

APRIL 2019

St. John News

The city was Jerusalem . . . the time was long ago . . .

He Lives

By: Michael Q. Atkinson, Senior Pastor

In 1932, Alfred H. Ackley moved from his home state of Pennsylvania to serve a congregation in California. During this time, Alfred met a Jewish man to whom he began witnessing. But the man resisted the Christian faith, saying, “Why should I worship a dead Jew?” That statement played in Alfred’s mind as he prepared his Easter Sunday message. Rising early to prepare for the day, Alfred flipped on the radio as he shaved and was astonished to hear a famous liberal preacher in New York say: “Good morning-it’s Easter! You know, folks, it really doesn’t make any difference to me if Christ be risen or not. As far as I am concerned, His body could be as dust in some Palestinian tomb. The main thing is, His truth goes marching on!”

Alfred was so distraught over this preacher’s remarks and his friend’s question that he preached with vigor on the reality of Christ’s Resurrection. Still upset over these events later on that Sunday, Alfred’s wife encouraged him to do what he did best-write a song about it. Alfred immediately went to his home office and studied the Resurrection account from Mark’s Gospel. A thrill went through him, and he began writing these words:

I serve a risen Savior. He’s in the world today. I know that He is living: whatever men may say. I see His hand of mercy. I

hear His voice of cheer, and just the time I need Him. He’s always near.

In all the world around me I see His loving care; and tho’ my heart grows weary I never will despair. I know that He is leading thro’ all the stormy blast. The day of His appearing will come at last.

Rejoice, rejoice, O Christian, lift up your voice and sing. Eternal hallelujahs to Jesus Christ the King. The hope of all who seek Him, the help of all who find. None other is so loving, so good and kind.

Later, he was at the piano putting the words to music, not dreaming that the song entitled “He Lives” would become one of the church’s most triumphant Easter hymns. (Morgan, Robert J. *Then Sings my Soul: 150 of the World’s Greatest Hymn Stories*. Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 2003)

As Ackley believed and we assert, Christ’s resurrection is the most important tenet of the Christian Faith! The resurrection of Christ witnesses to the power of God, reminds us that God is sovereign over life and death and it provides Christian believers hope in this world and in the life to come. In the end, the resurrection provides us the ability to boast that our God is alive and working in

Continued on Page 4

UPCOMING EVENTS MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- 04-01 Spring Break - No School all week
- 04-03 Easter Egg Making (9 am-2 pm, Kitchen)
- 04-04 Easter Egg Making (5 pm-9 pm, Kitchen)
- 04-05 Easter Egg Making (9 am-2 pm, Kitchen)
- 04-06 Easter Egg Wrapping (9 am-2 pm, Kitchen)
- 04-07 Early Bird Lenten Study (7:00 am)
- 04-07 Fifth Sunday of Lent
- 04-07 Miles of Pennies Offering (Final Sunday)
- 04-07 Christi Miller Piano Recital (2 pm-Church)
- 04-10 Confirmation Class (7:00 pm, Room 180)
- 04-11 Administrative Board Mtg. (6:30 pm, Lib)
- 04-13 Children's Easter Event/Egg Hunt
(9 am - 11 am, Gym and Lower Level)
- 04-14 Early Bird Lenten Study (7:00 am)
- 04-14 HOLY WEEK BEGINS - PALM SUNDAY
- 04-14 Choir CANTATA (11:00 Service Only)
- 04-16 Book Club (1:00 pm, 210)
- 04-16 UMM Meeting (7:00 pm, 200)
- 04-17 Preschool Easter Party (10:00 am)
- 04-17 Bible Study (7:00 pm, Library)
- 04-18 Preschool Easter Party (10:00 am)
- 04-18 Maundy Thursday Service (7:00 pm)
- 04-19 Good Friday Service (7:00 pm)
- 04-21 EASTER! He Has Risen! He Lives!!
- 04-21 Sunrise Service (6:30 am, Fire Pit - weather permitting)
- 04-21 EASTER MORNING WORSHIP SERVICES:
8:30 am and 11:00 am

RECURRING EVENTS

- ACTIVE FOR LIFE - M, W, T , 10 am
- ADULT BIBLE STUDY - Wednesdays, 7 pm
- BAND REHEARSAL - Wednesdays, 6:15 pm
- BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING - 2nd & 4th
Sundays, 9:30 am - 11:00 am
- CHOIR REHEARSAL - Wednesdays, 7:00 pm
- GIRL SCOUTS - Wednesdays, 6:30 pm
- KINDERMUSIK - Fridays, 10:30 am
- PRESCHOOL - M-Thursday, 9 am -12 Noon
- SCOUTS - Mondays, 6:30 pm
- WALKING - T, W & T - 3:30 pm
- YOUTH HANGOUT - Wednesdays, 7:00 pm
- YOUTH - MIDDLE SCHOOL - Sundays, 5:30 pm
- YOUTH - HIGH SCHOOL - Sundays, 7:15 pm

St. John United Methodist Church

WV ANNUAL CONFERENCE
OF THE
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

SENIOR PASTOR

Rev. Michael Q. Atkinson

WORSHIP MINISTER

Joe McCullough

MUSIC MINISTER

Jamie Miller

CHORAL ACCOMPANIST

Christi Miller

DIRECTOR of YOUTH MINISTERIES

Kyle Smith

ACTS COORDINATOR

Karen Wicker

DIRECTOR of RESCHOOL

Joy Spratt

VISITATION/COUNSELING MINISTER

Rev. Robert 'Bob' Hill

OFFICE MANAGER

Kaye Morton

MISSION

Introducing people to Jesus,
Growing as disciples together

OFFICE HOURS

10:00 am - 2:00 pm
Monday thru Thursday

4536 TEAYS VALLEY ROAD
SCOTT DEPOT, WV 25560

304-757-6343

SUNDAY WORSHIP

8:30 am and 11:00 am

SUNDAY SCHOOL

9:45 am



**"Go to the village
ahead of you,
and as you enter it,
you will find a
colt tied there,
which no one has
ever ridden".**

Luke 19:30

**Christ is Risen!
He is Risen, Indeed!**

Holy Week at St. John United Methodist Church

April 14 - 21, 2019

I look out my office window (in amazement that I have an office...with a window!) and I see the grass is turning green again (mine needs mowing); the trees are budding AND flowering; and the temperatures are starting to warm. Maybe Spring has truly arrived! Certainly, the Holiest of *all* times in the life of the church is on the horizon. And whatever it says on the thermometer, we'll look for the warmth of the sun to bring the love of the Son as we take time to remember *His* Passion and Resurrection.

Palm Sunday, April 14: The holiest of all weeks begins with Palm Sunday. We'll have two different services that morning with a celebration in worship and praise lifting up cries of "Hosanna in the highest!" at **8:30**. At **11:00**, the St. John Choir will present the Easter cantata, *The Song Everlasting*, as a special observance of the meaning of Christ entering into Jerusalem.

Maundy-Thursday, April 18: Confirmation of our newest members and sharing in a commemoration of Christ's final meal with His disciples will all be part of this special service as we gather to acknowledge the sacrifice Jesus was preparing to make for us. We will meet in the Sanctuary at **7 pm**.

Good Friday, April 19: Hymns, scripture, special music and drama set the tone in this evening of remembrance of Christ's final words from the cross as we prepare our hearts and minds for the dark time of Jesus in the tomb.

Easter Sunday, April 21: The sun's rising brings us here to celebrate the Rising of the Son! We'll gather to rejoice and honor the One who died for our sins in the chilly dawn of Easter (weather permitting) at the fire pit below the lower parking lot. We'll share songs, the Holy meal, and the message that, "He is Alive!" Come dressed for the temperature and share in the joy at **6:45** that morning.

We'll continue our celebration in music and the Word, sharing the joy that we can know because of our Savior's willing sacrifice, when we gather in the Sanctuary for services at **8:30** and **11:00**.

We hope that you can join us for any and all of these special moments as we lift up the name of the Risen Lord during this holy time for the church!

Joe McCullough
Minister of Worship

**The people called Him Jesus—but,
they didn't know what to do with
him. He didn't just *talk about love* .
.. He WAS LOVE!!**

HE LIVES (Continued)

this world to bring hope, healing, reconciliation, and redemption.

Typically, we view the resurrection event as something we celebrate only on Easter Sunday. However, when we fully understand the meaning and the significance of this story, we realize that this event is something that should be celebrated every day. Of course, we celebrate the resurrection of Christ weekly as we gather for worship but we are also expected to celebrate this tenet of our faith through our witness to the world on a daily basis.

In line with this thinking, I invite you to celebrate Christ's resurrection in several ways. First, I want to personally invite you to participate in any or all of three worship venues on Easter Sunday: 6:30 a.m. Easter Sunrise Service (Fire Pit below the parking lot), 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Traditional Easter Services. In addition, I invite you to help St. John Church share the resurrection story with others as you witness to Christ's presence in your life. As you continue your journey through life, allow God's abiding presence to empower you to provide a Christ-like witness to those around you. By doing so, you bear witness to the living God who defeated death and offers life to this world.

As you make final preparations for Easter in your home and in your heart, may your faith be renewed, may you experience a revival of hope, and may you experience the joy of resurrection! Happy Easter!

Blessings,

Michael

Pastor Mike

Blessed is He who
comes in the name
of the Lord

Psalms 118:26



He walked right through the gate . . . and then on up the hill . . .

April Anniversaries

Daryl & Jennifer Smith	04/07
Drew & Ina Shaffron	04/11
William & Louise Goode	04/14
Joel & Elizabeth McDavid	04/20
Lance & Kathy Carney	04/23
Norman & Karen Cottrill	04/26
Gary & Karen Bishop	04/29

Congratulations

Congratulations to those having just completed *Disciple I Bible Study*:

Lisa Bowles	Ralph Bowles
Bill Galyean	Christi Miller
Roger Miller	Doyle Taylor
Phyllis Taylor	

God Bless each of you!!
Thank you, Cindy Wandling,
for your leadership!

Congratulations to those having just completed *Disciple II Bible Study*:

Ed Dawson	Rita Henchey
Judy Hill	Sharon Jones
Judy Justice	Vicki Murphy
Ed Norris	Mary Perry
Debbie Sheets	

God Bless each of you!!
Thank you, Phyllis Duvall,
for your leadership!

Hospitality Volunteers

Thank you to ALL who serve as greeters, welcome desk assistants, ushers, liturgists (readers), Communion servers, nursery attendants and acolytes. You help make our worship services welcoming and meaningful for all who attend. The next five-month schedule (August to December) will be created in the next months. If you have any special requests (certain dates/months to avoid, etc.), or if you would like to be included this time, just let Karen Wicker know (419-410-7679)!

April Birthdays

Rene' Christman	04/01
Ruth Pendleberry	04/02
Nancy Facemyer	04/03
Bea Fields	04/06
Sharon Baisden	04/06
Jason Steorts	04/07
Nico Sims	04/08
Jeremiah Brotherton	04/10
Carli Clark	04/10
Bree Lemmon	04/11
Erin Fankhanel	04/13
Nick Lanham	04/15
Jennifer Vance	04/17
April Baisden	04/17
Jameson Miller	04/17
Hunter Vance	04/18
Carolyn Misch	04/18
Jimmy Clark	04/19
Kate Hall	04/19
Joan Sims	04/19
Nathaniel Dunham	04/20
Jamie Hall	04/21
Hudson Reese	04/22
Blake Stover	04/23
Nick Young	04/23
Dan Forsythe	04/24
Robert 'Bob' Bradley	04/24
Scott French	04/24
Mark Krosky	04/25
Connie Linville	04/28
Aaron Cramer	04/29
Sheila Owens	04/30
Sela Cottrill	04/30



Ministry Team Meeting

Hat Party!

Save the date now and plan to participate in an evening of fun and friendship for all ages! St. John is having a HAT PARTY on Friday, May 17th, from 7:00- 9:00. What is a Hat Party? Everyone wears a favorite or fun hat, and we will vote for our favorites in a variety of categories. Get creative or keep it simple- the choice is yours! We will have all sorts of mixer games that help us get to know one another better, too. Please bring a snack and beverage to share. Watch for more information in the next month!

Our Ministry Team Meeting will be on Sunday, May 19th after worship. *Please note that this is a date change.* If you are interested in helping with and expanding any of our ministries here at St. John- Children, Youth, Nurture (fellowship and caring), Witness (sharing and inviting), Christian Education and Small Groups, Outreach (helping our community), Scouting, Health and Wellness, Hospitality (especially during worship services), United Methodist Men or Women- join us for an afternoon of visioning and planning together! We will end by 2:00. A light lunch will be provided; please let Karen Wicker know if you would like to attend. Let's make this year one in which all of us at St. John serve God and one another- in all the ways we can!

Easter Event and Egg Hunt

All children ages 3 through 5th grade are invited to a morning of Easter fun and faith! Our Easter Event and Egg Hunt will be on Saturday, April 13th, from 9:00-11:00. We will have fun activities, snacks, and crafts that show and tell us about the joy of Jesus' resurrection. We will also make egg baskets to hold all the eggs we find on our hunt at the end of the morning!

Registration forms are at the Welcome Center, or you may register online at our website (sjumcwv.org). Karen Wicker is looking for adults to assist children, help with the snack, welcome visitors and hide eggs that morning. Please let her know if you would like to help! (419-410-7679 or klwicker8@gmail.com)

He could have called His Holy Father and cried "I'm not guilty" . . . "I'm not going to pay for their sins - I'm not going to stay on this cross" . . .

. . . but, He didn't!!

He took the pain and the shame of our sins - and, He died that day for you and me . . .

. . . He gave himself . . . the day He Wore our Crown!!!



Faithful Citizenship Lenten Study

Reconnect this Lenten season with the Family Connections class. Our Lenten Study will be Faithful Citizenship. This Lent, take time to better understand your civic responsibilities as a disciple of Jesus.

Inside this six-week study, Christian adults will explore the concepts of covenant, community and the common

good. Together and independently, we will reflect on how to further grow as faithful citizens.

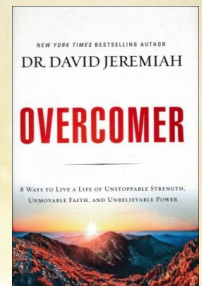
Join us on Sunday mornings at 9:45. Or if you would like to have the lessons to read on your own and ponder send us your email to sprat-t6@suddenlink.net This is a downloadable lesson. We would love to put you on our email list and have you join us.

Koinonia S.S. Class invites you to join in on David Jeremiah's study "Overcomer"

You were not made to live in disappointment, disillusionment, and defeat; God has given you the tools to live a life defined not by your trials but by your victories. In his new book, *Overcomer*, David Jeremiah offers his insights on one of the most quoted but least understood passages of the Bible: the apostle Paul's admonition to the Ephesians to *take up the whole armor of God* (Ephesians 6:10-18).

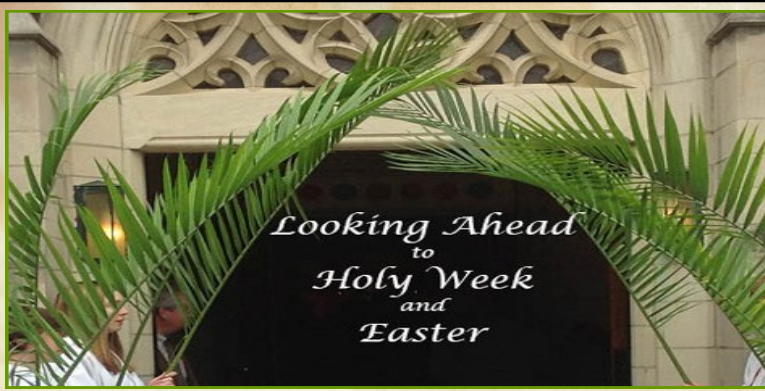
The Koinonia class is made up of people of all ages, who enjoy studying the Bible and Study-guides that will help in the everyday-Christian journey. You are invited and welcome to join with us, as we "Grow as Disciples Together".

*Laura McCullough,
class leader/teacher*



A Class for Everyone!!
Please contact Karen Wicker at 419-410-7679 to help with S.S.

We really do have a class for everyone. Please plan to join us each Sunday at 9:45 am. Please, please invite your family and friends!



A Place for You to Serve

Are you a singer, or an instrumentalist?
Are you interested in enJOYing music through the
Lenten season, Palm Sunday and Easter?

WE HAVE A PLACE for YOU to SERVE!

New songs have been chosen for the choir through
the coming weeks. Easter is just around the corner.

COME and JOIN the choir in singing during Lent.

We practice each Wednesday in the choir room
at 7:00 p.m. and Saturday, April 6th & 13th, at
10 am - 12 noon.

PLEASE JOIN US!!!

CONFIRMATION

**Confirmation will be Maundy
Thursday, April 9th. Family &
friends - be sure to express
your congratulations with
cards to these Youth for
achieving this important
spiritual milestone.**

- Ethan Chill
- Brady Dawkins
- Caleb Delph
- Joshua Gooden
- Kennedy Kirk
- Toby Laughery
- Rhett McGrew
- Everett Miller
- Grey Miller
- Jason Smith
- Ty Steorts

"The Song Everlasting"

A Sacred Cantata,
based on Early
American songs

To be Presented on Palm Sunday
at the 11:00 Service



All Singers Welcome to Join! Rehearsals on Wednesday at 7:00 pm.

MINISTRY • HUMILITY • VICTORY

**Jesus was crucified for the sins of the world!!
The grave held him for three days!!
Oh, but it didn't end there!!
He AROSE and walked free from death!!
"Christ is Victorious over Death and the Grave"!!
Hallelujah - HE IS OUR RISEN LORD!!**





Youth making pancakes for Shrove Tuesday.

Couldn't do it without YOU!

It's crazy to think that it's already April and we are entering into the final two months of the school year. It's been a jam packed and fun semester thus far and that will continue! April has a lot in store for the Youth at St. John:

- We will be serving at the Huntington City Mission.
- Also, in April, we will be confirming 11 students into membership at St. John. The confirmation students have been hard at work learning what it means to be a follower of Christ and a United Methodist. The confirmation service will take place on Maundy Thursday (April 18th) at 7pm. Everyone is invited to us in welcoming in our newest members!
- Lastly, I want to thank everyone who came out to the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner and your continued support of the youth. We couldn't do it without you!

Director of Youth Ministry
Kyle!!



Young girl serving coffee to someone at Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner.



United Methodist Women
of *St John UMC*
FAITH . HOPE. LOVE IN ACTION
Scott Depot, WV

Our next meeting is June 8th, at 11:00 am, in Room 110. Our guest speaker will provide information concerning 'Autism'. Please plan to attend and invite a friend! Blessings!!

UNITED METHODIST MEN

St. John United Methodist Men join together on the third Tuesday of each month at 7 pm in room 200 - to study and discuss the word of God. You are invited and welcome to join us.

EASTER EGG SALE

SUNDAY, APRIL 7
LOWER LEVEL WELCOME CTR.
(FOLLOWING BOTH SERVICES)

UMW FUNDRAISER to SUPPORT
YOUTH & CHILDREN MINISTRIES, as
well as activities that involve use of the
Kitchen.

PRICES:

Easter Eggs - \$3.00
Suckers - \$1.00

BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING

The Health & Wellness Ministry of St. John provides Blood Pressure Screenings the **2nd & 4th Sunday of each month**, immediately following the 8:30 service until the 11:00 service begins. Be sure to stop by for your screening in the Main Welcome Area.



St. John Book Club

St John UMC Community Book club will meet on Tuesday, April 16 at 1:00 pm.

The book for discussion is ,

"The Nightingale" by Kristen Hannah.

Sisters, Vianne and Juliette, helped in their own way during WW2 . . . Juliette, by saving downed-English airmen, and Vianne, by saving Jewish children. This is an unforgettable portrait of love and war. Come join in our lively discussions and fellowship. For more information call: Peggy Kuhl at 304-638-3659 or the church office at: 304-757-6343.

MILES of PENNIES

Miles of Pennies Offerings will continue thru April 7.

These Offerings, during this season, will support 'UMCOR for the Alabama and International disasters'.

THANK YOU!!

Much appreciation to each of you who ordered Easter flowers!

Our sanctuary will look beautiful!!

(You may take your flowers with you following the 11:00 service on Easter Sunday)



Upcoming Outreach Opportunities!

- **Palm Sunday Hymn Sing** - Sunday April 14 after worship. All are invited to join us at a local Nursing Home to deliver cookies and sing hymns to the residents. We'd really love to have some of our littlest members participate! The residents get such joy from visiting with children. Watch your bulletin for all the details!

- **Putnam County Schools Portfolio Exposition**
Career portfolios are more in depth than a resume. Students use career portfolios to apply for jobs and apply to college or training programs. Putnam County Schools need local professionals to help interview our high school students so they get interview experience.

Dates:	Winfield High School	April 17
	Poca High School	April 25
	Hurricane High School	May 3
	Buffalo High School	May 16

Please email Mary Humphrey, Second Education Secretary @ mehumphrey@k12.wv.us if you plan to attend any of the above fairs. Please include your name, address, phone number and school location you plan to attend.

Thank you!

Jennifer Beam, Director of Outreach

Outreach Ministry Needs YOU!

The Outreach Ministry at St. John's mission is to restore hope and provide opportunities for people to become all that God intends them to be. To put our Christian Faith into action through service to the community and to love our neighbor.

Our mission focus is serving the most vulnerable children, teens, and families in Putnam County.

In an effort to do just this, one of our ministries is mentoring children voluntarily in the Juvenile Drug Court Program in Putnam County. We also have a church member that counsels and mentors the parents and or guardians.

There are more male children in the program than male mentors. The program is in need of more mentors.

It's a weekly commitment and sometimes it's not easy. You have to be willing to go with the flow. There may be some disappointments. But, we have seen that the program does work.

So, what do you have to do?

We need mentors who can be a friend, not a parent or authority figure. Help them realize their potential. Be positive and give encouragement. Be a good listener. Don't pass judgment. Respect the process. Be that person who takes the initiative to keep in contact with your mentee. Have patience. Most of these children have trust issues. Be willing to take the time, as long as that is to gain their trust. Be confidential. Have fun! One on one or fun group activities help build relationships. But, most of all let them see the light of Christ through your kindness and presence.

Place this on your heart and pray. Maybe, God is calling you to be a part of this ministry.

If you'd like to find out more about this program and become a mentor please contact Jennifer Beam or Cindy Wandling so we can tell you more and even set up a time for you to see the weekly process and speak to the Judge and probation officers.

If you'd like to get in involved in Outreach we'd like to invite you to please come to our next Outreach meeting on May 7th at 6:30 pm.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



Our annual Vacation Bible School will be every evening from Sunday, June 23rd to Thursday, the 27th. Dinner will be provided again this year! The theme promises to be a fun one, as we travel *To Mars and Beyond* while learning about the life and love of Jesus. More information is coming soon! Mark your calendars!

Christ
is
Risen!

