



JAMESTOWN TODAY



Building Bridges to The Families Of Our Community!

April 2026

Volume 7 Issue 4

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CHURCH STAFF

- **Bette Thompson**
Pastor
- **Tammy Bainter**
Administrative Assistant
- **Kristin Farwig**
Choir Director
- **Sandra Metcalf**
Organist/Pianist
- **Diana Cook**
Pianist
- **Geri Angel**
Custodian

Jamestown

United Methodist Church

59218 County Road 3, Elkhart, IN 46517

A word from Pastor Bette...

As we turn the calendar to April, we find ourselves standing at the threshold of the empty tomb. This year, the joy of Easter arrives early – on April 5th - matching spring color outside our windows. But the 'New Life' Jesus calls us to isn't just about a change in the weather or a single Sunday celebration; it is a total transformation of how we see and act in the world.

There are many parallels between the vibrant growth of spring, and the continuous spiritual renewal Jesus invites us into. In the Wesleyan tradition, this is often viewed as a lifelong journey of grace.

Just as Jesus called Lazarus from the tomb and emerged himself, Jesus calls us out of our own 'graves'—places of habit, fear, or past regrets. New life requires the courage to leave that which is old and dark behind. In nature, growth is gradual. In the Spirit, new life is a gift given instantly through grace but nurtured daily. We cannot do anything to “earn” this spring; we must receive it.

In John’s account of Lazarus being raised from the dead, Jesus didn’t say, 'I was the resurrection.' he said, 'I am.' Jesus is talking about life. Life lived in the moment. The new life he offers us is available on any random day of the week in April just as much as it is on Easter morning.

What does 'new life' look like in our community? It looks like forgiveness when we’d rather hold a grudge, hope when the news gives us every reason to be anxious, and perhaps letting go of judgement and our fussy critical eye. We can look to see whether the fruits of the Holy Spirit: love, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. (Gal. 5:22-23) are active in our thoughts, words and deeds.

In the days and weeks ahead, I challenge us all to look for the 'resurrection moments' in our own life. Where is God pulling back the stone for you? As we lift up the Risen Christ this month, let us not just admire the lilies, but let us become the evidence of his living power. May we walk out of our doors this spring as people truly made new. May we be the people who hear and follow the voice that awakens us. Praise be to God!

With love and peace,

Pastor Bette



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

1	Jeff Cabanaw
2	Zachary LaPlace
3	Irene Cook
4	Becky Buss
5	Marcia Cook
	Marty Richard
	Eleanor Hamann
8	Kade Skibbe
9	Ray Hochstetler
10	Fallen Groover
11	Lillian Beehler
12	Melanie Clark
	Susan Pontius
13	Stacie Remyal
	Jennifer Clark
14	Carl Lechlitner
18	Aaron Hochstetler
23	Hannah Skibbe
	Renee Wenger
24	Rod Bender
27	Dylan Milholland
	Shana Kretchman
	Jameson Ullery
28	Shannon Cabanaw
29	Tyler Wenger
30	Curt Wenger



♥ **ANNIVERSARIES** ♥

2	Denny & Linda Miller	1977
20	Curt & Renee Wenger	1991
26	Brad & Jackie Ullery	1975



Adult Bible Study!!

We continue to dive deep into the Book of Revelation. We meet on Mondays at 9:30am and Tuesdays at 6:30pm. All are invited! Please call the church office or Pastor Bette if you would like to attend or if you have any questions. **574-293-3905 or 574-229-7810.**

HOLY WEEK

Maundy Thursday Service @ JUMC

April 2nd at 6:30 p.m.

Good Friday Service @ Trinity on Jackson UMC

2715 E. Jackson Blvd., Elkhart IN 46516

April 3rd at 7:00 p.m.

For all our Children & Grandchildren

Easter Egg Hunt @ JUMC, Easter Sunday, April 5th, following church service

Worship Service

Service starts @ 9:15 a.m. with fellowship to follow.

ALL ARE WELCOME!



PIANO RECITAL

Our very own Candy Henkier will be conducting a piano recital with her students on Sunday, May 3rd, at 2:00p.m. Refreshments will follow in the fellowship hall. All are welcome!



Just a reminder to conserve energy and keep us safe. The Church building belongs to all of us, and we need to take care of it.

- If you unlock it, Lock it back up.
- If you turn it on, Turn it off.
- If you open it, Close it.

Thank You!

UNITED METHODIST MEN (UMM)

Next UMM Coffee & Donuts April 5th @ 8:00am

Next meetings are as follows:

May 3rd @ 8:00 a.m.

June 7th @ 8:00 a.m.

July 5th @ 8:00 a.m.

Please invite your neighbors!

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH (UWIF)

April 26th meeting @ 7:45 a.m.

May TBD

June 16th, McNaughten Park Concert 8:00 p.m.

July: Play and date TBD

COMMUNITY CARRY-IN LUNCHEON

April: Tuesday the 7th at Noon

May: Tuesday the 5th at Noon

June: Tuesday the 2nd at Noon.



MISSIONS

Loose Coin Offerings: April Loose Coin will go to **Guidance Ministries:** The purpose of Guidance Ministries is to feed the hungry, the thirsty, to invite a stranger in, to heal the sick and mend the broken heart, to light a path to a better future. Simply write a separate check or cash and mark it "loose coin". Thank You for your generosity. March's Loose Coin Offering went to the Girl Scouts \$259.50

Church Community Services:

April...Vegetables, Rice, Boxed Potatoes, Toilet Paper, Soap, Shampoo, Deodorant, Body Wash, Toothpaste, Toothbrushes.... See collection areas by both doors.



OUR MISSIONS AT WORK...

- A thank you from Guidance Ministries for the \$150 we sent them for bus passes.

Please see bulletin board going into fellowship hall for the letters & cards.



LAMPLIGHTERS ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

This class has met since the early 1960s, and they love to welcome newcomers! Please join them Sunday mornings after fellowship, which follows the worship service. Lamplighters meet downstairs in the last class on the left down from the church office. If you have any questions, please call the church office at 574-293-3905.



**Remember in Prayer
Home Bound & Care**

Facilities: Jean Green, Margaret Pierce, Patsy Seigler, Jan Slabaugh, Paula Adams, and Dee Kallimani.

Ongoing Health

Concerns: Kathy & Jim Eggleston, Betty Hershberger, Lora Mahler, Wanda McCartney, Sue Raab, Linda Squibb, Marti Stickel, Polly Brown and Nila Young.

Our kids had a great time planting a pinwheel garden in partnership with CAPS to help bring awareness that April is Child Abuse Prevention Month. To learn more, please visit their website at www.childandparentservices.org



Joys & Concerns

- Jeff Clark asks for prayers for Tonita Clark who suffered a heart attack and will be having surgery.
- Paula LaPlace saw the movie "*I Can Only Imagine II*" and really enjoyed it. She recommended all go see it.
- Prayers for our District Superintendent, Rev. Dr. Marti Lundy as she guides our leaders.
- Prayers for Assistant Superintendent, David Schrader, as he battles cancer.
- Marcia Cook asks for prayers for the friends and family of Mandy Flick, the daughter of Bob and Lori Davis. Mandy's husband took his life at the age of 53.
- Angela Cook asks for prayers for the friends and family of Mark's mom, Janice Cook, who passed away Feb 27th.
- Tammy Bainter asks for prayers for Kathy Hinegardner's (Jamestown Preschool teacher) sister, Deanna, who is preparing to go home to her Heavenly Father due to her cancer. Also, prayers for Kathy's brother-in-law, John, who is having a kidney removed due to cancer.
- Jane Lechlitner asks for prayers for her brother, Max Rufenacht, who needs to have valve replacement surgery.
- Prayers for the family of Linda Rufenacht, Max's wife, who was killed in a car accident on the way home from the hospital visiting her Max.
- Keith Berg asks for prayers for his daughter, whose farm was hit by a tornado and has sustained a massive number of downed trees and a big clean up. He's joyful that his family and her animals were not hurt because of this tornado.
- Cheryl Cabanaw asks for prayers for her daughter, Shannon, and her sister who are both dealing with health concerns.
- Doug Cook asks for prayers for his longtime friend Bruce Klonowski.
- Carolyn Landis asks for prayers for Mark as he recoups from his heart procedure.
- Becky Buss asks for prayers for Jane Lechlitner's brother, Max, as he recovers from heart surgery and then must plan his wife's funeral services.
- Mark Landis thanked everyone for all of their prayers and the cards that were sent.
- LuAnn Pontius' friend, Marybeth, went to be with her Heavenly Father and is pain free. Prayers for her family and friends.
- Cheryl Cabanaw asks for continued prayers for her daughter, Shannon, whose surgery was postponed again. Prayers for Shannon as she continues to struggle with health issues.
- Jeff Clark asks for prayers for his sister-in-law, Tonita, and for her doctors as she has bypass surgery.
- Irene Cook announced Ron Bowman has moved to Harmony House and his address is in the church office.
- Becky Buss asks for prayers of healing for her brother-in-law, Steve, who is in the hospital.
- Pastor Bette is grateful in our ability to welcome on-line worshippers.
- Cheryl Cabanaw asks for continued prayers for her daughter, Shannon, and her aunt, Sue Raab for their health issues.
- Becky Buss wished her sweetie, Gary, a happy birthday!
- Tammy Bainter's joy on Sunday was that the Gill and Miller families have been attending church.
- Kathy Moyer asked everyone to attend the Lenten breakfast this coming Sunday that will be held right here at JUMC!
- Jackie Ullery asks for prayers for a quick recovery for her Grandson, Brayden, who is currently serving in the U.S. Army and has been in and out of the hospital.



APRIL VOLUNTEERS

	Liturgist	Acolytes	Children's Message	Little's Bible School and Youth Bible School
5 TH	LuAnn Pontius	Steve Squibb & Larry Pappas	Jane Rapp	Linda Vest & TBD Jon Pyfer
12 TH	Steve Squibb	Lana Berg & Linda Vest	Pastor Bette	Linda Vest & TBD Jon Pyfer
19 TH	Steve Squibb	Deb Beehler & Jeff Clark	Kristen Farwig	Jackie Ullery & TBD LuAnn Pontius
26 TH	Deb Beehler	Cheryl Cabanaw & Nancy Mahler	Marta Clark	Jackie Ullery & TBD Tammy Bainter
Ushers	Mark Cook, Maria Moleski, Keith & Lana Berg (April 26 th : Tammy Bainter, Lana Berg, Nancy Miller and Paula LaPlace)			

Looking for a chance to volunteer during the week? We have the perfect opportunity for you! Susanna's Kitchen served over 18,000 meals in 2025 and they need you! Helping is easy, fun and fulfilling. All you need to do is add your name to the sign-up sheet on the Mission's bulletin board located in the fellowship hallway. Thank you.

COMMUNION TO HOMEBOUND

Some of you may know that we currently have 2 teams that take Communion to some of our homebound members every month. This is a ministry of our church. This is a chance for you to be included in our busy family of volunteers. A way to take care of our people, to let them know we are thinking of them. Will you please prayerfully consider helping take Communion to some of our members. If you want more information or would like to volunteer, sign up at the Welcome Center or call the church office, 574-293-3905.

Is God nudging you?



CHILDREN'S CHURCH

We need you to help lead our children & teens during the worship service. Our children are dismissed following the Choir Anthem to go downstairs to participate in Teen & Children's Church. So, it is only about 25 minutes. Lesson plans are chosen and ready for you. Please see LuAnn Pontius (574)370-0548 if your heart leads you to help. Thank you for prayerfully considering helping!



JAMESTOWN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

59218 COUNTY ROAD 3

ELKHART, IN 46517

www.Jamestownumc.org

"Building Bridges to the Families of Our Community"



HE IS RISEN!!

WORD SCRAMBLE

EJSSU

SCOSR

VELO

ATEESR

MOBT

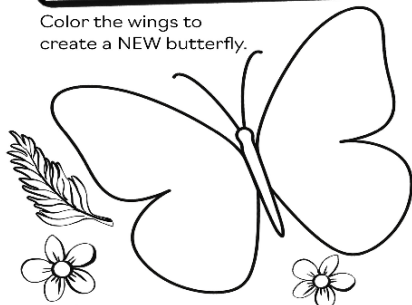


- Color each section by number.
- Cut it out for a bookmark, or punch a hole and tie on string to make a keepsake.

1 - Blue
2 - Green
3 - Purple
4 - Yellow

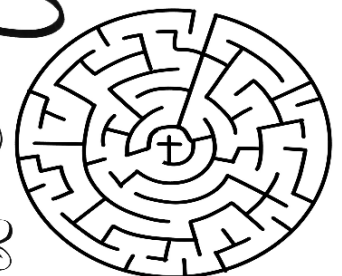
JESUS IS ALIVE!

HE IS NOT HERE; HE HAS RISEN, JUST AS HE SAID. MATTHEW 28:6, NIV



F	O	R	G	I	V	E	N	E	S	S
X	L	O	V	E	Q	R	T	Y	U	I
P	J	E	S	U	S	O	P	A	R	D
C	R	O	S	S	I	F	G	H	I	K
R	T	Y	U	I	O	R	S	E	S	B
I	N	S	E	R	A	M	N	B	E	C
L	K	J	H	G	F	D	S	A	N	W
E	A	S	T	E	R	Z	X	C	V	B

FIND THE WORDS
EASTER LOVE
JESUS CROSS
RISEN
FORGIVENESS






How many palm leaves can you find?



April 2026

COME
Worship
WITH US!

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>**Devotions and Drumming 8:30 a.m. Mon, Wed and Fri in Fellowship hall</p>	<p>RED Denotes Committee Meetings</p>		<p>1 April Fool's Day 5p Girl Scouts #56008 6:30 Creative Homemakers Meet HOLY WEEK</p>	<p>2 HOLY THURS 4-8 Open Quilting 6:30 Worship Service</p>	<p>3 GOOD FRIDAY 7p Worship service at Trinity on Jackson UMC</p>	<p>4 10am Church Prep for Easter & Fill/Hide Easter Eggs</p>
<p>5 EASTER White Holy Communion 10:30ish Egg Hunt Hall—12 Cooks</p>	<p>6 SPRING BREAK → 9:30 Bible Study</p>	<p>7 12—Com Lunch 6:30 Girl Scouts 6:30 Cub Scouts 6:30 Bible Study</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9 4-8 Open Quilt 5:15 Trustees 6:00 Finance 7:00 4-H Meeting</p>	<p>10 Siblings Day </p>	<p>11</p>
<p>15 White</p>	<p>13 9:30 Bible Study</p>	<p>14 6:30 Girl Scouts 6:30 Cub Scouts 6:30 Bible Study</p>	<p>15 5p Girl Scouts #56008</p>	<p>16 4-8 Open Quilting</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18 Hall— 1p Jorgensen</p>
<p>19 White Hall—Beehler</p>	<p>20 9:30 Bible Study 6:30 Girl Scouts #624</p>	<p>21 6:30 Girl Scouts 6:30 Cub Scouts 6:30 Bible Study 5:30 Missions</p>	<p>22  Happy Earth day</p>	<p>23 4-8 Open Quilting</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25 Hug a Plumber Day </p>
<p>26 White 7:45 UWIF Meet United Women in Faith Sunday</p>	<p>27 9:30 Bible Study</p>	<p>28 6:30 Girl Scouts 6:30 Cub Scouts 6:30 Bible Study</p>	<p>29 5p Girl Scouts #56008</p>	<p>30 4-8 Open Quilting 6:30p Preschool Graduation</p>		