

# THE CIRCUIT WRITER

Volume 37

Issue 4

**“BETWEEN GOOD AND BETTER”**

Easter is over? No. Like Christmas, the Big Day only opens the Season to follow, though most often we live focused toward holidays coming, rather than beyond them. There are seven Sundays of Easter, leading up to the day of Pentecost, the “birthday of the Church.” Also known as “The Great Fifty Days,” this was the time of unexpected appearances of the resurrected Jesus among his followers, with encouraging words and signs of peace. That is worth celebrating! How will we live in this post-Easter season?

Israel, by the time of Jesus, celebrated a seven day festival following the holiday of Passover, known as the Feast of Unleavened Bread. The first bread Jesus broke with his disciples after his rising would have been during this week, which recalled the age of Exodus, when the Hebrews of old had escaped Egypt, but were still on their way to the Promised Land; the times between good and better. As we observe these next few weeks we will recall the living Christ among his followers, his glorious ascension into heaven to receive his throne, and finally the Holy Spirit’s infilling of the expectant disciples, birthing the Church into the world.

The apostle Paul would write later to the church at Corinth concerning how they ought to live in the time awaiting the return of Christ to claim and redeem his church. “Clean out the old yeast so that you may be a new batch as you really are unleavened. For our paschal lamb, Christ, has been sacrificed. Therefore, let us celebrate the festival, not with the old yeast, the yeast of malice and evil, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.”

Some of us who gave up something for Lent look forward to enjoying it again; chocolate, or movies, or some other simple pleasure temporarily set aside as a symbol of suffering along with Christ. Paul says don’t go back to your old ways, but live the new life of folks on the way to something better, even if for a while it means hard bread as a reminder that going forward means giving up something soft from before.

I think it would be a good exercise for us all, to seal in our minds and hearts how joyful we are for the resurrection, to be intentional for a week after Easter of partaking the practice of the “unleavened bread of sincerity and truth,” letting the joy we have, knowing our freedom through Christ, show in the way we act.

What does it mean to act in sincerity and truth? Probably it includes different things for different people in varying situations. I imagine it includes being simply honest, not hedging, or seeking our own advantage, even to sharing what might be uncomfortable opinions with those we care about and don’t want to see hurt. It is certain to mean worrying more about what God thinks of us than what others think.

Easter People are a new breed. We ought to stand out as different from the world, while living lives at peace with all, through the Prince of Peace who has claimed us.

Peace, tom

**MONTHLY & WEEKLY CHURCH SCHEDULING**

Pastor Tom’s Scheduled Day off	Fridays
Rev. Connie’s Scheduled Day off	Thursdays
Sunday School	Sundays at 10:00am
Youth Group	Sundays at 10:00am
Staff Meeting	Mondays at 9:15am – 10:30am
Monterey Hilltop Chorale	Mondays at <b>6:00pm</b>
Civitan Club	3rd Tuesday of each month at 6:00pm
Standing Stone	4th Tuesday of each month at 6:30pm
AGAPE Chapel	Wednesdays and Thursdays at 9:30am
Girl Scouts #1581	First Wednesday of the month
Girl Scouts #385	Thursdays at 6:00pm
Choir Rehearsal	Wednesdays at 6:30pm
Cottage Ministry	Friday & Saturday, 9am - Noon

**MARCH WORSHIP LEADERS:**

Liturgist	Ron Williamson
Ushers	David & Judy Webster for April
Acolytes	<i>if interested please see Rev. Connie</i>

**A RECORD OF OUR FAITHFULNESS      MARCH 27, 2016**

**By Our Gifts**

2016 Budget income needed/week	\$2,977.33
2016 Budget income received last week	\$3,108.14
2016 Budget income this week (over)	\$ 130.81
2016 Budget income year to date (under)	\$9,494.21

**UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS**

Bible Study	April 3 <sup>rd</sup> – April 24 <sup>th</sup> at 2:30pm
AGAPE Board Meeting	Tuesday, April 5 <sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm
Administrative Council	Tuesday, April 12 <sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm
Send Committee	Tuesday, April 19 <sup>th</sup> at 4:00pm
MUMC Evening Fundraiser-Saturday	April 23 <sup>rd</sup> at 6:00pm

**Sign Up Now! It’s never too late...**Join Pastor Tom as he walks with you in reviewing *Jesus, The World, and John Wesley*. Learn more about who are we as Methodists? Consider how we go about walking in Christ’s footsteps at home and in the world? In making time to join Pastor Tom, you will take a close look at our heritage as the people called Methodists, the movement itself, our basic beliefs, and review the history and structure of the church. Take advantage of this opportunity to grow in Christ, Community, and Discipleship. **This Bible Study will be held Sundays ... 2:30 to 4:00 starting April 3rd**

**MONTEREY'S APRIL BIRTHDAYS**

In an effort to update our records and to include your information in the newsletter, please send the church your birthdays and anniversaries. *(Please list the name(s) and date(s) of all in your family who are connected to the church. Thank you!)*

- Vicky Henley (4/1)
- Jim Hitch (4/3)
- Darlene Greene (4/4)
- John Stott (4/10)
- Glenda York (4/13)
- Margaret Morales (4/15)
- Debbie Sontag (4/17)
- Mary Jane Lifsey (4/18)
- Thelma Hinton (4/19)
- Hazel Walker (4/24)
- Patsy King (4/26)
- Saundra Gilmore (4/27)
- Delbert Butson (4/27)
- Clayton Pepper (4/29)
- Betty Higgins (4/30)
- Will Sheckler (4/30)
- Debbie Stott (4/30)

**MONTEREY'S APRIL ANNIVERSARIES**

- Richard & Suzy Jackson (4/4)
- Nick & Joan Axen (4/12)

**AGAPE PRESCHOOL FUN**



THANK YOU KIM AT KP PET GROOMING



AGAPE STUDENTS CELEBRATE THE EASTER SEASON

**YOUTH NEWS:**



Thank you to everyone who attended our Youth breakfast. Our last bisquits and gravy breakfast brought in around \$260.00 toward our Youth activities. Upcoming events include our 6:00 Youth Bible Study every Sunday where we will have games, refreshments and time for Bible study.

Also, on April 17<sup>th</sup> we will be attending a pizza party at the Wesley Center with other Youth from our District. It will be fun getting to know others who will be attending the next Warmth in Winter and looking forward to spending that weekend in worship with new friends. Frances

**EASTER FERNS OR LILIES**

<b><u>Ferns or Lilies Provided by:</u></b>	<b><u>In Memory/Honor of:</u></b>
Rev. Tom & Vickie Gibson	Scott & Joyce, Ed & Ruth Gibson, J.D. & Geneva Barrett
Lynn Connor & Ellen McPherson	Jim & Ella Williams & Jess & Helen Williams
Keelan & Marcy Milligan	The Milligan Family & The McCormick Family
Darlene Greene	Her Family
Byrnie Gilmore	Loved Ones
David & Judy Webster	Their Parents
Pam Dove	Pepper Dove
Bob & Susie Cournoyer	Emile & Lucie Cournoyer & Dan & Margaret Yahola
Nick & Joan Axen	Their Parents
Wanda Balsley	Stan Balsley
Larry & Edna Drysdale	Their Parents
The Swaffords	Dick Swafford & Jack Nimmo
Al & Jeanne Bevan	Family & Friends
Richard & Linda Jensen	Their Family
Ed & Louise Vail	The Vail Family & The Nimmo Family
Ray & Betty Higgins	Their Parents
Novi Tolley	Joe Tolley
Judy Powell	Francis Powell & Mr. & Mrs. Doyle Looper

**MUMC FUNDRAISER DINNER:**

You are invited to attend a fundraiser dinner on April 23<sup>rd</sup> at MUMC. Hors d'oeuvres will be served at 6:00pm and dinner will be served at 6:30. Price per dinner will be \$15.00 in advance (gratuities are also accepted). There is a limit of 60 tickets so get yours soon! For more information please contact Linda Jensen, Louise Vail or Edna Drysdale or call the church office.

**NOTE FOR THOUGHT**

"When Satan reminds us of our past, we should remind him of his future." - Unknown

# Youth News

Sunday night youth group is going well. We hope that more will come as we continue. We will be meeting every Sunday night at 6:00pm. - games, snacks and Bible study

April 17<sup>th</sup>

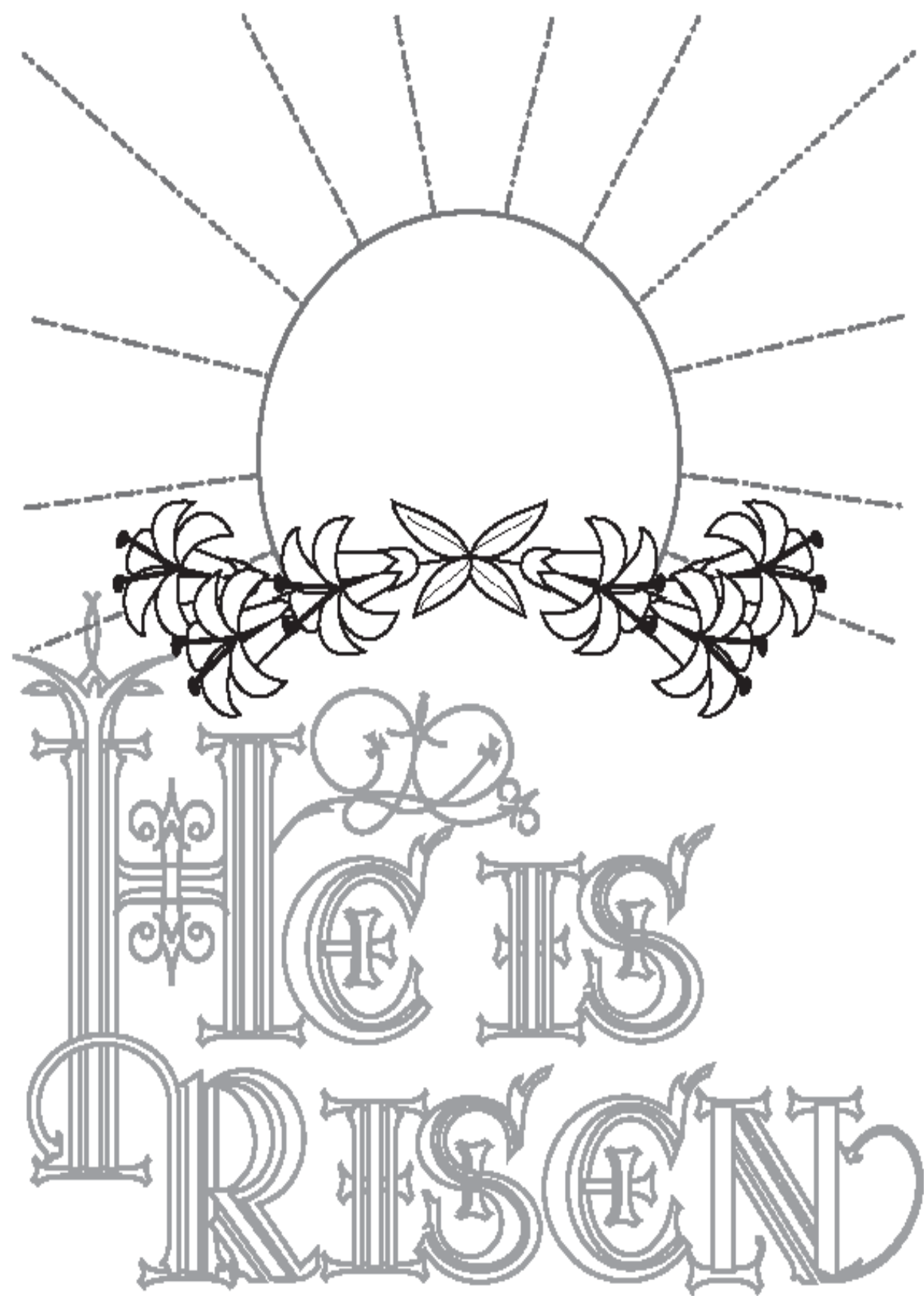
Keep the Warmth in Winter going. We will be having a district pizza party at the Wesley center. There will be pizza, games, and worship. This will be a wonderful opportunity to meet other youth in our district.

Coming Soon

In an effort to get out of the building and into the community, we are going to have a work day to equip our side lot with an activity center. Plans are for a volley ball court, a horseshoe area, and badminton. Many have expressed an interest in a permanent prayer walk as well. This is just not for the youth and children but the young at heart as well.

Youth sponsored breakfast

Thank you so much for all of you who came and ate then donated money. We will try for a breakfast every two months - See you in May!



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The people of The United Methodist Church\*

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[www.montereyumc.com](http://www.montereyumc.com)

Come worship with us at Monterey at 11am



*The mission of Monterey United Methodist Church is to make  
Disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.*

Monterey United Methodist Church  
124 North Holly Street  
Monterey, TN 38574

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



# Monterey United Methodist Church

## April 2016



Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. *2 Corinthians 5:20-21 (ESV)*

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 9:00a-Cottage Ministry	2 9:00a-Cottage Ministry
3 Acts 5:27-32 Psalm 150 Revelation 1:4-8 John 20:19-31 10:00a-Sunday School 11:00a-Worship Service ( <i>JOKE SUNDAY</i> ) 2:30p-Bible Study 6:00p-Youth	4 9:15a-Staff Meeting 6:00p-Monterey Hilltop Chorale Rehearsal	5 5:00p-AGAPE Board Meeting	6 9:30a-AGAPE Chapel 6:00p-Girl Scouts #1581 6:30p-Choir Rehearsal	7 9:30a-AGAPE Chapel 6:00p-Girl Scouts #385	8 9:00a-Cottage Ministry	9 9:00a-Cottage Ministry
10 <b>NATIVE AMERICAN MINISTRIES OFFERING</b> Acts 9:1-6 Psalm 30 Revelation 5:11-14 John 21:1-19 10:00a-Sunday School 11:00a-Worship Service 2:30p-Bible Study 6:00p-Youth	11 9:15a-Staff Meeting 6:00p-Monterey Hilltop Chorale Rehearsal	12 6:00p-Administrative Council Meeting	13 9:30a-AGAPE Chapel 6:30p-Choir Rehearsal	14 9:30a-AGAPE Chapel 6:00p-Girl Scouts #385	15 9:00a-Cottage Ministry	16 9:00a-Cottage Ministry
17 Acts 9:36-43 Psalm 23 Revelation 7:9-17 John 10:22-30 10:00a-Sunday School 11:00a-Worship Service 2:30p-Bible Study 6:00p-Youth	18 9:15a-Staff Meeting 6:00p-Monterey Hilltop Chorale Rehearsal	19 4:00p-Send Committee 6:00p-Civitanis	20 9:30a-AGAPE Chapel No Choir Rehearsal	21 9:30a-AGAPE Chapel 6:00p-Girl Scouts #385	22 9:00a-Cottage Ministry	23 9:00a-Cottage Ministry 6:00p-Care Committee Fundraiser Dinner – tickets are \$15 in advance-see Linda Jensen, Louise Vail or Edna Drysdale for more information.
24 Acts 11:1-18 Psalm 148 Revelation 21:1-6 John 13:31-35 10:00a-Sunday School 11:00a-Worship Service 2:30p-Bible Study 6:00p-Youth	25 9:15a-Staff Meeting 6:00p-Monterey Hilltop Chorale Rehearsal	26 6:00p- Standing Stone	27 9:30a-AGAPE Chapel 6:00p-Girl Scouts #1581 6:30p-Choir Rehearsal	28	29 9:00a-Cottage Ministry	30 9:00a-Cottage Ministry