?** We watched our Lord die and wondered how this could be.

We learned the powerful truths once again. There can be no new life, if there is not a death. There can be no celebration without the journey of facing pain. **If Jesus had saved himself, he would not have saved us!** We ponder again in the depths of our souls the love of God beyond our knowing. **“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.”**

Let us celebrate the empty tomb! While evil has the power to nail Jesus to a Cross, and even place him in a tomb, it does not have the power to keep him there! Nor does it have the power to keep us there whatever the dying places we face in life! There is hope! There is light!

“And the Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it!”

Happy Easter!

Pastor Ed



Finance

Year to date through the first quarter, our church income has exceeded expenses by ~\$5500. This, however must be offset by the understanding that January income was inflated by some annual donations and that the February and March donations are lagging our monthly giving. We monitor this and strive to maintain a positive balance with more coming in than going out.

On a positive note, through our offerings, we donated \$1256 to EUMA, \$1090 to UMCOR, \$400 to the special Human Relations offering, and ~\$1160 to address needs of our local community. We also transferred over \$6600 toward our Connectional Apportionment obligation to the Church Conference.

ACTIVE SHOOTER TRAINING

The Administrative Council, SPRC and the trustees have made arrangements with the Pennsylvania State Police to have active shooter training for our church. While this is certainly nothing that anyone wants to contemplate, we feel that we need some basic training in this area. Trooper Andrew Hacke will be here on May 4th at 7 PM to provide the training. At another point in the year the state police will be sending in someone to make recommendations on adaptations to the building. Any of you who would like to attend are certainly welcome, and Trooper Hacke has agreed to allow us to videotape him. If you have any questions, please call Pat Crist.

SPRC Committee

The staff parish relations committee met on Thursday, March 30. The following items were discussed.

1. There has been little to report on the Director of Family and Youth ministry position. Although we had a couple of potentially viable candidates, none have evolved to the point where we could do an interview. We are planning to continue our search, and may consider some alternative methods, including reaching out to Reconciling Ministries churches. These churches, part of the UMC network, may have some candidates interested in this type of work.
2. Michael Slaughter's "Church Next" workshop, hosted at our church on a recent weekend, was inspiring to many and motivated us to some new ideas.
3. The Pennsylvania State police will be offering active shooter training at our church on May 4, 2023. More information will be forthcoming about this timely topic.
4. Our church will be identified as a "Lighthouse Church", intended to provide support to people who are uncomfortable with their own home church's decision to disaffiliate with the United Methodist denomination. We hope to provide support and care for those going through this transition.
5. Finally, there was some significant discussion about ways that we could make our church more welcoming to those in the community. This might include improving signage inside the church, as well as some additional outdoor signs or flags that could identify our church entrance and parking area. Also, it was suggested to modify the "members only" parking signs currently in the driveway, which some consider to be less than welcoming, or perhaps unnecessary.

IFF: Men's Book Club "Early Risers"

The "Early Risers" book group meets Wednesdays at 7:00 a.m. (yes, 7:00a.m.!). It consists of between ten and fourteen men, with diverse religious and work backgrounds. Some are still working, and some are retired. Meetings are pretty focused on the ideas explored in what we are reading, supplemented by some breakfast snacks and coffee.

The group has just completed discussion on White Fragility, by Robin Diangelo. This book addressed white privilege and systemic racism from the perspective of a white woman who led corporate diversity training. Pretty controversial, and it generated some animated discussion at times.

Our new book, beginning on April 5, is A History of God, by Karen Armstrong. In this book the author examines western society's struggle to understand God through Jewish, Christian, and Muslim perspectives. At 468 pages, we'll be grappling with this one for a while!

We love it when new readers join us, whether you are there to contribute, or just to listen. Come and get your brain engaged early on Wednesday mornings. We don't always agree, but everyone is honored, respected, and heard!

IFF—Advanced Disciple (Monday Night)

The Advanced Disciple Class has been meeting for over fifteen years. The group is fluid and members have come and gone and new ones have come in over the many years. We recently finished the book, *Sermon On The Mount*, by Amy Jill Levine. We are going to do another book by A J Levine called, *Short Stories By Jesus*. Dr. Levine has a wonderful way of teaching us from a Jewish perspective about the way the Jews thought and how Jesus would have meant the words we read today. We will be starting this new book on April 24, on Zoom at 6:00 PM. We welcome new people to join us and hope to see long-time fellow disciples too in our exploration of Jesus's stories. Books can be purchased for \$14.99 on Amazon. If you have Amazon prime, you will be eligible for free shipping. So, I hope we see you then!



EUMC Cross & Flame

Embrace - Engage - Ignite

Do you receive our weekly newsletter – *The Cross & Flame*? It is a newsletter that arrives in your email every Tuesday with current church schedule, announcements, and articles.

The email list for the newsletter is also used to send important messages or announcements. In addition, this is the method used for our Way Maker Wednesday ministry piece and the Zoom link for Conversations Uncorked on Thursday evenings.

If you would like to be added to the email list, please contact Junia in the office at 814-734-3182 or email her at office@edinboroumc.com.



C.A.R.E. Team

The C.A.R.E. Team focuses on HOSPITALITY and LOVING SERVICE within our church.

Members of the Team coordinate meals for parishioners recovering from surgery and illness. Watch for opportunities to provide meals through "Take Them a Meal" in The Cross and Flame.

Connections are made by team members with cards, visits, phone calls, prayers and e-mails to those who may be unable to attend church services.

Donna Mushrush has taken on the card ministry. Get well and birthday wishes, and cards of sympathy are sent to members of the congregation.

Welcoming new members to Edinboro United Methodist Church is coordinated through Pastor Ed and a sub-committee of the C.A.R.E. Team.

The Teddy Bear Ministry strives to bring comfort and encouragement to people suffering from physical, mental, or spiritual stress. Groups of teddy bears consecrated at church services are ready to be sent out on their mission of love and caring.

Funeral dinners are coordinated by the Team. This most important service is only successful when YOU respond to the call for volunteers when needed.

If you or someone you know would benefit from any of the services/ministries noted above please call the church office at 814-734-3182.

Your C.A.R.E. Team: Linda Moore, Pastor Ed Schoeneck, Irene Smith, Patti Snow, Marla Stauffer, Kelly Temple, Debbie Thomas, Cheryl Wiegler, Debbie Zahler

IFF Women's Book Club

Thursday Mornings - 9:00am - Zoom

The women's book group meets weekly on Thursday morning at 9 AM on zoom and is made up of current and former EUMC members as well as members of other churches. We read 2-3 chapters weekly and discussions are led by various group members. Our books are chosen to be thought provoking and of interest to the group. We usually read books by women authors and are currently reading the national bestseller *Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge and the Teaching of Plants* by Robin Wall Kimmerer. We are in the process of choosing our next book, so this would be a great time for you to join if you like reading, and are interested in moving out of your comfort zone, please join us.



Teddy Bear Ministry



Teddy Bear Sunday

April 30, 2023

All donated Teddy Bears will be blessed during Sunday Worship Service and then be tagged to be used by the CARE Team for those who need our thoughts and prayers.

On April 30th, Please bring a new or gently used teddy bear to be donated for the Teddy Bear Ministry.

Intentional Faith Formation Team (IFF)

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL:

Adult SS group is considering a name change which will be announced (if we do) later in the spring. We are looking at many options! This initiative grew out of the Church Next conference and Rev. Slaughter's teachings.

Our next study is Josh Scott's new book entitled *Bible Stories for Grownups: Reading Scripture With New Eyes* which looks at key figures and familiar biblical stories from an adult perspective. We will examine the story of Noah, Abraham and Isaac, Jonah, Zacchaeus as well as the parable of the talents and Jesus healing the blind man. Scott reimagines these old stories and offers new interpretations for participants to better comprehend the meaning of these scriptures in our current situation.

DISCIPLE III BIBLE:

Wednesday night Disciple III continues with Christine Henderson doing a phenomenal job filling some pretty big shoes (Ted, we miss you). Even in the midst of her own struggles she is spending a lot of time reviewing Ted's slides and notes but also adding in from her own research. We know that Ted is rejoicing when he observes what his mentee is doing in this group. Class discussion remains strong. The group is now into the letters of Paul and other epistles.

UPCOMING COURSES FOR NEW (AND CURRENT) MEMBERS:

2023:

- ["Conflict Transformation" with Pastor Ed, May 7-June 4 \(Sunday evenings on zoom and Wednesday mornings at 10:30 in person\)](#)
- "HERSTORY in His Time: Women of the Bible" (Dr. Jerra Jenrette will offer this 3-week course on July 9, 16, and 23 in a hybrid format (in-person and Zoom).
- "Making Sense of the Bible" will be offered by Pastor Ed as an introduction on how we got the Bible, translations, and how to read/interpret this important collection of scriptures. This study will be offered from August 5-September 17.
- Dr. Jenrette will offer a study of the Old Testament (Hebrew Bible/TANAKH) from late September-Thanksgiving.

2024:

- The Art and Practice of Prayer
- New Testament
- Additional studies TBD.

SPRING ADULT TRIP:

Participants will travel with Dr. Jerra Jenrette to visit Colonial Williamsburg, Jamestown, and Monticello in Charlottesville, VA from May 8-12, 2023. Plans for fall are in the works!

Day trip 2023:

Sightseeing on the Lady Kate (date to be set in late April). For further info contact: jerrajenrette@gmail.com



Our Easter Season Theme

“A Place to Call Home”

As we explore these scriptures of the Easter Season we hear the language and call to be the family of God, of loving one another as brothers, sisters and friends; children of God. Jesus uses the term “abide” and invites us to reside, to dwell in the presence of the Risen One. Let us explore what it means to have **“A Place to call Home”** in our spiritual lives. Jesus invites us all to dwell with him on our journey...

April 9:	Easter Sunday	<i>“A Place to Call Home”</i>	<i>(Mark 16:1-18)</i>
April 16:	First Sunday of Easter	<i>“All Are Welcome”</i>	<i>(John 20:19-31)</i>
April 23:	Second Sunday of Easter	<i>“You’re Family”</i>	<i>(Luke 24: 36b-48)</i>
April 30:	Third Sunday of Easter	<i>“Place at the Table”</i>	<i>(John 10:11- 18)</i>
May 7:	Fourth Sunday of Easter	<i>“Always Room for One More”</i>	<i>(Acts 8: 26-40)</i>
May 14:	Mother’s Day	<i>Guest Speaker: Dr. Jerra Jenrette</i>	
May 21:	Ascension Sunday	<i>“Always Blessing, Always Blessed”</i>	<i>(John 1:10-16)</i>
May 28:	Pentecost	<i>“What’s Mine is Yours”</i>	<i>(John 15: 26-27 John 16:4b-15)</i>

EUMC Scholarship

The EUMC Scholarship team is ready to award two \$500 grants to persons who are pursuing education or training beyond the high school level. If you are a full time student and have completed at least two semester of course work (as defined by an accredited institution or at least 25% of your training in a specialized program), we invite you to apply.

If you have any questions regarding eligibility, please contact Debbie McElroy at: macjdp@aol.com.

In particular, we are looking for persons with an academic record reflecting potential and motivation for success in their field. We also want recipients to be involved in church and community service so as to demonstrate character exemplifying the principles of the Christian life.

The deadline for applying is April 30th. Please contact the church office for details.

Bell Choir

The bell choir had a wonderful year. We will take a summer break and restart in September.

Thank you,
Ann Trask



IFF Presents
What Christians Should Know
About Sikhism
With S. Singh Ajmani
May 21st at 9 a.m. by Zoom

Mr. S. Singh Ajmani was born in Punjab, India in 1944, 3 years before the Independence and resulting partition of India into 3 countries. His birth city, Sohava became part of what is now Pakistan. He was born into a Sikh family and therefore the family had to fled to India as a refugee. The family then moved to and settled in Varanasi, India.

Singh came to New York in 1972 and moved to Pittsburgh in 1974 with his wife and 2 children.

He started his career as a consulting engineer and management consultant. Mr. Ajmani is President and CEO of Logix Guru, LLC, a Software Consulting company providing Data Analytics, Application Development and Digital assurance services

Singh is currently Chairman of the Sikh Gurudwara in Pittsburgh. In this capacity he is involved in the religious and the management activities of the Gurudwara.

Mr. Ajmani likes to write, loves reading scripture and incorporates the three principles teaching of Guru Granth in his personal and professional life. He was District Governor (2018-19) of the Rotary, and is Vice President of Monroeville Interfaith Ministerium.

Singh has an engineering degree from India and MBA from University of Pittsburgh. When he is not busy at work, he can be found meditating, visiting his grandchildren, volunteering at the Rotary activities & Gurudwara and travelling to new places.



IFF: K-6 notes

Sunday School Report – (Elementary - Pre K through 6th Grade) – March 2023

Sunday School is held every Sunday with exception of Communion Sunday and Easter Sunday.

An Easter Egg Hunt was held after church on March 26th. Ten children enjoyed pizza, hunting outside for over 200 eggs, making an “Easter Peep House”, and eating “Dirt Pudding”.

Eva Ketcham made each child a Faith Based Easter Bag to take home.

Pre K – 3rd Grade Class was relocated to the Quilt Room. 4th – 6th continues to meet in the Wesley Room.

Sunday School will continue through May 21. Vacation Bible School is scheduled for July 10 – 14 at Our Lady of the Lake. At this time there are no other summer activities planned. Sunday School Classes will resume in the fall.

We are very grateful to our teachers who rotated throughout the year.

Pre-K through 3rd Grade: Mary Jo Melvin, Heather Zimmerman, Kathy Rankin

4th through 6th Grade: Ann Trask, Trish Hillman, Irene Smith

Mission Team Report

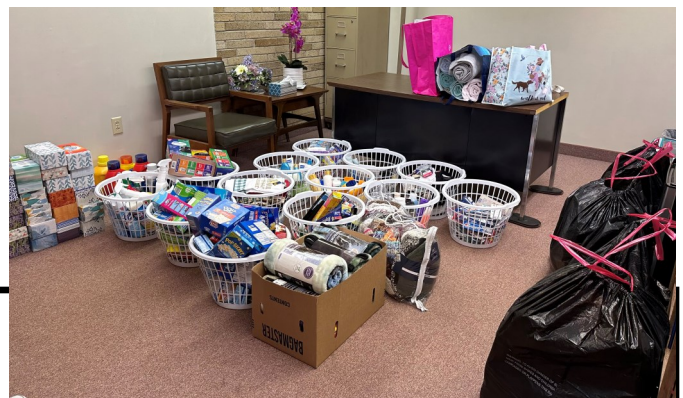
Darla Elder is so grateful to the congregation for their support of a Food Bank on the University campus. The weekly giving has been very helpful in seeing the students have nutritious food available.

Gert is pleased to see the many donations that came in for the Homeless guided by the EUMA calendar. They have been picked up by EUMA.

The Redbird Team is hopeful they will be able to make the trip to Kentucky in 2024. Fundraising efforts will be resuming to prepare.

The Mission Team is looking into participating in more mission activities here in Erie County, and is gathering information on several different possibilities.

Please remember that Deb Thomas is still collecting used shoes... the box is back in Erica's old office.



CHURCH COUNCIL

At our last meeting on Thursday, March 23, Church Council approved a motion to designate Edinboro United Methodist Church as a “Lighthouse Church.” Our commitment to remain a United Methodist congregation will provide a place for those people displaced by recent disaffiliations. The idea of a Lighthouse Church originated in North Carolina. What is a Lighthouse Church? As stated on the North Carolina Conference website, a lighthouse church is a “local church that is equipped and willing to be a caring and hospitable place that welcomes anyone whose church has closed or disaffiliated.” Stay tuned as we begin to navigate the requirements as set forth by the Western PA conference for becoming a lighthouse church!



Annual Conference

Western PA Annual Conference will be held in Erie from June 15-17. The theme for Annual Conference 2023 is ***Pressing on to Higher Ground***. Pray for Bishop Cynthia Moore-Koikoi, pastors and laity as decisions are made.

United Women in Faith Luncheon

Erie Bayfront Friday, June 16, 2023

Lunch is included with the Annual conference registration. If not attending AC, the cost is \$10/person. Register by contacting Linda Murdock by email at lindalmurdock@gmail.com. **Deadline for registering is May 8, 2023 (no exceptions)**. Payment for luncheon can be paid the day of the luncheon. If there are any dietary restrictions, please let Linda know when registering.

We Are United Women In Faith

Mission Statement: United Women in Faith seeks to connect and nurture women through Christian spiritual formation, leadership development, creative fellowship, and education so that they can inspire, influence and impact local and global communities.

Faith, Action, Sisterhood: Invites new women to join us on the journey and find new ways to support one another and women, children and youth.

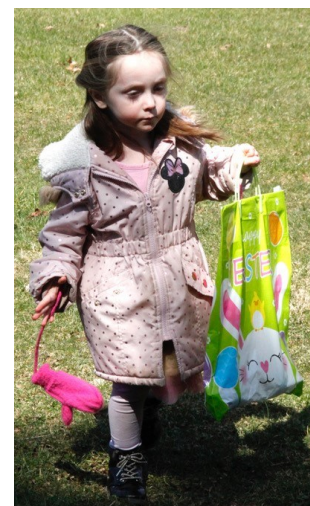
Faith: At our heart and in our soul, we are a faith-driven organization.

Action: Our actions have always spoken as loud as our words. We are making the world a better place locally, globally, and fearlessly.

Sisterhood: We welcome and connect women together. We are on a mission to boldly act and transform communities.

Our Vision: We are a powerful, fearless force driven by God's love and united in sisterhood. With a focus on women, children and youth, we act for justice and transform communities. We face the realities we see in the world, even when they are not the ones we would like to see. However, our goal is not to bear witness simply harms, but also to God's love by acting boldly to change those harms.

Are you finding points of interest in the mission statement? Do you feel a calling to be a part of Faith, Action, Sisterhood? Would you like to join in a discussion around women of Edinboro United Methodist Church joining the Erie-Meadville district of United Women in Faith? Call or e-mail Cheryl Wiegler (814) 450-2326, cwiegler1948@gmail.com (a new e-mail address).





Mother's Day—May 14, 2023

Mother's Day is a holiday honoring motherhood that is observed in different forms throughout the world. In the United States, Mother's Day 2023 will occur on Sunday, May 14. The American incarnation of Mother's Day was created by Anna Jarvis in 1908 and became an official U.S. holiday in 1914. Jarvis would later denounce the holiday's commercialization and spent the latter part of her life trying to remove it from the calendar. While dates and celebrations vary, Mother's Day traditionally involves presenting moms with flowers, cards and other gifts.

History of Mother's Day

Celebrations of mothers and motherhood can be traced back to the ancient Greeks and Romans, who held festivals in honor of the mother goddesses Rhea and Cybele, but the clearest modern precedent for Mother's Day is the early Christian festival known as "Mothering Sunday."

Once a major tradition in the United Kingdom and parts of Europe, this celebration fell on the fourth Sunday in Lent and was originally seen as a time when the faithful would return to their "mother church"—the main church in the vicinity of their home—for a special service.

Over time the Mothering Sunday tradition shifted into a more secular holiday, and children would present their mothers with flowers and other tokens of appreciation. This custom eventually faded in popularity before merging with the American Mother's Day in the 1930s

Ann Reeves Jarvis and Julia Ward Howe

The origins of Mother's Day as celebrated in the United States date back to the 19th century. In the years before the Civil War, Ann Reeves Jarvis of West Virginia helped start "Mothers' Day Work Clubs" to teach local women how to properly care for their children.

These clubs later became a unifying force in a region of the country still divided over the Civil War. In 1868 Jarvis organized "Mothers' Friendship Day," at which mothers gathered with former Union and Confederate soldiers to promote reconciliation.

Another precursor to Mother's Day came from the abolitionist and suffragette Julia Ward Howe. In 1870 Howe wrote the "Mother's Day Proclamation," a call to action that asked mothers to unite in promoting world peace. In 1873 Howe campaigned for a "Mother's Peace Day" to be celebrated every June 2.

Other early Mother's Day pioneers include Juliet Calhoun Blakely, a temperance activist who inspired a local Mother's Day in Albion, Michigan, in the 1870s. The duo of Mary Towles Sasseen and Frank Hering, meanwhile, both worked to organize a Mothers' Day in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Some have even called Hering "the father of Mothers' Day."

Did you know? More phone calls are made on Mother's Day than any other day of the year. These holiday chats with Mom often cause phone traffic to spike by as much as 37 percent.



Anna Jarvis Turns Mother's Day Into a National Holiday

The official Mother's Day holiday arose in the 1900s as a result of the efforts of Anna Jarvis, daughter of Ann Reeves Jarvis. Following her mother's 1905 death, Anna Jarvis conceived of Mother's Day as a way of honoring the sacrifices mothers made for their children.

After gaining financial backing from a Philadelphia department store owner named John Wanamaker, in May 1908 she organized the first official Mother's Day celebration at a Methodist church in Grafton, West Virginia. That same day also saw thousands of people attend a Mother's Day event at one of Wanamaker's retail stores in Philadelphia.

Following the success of her first Mother's Day, Jarvis—who remained unmarried and childless her whole life—resolved to see her holiday added to the national calendar. Arguing that American holidays were biased toward male achievements, she started a massive letter writing campaign to newspapers and prominent politicians urging the adoption of a special day honoring motherhood.

By 1912 many states, towns and churches had adopted Mother's Day as an annual holiday, and Jarvis had established the Mother's Day International Association to help promote her cause. Her persistence paid off in 1914 when President Woodrow Wilson signed a measure officially establishing the second Sunday in May as Mother's Day.

Jarvis Decries Commercialized Mother's Day

Anna Jarvis had originally conceived of Mother's Day as a day of personal celebration between mothers and families. Her version of the day involved wearing a white carnation as a badge and visiting one's mother or attending church services. But once Mother's Day became a national holiday, it was not long before florists, card companies and other merchants capitalized on its popularity.

While Jarvis had initially worked with the floral industry to help raise Mother's Day's profile, by 1920 she had become disgusted with how the holiday had been commercialized. She outwardly denounced the transformation and urged people to stop buying Mother's Day flowers, cards and candies.

Jarvis eventually resorted to an open campaign against Mother's Day profiteers, speaking out against confectioners, florists and even charities. She also launched countless lawsuits against groups that had used the name "Mother's Day," eventually spending most of her personal wealth in legal fees. By the time of her death in 1948 Jarvis had disowned the holiday altogether, and even actively lobbied the government to see it removed from the American calendar.

(continued on page 13)



Conflict Transformation Study

Led by Paster Ed Schoeneck

“So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation... ”

(2 Corinthians 5:17-18)

7:00 pm Sunday evenings by Zoom from May 7th to June 4th
10:30 am in person from May 10th to June 7th in the Wesley Room

The study helps to empower participants to see God’s presence and respond to God’s leading and learning in those important times when conflict can shape us in a positive way. In our time together participants will discover their styles, their differences (strengths and weaknesses) and how to communicate effectively with other styles. This study will be useful in our homes, in our neighborhood and our congregational community

Our resources will be: Conflict Transformation Skills for Churches - Lombard Mennonite Peace Center
Friendly Style Profile – by Susan K. Gilmore and Patrick

Cost: \$15.00 (Funds available if the cost is a concern. See Pastor Ed)

Come join us for this transformational study!

Summer 2023 Study — HERSTORY in His Time: Women of the Bible

Led by Dr. Jerra Jenrette

We will examine some familiar and not-so familiar women of the Bible from Miriam to Mary and discuss what Jesus learned from the women who followed and supported his ministry. This is a view from a different side of biblical history and culture.

The class will be a hybrid class (in-person and by zoom consecutively) held on June 25th, July 9th and July 16th. More information will be coming.



(continued from page 11)

Mother's Day Around the World

While versions of Mother's Day are celebrated worldwide, traditions vary depending on the country. In Thailand, for example, Mother's Day is always celebrated in August on the birthday of the current queen, Sirikit.

Another alternate observance of Mother's Day can be found in Ethiopia, where families gather each fall to sing songs and eat a large feast as part of Antrosht, a multi-day celebration honoring motherhood.

In the United States, Mother's Day continues to be celebrated by presenting mothers and other women with gifts and flowers, and it has become one of the biggest holidays for consumer spending. Families also celebrate by giving mothers a day off from activities like cooking or other household chores.

At times, Mother's Day has also been a date for launching political or feminist causes. In 1968 [Coretta Scott King](#), wife of [Martin Luther King Jr.](#), used Mother's Day to host a march in support of underprivileged women and children. In the 1970s women's groups also used the holiday as a time to highlight the need for equal rights and access to childcare.

(Cite: Mother's Day 2023 by History.com Editors at <https://www.history.com/topics/holidays/mother-day>: April 19, 2023)

Biblical mothers: Not a job for the faint of heart

This complete article written by the Rev. Joan LaBarr can be found at <https://www.umnews.org/en/news/biblical-mothers-not-a-job-for-the-faint-of-heart>

In this article it is shared that "Anna Marie Jarvis and fellow members of the Methodist Episcopal Church led the charge to make Mother's Day an official observance. When Andrew's Methodist Church of Grafton, WV held the state's first official Mother's Day on May 10, 1908, Jarvis marked the victory by bringing 500 carnations, honoring her late mother, who had been a leader in the initial efforts to mark the occasion."

The article further details biblical mothers, for example: Eve, Sarah, Hagar, Rebekah, Mary and Ruth. Where would we be without our mothers both today and all the way back to the beginning of creation?



SAVE THE DATE!!!!

TUESDAY, JUNE 27, 2023

EUMC WOMEN HAVE BEEN INVITED TO SERVE COOKIES AND TEA AT THE METHODIST HOUSE ON THE GROUNDS OF CHAUTAUQUA INSTITUTE. "TEA ON THE PORCH" IS RETURNING TO CHAUTAUQUA THIS SUMMER AFTER A TWO YEAR HIATUS. SEE CHERYL WIEGLE



LIGHTHOUSE CONGREGATIONS

We love you. We care about you. We're here for you.

Lighthouse Congregations are local churches in the Western PA Conference that are particularly equipped to welcome anyone whose church has closed or disaffiliated and who wish to remain in the United Methodist Church. These congregations will act as a resting place for those seeking a new United Methodist faith community, with people who will care for and provide a haven of peace and grace.

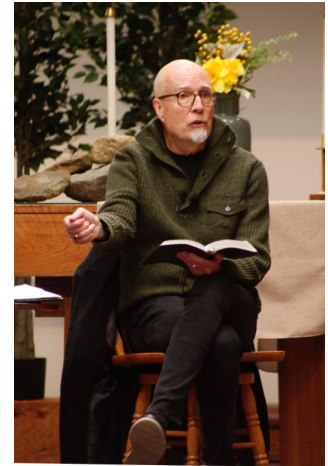
Lighthouse Congregations will:

- **Provide** a welcoming place to belong during this time of grief and transition, **which might be for just a season or for a lifetime**. This includes a safe space with caring relationships, listening hearts, and unconditional love within a congregation that is confident it is remaining in the UMC.
- **Offer** ministry opportunities in which to engage – or not. There will be no pressure.
- **Organize** groups by proactively finding and connecting with individuals and groups displaced by disaffiliating churches.
- **Connect** individuals or groups with Conference and District resources to help them discern their next steps as they consider a new church home.

Edinboro UMC's Council has decided that EUMC will be a Lighthouse Congregation. A training was held by the Western PA Conference and 18 members of the church attended the zoom meeting. Paperwork is being completed for the Conference to complete the process. If you have any questions regarding EUMC being a Lighthouse Congregation, please contact the office or Pastor Ed.



CHURCH | *Next*



March 18, 2023—Michael “Mike” Slaughter held a seminar at EUMC leading a discussion of leading in a post-pandemic-post-denominational world. He examined four critical practices for local churches: Leadership development; Ministry with the poor; Creating new opportunities outside the church buildings; and Forming recovery communities.

Mike’s message was based on his book “The Passionate Church”. The book is available for purchase on Amazon.

His thoughts have sparked new energy at EUMC as the various church committees are discussing how his ideas can be used here in Edinboro.

The seminar was in person but also streamed online for those unable to travel to Edinboro.

Books authored by Mike were also available for purchase and there was time at the end of the seminar for autographing of his books.

Pastor Slaughter also attended the Adult Sunday School class on Sunday, March 19 by zoom, preached during Sunday worship and met with the Youth Group after worship.

The IFF committee was instrumental in hosting Rev. Slaughter for the weekend.

Special thanks to Christine Henderson for her part and inviting Mike to our church.; to the UM Erie-Meadville District for sponsoring; UM—Western Pennsylvania Conference for sponsoring; IFF Team at EUMC for sponsoring through their committee budget and Pastor Ed Schoeneck for leading the charge to make the seminar happen.

Calling All Graduates!!!

Do you have a high school or college graduate? We would like to recognize them during our worship service on June 4th. Please contact the church office to sign your graduate up for recognition.



IFF—Youth Group

The youth are reading Slaughter's "Made for a Miracle." We're meeting weekly and enjoying pizza and wings. Think we're going to add salad to the mix for those who don't like having pizza and wings every week. We're trying to decide on a fun social activity to do in the spring, but haven't yet decided. We also still plan to discuss service projects to get involved in.

Edinboro United Methodist Church

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please contact the church office to be removed from the mailing list. *Thank you!*

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About Us

OUR PURPOSE:

We join with the Holy Spirit to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

OUR MISSION:

We are a dynamic community of doubters, dreamers and disciples on a life long journey of faith and action with Christ.

OUR VISION:

By embracing grace, we will engage heads, hands and hearts in the way of Christ to ignite a profound love of God in all.

WE WELCOME YOU:

Regardless of race, ethnicity, age, marital status, gender identity, sexual orientation, social or economic status, physical and mental ability or religious affiliation. All persons are of sacred worth. We are all God's beloved.