



First  
United  
Methodist  
Church

Please Note: The deadline is now  
the **THIRD Monday** of each month  
for inclusion of FUMC news in  
the following month's *Mirror*.  
Thank you!



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621 South Third Street, Clinton, Iowa 52732  
(563) 242-5868

Pastor: Christina Sung  
Ministry Assistant: Michael Bell  
Sunday Worship Service: 9:30 a.m.  
Wednesday "Midweek Connect" 5:30 pm

Church Office Hours:  
Tuesday - Thursday 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Radio Broadcast:  
KROS 1340AM & 105.9 FM  
Sunday 11:30 a.m.

Like Us!



# *Mirror*

The Monthly Newsletter of First United Methodist Church, Clinton, Iowa

**April 2021**



## *Inside This Issue*

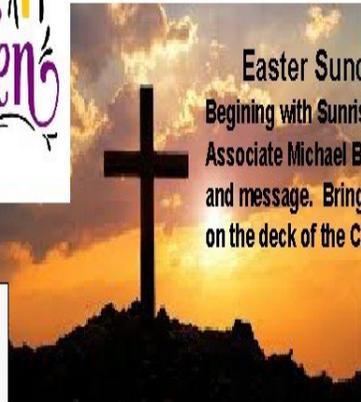
Youth News	Page 3
Secret Church	Page 5
Bishop Laurie's Letter	Page 6



Sunday, March 28th - 9:30 a.m.  
 Palm Sunday Worship featuring a dramatic presentation, "I Carry a Cross", given by Pastor Lyle Wilkins of the Victory Center.

*Palm Sunday* **GOOD FRIDAY**

*He is Risen* 2021 Service on April 2nd, at 6:30 p.m.



Easter Sunday, April 4th  
 Beginning with Sunrise Service at 7:00 a.m.  
 Associate Michael Bell will lead us in praise and message. Bring a lawn chair and meet on the deck of the Candlelight Restaurant.

First United Methodist Church  
 621 S. 3rd Street in Clinton, IA



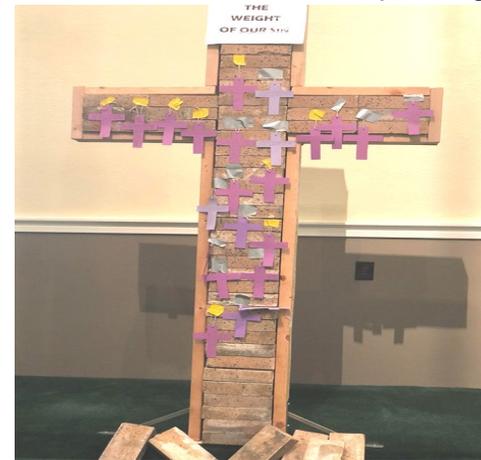
**Join us for Holy Week Services**

- Sunday, March 28th - 9:30 a.m.  
Palm Sunday Morning Worship Service
- Friday, April 2nd - 6:30 p.m.  
Good Friday Evening Service
- Sunday, April 4th - 7:00 a.m.  
Easter Sunrise Service at Candlelight Deck
- Sunday, April 4th - 9:30 a.m.  
Easter Celebration Morning Worship Service

*Easter Sunday*  
 Morning Celebration Service  
 April 4th, at 9:30 a.m.



Brooke and Gia Miller; Our newest Missions member-helping her momma pack spring break brunch boxes! Thank you to Bob Sheppard and Diane Dethmann and the rest of the mission team in the packing of the spring lunch boxes.



The little crosses are our prayers against abortion in Israel and all over the world.

For God ALL life matters—born and unborn.



Don Lauer would like to thank our members for the many cards and prayers that are sent his way in this season of his life. It definitely makes him feel blessed to have so many people thinking of him.



In Philippians 1:3 we read “Every time I think of you, I give thanks to my God!” Like Paul was for the believers in Philippi, we are so grateful for our FUMC family!

1) Over the past year we have had many challenges due to covid-19 and yet so many of you have been faithful to give your tithes and financial gifts. Thank you so much for your faithful giving to the kingdom work God is doing!

We also want to thank God for the following:

2) Those who have and will give a financial gift to the ministry of Pro- Life Israel.

3) Our Worship Committee for all their work to decorate for Lent and Easter.

4) Everyone who will serve with their gifts and talents during our Holy Week services.

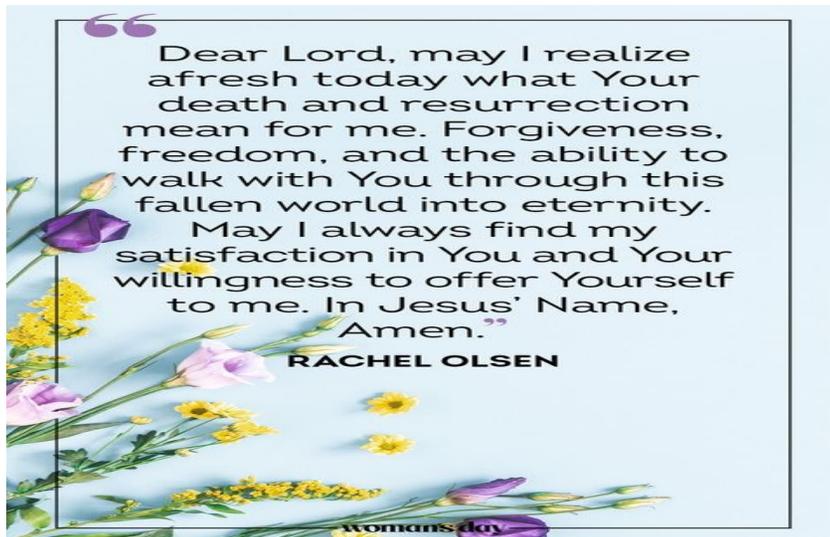
5) Special thanks to Paul Hopkins for his leadership of our musical team for Easter worship at 9:30am.



I searched my files to find the article I had written for the Mirror a year ago. Wow! As I read through the article so many memories and emotions came flooding back into my mind. I shared two verses of Scripture at that time that I’d like to share again: **Psalm 46:1** “God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.” **John 16:33** “I (Jesus) have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart, I have overcome the world.

As I reflect on the past year, there were many days when those Scriptures came to my mind and gave me a peace that God was my strength and that no matter what the future had in store that Jesus was greater! I hope for parents of our youth reading this and others, that you also experienced these truths over the past year. For all of us, our schedules were filled with less events and activities. It was a season when we were forced to spend many days at home with our families and with the Lord. I pray that you were able to take advantage of those opportunities.

So here we are one year later in a world that will never be the same. At the same time Jesus has not changed! Hebrews 13:8 says this “Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.” The Scriptures I shared above are just as needed now as they were one year ago! We know in the future things will happen that will impact our lives that we did not see coming and may have nothing to do with covid-19. When they do come, who or what will be your refuge? How will you find strength when yours is gone? There will be things in the future that will try to overwhelm your heart with fear and worry. When this happens will you seek the One who is peace? Jesus knows we will have trouble, but He also knows that He has overcome this world!



This does not mean that trouble will not still come into our lives, but it does mean we can find our refuge and strength in Jesus in the midst of the trouble! In just a few days we will celebrate the victory that Jesus had over death when He resurrected from the dead! Over the past year we have daily been confronted with heartbreaking numbers with those who sadly lost their lives from complications due to covid-19. God has created us with limits. We too easily forget this reality. Even death comes to those who are believers in Jesus Christ. Praise God that when Jesus rose from the dead, He was letting us know that He has no limits! Death itself could not hold Jesus in its grasp! I pray the same hope we had in Jesus as we began to move into an unknown future a year ago is the same hope that you have today! May our youth, their families, and our church family and friends find peace, refuge, and strength in the resurrected Jesus!

**Here are two short reminders of some great faith growing opportunities coming up this summer.**

**June 13-18 YouthWorks trip to Milwaukee.**

Our team will partner with this ministry and serve in the urban areas of the city. Youth will be serving Jesus as we serve others and have the chance to grow in their faith. Cost per student is \$379. If financial assistance is needed please let me know.

**Summer Games Camp 2021!!**

After a year off this awesome camp is set to return! Central College in Pella will be the host. Dates are July 3-7<sup>th</sup>. I realize this is over the Fourth of July holiday, but that will make this year's camp unique! Registration for the camp is now open. The cost is \$349 with a \$79 deposit needed at the time of registration. You can go to [sgu.camp](http://sgu.camp) to sign up and find more information. This camp is for 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade students. If you have any questions be sure to contact me at [michaelbellfumc@gmail.com](mailto:michaelbellfumc@gmail.com) or my cell phone: 309-235-4877 or the church office. You can stay current with our student ministries at FUMC by going to our Facebook page: Renew Student Ministries FUMC. In Christ, Michael Bell

***Easter Lilies***  
**2021**



**Name**

**In Honor/Memory of**

Marty & Laura Anders  
Jim & Linda Bailey & Nicholle  
Hardy  
Rev Robert Braudt

Our parents  
Beverly & Kenneth Davis  
Luetta J Elwood  
Jim & Pat Braudt  
Norton & Ruth Braudt  
Eugene & Sarah Dannatt  
Suella Forrest  
Honor of Bob Sheppard &  
Chris Bruhn for their many  
hours of volunteer service  
at our church

Dr Richard Forrest & Family  
Friends of FUMC

Pat Kehrberg  
The Lind Family– Gregg, Sarah,  
Stuart & Alice  
Gregg, Sarah & Stuart Lind  
Joan Lyon & family

Ron Kehrberg  
Our parents, grandparents  
& Family  
Honor of Alice's birthday  
Robert H Lyon &  
Marilyn Mayer

McClure families: Jeanie, Peggy,  
Harold & Pat  
Marlys Paul  
David & Jane Schrody  
Roberta Schwartz  
Jeff Shanafelt  
Sharon Sloane & family

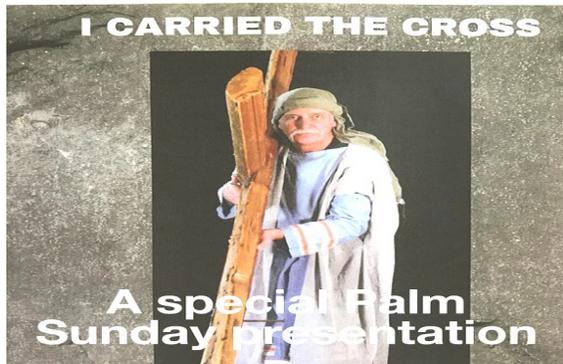
Lee, Mac & Sallie McClure  
& Marcus  
Robert Paul  
Loved Ones  
Honor of New Life  
Lyle & Arlene Shanafelt  
Fred Sloane  
Edmund & Edith Jeffrey  
Loved Ones  
Bev & Jerry Huisinga  
Rus Willoughby

Carolyn Tallett  
Barb, Dee & Carrie Willoughby

## **DON'T MISS THE HOLY WEEK SERVICES!!**

### **Palm Sunday Worship Service Presentation**

by Pastor Lyle Wilkins from the Victory Center

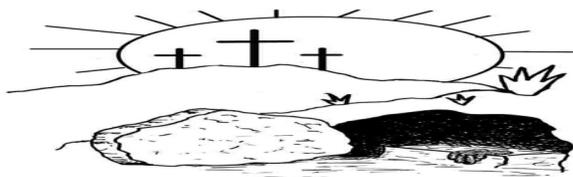


### **Good Friday Service will be at 6:30 pm**

We will have an amazing service with a special presentation from Paul Hopkins recreating the crucifixion with other church members.



### **Easter Sunday Service**



Easter Sunrise Service will be at Candlelight Deck at 7:00 am.

Join us for a very special Easter orchestra presentation for the 9:30 am service on April 4. Our music team will be a combination of experienced and early learners. Make plans to join us for this powerful time of worship through music on Easter Sunday!

## **FUMC Mission Team Hosts “Secret Church: The Great Imbalance”**



Missions Committee is hosting a simulcast of Secret Church on **April 23rd from 6 PM to midnight, with pizza at 5:30.** This is an annual event hosted by David Platt with teaching from the Word and prayer, held late at night in solidarity with persecuted churches around the world. The focus this year is "The Great Imbalance," looking at the Great Commission and our role as the church. You are welcome to stay for the whole event, or part of it. Call the church office to register as soon as possible to get a work book!

### **Churchwide Bible Reading Schedule**

**March 24 start reading Proverbs Chapter 1**

**April 26 start reading Judges Chapter 1**



### **Anniversaries (50 & over)**

Terry & Judy Cravatta 51 years on 4/11/2021

### **Birthdays (90 & over)**

Don Lauer turns 91 on 4/11/2021

From the Office of  
*Bishop Laurie Haller*



My heart echoes the psalmist's cry: "O God, do not keep silence; do not hold your peace or be still, O God!" (*Psalms 83:1, NRSV*)

Today, I grieve the horrific violence of the [shootings in Atlanta, Georgia](#), at three spas and a [grocery store in Boulder, Colorado](#). In these communities, 18 people died at the hands of two shooters, both 21 years of age.

In the United States, we assume safety and comfort. It is unimaginable to think that going about our lives each day could be dangerous. The only place we can turn is to the One who is always faithful. So, the refrain to my lament is: "Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see; all I have needed thy hand has provided; great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!" (*United Methodist Hymnal #140*). God remains God amid the violent chaos. And God's saving, reconciling narrative remains unwavering in the midst of hopelessness and despair.

I urge you to turn to God in prayer. Pray for all those who suffer as a result of these violent and terror-inducing acts. Pray that God will comfort the families and friends of the victims, especially our Asian-American brothers and sisters who are grieving in Atlanta. Pray for the first responders and those, including the police, who work to protect public safety. Pray for all those feeling vulnerable, isolated, insecure, and fearful. Pray for peace.

Soon we will celebrate the resurrection of Jesus. Easter Sunday is the story of the risen Christ coming to his bewildered and frightened disciples. Easter is about the resurrected Jesus reaching out to us across the vast, dark abysses of despair, doubt, and death and saying, "Peace be with you." Peace is a collective responsibility that begins with each of us examining our hearts. Jesus calls each of us to "love your neighbor." It is clear that this spiritual imperative means all neighbors without regard to race, color, religion, or national origin.

Paul taught that "enmities, strife, jealousy, anger, quarrels, dissensions and factions" are among many works of the flesh that are antithetical to the kingdom of God. "By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control." (*Galatians 5: 19-23, NRSV*) These works of the Spirit lead to peace-making and the kingdom of God. The recent shootings leave us perplexed with our world. Friends, please know this: that God is with us. We are called to follow the example of Jesus as the peacemaker.

"Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me; let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be. With God our creator, children all are we. Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony." (*United Methodist Hymnal #431*)

~ Bishop Laurie ~