



For His Glory

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF TROY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH | APRIL 2021

From Pastor David

When you think of Easter what are the words and feelings that come to your mind?

Mark has a way of taking what are some of the grandest moments in the other three gospels and pulling the rug out from under us instead of building to a grand finale as Matthew, Luke, and John do. We just celebrated Palm Sunday, and we see Mark do this when he describes Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem, *"Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple; and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve."* We see Jesus' grand procession and the crowd's adoration, and then when Jesus finally gets to where he was going, he simply looks around and goes back to where he came from. Mark does all this and more when he describes the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. The women come to the tomb on the Resurrection morning, find the stone rolled away, and encounter an angel who tells them the good news. Then Mark says, *"And they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid."* This is how Mark ended his gospel. Now, if you open your Bible you'll see that there are two additional endings to Mark's gospel. These were added to the Gospel after Mark wrote it to make it easier to digest, to make it feel better, to absolve us of asking the tough questions that come to mind if we simply linger on Mark's sudden and austere ending.

Let's go back to that question I asked at the beginning of this article. When you think of Easter what are the words and feelings that come to your mind? I doubt that many of us immediately think of *terror*, *amazement*, and *fear* when we consider what Easter means to us. Yet, this is how the women that came to attend to Jesus' body experienced the first Easter morning. Their response to the news of resurrection is almost the exact opposite of how we proclaim the good news!

I'm preaching from John's gospel this Easter morning, but Mark's account has been stuck in my head over these last few weeks as we approach the Day of Resurrection. I wonder, does the news of resurrection elicit the same response in me as it did the women in Mark's gospel so long ago, and I conclude that it really doesn't. I generally find great comfort and hope in resurrection. So why do the women's response stick with me so much?

From Pastor David continued

I've come to the conclusion that it's because resurrection isn't just about joining Jesus in heaven, but it is also about entering into new life in Jesus right now. Resurrection gives us assurance of our place with Christ after we die and eternal life, but it should also give us the assurance and courage that because Christ triumphed over death, there is no power on this earth that is too great for us to overcome when we walk with Christ. And it is here that I begin to find some *terror, amazement, and fear*. If I am to truly enter into a new life in Jesus right here and right now it means that before the power of resurrection can be seen in my personal, day-to-day life, there are things within me that need to die first. After all, you can't have resurrection without death. Without the cross, we never would have had Easter morning. It is in consideration of that death which is required that I begin to fear. It frightens me to consider what it is to be fully given over to Jesus. It frightens me to let loose the carefully held control that I try to exert over my decisions and priorities. It frightens me to think that there is much in my heart that I yet need to change to better live in and reflect God's glory. It frightens me to understand that I hold myself back from Jesus and cling to earthly considerations, politics, ideals, passions, and thought; rather than seeking to live in His presence as fully as I am called to.

In the midst of the joy, the celebration, the remembrance, the thanksgiving of the greatest news humanity has ever received, I encourage you to ask yourself, "What terrifies, amazes, and frightens me about Easter?".

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## Confirmation

Pastor David will be offering a confirmation class this spring. Confirmation is the process where our youth explore their faith in a deep way, learn about the history and theology of Methodism, and have the option to profess faith in Jesus and join the church as full members. If your youth is ready to participate in confirmation this year please talk with Pastor David. You can reach him at his cell phone: (254) 784-3102 or email: [david@troymethodist.org](mailto:david@troymethodist.org).

## Holy Week Schedule

April 1 - Maundy Thursday Communion 6:30 pm

April 2 - Good Friday 6:30 pm


April 3 - Easter Eggstravaganza 10:00-11:30 am

April 4 - Easter Worship Contemporary Service 8:30 am

L.Y.F.E. Groups 9:45 am

Easter Worship Traditional Service 11:00 am





TROY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
PROUDLY PRESENTS THE 2021

# EASTER EGGSTRAVAGANZA

SATURDAY, APRIL 3, 2021

10:00 - 11:30 AM

EVENT WILL BE COME & GO WITH  
EGG HUNTS OCCURING IN SMALL  
GROUPS ONCE ACTIVITIES ARE  
COMPLETED

Troy UMC 2500 FM 935 Troy, TX

Additional Information will  
be posted on  
[Facebook.com/Troy UMC Kids](https://www.facebook.com/TroyUMCKids)





Most of us will seek help whenever we face a medical issue that we can no longer handle without somebody that has been trained to address that issue. Why then do we (myself included) try to handle life's struggles on our own? Why do we think that we should not be overwhelmed by that medical diagnosis, by a long-lasting pandemic, by the loss of a family member, by a new baby, by whatever curveball life threw our way? We find ourselves continuing to say I am fine when we are most definitely not okay. We don't want to bother or lay our burdens on anyone else, so we struggle under the weight of these struggles on our own. While I know that Jesus said that we would face hardships in this world, he promised that we would not meet those hardships alone. Sometimes, we have to ask for that help. Asking for help does not make us weak; it makes us human, and Jesus understands us perfectly in our humanity.

So reach out to a friend, our pastor, or even myself to be paired with a Stephen Minister. Whomever you reach out to, don't continue to struggle alone. If you decide to reach out to me, our Stephen Ministers are trained to walk with you and help you not face the world's hardships alone. Stephen Ministers answer Jesus's call to "Bear one another's burdens, and in this way, you will fulfill the law of Christ." Galatians 6:2. When a Stephen Minister sits with you or your struggling friend, they bear a part of the burden, and they remind you that Jesus is present to help carry that burden with you.

Will you reach out for help? Will you help a friend and tell them about Stephen Ministry?

In God's Arms,

ShaShawna Bush  
Stephen Leader



Hello, Stephen Ministry wants to start a devotional library to provide to anyone seeking support through Stephen Ministry. We ask for anyone who has gently used devotionals to donate them to the Stephen Ministry Devotional library. The devotionals can be daily devotionals, devotionals around specific topics, for men, women, whatever you have and are willing to donate to someone who may need an encouraging word from God. Please give any devotionals to ShaShawna Bush (Stephen Leader) or turn them into the church office.

Thank you!



## Birthdays

- 1 JoAn Beechem, Madison Gonzalez
- 3 Andi Gilliland, Parker Olveda
- 4 Don Mitchell, Logan Stermer
- 5 Mikey Giebler
- 6 Jayci Coleman, Keegan Lay
- 7 Pat Lackey
- 8 JoAnna Romano, Ryleigh Amato
- 10 Burnell Payne, Buddy Roberts,  
Julie Ramage, Michael Cochran,  
Rachel Hermosillo, Anabeth Hermosillo
- 11 Ellen Huffman, Tim Bastin
- 14 Jonathan White
- 15 Alyssa Ketcham
- 20 Sarah Stewart
- 21 Bill Tyler
- 22 Pam Lewis, Amanda Rurup
- 23 Karey Tedrow
- 25 Nate Rurup
- 29 Barrett Ledger

## Anniversaries

- 2 Don & Georgie Mitchell
- 7 Kyle & Jana Letbetter
- 9 Anthony & Jessica Medrano
- 21 Delane & Anne Redden
- 24 Richard & Betty Hester
- 29 Jon & Megan Gersbach

## ~ MEMORIALS ~

***In memory of Laverne Coufal*** by Richard & Betty Hester, Katherine Maedgen

***In memory of Patsy Sprinkles*** by The Mercers (Mike, Nancy, Jan-Michael, Kelly, Natalie, Avery and Adyson), Richard & Betty Hester, Katherine Maedgen, Tooter & Susan Creech, Charlie & Janice Porter

***In memory of Minnie Knepp*** by Quilters, Dave & Nancy Holmes, Katherine Maedgen, Richard & Betty Hester, Tooter & Susan Creech, Gary & Donna Allison, Charlie & Janice Porter, BJ Finch, Tim & Janice Kirkscey, Oneta Taylor

***In memory of Larry Ryter*** by Katherine Maedgen, BJ Finch, Harriet Prinz

***In memory of Ferol Dene Ozment*** by Virginia Southerland

***In memory of Michele (Mickey) Goss*** by Katherine Maedgen, Barbara Thompson, Richard & Betty Hester, Tony & Jill Ross, Charlie & Janice Porter

***In memory of Leslie Charlene Vickery*** by Mike & Nancy Mercer

## ~ Thank You Notes ~

Dear Friends,

Thank you all so very much for the poinsettia at Christmas delivered to the house for our family. We enjoyed it so much. It's always good to know we are remembered.

A special thanks to all who sent condolence cards, food, offered prayers and donated to the church in my mother, Minnie Knepp's memory. She loved our church and loved the people like family. A special thanks to David Ray and ShaShawna Bush for their love and care - and for the gift cards to be used on our trip to Iowa for Mom's service. All are muchly appreciated. We miss her a lot. Please continue to keep our family in your prayers as we face the days without her.

Sincerely,

Mary Knepp and family

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VANCO is a fast and easy way to give to our church. For those that are not familiar with it there are three ways to give.

Text Giving

We don't all carry checkbooks or cash anymore – so text giving helps people continue in their faithfulness to God's glory.

To give it a try:

- Text a donation amount to (254)739-6828
- Click the link that will be texted back to you and fill out your information on the secure site
- Enter your payment information and click process donation

Online Giving (Credit/Debit Card or Electronic Check)

We also know there are times when we are out of town or aren't able to make it to church. Online giving gives you the opportunity to participate in giving back to God even when you're not able to be in Sunday service.

To give online:

- Click the "Give" tab below
- Enter the amount you'd like to give
- Enter your personal and payment information and process the gift

With online giving you can even set up auto drafts!

*VANCO charges fees with any credit or debit transaction. There are no fees applied when giving with electronic check.

Please do not pay for seasonal or altar flowers though VANCO. Those accounts are not tied to VANCO .

IN CASE OF FUTURE CLOSINGS DUE TO WEATHER OR OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES...

We have acquired an ID from KWTX TV that will allow us to have our church put on the scroll at the bottom of your television screen in case we have to close for any reason. Obviously this will be mostly due to weather conditions. If you are in doubt, please check this.