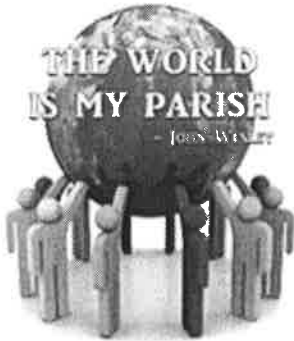




# VOICE OF WESLEY

Wesley United Methodist Church  
Bradley, Illinois  
April 2016

Growing in Faith, Transforming Lives, and Creating Disciples for Jesus Christ



John Wesley was almost in despair. He did not have the faith to continue to preach. When death stared him in the face, he was fearful and found little comfort in his religion. To Peter Böhler, a Moravian friend, he confessed his growing misery and decision to give up the ministry. Böhler counseled otherwise. "Preach faith till you have it," he advised. "And then because you have it, you will preach faith."

On May 24th, 1738, Wesley opened his Bible at about five in the morning and came across these words, "*There are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises, even that ye should partakers of the divine nature.*" He read similar words in other places. That evening he reluctantly attended a meeting in Aldersgate. Someone read from Luther's Preface to the Epistle to Romans. About 8:45 p.m. "while he was describing the change which God works in the heart through faith in Christ, I felt my heart strangely warmed. I felt I did trust in Christ, Christ alone for salvation; and an assurance was given me that He had taken away my sins, even mine, and saved me from the law of sin and death."

After this experience Wesley became bold in his witness. He began traveling all around England preaching and serving the people of God. His preaching became so controversial that he was barred from preaching in the pulpits of the Church of England. Since he continued to preach in the open fields, he was charged with "trespassing" on the parishes of other ministers.

He replied to this charge in a letter written in March of 1739 with what has become the most famous quote of Wesley, "the world is my parish." In the letter he says, "*I look upon all the world as my parish; thus far I mean, that in whatever part of it I am, I judge it meet, right and my bounden duty to declare, unto all that are willing to hear, the glad tidings of salvation. This is the work which I know God has called me to; and sure I am that His blessing attends it. Great encouragement have I, therefore, to be faithful in fulfilling the work He hath given me to do. His servant I am, and, as such, am employed according to the plain direction of His Word, 'As I have opportunity, doing good unto all men'; and His providence clearly concurs with his Word; which has disengaged me from all things else, that I might singly attend on this very thing, 'and go about doing good.'*"

Wesley's ministry knew no boundaries. There was no place he could not and would not go to be in ministry to God's people. As time went on, John Wesley was used powerfully by our Lord to reform England. The movement he began with his brother Charles, and others, became a national force. John rode thousands of miles (as many as 20,000 a year) preaching as only a man filled with the Holy Spirit can preach, telling the gospel to all who would listen. He acted "as though he were out of breath in pursuit of souls." Wherever he preached, he also provided care in the way of establishing classes which provided for the basic needs of the people. Read here that food, clothes, and housing were provided for those in need. Lives changed and manners and morals altered for the better. It is often conjectured that his preaching helped spare England the kind of revolution that occurred in France.

*Continued, page 4*



# FUNDRAISING REPORT



## 56th ANNUAL PANCAKE DAY REPORT

On Saturday, February 26, Wesley held its 56th Annual Pancake, Craft and Bake Sale. The following is a report of the profits and costs of that fundraiser. As you may recall monies raised from the Day will be given to the Capital Improvements Fund for various projects throughout the Church and the Parsonage. LOOK NEXT MONTH FOR THE FULL REPORT.



## ANNUAL MISSIONS RUMMAGE SALE REPORT

*Thank you* is hardly an adequate phrase in expressing gratitude to everyone who helped with the Rummage Sale. The Wesley Family stepped up and accomplished in 2 1/2 days what usually takes 4 1/2. Much appreciation goes to the 29 people who went above and beyond every day, the people who donated their "treasurers" and especially Bill and Virginia and the Marge Berry Family. All helped to reach our goal of holding a successful sale. **\$4,284.50** will enable the NOW Team to continue and expand their ministry and mission efforts to both the Wesley family and our neighbors around the world.

*With great appreciation, Don and Brenda McCabe*



## RELAY FOR LIFE FUND RAISING REPORT

The Relay for Life Team raised \$220.00 at their Bake Sale during the Missions Rummage Sale. As the Wesley Voice prepares for publication, the Team will be holding a Fund Raiser at Monical's Pizza establishments in the Bradley area. 20% of the proceeds will be donated to the Team. Additionally, on Saturday, April 16 at 6:00 p.m. the Team will host a "Painting Party" in the Fellowship Hall. For \$35 you will be given the necessary supplies and instruction to paint a picture. \$12 from the \$35 will be donated to the Team. Please come and support this effort.



**Liturgist  
List**

If you would like to be a Lay Liturgist during 2016, please contact Pat Farman or the Church Office, at 815-933-7932. Everyone is welcome to read the Scripture, including Children and Youth.

**Sunday, April 10**

**Sue Muhlstadt  
Gerri Cote  
Kay Fisher  
Pastor Tim**



**HOLY HUMOR SUNDAY**

April 3—Come prepared with jokes and stories and always for singing!

"AND TO YOU WHO DID NOT ACTUALLY GO TO CHURCH BUT WATCHED IT ON TELEVISION, YOU WILL NOT ACTUALLY GO TO HEAVEN—BUT WILL BE ALLOWED TO WATCH IT ON TELEVISION!"



**LITURGISTS**

April 3 Andrew Mann  
April 10 Cheryl Enright  
April 17 Theresa Girot  
April 24 Gerri Cote

**USHERS:** Don Grace,  
Mike Skopik  
Steve Willett, and  
Doug Wilkins

**GREETERS:**

April 3: Wayne & Jo Dubree  
April 10:  
April 17:  
April 24:



April 3 Connor Willett &  
Leah Hurt  
April 10 Kayla Willett &  
Avery Mann  
April 17 Nathan Willett &  
Alex Mann  
April 24 Izzy Prendergast &  
Hannah Grace

## APPLYING BIBLE PRINCIPLES

When he was the president of InterVarsity Christian Fellowship, Gordon MacDonald said, "One of the greatest teachings missing in the American church today is the reminder to women and men that nothing we have belongs to us."

We own nothing. We have been given material means to use, but not to own. All that we have belongs to God. He is our Source according to Psalm 62:5. We are only managers and stewards of what He has entrusted to us.

Because all that we have belongs to God, and because He gives us the ability to obtain wealth, every spending decision is in reality a spiritual decision. According to 1 Corinthians 10:31, our constant goal must be to glorify God in all of life, including how we use His resources. We are to glorify God by our worshipful praise (Psalm 50:23). We are to glorify God by our consistent fruit-bearing (John 15:8). We are to glorify God by our spiritual unity (Rom. 15:6). We are to glorify God by our good works (Matt. 5:16). In this last category is included the matter of giving. Only in this way can we provide for 'honest things in the sight of the Lord.' The glory of God should motivate us to give and to give our best.

If our goals and ambitions are truly set on spiritual things, if our emphasis in life is to glorify God, we will use the funds we have been 'loaned' to us to glorify God. There are two key questions to be asked concerning money and possessions: First, are you glorifying God in how you are using the money and possessions he has given you? And second, are you viewing these things as yours or God's?

\*\*\*\*\*



Continued from Front Page— *The World is My Parish*

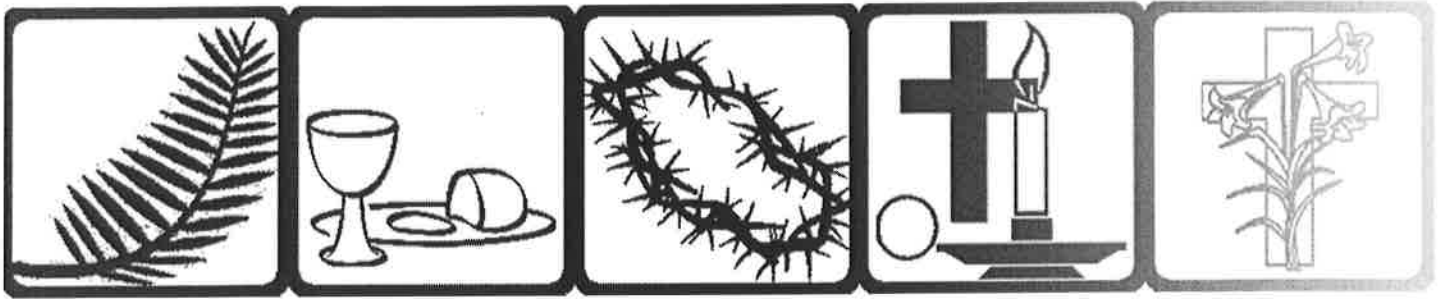
We here at Wesley bear the name of the founder of the movement of Methodism and we claim the title Christian. So why do we establish boundaries? There are many things that sometimes discourage a Pastor in her ministry, but the one that cuts my heart to the quick is when I hear the people of Wesley say when asked to engage in mission activity or service projects: "Why? That doesn't affect Wesley," or "we need to take care of our own," or "that is Kankakee's problem, not ours." Whether the mission, ministry or act of service is to an individual living in Kankakee, Bradley, Bourbonnais, Illinois, the United States or Timbukto, the mission, ministry or act of service is done in the name of Jesus the Christ.

When we are reluctant to reach out to our brothers and sisters in other areas of our world there are usually reasons. First, we may be worried that there isn't going to be enough left of whatever "it" is to care for ourselves. Secondly, we may be saying we don't believe that God is calling us to this particular ministry nor that God will provide what is needed to accomplish HIS ministry. Third, we may be saying that our hearts are simply too small for all the God is calling us to do and to be.

When "we" become our primary focus of ministry then "we" have failed to be an obedient church answering God's call to ministry.

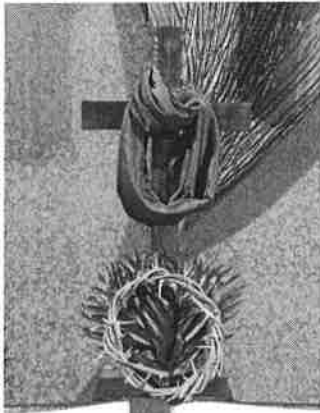
When we reach out to people in ministry wherever they may be in— our pews, in our neighborhood, the neighborhood across the street, or the neighborhood across the world we reach out—to God's own. We the people called Methodists are called into ministry to all the world – for the world is our parish.

*Pastor Julie*



## HOLY WEEK EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

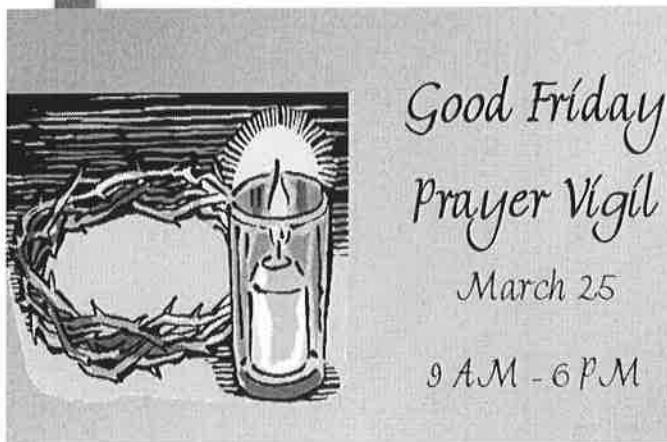
Wesley celebrated Holy Week 2016 with a variety of activities and events. Please enjoy the pictures of these activities on our Facebook page, Bradley Wesley United Methodist Church and here.



Palm Sunday



Maundy Thursday  
Passover/Seder



Easter Sunday



AND of course, the Easter Egg Hunt on Sunday during Sunday School. Please see the pictures of the kids and the duck eggs on our Facebook page. All the pictures were taken by Kay Fisher. Thank YOU, Kay.



Remember SUNDAY SCHOOL begins at 10:30 for our Children and Youth and 10:15 for Adults.

Children and Youth attend Choir at 10:10 until 10:25 with Joe Schripsema in the Chapel for Children and with Sandra Lutz in the Choir Room for Youth.

**SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE NOTICE**

Sunday School activities will be suspended during the months of June, July and August. This time away from the responsibilities of Sunday School will give our Teachers and Substitutes the time to renew and regenerate for the coming year.

*We will resume our normal activities with Rally Day Sunday on Sunday, September 11.*



**SUMMER CHILDREN & YOUTH MUSIC SCHEDULE NOTICE**

The MUSIC for Children and Youth will be suspended for the summer beginning on May 8. BEGINNING May 8, Children and Youth will go to Sunday School at 10:15. Choirs will resume after Sunday, September 11.

**Third Thursday Dinner**

**Beef 'O' Brady's**

**Thursday, April 21 at 5:30**

Located in: Bourbonnais Towne Centre Shopping Center

Will also be a fundraiser event for Wesley's Relay for Life Team— Wesley's Faithful Fighters.

**NEWS FROM**



The UMW met on March 1, 2016 in the Narthex. There were 13 members present. Karen Warburton, President, opened the meeting with Joys and Concerns.

The Rummage Sale is March 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>. The Relay for Life Team will have a Bake Sale. Baked goods are needed. Listed are upcoming events: March 15-District Personal Growth Retreat Lexington UMC April 23-District Spring Meeting at Fairbury UMC May 7-Ladies Day Tea- discussion followed for preparation for the event. Cathy Conrad gave the program on Prayer and Self Denial. Hostesses for the evening were Rita Bass, Gloria Seyler and Bonnie Conroy. A festive St. Patrick's Day lunch was served.

Respectfully submitted,  
Cindy Clemans  
Secretary

  
**ANNUAL LADIES DAY TEA**  
**MAY 4 AT 1:00 P.M.**

All the women of the church are invited and encouraged to attend the Annual Ladies Day Tea on May 7 at 1:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

**TICKETS**

**Adult Women—\$5.00**  
**Young Ladies under 12— \$3.00**  
*Tickets will go on sale, Sunday, April 17*

This is a great way to enjoy fellowship with each other and invite friends and loved ones to a 'church' event. More details to follow soon. Hope you can join us...It's always a wonderful time!



**2016  
Illinois Great Rivers  
Annual Conference**

Donna Pangle, Lay Leader,  
Frankie Ann Schripsema,  
Youth Delegate, and I will be heading to Peoria, June 8  
-11, for Annual Conference. This year we would like  
to take the following supplies from Wesley to support  
the Midwest Distribution Center. This will be our  
Mission of the Month for May.

**Personal Dignity Kit**

- \* hand towel
- \* wash cloth
- \* comb
- \* nail clippers
- \* toothbrush
- \* shampoo w/ conditioner
- \* deodorant
- \* bar soap
- \* razor- individually wrapped
- \* toothpaste-2.5 oz or larger

**School Kit**

- \* 3 spiral, 1 subject notebooks (8" x 10 1/2")
- \* 3 pens (blue or black)
- \* 3 unsharpened pencils
- \* 1 pencil sharpener
- \* 1 pencil eraser-2" or larger
- \* 1 ruler 12" long with metric
- \* 1 protractor 6" long with metric
- \* 1 box of 24 crayons
- \* 1 pair of round tip scissors  
(no plastic scissors)

Those wishing to help with the cost of shipping and/or  
the purchase of supplies in bulk can make their checks  
payable to Wesley UMC and Wesley will write a check  
to MMDC and take it with us in June.

**Deadline for Supplies and/or Monetary Donations  
SUNDAY, JUNE 5**

**PASTOR  
DISCRETIONARY  
FUND**



Beginning in late 2015, the  
NOW Team recommended to  
the Administrative Council  
that a 5th Sunday

Offering be collected for use  
as a Pastor Discretionary Fund. The  
Administrative Council approved this  
recommendation and the 5th Sunday Offering  
was established. The Pastor Discretionary Fund  
has received the following monies from 5th  
Sunday giving -\$320.27. The Pastor  
Discretionary Fund has distributed \$85.00 in gas  
cards and rental/utility/car repair assistance  
through Asbury UMC.



**MISSION of the  
Month: Children's  
books for The Baby Fold. Books for pre-  
school through teens will be collected during  
April.**



**Worship—CDs —CHANGES**

In the past Steve Overright (Patti's son) has  
made copies of CDs for use by members who  
missed Worship. Steve has made changes to  
how he provides copies of the services. He  
now puts them on a flash drive. We have  
these available in the Church Office for your  
use. IF there is someone in the Congregation  
who would like to create CDs from the flash  
drives, please contact me. The Worship  
service is available on Wesley's home page  
([www.bradleywesley.com](http://www.bradleywesley.com) or  
[www.bradleywesley.net](http://www.bradleywesley.net)) so it may be that this  
service of CDs or Flash Drives is no longer  
necessary. The Worship Team will evaluate  
the process at our next meeting.

*Pastor Julie*

"It cannot be that the people should grow in grace unless  
they give themselves to reading. A reading people will  
always be a knowing people."

— John Wesley



**PLEASE PRAY FOR:**

**Shut ins:**

Mildred Grimes	Vera Bell
Augie Walker	Hayward Smith
Eunice Kroll	Frances Schlondorf
Francis Pemberton	
Patty Overright	
...and those in the military	

**Family and friends: Joy & Concerns**

Doug Wilkins and Judy, as Doug continues to recover from a torn ligament.

Skopik and Ehrenfeld families—for new babies.

Kerouac Family—Logan’s Baptism (3/20/16)

Gee Family—Emmett’s Baptism (4/3/16)

Wesley Family as we remember those we have lost: Marge Berry, Darlene Cuttle, and Marilyn O’Flaherty.

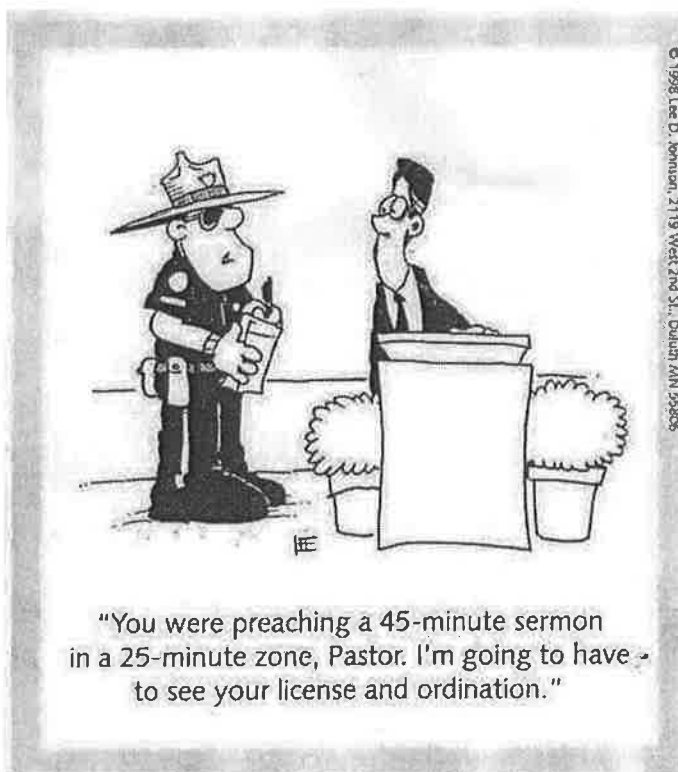
*“with all prayer (Eph. 6:18)” All sorts of prayer- public, private, mental, vocal. Do not be diligent in one kind of prayer and negligent in others... let us use all.”*

— John Wesley, *How To Pray: The Best of John Wesley on Prayer*

**APRIL  
BIRTHDAYS**



- 4/01 Jimmy Hammond
- 4/02 Natalie Prendergast
- 4/06 Larry Forbes
- 4/06 Zach Weaver
- 4/10 Jon Forestier
- 4/11 Isabelle Prendergast
- 4/18 Pastor Julie
- 4/26 Jacob Franz



**FUTURE of the  
Wesley Newsletter**

With the passing of Marilyn O’Flaherty the editing of the Wesley newsletter *The Voice* will be done by Pastor Julie and Jo Dubree, Administrative Assistant.

Thank you to Lucinda Hurt for acting as Editor during the last months of Marilyn’s illness.





## YOUTH GROUP SCHEDULE

The Youth Group (kids in 6th thru Sr. High) is only as strong as the kids and parents who show up and support the group.

Remaining Weds nights: April 6, April 20, May 4, and May 18.

Check with Lisa Mann, Shelleigh Skopik or Kristen Ehrenfeld for more information.

*Pastor Julie*

## MISSION TRIP OPPORTUNITY

**Jr. Hi thru Adult  
August 6 thru August 12**

SPIRIT LAKE NATION NATIVE  
AMERICAN RESERVATION  
Spirit Lake Nation North Dakota

The cost is \$300 per person which includes meals, room and building supplies. There will be additional cost for food on the trip to North Dakota and back.

The trip will be led by Rev. Mary McQuilkin and you are invited to be a part of that mission trip.

Deadline for the payment of \$300 is May 27. Please send checks to the District Office made out to VRD.

Please check out the website about the Spirit Lake Ministry Center: <http://spiritlakeministrycenter.org>

The projects that will be done on the trip are renovation, construction, Vacation Bible School, Food Pantry and other ministries.

Kay Fisher went on this mission trip last year. If you are interested in this mission opportunity, please contact Pastor Julie or a member of the NOW Team. Financial assistance may be available.

# Higher Education and Campus Ministry



The Illinois Great Rivers Conference Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry is offering a scholarship opportunity for the 2016-2017 school year to any undergraduate.

The Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry Illinois Great Rivers Conference 2016 Undergraduate Scholarship is being offered. Applicants must be members of a United Methodist Church for a minimum of one year. Scholarships awarded will be sent to the community college, college or university that the student will be attending during the 2016-2017 school year to help pay for their undergraduate tuition. The scholarships awarded will be a minimum of \$500.00.

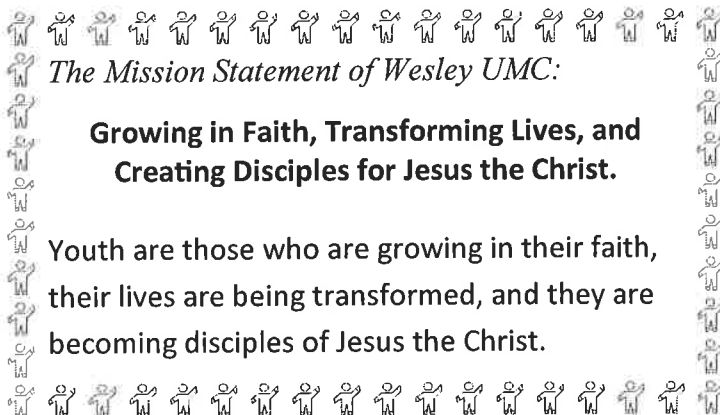
The scholarship application, certification of church membership form and check list are all linked on the IGRC home page, [www.igrc.org](http://www.igrc.org). If you have any questions, contact Christy Blickensderfer at [cblickensderfer@igrc.org](mailto:cblickensderfer@igrc.org).

**DUE DATE: Applications must be received electronically by 4:30 pm on Friday, April 15, 2016**

The purpose of Higher Education and Campus Ministry is to empower college-aged young adults to

- explore their faith
- experience their faith
- engage their faith

during their years at our IGRC campus ministries and UM-related colleges and universities.



*The Mission Statement of Wesley UMC:*

**Growing in Faith, Transforming Lives, and  
Creating Disciples for Jesus the Christ.**

Youth are those who are growing in their faith, their lives are being transformed, and they are becoming disciples of Jesus the Christ.

**WESLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
500 N. Cleveland Ave.  
Bradley IL 60915  
815-933-7932  
e-mail – [www.bradleywesley.org](http://www.bradleywesley.org)  
Website—[www.bradleywesley.com](http://www.bradleywesley.com)  
Pastor Julie Smith  
April 2016

label



**KNOWN—LEADERSHIP  
TEAM & COMMITTEE  
MEETINGS**

**SPPRC—**  
Monday, April 4 @ 6:30

**UMW —**  
Tuesday, April 5 @7:00

**NOW—**  
Thursday, April 14 @ 6:30

**WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB —**  
Monday, April 25 @6:30

**FOOD PANTRY —**  
Thursday, April 28 @ 6:30

**ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL**  
Tuesday, May 10 @ 7:00

**Bradley Wesley United Methodist Church, 500 N Cleveland Ave, Bradley IL 60915      April 2016**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	28	29	30	31	1	Private Party Fellowship Hall and Kitchen.
<b>3</b> <b>Holy Humor Sunday</b> 9:00 AM No Communion 9:00 AM Baptism Emmett Gee 9:00 AM Worship 10:10 AM Children's Choir Practice Christian Education: 10:15 AM Adult 10:30AM Children & Youth 4:30 PM Bible Study	<b>2</b> 12:30 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry 6:30 PM SPPRC	<b>5</b> 6:30 PM Cub Scout Pack #319 7:00 PM UMW	<b>6</b> 6:00 PM Bell Practice 6:00 PM Youth Group 7:15 PM Choir practice	<b>7</b> 1:00 PM Prayer/Patchwork Angels	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b> 9:00 AM Communion 9:00 AM Worship 10:10 AM Children's Choir Practice Christian Education: 10:15 AM Adult 10:30AM Children & Youth 4:30 PM Bible Study	<b>11</b> 10:30 AM Staff meeting	<b>12</b> 6:30 PM Cub Scout Pack #319	<b>13</b> 6:00 PM Bell Practice 6:30 PM Girl Scouts 7:15 PM choir practice	<b>14</b> 6:30 PM NOW Team	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> 5:00 PM Relay for Life Painting (Fellowship Hall)
<b>17</b> 9:00 AM Worship 10:10 AM Children's Choir Practice Christian Education: 10:15 AM Adult 10:30AM Children & Youth 1:30 PM Food Pantry Blood Pressure 4:30 PM Bible Study	<b>18</b> 12:30 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry 6:00 PM Parish Nurse Network	<b>19</b> 6:30 PM Cub Scout Pack #319	<b>20</b> 6:00 PM Bell Practice 6:00 PM Youth Group 7:15 PM choir practice	<b>21</b> 5:30 PM 3rd Thursday Supper @ Beef O' Brady's for Relay for Life.	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> 9:00 AM Worship 10:10 AM Children's Choir Practice Christian Education: 10:15 AM Adult 10:30AM Children & Youth 4:30 PM Bible Study	<b>25</b> 10:30 AM Staff meeting 6:30 PM Women's Book Club	<b>26</b> 6:30 PM Cub Scout Pack #319	<b>27</b> 6:00 PM Bell Practice 6:30 PM Girl Scouts 7:15 PM choir practice	<b>28</b> 6:30 PM Food Pantry Meeting	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>



# God Made the Plants Word Search

Find the words on the list that are hidden in the puzzle. The words can be left to right, up and down, or diagonally.

N	I	A	T	B	E	A	R	T	H	M	O	D
S	E	E	D	D	E	U	G	I	S	E	A	S
I	Q	U	A	K	N	O	P	S	Q	C	T	E
E	D	O	V	O	R	E	F	R	U	I	T	U
I	T	E	U	E	E	U	G	A	I	T	V	U
O	R	E	M	O	G	O	R	S	S	T	E	R
F	I	N	P	N	D	E	R	I	K	T	V	E
L	I	T	W	U	L	L	T	F	Y	C	I	D
O	A	L	A	Q	U	P	L	A	N	T	S	T
W	E	R	T	E	C	T	E	M	T	I	T	O
E	L	A	E	C	Q	N	C	E	S	I	I	S
R	S	T	R	E	E	S	C	I	L	L	O	N
S	V	E	L	E	X	E	R	I	R	I	U	N

EARTH	SEAS	VEGETATION
FLOWERS	SEED	WATER
FRUIT	SKY	
PLANTS	TREES	

