



# The Connection

April 2020

A monthly publication of the

**Millington United Methodist Church**

*Our Mission: To Know Christ, and to Make Him Known*

## April Scripture Readings

1. Ecclesiastes 3:1-8
2. Song of Songs 2:11-13
3. James 5:7-9
4. Zechariah 10:1
5. Psalm 51: 10-12
6. Isaiah 35: 1-10
7. Joel 2: 21-27
8. Job 8:8-22
9. Genesis 1: 14-18
10. Psalm 85: 10-13
11. Hosea 6:3
12. Isaiah 58: 8-9
13. Job 29: 23-25
14. Proverbs 16: 15-17
15. Job 14:2
16. Isaiah 44:4
17. Jeremiah 5:24-25
18. Psalm 92:5-8
19. Isaiah 61:11
20. Psalm 104:24
21. James 2:14-17
22. Romans 8:38-39
23. Psalm 145:14
24. Psalm 37:23-24
25. Psalm 9:9
26. Deuteronomy 33:27
27. Romans 15:13
28. Isaiah 41:10
29. Isaiah 40:31
30. 2Samuel 22:29-33

**~Pastor~**

**John Britt**

989-871-3341-Parsonage

**~Administrative Assistant**

Barbara Bassett

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Join us at Millington United Methodist Church for  
**2nd Saturday Game Night**

**Saturday, April 11th**  
**6:30-9:30 p.m.**  
**In the Fellowship Hall**  
**Bring a friend, a drink and a snack to share and**  
**Come join the fun.**

**Pending whether the "stay-at-home" Executive Order is lifted or not.**



**~Our Address~**

9020 State Rd., Millington, MI 48746

989-871-3489

989-871-6042 (Fax)

**Website:**

www.millingtonumc.com

**Facebook:** Millington-United Methodist Church

**Email:** milling-

tonumc@millingtonumc.com

**Church Office Hours:** Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. until noon



- |    |                                                                    |
|----|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 02 | Char Balfour                                                       |
| 03 | Viola Kinney<br>Linda Wolf<br>Pastor John Britt                    |
| 05 | Gary Stohon                                                        |
| 06 | Carlee Allard<br>Kevin Blackmer<br>Wayne Burns<br>Tammie Reinert   |
| 07 | Roxanne Lockwood                                                   |
| 09 | Braelynn Parker                                                    |
| 10 | Bonnie Moore                                                       |
| 12 | Kamryn Blackmer                                                    |
| 14 | Quinnell Tanner                                                    |
| 15 | Alice Hajek<br>Olivia McVay<br>Larry Manwell                       |
| 17 | Erica Burns<br>Pat Burns<br>Jackie Rose<br>Keyton Trato            |
| 20 | Landen Gleason                                                     |
| 23 | Hannah Henderson                                                   |
| 24 | Robbie Bolton<br>Laverne Boyd<br>Ninah Belle Risdon<br>Avery Hurst |
| 25 | Adam Dunstone                                                      |
| 26 | Allie Heuchert                                                     |
| 27 | Randy Hall                                                         |
| 28 | Ken Dunstone<br>Matalyn Burks                                      |
| 30 | Diana Allard<br>Cassidi Gross                                      |

## How Can We Find Easter without a Good Friday?

David B. Biebel in *"If God Is So Good, Why Do I Hurt So Bad?"* tells the story of his reaction to the news that his son Christopher was probably suffering from the same genetic disease that had killed his first son, Jonathan. He describes the pain the engulfed him and records his agonized cry: *"If that's the way it's going to be, then God can go to hell."*

Later, on his way to tell his parents this wretched turn of events, it suddenly occurred to David that God actually HAD gone to hell . . . for him, for his children, for us all. As the ancient Apostles Creed states: *"He descended into Hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty."*

Back in 1984, Greg Louganis was at the Summer Olympics, and about to make history. His final dive was a complex maneuver – a reverse three-and-a-half somersault that, in a prior year, had resulted in the death of a Russian diver who made a small mistake in its execution. Later, Greg reflected on that moment before he took the plunge:

*"I was scared going into the last dive. But I stood there and told myself that no matter what I do here, my mother will still love me."*

His reassurance was not in a confidence he was going to "overcome." Rather, it came from a certainty of a love so great, there was nothing he could do that would change it. That is God's love for us – written in the life of Jesus Christ. Read John 3:16 and, for a little more emphasis, Romans chapter eight.

Greg's dive did go well, but some don't. Joni Eareckson Tada was a teen just diving for fun when she suffered a spinal cord injury that put her in a wheelchair the rest of her life. Her darkest of hours proved an experience that later inspired some most encouraging words because of her understanding of God's love through it all, thoughts like:

*"He has chosen not to heal me, but to hold me. The more intense the pain, the closer His embrace."* - and -

*"Sometimes God allows what he hates to accomplish what he loves."*

What a way to see the meaning of 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 5:21 says, *"God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God."*

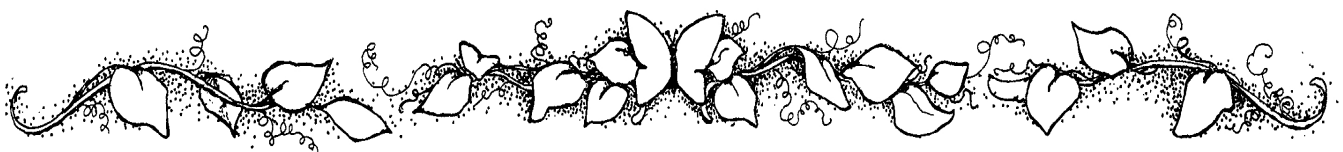
Jesus understood darkness, yet he IS the Lord of Light. It is the darkness that has not understood the light. (John 1:5 NASB *The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.*)

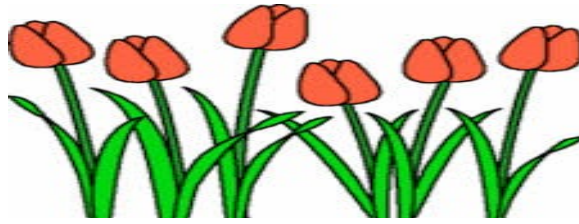
Tony Campolo preached a sermon years ago that was so powerful, so memorable, it has become one of his "trademarks," even becoming the title and theme of a book. "It's Friday . . . but Sunday's Coming." As Thomas Fuller put it back in 1650: *"It is always darkest just before the Day dawneth."*

It often is just that way. But we know God has not stopped loving us – and never will.

That is when we take hold of the God who came to us in person – and who bore the darkness of hell himself so we could be delivered – the Lord of Light who "became sin" to lift it from our burdened shoulders, confident of that which only God can provide and has promised for us in His kingdom – a kingdom that is forever. Glory be to God.

- Pastor John





I will focus this month's mission notes on one of the local ministries we support as a church and also a foreign ministry.

First, we support the Positive Alternative Ministry in Caro. They also have an office in Bad Axe so they cover the entire Thumb of Michigan.

Positive Alternatives is a crisis pregnancy ministry that accepts calls from girls and women who find themselves with unplanned and unwanted pregnancies and provides them with the various options as to how to deal with this. Many of these girls and women feel their ONLY option is abortion. The staff at Positive Alternatives, counsel these ladies and the fathers as to other more POSITIVE ALTERNATIVES i.e. carrying to term and either keeping and caring for the baby, or adopting the baby into the loving lives of an adoptive family.

They are always in need of volunteers to help in counselling people. If interested, call them at 989-672-4673 and talk with the Director April Schmidt.

We also received a letter from Peter and Kate Walengembe thanking us for our help in providing them with a water tank for their new home, I think, by now, they are back in Uganda at their mission home.

Maury Chapin  
Mission Chair



**MILLINGTON U.M.C.**  
**4TH THRU 8TH GRADE YOUTH**  
**SCHEDULE**

**SUNDAY, APRIL 5TH – 6:00-7:30 P.M. MEETING**

**SUNDAY, APRIL 19– 6:00-7:30 P.M. MEETING**

# Finance



# Moment

**Thank you to everyone who has continued to make their offerings by mail or by dropping it off at the church office.**

At the beginning of this year we were looking forward to feeling a little more comfortable with our finances than in 2018 and 2019. Those were challenging years because of the furnace replacement and changes that were made in the kitchen to accommodate a new stove. There was also new security equipment installed and the placement of our LED sign.

## **Now we have a new challenge.**

We still have all of the bills that we would have to pay if we could meet at the church for services and meetings. However, in the last two weeks, the money coming in is less than half of what we would normally see in our church on Sunday morning.

## **Please support your church.**

We ask that you prayerfully consider helping your church meet its monetary obligations through the coming weeks. You may mail it or drop it off at: 9020 State Rd, Millington MI 48746

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**Giving is more than a responsibility—it is a privilege; more than an act of obedience— it is evidence of our faith.**

—William Arthur Ward (1921-94), American educator

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## **United Methodist Women**

We have installed our 2020 officers. They are:

President: Jennie Brown

Vice President: Lois Boyd

Secretary: Dorothy Chapin

Treasurer: Esther Perkins

Nominations: Norma Coon

Kay Hemingway

Communications: Alice Hajek

Reading Program: Doris Webster

Our UMW group has placed the emphasis of our group on Missions. We support several missions locally as well as through the national group. A few of the local missions are: Millington Ministerial Alliance, Millington Needy Families, Dan Chapin and Youth for Christ, Prayer and Self Denial is a national mission.

If anyone would like to help us meet our commitment please put offerings in an envelope and label it UMW Missions.

We are pleased to honor Mary Garrett with our service pin. She has made at least 60 prayer quilts that have been given to our ill friends. She has in the past worked and donated to our annual bazaar. In her honor we have donated to missions through the UMW.

Dorothy Gasper has completed the 2019 reading program and is well on her way to complete the 2020 program. Way to go Dorothy!

For Valentine's Day we packed 10-12 goody bags for our sweet special shut-ins.

We want to thank you all for your support, even the Super Star Men who helped with our fall brunch.

God bless you all, my special family.

President Jennie Brown



## *Upcoming Events and Information...*



**MUMC**  
2nd Saturday Game Night  
is scheduled for Saturday,  
April 11th from 6:30-9:30  
p.m. in the Fellowship  
Hall.\* Bring a friend, a  
drink and a snack to share.

*\*Pending on whether the "Stay-at-home"*

*Executive Order is lifted*

### **SPRC**

**This Month's Meeting:**

**Monday, April 20th - 7:30pm**

### **Finance Committee**

**This Month's Meeting:**

**Monday, April 27th - 7:30 pm**

**May Newsletter Folding  
will be**

**Thursday, April 30th at**



Thank you to all those who help raise money for our Children's program by recycling your ink cartridges. We have earned \$274.50 by recycling items dropped off to the church. There has been a change effective March 1, 2020, the only thing that Planet Green will accept after that date is ink cartridges. Please bring your items to the church office to be collected. Thank you!

#### **What we recycle: Ink Cartridges**

We will **NO LONGER ACCEPT** cell phone & accessories, GPS & radar detectors, calculators, eBook Readers, iPods/MP3 Players, Digital/Video Cameras, PDAs, iPads/Tablets, Video Game Consoles & Accessories.

TO CHANGE YOUR  
LIFE, YOU HAVE TO  
CHANGE YOURSELF.  
TO CHANGE  
YOURSELF, YOU HAVE  
TO CHANGE YOUR  
**MINDSET.**  
WWW.LIVELIFEHAPPY.COM

He is  
**RISEN**



# Sunday Service Volunteers for April

DATE	Communion	Greeters	Reader	Media	Sound	Children's Gathering 4 yrs.-5th Gr.	Coffee Hour
5		Lois Boyd	1-Diana Slough	<b>Media-</b> 1-Lois Bushaw 2-Tom Sabgash	<b>Sound-</b> 1-Don Jensen 2-Pat Burns	Diana Slough	
12	1-Sharon Trato 2-Darla Gasper	Lois Boyd	1-Diana Slough	<b>Media-</b> 1-Lois Bushaw 2-Tom Sabgash	<b>Sound-</b> 1-Don Jensen 2-Charles Tanner	Sharon Trato	
19		Lois Boyd	1-Diana Slough	<b>Media-</b> 1-Lois Bushaw 2-Tom Sabgash	<b>Sound</b> 1-Don Jensen 2-Pat Burns	Destany LeVan	
26		Lois Boyd	1-Diana Slough	<b>Media-</b> 1-Lois Bushaw 2-Tom Sabgash	<b>Sound</b> 1-Don Jensen 2-Charles Tanner	Darla Gasper	Darla Gasper Diana Slough



## SCRIP Gift Card Program

Birthdays and Anniversaries, or just to say Thank You...don't forget you can purchase or order your SCRIP Gift Cards from Barb in the church office. Proceeds from this program go to help support our Children's programs.

There are several cards available in the office and 100's you can order.

See Barb in the church office if you would like to purchase or order cards.

April 2020						
◀ March						May ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<b>1</b> 8am Men's Bible Study 6:15pm Choir 7-10pm PingPong 7:15pm PoP Band	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b> Palm Sunday 6 to 7:30pm Youth	<b>6</b> Monday of Holy Week 5:30 to 7:30pm Girl Scouts	<b>7</b> Tuesday of Holy Week 8:30am Women's 4th day 10am Bible Study 7pm Bible Study	<b>8</b> Wednesday of Holy Week 8am Men's Bible Study 6:15pm Choir 7-10pm PingPong 7:15pm PoP Band 10am— 3pm Quilt Club	<b>9</b> Maundy Thursday	<b>10</b> Good Friday	
<b>12</b> Easter Sunday— <b>HE IS RISEN!</b> Sunrise 8:m Easter Breakfast 9:am Combined Services 10am	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 8:30am Women's 4th day 10am Bible Study 7pm Bible Study	<b>15</b> 8am Men's Bible Study 6:15pm Choir 7-10pm PingPong 7:15pm PoP Band	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> 2nd Sunday of Easter	<b>20</b> 5:30 to 7:00 Girl Scouts 7:30pm SPRC mtg.	<b>21</b> 8:30am Women's 4th day 10am Bible Study 7pm Bible Study	<b>22</b> 8am Men's Bible Study 6:15pm Choir 7-10pm PingPong 7:15pm PoP Band 10am— 3pm Quilt Club	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> 3rd Sunday of Easter	<b>27</b> 7:30 pm Finance Mtg.	<b>28</b> 8:30am Women's 4th day 10am Bible Study 7pm Bible Study	<b>29</b> 8am Men's Bible Study 6:15pm Choir 7-10pm PingPong 7:15pm PoP Band	<b>30</b> 10am Newsletter folding		

## A Note from Barb...

Because of the Covid-19 virus and the “stay-at-home” Executive Order closings surrounding it, I am doing the calendar as it would be in a “normal” world.

Please be aware that as of the print date, none of the bible studies and church services are scheduled to happen. But if the Executive Order is lifted, and these events can take place, you will have the correct dates and times.

Thanks you to all who continue to send in their tithes/offerings to help offset the church expenses. We appreciate your faithfulness to God and your Church.

Please be safe and healthy!

Millington United Methodist Church

9020 State Rd.

Millington, MI 48746

Phone: 989-871-3489



## **Millington United Methodist Church**

9020 State Rd., Millington MI 48746

989-871-3489 email: [millingtonumc@millingtonumc.com](mailto:millingtonumc@millingtonumc.com)

[www.millingtonumc.com](http://www.millingtonumc.com) or on Facebook @ Millington United Methodist Church

**Our Mission: To know Christ and to make Him known**

### **OUR SUNDAY SCHEDULE.**

**\*9:00 a.m. Worship \*10:00 a.m. Sunday School \*11:00 a.m. Worship**

