



# Holiday Hills UMC NewsLink

April 2018

## Pastor's Notes:



This is the prayer that I always open the Easter Season (April 2—Easter Monday) with: “Lord of Life, submitting to death you conquered the grave. By being lifted on a cross you draw all peoples to you. By being raised from the dead, you restored to humanity all that we had lost through sin. Throughout these fifty days of Easter we proclaim the marvelous mystery of your death and resurrection. For all praise is yours, now and throughout eternity. Amen” The Great Fifty Days is our greatest, most festive season of the Christian year, starting with the joy and festivity of Easter Day! The season reminds us of the presence of the risen, living Christ in our midst, and that it is only through the work of the Holy Spirit that we can know

the risen Christ.

It continues in the Sundays following. These Sundays are not only the Lord's Day; they are in the season that is to the rest of the Christian year what the Lord's Day is to the week. Of course, Pentecost is the great climax of the Easter season. On this day we remember and celebrate the fullness of God's promises in Jesus Christ. Before us this day is the whole sweep of Christ's death and resurrection, his ascension, and the sending of the Holy Spirit with all God's gifts and commissioning power for all of us as ministers. This great occasion is always marked with special gatherings and festive meals.

I know that many people need encouragement these days, and the worldly circumstances are not the best encourager. Let me just say that Jesus came into this world; he lived; he went to the cross, he rose again. We did nothing to bring that about; that is God's work. We hear of his wonderful love for each of us. Love awoke within our hearts; the conviction of sin came, and with it came the experience of forgiveness and of salvation. We did not achieve that; all is of God.

When the Bible talks about God knowing someone, it means that he has a purpose and a plan and a task for each of us, and when we look back upon our lives, all we can say is: I did not do this; I could never have done this; God did everything. And we know full well that this does not take free will away.

It is so easy to fall into the traps of this world and think that terrifying things can produce all sorts of troubles. But, not one of them is able to separate the Christian from the love of God which is in Jesus Christ, Lord of every terror and Master of every world. Then, of what shall we be afraid?

May God richly bless each of you!  
Pastor Dan



### **Johnny and Linda Varnadore**

John is from DeWitt, Linda is from Little Rock. We ran off in May of 1965 and got married in Oklahoma. We have two sons and one granddaughter that lives in the Little Rock area.

Johnny served in the Marine Corps for 4 years with one trip to Vietnam. He also served 18 years in the Air Force as an instructor, Titan Missile Launch Officer and Logistic Officer. After retiring he worked for a state environmental agency as an

inspector. They started a one truck hauling business that allowed them to see 48 of the 50 states, then after managing a landfill in Oklahoma and Arkansas he retired.

Linda is not only a wife and mother, she was a school bus driver in 4 of the 6 states in which they lived. She continued to drive even after retiring, taking senior citizens on trips to all parts of Arkansas and chaperoned several out of state tours, also Canada, for The Hayes Center in North Little Rock. She served for several years at the Amboy Food Pantry in North Little Rock. As a master gardener, she still attends classes and works on projects.

Both like to hunt and fish, even though retired they still work some concerts at Verizon Arena. They both will tell you that the Walk to Emmaus was a life changing experience.



### **NEW ORGANIST HIRED AT HOLIDAY HILLS.**

Mrs. Jan Crouch, a retired educator, has been hired as the new organist here. She remembers going to organ lesson with her Mom when her mother was the church organist for their church for more than thirty years. Jan never took any organ lessons because she wanted to learn to play church music “evangelistic style” and that took special training when she was a senior in high school. She took one year of Hammond Organ Lessons in college. (A Hammond Organ set up differently than a Rogers or Allen Church Organ.) Jan has played the piano

for church services, accompanied South Gospel quartets, Ladies’ Trios, choirs and various other groups since 1959. After moving to Fairfield Bay in 2006, she served as pianist for Fairfield United Methodist Church until her husband was suddenly disabled seven years ago. As full-time caregiver, time did not allow for that position to continue.

When approached about the organ position available at Holiday Hills last October, she agreed to play “on a trial basis”, to see if she could play their Rogers Church Organ. With the help of Ms. Norma, the church pianist, Wayne Weatherford; the sound & AV technician, and tutoring with You Tube, Jan is now playing for Sunday and other special services. “I love the way the congregation, Pastor Dan, and the choir have encouraged me. They especially love to hear the chimes on special hymns. Learning to play the organ again has been great for therapy for me. I am enjoying hymn arrangements I did way back in the 60’s. It keeps my brain active. That’s good!”



- 4/05 Ruth Anne Brand
- 4/06 Bob Best
- 4/06 Craig Smith
- 4/09 Jan Mella
- 4/10 Pam Wicher
- 4/13 Pat Smith
- 4/14 Melanie Shaw



- 4/15 Beth & Mike Voss
- 4/27 Loretta & Leon Moore
- 4/28 Jody & Joe Leigh
- 4/30 Pat & Craig Smith

Sunrise Service at Narrows Park 7 a.m.  
 United Methodist Men will be serving breakfast,  
 9 a.m. at the church.  
 Easter Egg Hunt after the breakfast



***New Members***



Mike & Beth Voss



***DORA GRUBER JELLY DAY***

*Remember to bring your jelly  
 Sunday April 29th*

## PURPOSE OF UNITED METHODIST WOMEN



**UNITED METHODIST WOMEN NEWS:** We are so excited to have a new circle (another UMW group at our church). Their name is G.A.L.S. (God's Adoring, Loving Servants). They meet the Monday (6 pm.) following the regular UMW Wednesday meeting. They have a light meal for those who arrive directly from employment. They are enjoying fellowship and have

already done a wonderful mission project. They prepared 100 Chemo bags for White River Hospital in Batesville. The UMW are now providing Chemo bags for Hospitals in Heber Springs, Clinton, Searcy and now, Batesville. We invite all women to come and learn what United Methodist Women at Holiday Hills are doing, who we support and how. Come and See!

Ruth Anne Brand, President.



**UNITED METHODIST MEN NEWS:** Much thanks to many of you that continue to support our "Feed the Hungry" mission. We are now able to help, with the

other churches in our area, to provide more needy families at the "Storehouse". Our buying power from the Arkansas Food Bank has made it greater. Do to many of our members involvement in the Walk to Emmaus, our normal breakfast meeting for April is cancelled. The Executive Committee will be meeting to plan out the rest of the year programs.



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## April 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
<b>1</b> 9:30 am Sunday School 7 am Sunrise Service 9 am Easter Breakfast Easter Egg Hunt 10:50 Worship Communion	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 2 pm Prayer group 3 pm Choir Practice	<b>4</b> 8 am Prayer Group 10:30 UMW meeting 5 pm CLASS	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> UMW Spring Day Apart Mountain Home	
<b>8</b> 9:30 am Sunday School 10:50 am Worship Pot Luck	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 11:30 Book Club 2:30 Prayer group 3 pm Choir Practice 1pm VBS Mtg	<b>11</b> 8 am prayer Group 9-11 am Food Pantry 10 am – 4 pm Quilters 5 pm CLASS	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 9-11 am Food Pantry	
<b>15</b> 9:30 am Sunday School 10:50 am Worship	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 2:30 Prayer group 3 pm Choir Practice	<b>18</b> 8 am prayer group 5 pm CLASS 6 pm Bible Study	<b>19</b> <b>20</b> <b>21</b>  <b>Men's Emmaus Walk</b> <b>Tanako – Hot Springs</b>			
<b>22</b> 9:30 am Sunday School 10:50 am Worship Men's Emmaus Walk	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 2:30 Prayer group 3 pm Choir Practice	<b>25</b> 8 am prayer group 10 am – 4 pm Quilters 5 pm CLASS 6 pm Bible Study	<b>26</b> 6 pm Pastor's Peer Group	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	
<b>29</b> 9:30 am Sunday School 10:50 am Worship Dora Gruber Jelly Day  	<b>30</b> 5:30 Emmaus						