

## Upcoming Events

### **Sunday, April 2, 2017**

#### **Communion Sunday/Food Pantry Sunday**

9:30 a.m. Worship Service

10:30 a.m. Potluck

### **Monday, April 3, 2017**

7:00 p.m. Boy Scout Pack/Troop 47

### **Wednesday, April 5, 2017**

9:30 a.m. Coffee with Pastor Nicole - Utopia

1:30 p.m. UMW Meeting

5:15 p.m. Trustees Meeting

### **Thursday, April 6, 2017**

12:00 p.m. Ministerial Alliance

5:15 p.m. Vision Team Meeting

### **Friday, April 7, 2017**

6:00 p.m. Daisy Girl Scout Meeting

### **Sunday, April 9, 2017**

8:10 a.m. Worship Service

9:30 a.m. Sunday School & Coffee - Fellowship Hall

10:50 a.m. Worship Service

### **Monday, April 10, 2017**

7:00 p.m. Boy Scout Pack/Troop 47

### **Wednesday, April 12, 2017**

9:30 a.m. Coffee with Pastor Nicole - Utopia

### **Friday, April 14, 2017 / Good Friday**

5:30 p.m. Good Friday Worship

6:00 p.m. Daisy Girl Scout Meeting

### **Sunday, April 16, 2017 / Easter Sunday**

8:10 a.m. Worship Service

9:30 a.m. Sunday School & Coffee - Fellowship Hall

10:50 a.m. Worship Service

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# Life in the Church

Notes from the pastor.

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## **Can These Dry Bones REALLY Live?**

When we were young, many of us learned the song:

Ezekiel cried, "Dem dry bones!"

Ezekiel cried, "Dem dry bones!"

Ezekiel cried, "Dem dry bones!"

"Oh, hear the word of the Lord."

(Copyright Unknown)

If we learned the song, and even the story of Ezekiel and the valley of the dry bones (Ezekiel 37:-14), when we were young, our imaginations might have still been active enough to imagine the Lord bringing the bones back together and coming to life. Many of us had few experiences that would have made us question the power of God to do such miraculous things.

Sometimes, though, as we have aged it gets harder to imagine such events, to believe that God has such power- to renew the dry bones, to raise the dead, or even to heal the sick. It isn't that we don't want to believe in God's power, but our life experiences have given us a frame of reference for such things. We've seen few miracles. We've prayed for healing that doesn't come. We've had our own struggles and challenges. And, we hear the world, and even other Christians blame God or even claim we have a lack of faith because we experience these things.

Sometimes our spirits, begin to feel parched and beaten like those dry bones. We don't feel like we are living, really. And we are desperate for God to speak into our lives like he did to the valley of the dry bones and like God did through Jesus to Lazarus. And, most often God does. God speaks into our lives and into our spirits through prayer, scripture, and community. Through unexpected blessings and words of comfort and support. Sometimes, when we are in the midst of the dry places of life, we miss God speaking because it comes in unexpected ways. But God still speaks and brings us to life. True life.

## **NOTES:**

### **Children's Sunday School**

Julie Thompson is organizing teachers for the children's Sunday School class. Please contact her if you are available to teach a Sunday.

Apr. 02 - No Sunday School      Apr. 09 - Marla Larimore  
Apr. 16 - Easter                      Apr. 23 - Cathy Thompson

### **Church Council Meeting**

At our March 22<sup>nd</sup> Church Council meeting, items discussed included Sunday School classes, Holy Week/Easter, possible repair of the carillon, Vacation Bible School and stained glass window repair.

Our next meeting is scheduled for April 19<sup>th</sup> at 5:15. Reports due to Pastor Nicole by April 12<sup>th</sup>.

### **Liturgists**

The upcoming liturgists are:

Apr. 02 - Pat McCoy              Apr. 09 - Irene Crandell  
Apr. 16 - Florene Carnes        Apr. 23 - Carmen W.

If you have a conflict with a date as they are added, please let Pastor Nicole know so a change can be made. Thank you for adding more voices to the ministry and worship at FUMC!

### **Congregational Care Ministry Seminar**

Join Executive Pastor Karen Lampe, Pastor Wendy Lyons Chrostek and the entire Congregational Care team at Church of the Resurrection for the Congregational Care Ministry Seminar, scheduled for April 27-29.

The CCM Seminar is designed to train volunteers to become partners in ministry with pastors and staff to provide care for a congregation.

Come and learn best practices and standards of care from the Resurrection care team, based the resource developed by Executive Pastor Karen Lampe, "The Caring Congregation." This resource serves as a manual to guide pastors and churches to organize their congregations for care and equip volunteers to listen, visit, comfort and encourage congregants.

For more on the Seminar, go to <http://ccm.blogs.cor.org/>. Talk to Pastor Nicole if you might be interested in attending and exploring ways to begin this ministry at Coffeyville First UMC.

### **All Church Movie Night**

On April 23<sup>rd</sup>, FUMC will have all church movie night in Fellowship Hall at 4:00. The movie will be announced. We will also enjoy pizza and popcorn. All are welcome!

### **Christian Men's Gathering**

Christian men from across the conference will gather in Wichita at Calvary UMC on Saturday, April 29, 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM. Join them to hear Dan Schaffer, a founder of Promise Keepers and author of "Spiritual Fathers, Restoring the Reproductive Church" share a challenging message. See more information and register online at [www.makethedifference.care](http://www.makethedifference.care), or find it at April 29 on the conference calendar [www.greatplainsumc.org/events](http://www.greatplainsumc.org/events), or ask Pastor Nicole for a copy of the event flier. Jeremiah will drive a group to the event.

### **Easter**

This year we will be having an Easter celebration service at 8:10 and 10:50, both in the sanctuary. There will be an opportunity to share an Easter (Potluck) Breakfast. We will eat between services at 9:40. Vision Team has also planned a Easter Egg Hunt for all children who are in attendance. It will be at 10:00 Easter Morning. We are looking for filled plastic Easter eggs to be donated. We are asking that all candy/fruit snacks that are donated be wrapped.

### **Easter Lilies**

You are invited to bring Easter Lilies on Saturday, April 15<sup>th</sup> or on Easter morning, April 16<sup>th</sup>. If you plan to bring an Easter Lily and would like to do so in honor of someone or in memory of someone, please let Barbara in the FUMC office know by Wednesday, April 12<sup>th</sup> or fill out the back of the connection card. Our Easter Lilies will not be identical this year, but will have the potential to be unique like each one of us and our faith journeys. There is joy in remembering this.

### **Good Friday**

Our Good Friday service will be held on Friday, April 14<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary.