



**Pastor's Message:**



As I write this, I just finished watching the last of the Live stream video of the Called Special General Conference of the UMC held in St. Louis, for the past 4 days (except Sunday when I worshipped with you). I was encouraged by the very first day of Prayer/Praise. The entire day was spent in prayer (individual, group & entire Body-- --normally this is one hour at the beginning of Conference.

In the beginning of the second day, they established the entire Body as the Legislative committee to set priorities of plans and petitions to bring forward to the "General Body". In the past, several Legislative committees would take place over the course of a week to deal with a variety of issues. There was only one issue to deal with----Ordination of LGBTQIA clergy and performance of same-sex unions and having only 4 days to accomplish. In doing so, the Body acting as the Legislative committee passed (a) The Traditional Plan was approved and all others failed, (b) Wespath (the investment firm that handles all clergy pensions) petitions passed, (c) two different exit strategy plans (or as some referred to as disaffiliation) were passed on to the Body.

When the Full Body assembled, the traditional plan was approved, but not after a Minority Report of the "One Church Plan" was introduced, thus the Body had to discuss all the plans again. The Judicial Council had also declared some of the Traditional provisions as non-constitutional. After lots of debate on all issues, the General Conference Body made these approvals:

(1) The Traditional Plan (as amended) except 90041 & 90048 passed by a vote of 53.28 % The Traditional Plan seeks to reinforce the current language of the Book of Discipline regarding the ordination of LGBTQIA clergy and the performance of same sex marriages, as well as strengthens enforcement against clergy and churches who disregard those rules. All other plans (after much debate) did not pass.

(2) Wespath petitions dealing with Churches responsibilities for Pastor's retirement & church financial liabilities.

(3) Implementation of any decisions from Conference will be Jan. 1, 2020.

(4) Disaffiliation Petitions Outlines & provides a gracious exit of persons and churches from the UMC which replaces the current "Property Trust Clause provision" that says all property belongs to the Conference

This is not a time to gloat. Instead it is a time to examine ourselves and work at sharing our love to all. It's a time to be the body of Christ as if our lives depend on it. It's time to reach out to every member of our church with understanding and the love of God. We must look at ministry through the eyes of Christ, live out the scriptures in our church and communities, yet stand on God's principles and promises and follow the rule book that we have at hand. Let us continue to share the Good news of Jesus Christ.

And here we are in the midst of the LENT season, all part of our "Spiritual Revival". We have been praying for a way forward for some time now. Some will say "Thanks Be to God." Others are very hurt and wonder why God did not answer their prayers. We are encouraged to enjoy the Sunday Evening Lent services at different UMC's around the area. And, with God's Blessing of excellent weather, this year we will be able to enjoy a great "Fat Tuesday" and "Ash Wednesday". What more can God provide to revive our spiritual vitality? Well, for me the best is yet to come: HOLY WEEK!!! I so much enjoy our Palm/Passion, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday & Easter Worship services.

For the most part, I always prefer the details of Matthew, Mark and Luke. But, when it comes to Jesus' arrest, crucifixion and resurrection I prefer JOHN. In Matthew, Mark and Luke they describe Jesus' arrest, the focus is on Jesus' agony. But John doesn't include any of this. He merely says "Jesus went out with his disciples and crossed over to the other side of the Kidron valley. He and his disciples entered a garden there." Why doesn't John include the story of Jesus' anguish in the garden? It's because, in contrast to the Synoptic Gospels' focus on Jesus' humanity, John's Gospel stresses Jesus' divinity. John does not show Jesus in agony in the garden. He was a King firmly in control of his destiny. He was the Divine who, with strength and dignity, approached his destiny.

John tells us that there were a cohort of armed soldiers (six hundred) to arrest the unarmed Jesus.

"Jesus knew everything that was to happen to him, so he went out and asked "who are you looking for?" They answered "Jesus the Nazarene." He said to them, "I AM" When he said, I AM," they shrank back and fell to the ground." (18:4-6). The Greek word for "I AM" is Yahweh, a personal name for GOD.

Jesus was identifying with GOD and at his words the soldiers retreated in fear. By depicting the scene in this way, John captures the authority, courage, and hidden identity of Jesus.

John's account depicts Jesus as a King whose Kingdom is not like those of this world. It is a Kingdom that transcends geographic, and even, time. It is a Kingdom made up of all who believe in him, follow him, and seek to love God and neighbor. It is a Kingdom of truth, light, and life.

Would you pray with me each day until after Easter these words: *"Lord, I need what you have done on the cross. I need your mercy you offered there. Please purify me and forgive me. I need to be saved from myself and my sin. Liberate me from the things that enslave me. And help me to see, in Jesus' death on the cross, your selfless love for me. Thank you, Lord, for your glorious cross!" Amen.*

Your loving servant, Pastor Dan



**Graduating Confirmation Class:**

Mason Millner, Kadence Dilks, Lilly Stevens, Becky Bailey, Stephenie Beene, and Aunt Jean. Kadence and Lilly also joined the church.



Michael Cowan & Margaret Bonham  
**New Members**

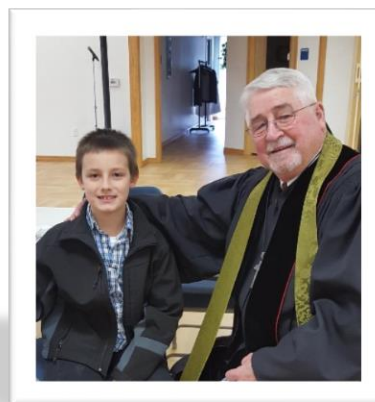


Kadence Dilks:

I love my church & my family. I am a 7<sup>th</sup> grader at West Side High School. I like hanging out with my friends and my cousin Lilly. I also love to play sports such as basketball and softball. I am an acolyte at church along wiith my cousin Lilly Stevens we have been acolytes for six years. I have recently joined the church. Me, my nana, Lilly and others went through confirmation class for 8 weeks and I have learned so much about God. I thank him everyday for allowing me to attend church and live another day. I hope I can spread the word of God to others and teach them about him.



Don't forget the concert, March 3<sup>rd</sup> 4 pm



Triston has learned The Lord's Prayer



Tuesday, March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019

5:00 pm .... 6:30 pm

Adults ....\$7.00

Children under 12 ..... \$3.00



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Ash  
Wednesday  
Service

March 6<sup>th</sup> ... 6 pm

### 2019 Lenten Round Service

5 pm

March 10<sup>th</sup> Fairfield Bay—Michael Proctor

March 17<sup>th</sup> Damascus—George Odell

March 24<sup>th</sup> Shirley—Dan Brand

March 31<sup>st</sup> Holiday Hills—Jan Vandygriff

April 7<sup>th</sup> Marshall—Paul Strang

April 14<sup>th</sup> Palm Sunday, Clinton—Shawn Gustin



*Happy Anniversary*

3/10 Nora & Ricky Henderson

3/15 Catherine & H.T. Graddy

3/17 Teresa & Larry Hudgens

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

Bailey, Becky	3/3
Varnadore, Linda	3/9
Johnson, Mark	3/10
Dory, Marguerite	3/13
Johnson, Shirley	3/13
Bell, Monty	3/13
Roach, Kathryn	3/23
Yeager, Clay	3/28
George, Destiny	3/29



United  
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Women  
FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

### Holiday Hills UMW:

2019 will be a fun filled year for our UMW. Our purpose “to know God” says it all. What greater joy could we seek in our lives than to be the hands and feet of Christ. This year marks the 150<sup>th</sup> year for the United Methodist Women’s organization. You are invited to come and celebrate with us at the “Fat Tuesday Chili Supper” March 5<sup>th</sup> and March 10<sup>th</sup> for our church potluck where the UMW will have a special presentation for both events.

We continue to participate in preparing ready to heat and eat meals for “The Call”, Julie Pierce is our coordinator for 2019. Times and dates will be posted on the UMW bulletin board. On March 3<sup>rd</sup> G.A.L.S. will present everyone with a large bag. You will be asked to place one non-food item each day during Lent for a total of 40 items, for example; gently used clothes, or household items from the kitchen, bath or bedroom. At the end of Lent all bagged items collected can be dropped at church in the fellowship hall. Bags of blessing will be donated to various area charities by the ladies of G.A.L.S. HHUMC will host the Care Caps organization on Wednesday March 13<sup>th</sup> from 9am-3pm, the meal will be provided by Olive Garden.

We are hosting the NE District UMW annual “Spring Day Apart” April 13<sup>th</sup>. Registration 8:30-9am. All women of the church are invited to join in this celebration of praise and worship as the sisterhood of Christ.

2019 UMW Officers: President: Stephenie Beene, Vice President: Thelma Steele, Secretary: Julie Pierce, Treasurer: Teresa Hudgens Regular Meeting schedule is 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month @ 10:30am, G.A.L.S. meet 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday each month @ 6pm.

Stephenie Beene



**HOLIDAY HILLS UMC NEWSLINK**

**MARCH 2019**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
<b>3</b> 9:30 am Sunday School 10:50 Worship Communion 4 pm FAITH'S JOURNEY IN CONCERT	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 9:30 am CLASS 5 -6:30 pm Chili Supper 	<b>6</b> 8 am Prayer Group 10:30 am UMW 4 pm Choir 5 pm Prayer 6 pm Ash Wed. 6:30 pm Bible Study	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> 9-11 am Storehouse
<b>10</b> 9:30 am Sunday School 10:50 Worship Potluck 5 pm Lent Service Fairfield Bay	<b>11</b> 6 pm G.A.L.S.	<b>12</b> 9:30 am CLASS	<b>13</b> 8 am Prayer Group 9=11 am Storehouse 9- 3 pm Care Caps 10-4 pm Quilters 4 pm Choir 5 pm Prayer 6 pm Bible Study	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b> 9:30 am Sunday School 10:50 Worship 5 pm Lent Service Damascus	<b>18</b> 4 pm Yacht Club	<b>19</b> 9:30 am CLASS	<b>20</b> 8 am Prayer Group 11 am The Call Prep 4 pm Choir 5 pm Prayer 6 pm Bible Study	<b>21</b> 6 pm UMM	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> 9:30 am Sunday School 10:50 Worship 5 pm Lent Service Shirley	<b>25</b> 5:30 Emmaus reunion	<b>26</b> 9:30 am CLASS	<b>27</b> 8 am Prayer Group 10-4 pm Quilters 4 pm Choir 5 pm Prayer 6 pm Bible Study	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>31</b> 9:30 am Sunday School 10:50 Worship 5 pm Lent Service Shirley						