

2023

March

April

OAKWOOD / HEBRON UNITED METHODIST CHURCHES

The Messenger



Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

March and April bring us into the Lenten and Easter seasons of the church year. Lent began on Ash Wednesday (February 22nd) as we “remembered that we are dust and to dust we shall return” through the imposition of the ashes. Ash Wednesday reminds us that we belong to God and one another.

Lent is a 40-day season in the church year in which we take time to reflect on our lives. Lent is a time to turn inward to re-center our lives in the presence of God. Lent is often associated with giving something up or adding something to our lives as a spiritual practice to grow closer to God.

In this Lenten season, I invite you to come and participate in the lives and ministries of our churches. I am excited to offer an original bible study on Wednesdays throughout Lent. We will be studying bible passages related to repentance, temptation, fasting, prayer, and God’s mission.

As it falls on the calendar this year, Holy Week is from April 2-April 8. Holy Week is the final week of Lent leading up to Easter. We begin with Palm Sunday and move toward Jesus’ death and resurrection throughout the week.

Easter tide is a 40-day season in the church year. We get to celebrate the resurrection of our Lord and Savior for 40 days. April 9 begins our celebration of Easter this year. Hebron will offer an Easter sunrise service at 6:00am followed by breakfast. Oakwood will offer an Easter worship service at 10:00am. I invite you to come and participate in these worship opportunities as we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord and Savior.

Take care,
Pastor Trevor



“I alone cannot change the world, but I can cast a stone across the waters to create many ripples.”

—Mother Teresa



“Always show kindness and love to others. Your words might be filling the empty places in someone's heart.”

—Mandy Hale

Did You Know?



Continuing Education

A minister is constantly called upon to face new conditions and problems demanding fresh knowledge and increased skill.

Pastor Trevor is endeavoring to increase and improve his knowledge and pastoral gifts while growing in faith and wisdom to better serve Oakwood, Hebron and Broadlands.

In pursuit of this goal, Pastor Trevor is taking continuing education classes this spring along with clergy retreats.

Clinical Pastoral Education—

Focuses on pastoral skills. Zoom sessions on Thursdays from 9:00 am - 6:30 pm along with associated Advisor Sessions also via zoom

Covenant Keepers Retreat—

Feb 27-28, 2023 in O'Fallon

Trevor just finished his second
“Residency in Ministry” Retreat

He asks for our prayer support during his studies which end May 11, 2023.

“Better to do something imperfectly than to do nothing flawlessly.”

—Robert Schuller

Parking Lot Fund — Building News

Our church parking lot continues to require almost yearly upkeep and the Administrative Board, along with congregational input, approved replacing the current oil and chip parking lot with asphalt. The cost will be at least \$50,000 (or more), and the cost will likely increase every year we wait to complete it.

We currently have donations totaling **\$5,620** for a new asphalt parking lot. The sanctuary organ, which hasn't been used in over 20 years, is going to be sold and the proceeds will also go towards the parking lot cost.

If you would like to donate to this worthy cause, please write **“Parking Lot”** in the memo section of your donation check.

Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!



CONTACT information



Pastor Trevor Oetting's Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday - 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Cell Phone: 309-371-7661

Email: toetting95@gmail.com

We can be found on Facebook at: [Oakwood United Methodist Church](https://www.facebook.com/OakwoodUnitedMethodistChurch)

And on the web at ohumc.weebly.com

Special News



There will be a
Hebron Congregational Meeting
on Sunday, March 5, 2023
following the worship service.
Please attend—we want your input.



ERIC Sunday
March 5, 2023
Oakwood UMC
10 AM



PULPIT SWAP



During the Month of March, Oakwood will join Homer UMC, Fithian UMC-Farmer's Chapel, and Collison-Middlefork-Gifford churches in a Pulpit Swap.



Food Pantry Needs

March Fruit Cups (single serving) *
April Pudding Cups (single serving) *

** Those marked with the * are for the Backpack Program and need to be single serving. Presently we serve 12 families with 26 children each weekend with meals for both Saturday and Sunday.

Drawing People to Christ



“We draw people to Christ not by loudly discrediting what they believe, by telling them how wrong they are and how right we are, but by showing them a light that is so lovely that they want with all their hearts to know the source of it.”

- Madeleine L'Engle



SHAMROCK — St. Patrick used the shamrock to teach people about the Godhead. Holding up a shamrock, he challenged them, “Is this one leaf, or three?” Inevitably, people replied that it was both, prompting St. Patrick to draw the analogy that so, too, is God: one God in three Persons — the Holy Trinity.

Coming Events

Join our 6-Week Scripture-Based Lenten Bible Study



“What is Lent”

Wednesday evenings starting March 1, 2023 at 6:00 pm

This is an Original study developed by Pastor Trevor as a requirement for his ordination papers.

All you need is your bible and a desire to learn.



Palm Sunday - April 2, 2023 Regular service times



Maundy Thursday - April 6, 2023, 7:00 pm
Broadlands, United Community Church



Good Friday - April 7, 2023, 6:00 pm
ERIC Tenebrae Service at Oakwood UMC



Easter Sunrise Service - April 9, 2023, Hebron 7:00 am
Breakfast to follow

Easter Service - April 9 2023, Oakwood UMC 10:00 am



Daylight Savings Time begins
Sunday, March 12, 2023

Remember to set your clocks forward!

Youth News



COMETLAND YOUTH NEWS

Grades 7-12

Sunday 6:00 – 7:00 pm

At: Muncie Baptist Church

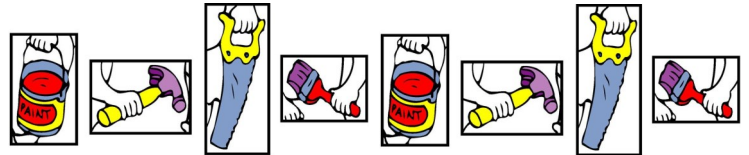
Josh is gaging interest in the youth attending the **Alive Music Festival** in Ohio this summer, July 13-15, 2023. If you are interested, let Josh know.

Stay in touch with
Josh Hunsberger to learn
about these upcoming activities.

Cell: 814-969-1766



Many thanks to Coach Mac and helpers and to all who shared the wonderful spaghetti dinner! The ASP group **cleared over \$1,600** to help pay for their mission trip this summer!



– Youth ASP 2023 – Love, Strong

"Love the Lord our God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind and Love your neighbor as yourself."
- Luke 10:27

June 12 - 16, 2023

Junior High and High School Youth

3 teams are registered (13 youth and 9 adults)

Check out the website: asphome.org.

Dates to remember:

- March 26, 2023 Training
- April 30, 2023 Construction Training
- May 21, 2023 Parent Meeting with trip details
- June 11, 2023 Depart for Service



Bible's Cool

Due to Pastor Trevor's continuing education schedule, we are in need of volunteers to help with Bible's Cool until the end of May.

We have been blessed with 4 kids who will soon begin lessons on the Season of Lent.



VBS – Vacation Bible School

"Stellar Shine Jesus' Light"

Oakwood UMC and Muncie Baptist Church will again join forces to have VBS this summer. No dates have been set, so **watch here** for important updates.



Calendar

March 2023						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

April 2023						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

MARCH—SPECIAL DATES

- World Day of Prayer, *March 3, 2023*
- Girl Scout Day, *March 12, 2023*
- Daylight saving time begins, *March 12, 2023*
- St. Patrick's Day, *March 17, 2023*
- First day of spring, *March 20, 2023*



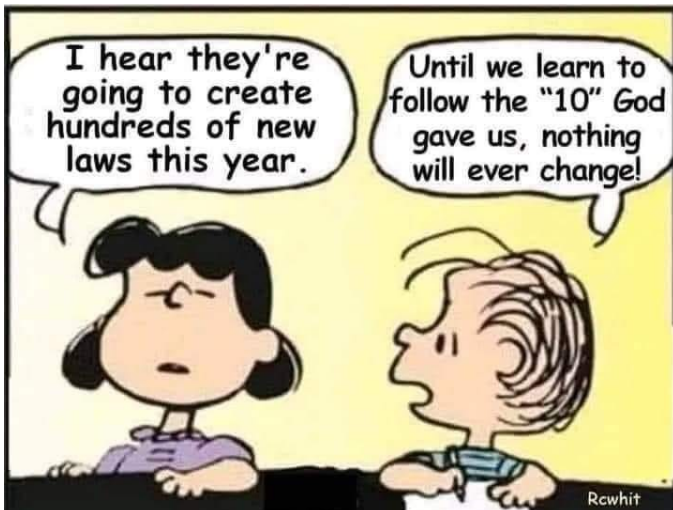
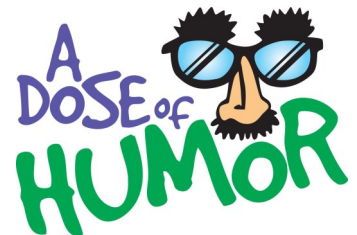
APRIL—SPECIAL DATES

- Holy Week, *April 2-9, 2023*
- Palm/Passion Sunday, *April 2, 2023*
- Maundy Thursday, *April 6, 2023*
- Good Friday, *April 7, 2023*
- Easter Sunday, *April 9, 2023*
- Earth Day, *April 22, 2023*
- Administrative Professionals Day, *April 26, 2023*
- Secretaries Day, *April 26, 2023*



LIGHTHEARTED BLESSINGS

- May the hinges of your friendship never grow rusty.
- May the luck of the Irish lead to happiest heights and the highway you travel be lined with green lights.
- As you slide down the banister of life, may the splinters never point the wrong way.
- May you be in heaven a full half-hour before the devil knows you're dead!



- May good luck be your friend in whatever you do, and may trouble be always a stranger to you.
- May the good saints protect you and bless you today, and may troubles ignore you each step of the way.

- Lord, help us be the people our dogs think we are.
- God loves you whether you like it or not.
- Prayer. The original wireless connection.
- Tweet others you want to be tweeted.
- There are some questions that can't be answered by Google.

Birthdays

OAKWOOD March

Birthdays

- 12 Greg Sperry
- 17 Christina (Clow) Byers
- 26 Todd Lomax
- 31 David Calkins

April

Birthdays

- 7 Brodie Lee
- 5 Jennifer Stewart
- 10 Adam Plawer
- 15 Sonna Lee
- 22 John Sudlow
- 24 Julie Calkins
- 26 Stella Trask
- 27 Larry Bott
- 29 Logan Lee
- Nathan Stewart



HEBRON March

Birthdays

- 6 Mitchell Pouilliard
- 11 Allison (Fletcher) Klint
- 12 Kelsey Razaitis
- 18 Abby Johnson

April

Birthdays

- 9 Bryce Draper
- 16 Deanna Morton
- 19 Alexa Morton
- 30 Kristen Hayne

**Remember our
Church Family
Living Away
from their Homes**

Laura Lomax
Pleasant Meadows
Christian Village
400 W. Washington Ave.
Chrisman, IL 61924
(217) 269-2369



**Write or Visit Our
Homebound**



Remember those in the Military

Major Toby Neal
6609 Serpentine Dr.
Killeen, TX
Fort Hood

*“Spring shows what God can do
with a drab and dirty world.”*

—Virgil A. Kraft

Corrections

If you have any additions or corrections to the Birthday/Anniversary list, please let me know.

melrodmae@gmail.com
Cell: (217) 474-3260



Newsletter Update

If you would like to receive your newsletter by email, thereby getting it immediately and in color. Please let me know.

Contact — Marilyn at (217) 474-3260 or email at melrodmae@gmail.com

OAKWOOD/HEBRON U.M.C.

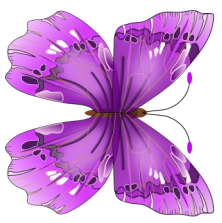
P.O. Box 218

Oakwood, IL 61858



Resurrection Butterflies

This Easter Oakwood UMC will again adorn our Sanctuary with Resurrection Butterflies. These butterflies can be given in memory of a loved one or in honor of someone who is special in your life. The cost is \$6.00 per butterfly. The money is used to support the mission work of our church. Fill out the form below and put it with your check in the offering plate by Palm Sunday, April 2, 2023. The butterflies will appear on Easter Sunday, April 9, 2023.



In Memory Of (Please print)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

In Honor Of (Please print)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Given by (Please print)
