



Jonestown United
Methodist Church



April 2024 Newsletter

From the Pastor:

Greetings in Jesus... We certainly hope that you found the Easter/Passion season meaningful and were able to grow spiritually in your walk with Christ and devotion to the Lord. Have you ever taken notice to how difficult it can be to start moving again after a particularly challenging season in your life? It may have been wonderful, terrible, anywhere in between, or possibly a journey through “all the above” in different parts of your life. The resurrection we celebrate on Easter is powerful in and of itself, capturing a host of different feelings and impacts on us and those we love around us. Like the disciples, we are crushed by the losses, overwhelmed with the events, elated with the victories and miracles, exhausted by the relentless impacts that come one after another as we try to process them all. Like Thomas we may find it difficult to combine and mix together all the ingredients of what is happening in our life into something we can “swallow”. It all seems to “raw.” What might we learn from the scriptures of how the disciples moved on in the resurrection...

The disciples had spent some grueling days in and around Jerusalem – a center of their heritage and faith. There were moments of both triumph and horror. Their lives would be ever changed and shaped by what happened there. Now come the hints and then the evidence of the resurrection. Good news after overwhelmingly horrible scenes and events. The transition for the disciples was highlighted by a number of perspectives and events that enabled them to move forward. I'll share just two:

First: In two different accounts in Matthew and Mark, some women are told to tell the disciples (and specifically Peter) to go to Galilee and Jesus would meet them there. The angel tells the women in Matthew 28: 7 *Then go quickly and tell his disciples: 'He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him.'* Go to where they started... go home - to Galilee - and Jesus would meet them there. What happened in Jerusalem would be their history and the story they will share. Jerusalem would not be their residence now, not the end of their road. As we move past Holy Week and the Resurrection, what of the message are you taking home? I was careful to not say they were going “back” to Galilee. They were going “forward” to Galilee.. Jesus was going “ahead” of them. This is a great time to examine not only the impact of what *has happened*, but to prepare for what God is planning to do. I believe Jesus has a plan for you, for our church, for your ministry. Second: One of my life passages is from Philippians, chapter 3: “12 Not that I have already obtained all this [i.e. vs. 10 = ...to know Christ—...to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death...], or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me.... 13 I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, 14 I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

(Con't next page...)



PONDER with Lewis...

The Gentle Healer

In Mark 2: 13-17 we heard about the calling of Levi (Matthew) by Jesus. “Once again Jesus went out beside the lake. A large crowd came to Him, and He began to teach them. As He walked along, He saw Levi son of Alphaeus sitting at the tax collectors booth. “Follow me,” Jesus told him, and Levi got up and followed Him. While Jesus was having dinner at Levi’s house, many tax collector and ‘sinners’ were eating with Him and His disciples, for there were many who followed Him. When the teachers of the law who were Pharisees saw Him eating with ‘sinners and tax collectors, they asked His disciples: ‘Why does He eat with tax collectors and ‘sinners’? On hearing this, Jesus said to them, ‘It is not the healthy who need a [Con’t Next Page]

Next News:

May Newsletter

Deadline

Sunday, April 21st.

Jonestown United Methodist

109 West Market Street

PO Box 750

Jonestown, PA 17038

Phone: (717) 865-4369

Email:

info@jonestownumc.org

Web: www.jonestownumc.org

Facebook: Jonestown United Methodist Church

(Con't from the Pastor:

Paul wasn't advocating a bad memory, but instead issues a call to be motivated and driven by God's calling rather than their past. God calls us to life. Galatians 2:20 challenges us: "***I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.***" Easter is never over – it is eternal as we meet Jesus in our Galilee and go wherever He leads us.

~Pastor Al.

YOGA STRETCHING will be the 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month at 8:30am. Please see Lori Jackson for additional details if you are interested.

Gretna Glen Camp and Retreat Center has asked for help in sawing, splitting, and stacking firewood. Our church will help on April 6th, Saturday, 9AM-NOON & 1-3PM. Lunch will be provided in their dining hall. Please call David Gray with any questions at 717-865-3997.

APRIL CARE TEAM

<i>Week of Mar. 31st</i>	
Karen Bene	717-673-2833
<i>Week of Apr. 7th</i>	
Nancy Rautzhan	717-865-3061
<i>Week of Apr. 14th</i>	
Pam Gray	717-865-3997
<i>Week of Apr. 21st</i>	
Jim and Judy Mowry	717-279-0809
<i>Week of Apr. 28th</i>	
Ingrid Steiner	717-585-4001

[PONDER Con't] doctor, but the sick. I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners."

Jean Vanier wrote an article called:

"The Gentle Healer"

Jesus is the healer, the One who comes to bring me life and liberate me from myself. He comes to heal me from my egoism, my aggressiveness and my anguish...

When we become aware of our poverty, our lack of fidelity, our fears; when we become aware that we need a liberator, then Jesus will reveal Himself to us as the quiet, gentle Healer, drawing us from a world of darkness to a world of light, from a world of death to a world of life, He is the Healer who loves, the Healer who in all the tenderness of His being seek to come into us. Not to frighten us, for His heart is the heart of a lover. When He calls person's forth, it is because He loves them-each of us. It is the call of a person who loves and says, "Walk with me for I love you. You are precious in my eyes. Don't be afraid..."

Throughout our live, His lovers call is-"Come Follow me," "Come, if you follow me you will find liberty, come"... Jesus does not impose, He does not try to hold persons back. Like all lovers, He is patient and calls: "Come, I do not impose, but come, follow me. Let me touch your inner being, heal the scars of hardness, egoism and coward ice and let me call you forth to life and liberation note: Jesus healing palor is bright and colorful and full of love!

PLAN NOW FOR A 2024 MISSION TRIP

Plans are now beginning for a trip to Red Bird Mission in Henderson, KY next Summer:

June 23-28, 2024

See Steve Yeagley for information and also to help plan the trip if you are interested.



Graduates?.... If you, or if you are aware of someone who will be graduating this year from high school, career school, college/graduate education, please share their name, where they are graduating from and what their next plans are into the future with the church office.

Please hand the information to the pastor or e-mail to secretary@jonestownumc.org.



Kids Club:

Has the children/youth ministry of our congregation been on your heart? Do you believe that it may be possible He is calling you to get involved in the development of that ministry? At a recent Administrative Council meeting the possibility of starting a weekday or Saturday morning Kid's Club for children of the church and community was introduced. It may involve things like: a bible time, activities, crafts, singing, a snack time, etc. A planning team of interested people will look at timing, leaders/volunteers, prayer support, resources/topics, advertising... If you are one of the "interested people" or even someone interested in coordinating the ministry, send a note to Pastor Al or sign up on the sheet in the narthex. Thank you!



PLASTIC COLLECTION As most of you know, I will be graduating in the end of May. In order to get all the plastic to school, I will be ending my collecting of bags on May 5, 2024. The box will be removed. I want to thank everyone who made this project a great success! It meant a lot to me! Remember to continue to recycle at your local stores and continue to save our environment. Thanks again!

Love, Rebecca



SPRING FLING Sat., April 13th from 4:00pm-6:00pm we will hold a Spring Fling in our parking lot. Plan to stop by for fun, fellowship and food. Everything is FREE! More details to follow. Sign up in narthex if you can help.

ELECTRONIC GIVING

Are you Interested in simplifying how you give to the church? In the past many people have been hesitant to use the latest E-Giving option due to the generic look of the sight. We have updated E-Giving so when you click in the E-Giving button at the top right of the jonestownumc.org website you will see several tutorials in the box in the center of the page that you can check before proceeding to the E-Giving page. After you have watched them click on DONATE and you will go to the E-Giving page which should have the church's name and picture of our stained-glass window. It is best to create an account with your email address and a password because then you can look at you history and schedule. If the tutorials don't make sense contact Pat Sheehan at (717) 202-5639 or treasurer@jonestownumc.org. or Carvel Keiser (carvelkeiser@comcast.net).

Thanks

The Finance Committee

APRIL MISSION PARTNER

Special offering for April is for NL Ministerium (in addition to mission/outreach).

FEBRUARY FINANCIAL UPATE

Budgeted for **February** = \$11, 113.00

Received in total for all categories =

\$10, 214.00

Expenses \$14, 539.00

LCCM NOON MEAL

First Fridays, 10:00am

**Jonestown UMC April Free
Noon Meal will be on**

Apr. 5th and May 3rd.

JUMC is responsible for preparing the noon meal the first Friday of each month through volunteers from our congregation, adults in the winter, fall, and spring, and our Youth Ministry in the summer. Currently we make about 100 lunches distributed to those in need noon-1pm. If you are interested in helping, contact Howard Lee (717-228-7249) or Bob Hillegas (717-865-7478)

Free Food Box Distribution

April 13th @ 1PM

Area United Methodist Churches have been distributing food boxes over the last two years to needy families in our area. You can help unload food Thursday 4/11 in the afternoon, late Friday morning 4/12, and help assemble boxes Friday evening at 6PM, and/or help distribute the boxes to those who come on Saturday 4/13 at 1PM. (Setup at ~12:30PM)



Friends and members of our church may activate the prayer chain by calling the pastor or one of the team leaders indicated by a star (*).

Team 1: *Lewis & Eleanor Artz

(717-865-3447)

John & Nancy Rhen (717-865-4317)

Teri Light (717-813-8347)

Gary Miele (717-383-2941)

Team 2: *Larry Major (717-865-3442)

Jeff & Diana Waltermeyer (717-865-5675)

Rick & Wendy Kline (865-4363)

Team 3: *Doris Crouse (717-865-5554)

Judy Mowry (717-279-0809)

Kay Horner (717-865-5538)

George/Nancy Rautzhan (717-865-3061)

Lewis Artz (717-865-3447)

Larry Major (717-865-3442)

Doris Crouse (717-865-5554)



WANTED: Individuals willing to learn some simple steps to follow and add perhaps add some creativity to our Live Streaming Worship Services.

We are always looking for persons willing to provide relief for those regularly serving in this area when they need a break or will be away OR share the load on a Sunday Morning with set-up or trouble shooting when needed. Please contact Pastor Al if you are interested in some simple instructions.

In response to some inquiries I am including the info on the church activity last years as to our support of missions. Some of these items are ongoing and some are monthly and some are budgeted items. In 2023 we gave the following to the missionaries that we support though budgeted amounts.

Heinsmans/Team	\$1300.00
Pahutskis/Pioneers	\$1300.00
Samuteb Hospital	700.00
Our Daily Bread	\$100.00

In addition these we support through our monthly special offerings, On these what comes during the month goes directly out to the mission.

January - AMMI \$225.00

February -JOY \$998.00 (Some people give to this all year long and everything goes to JOY)

March -Lenten Offering \$205.00 (This is decided each year by the board to support a special need. In 2023 it went to Back to school blessing through the NL Ministerium.

April – Camping \$425.00 Usually on one of the months we get a special offering for what was Camping Scholarships. With the few campers we are supporting right now we have changed April, to NL Ministerium. We do have people that support Gretna Glenn on a regular basis and anything that comes in for Gretna or the Camping scholarships we give directly to the Camp.

May -UMCOR \$1058.00 Disaster relief through One Great Hour of Sharing

June -Red Rose \$6245.00 The Trustees are supposed to designate a project each year for this offering. None was designated in 2023.

July-ALIGN \$350.00

August -LCCM \$825.00

September -Shoebox \$1200.00 This is for the shoebox postage for the boxes we fill. This is handled through Samaritans Purse.

October – Lebanon Rescue Mission \$1735.00

November -Bill Lovelace \$330.00

December -NL Ministerium \$1294.00 Each year December is designated by the Ad. Board. In 2023 It was decided to give it to The newly formed Northern Lebanon Ministerium to help with start up costs.

Usually on one of the months we get a special offering for what was Camping Scholarships. With the few campers we are supporting right now we have changed that to April, NL Ministerium. We do have people that support Gretna Glenn on a regular basis and anything that comes in for Gretna or the Camping scholarships we give directly to the Camp.

I hope this helps clear up any questions on the missions of JUMC and how the offerings are designated.

In the future I will try to update more often probably on a quarterly basis.

In the mean time pleas contact me with any questions you may have.

May God Bless JUMC and our endeavors.

Pat Sheehan



bound. Ellie Artz continue in nursing homes, and would love to hear from you or see you if you can visit. Frank and Jan Sebastian and Lewis are in their homes, as are Phil Lenge, and Nancy and John Rhen. Please check the JOY table for a list and addresses of these members. All would appreciate knowing you are thinking of them! Don't forget the Care Booklets in the circular rack available for you to take. If you know of a care concern, please contact anyone on the care team. Also, if you would like to be on the Care Team, please see Pam Gray. We would be happy to welcome new members as we are down to five. We send cards, make phone calls, and take meals to families when needed. We also serve a funeral luncheon when asked. It is a great way to extend God's love to others at a difficult time.

Thanks for contacting those we don't see in church to let them know we miss them. Calls or cards mean a lot, especially to those who are home



JOY clients may now shop once a week either on a Tuesday from 10-12, Thursday from 4-7, or Friday from 10-12. Thank you all for your generosity in donating to JOY. We are serving more families with the new schedule. We gave over 400 lbs. of food this past month.

Some needed items are: canned pasta, chunky soup, Ramen soup, cream soups, canned fruit, canned chicken, juices, paper towels, dish liquid, other cleaning supplies, and shampoo. A complete list of needed items is on the JOY table to take along or check the website at joypantry.org. Please mail monetary donations to: JOY Food Pantry, P.O. Box 121, Jonestown, PA 17038.

**"Friends Together" - Tues.
April 9th at 1:00pm at JUMC
Social Hall**



The next ladies meeting, "Friends Together", will be on Tuesday, April 9th at 1:00 pm. We will be hearing from Heather Irwin, the missionary who lives in our parsonage. All are welcome to join us for this fun and interesting discussion about her

and her family's experiences as missionaries in Russia. We will also have refreshments. Our ladies' group has volunteered to collect and sort clothes for the NL Clothes Closet by the Northern Lebanon Ministerium. We will continue to work on this project. Donations of clean, gently used clothes for men, women, and children can be put in the labeled tote in the narthex or on the tables in the basement in the middle Sunday School room by the kitchen. The NL Clothes Closet is located in some rooms in the Jonestown Elementary School (recently purchased by IU 13) for storage, sorting, and shopping for eligible Northern residents for free. Please see Pam Gray if questions, or to find out how to sign up, if you want to volunteer. Thank you for your support for this project.

CHURCH EVENTS

- Tuesdays 6:30pm- Conversations with the Father
- Tuesdays 7:00pm-Creative Ministries
- Tuesdays 7:15pm-Praise Team Rehearsal
- Apr 5, 10:00am-LCCM Noon Meal
- Apr 5, 6:00pm—Ladies Night Out
- Apr 6, 20, 8:30am—Yoga Stretching
- Apr 8, 6:30pm— Church Council
- Apr 9, 1:00pm—"Friends Together" JUMC Social Hall
- Apr 12, 6:00pm—Food Box Assembly
- Apr 13, 8:00—Men's Breakfast
- Apr 13, 1pm—Food Box Distribution.
- Apr 13, 4:00-6:00—Spring Fling
- Apr 15, 6:30pm—Trustee Meeting
- Apr 18, 6:00pm— Jonestown Boro Meeting
- Apr 22, 6:30—Worship Meeting
- Apr 3, 17, 20, 10:00am-12:00pm—NL Clothes Closet Shopping
- Apr 1, 9, 15, 23, 29, 10:00am-12:00pm—NL Clothes Closet-Sorting
- Apr Thursdays, 4:00pm-7:00pm-JOY Pantry
- Apr Tuesdays/Fridays, 10:00am-12:00pm-JOY Pantry

CELEBRATE OUR GUESTS:

We have seen a number of guests joining us for worship and at a variety of events sponsored by the ministries of Jonestown Church. There are some small bags to be handed out to our guests that include a brochure about our church, a refrigerator magnet with the contact information for our congregation, a pen, etc.

In addition to personally welcoming and getting to know people you are either meeting for the first time or are getting re-acquainted with, we are invited those normally attending to share one of the guest bags while introducing yourself and personally welcoming guests/visitors.

CONVERSATIONS WITH OUR HEAVENLY FATHER

Tuesday evenings starting April 2nd, 6:30-7:30pm

Please join me for prayer. We will have a short devotion, and then we will spend time with our Father. Personal prayer, prayer for our country, our community, our church family, and each other. It will be ALL of our time with Him. Teri Light



With Lori Jackson Tuesdays starting April 2nd, 7:00pm-8:00pm.

This may or may not involve puppetry. 10 years old through adult are welcome

to join. Speakers, actors, writers, tailors, artists, interest in sound, lighting. No experience necessary. Text Lori 717-926-4572.



Ladies Night Out will be held on Friday, April 5th starting at 6 p.m. This could be the time to work on individual projects. Bring craft projects you may currently be working on or engage in completing puzzles or coloring books available at church. We will start at 6pm but join us when you can. Take out is ordered for those needing dinner. We wrap up for the night around 9pm. Join us in an evening of fellowship and fun. Call Karen Bene if you have any questions at 717-673-2833.

Northern Lebanon Clothes Closet:

The Northern Lebanon Clothes Closet April schedule is as follows: open for sorting on Mondays, April 1,15, and 29th (9-12); and on Tues. 9, and 23rd. Open for shopping on Wed., April 3rd ,17th (10-12), and on the Thurs.,4th ,18th (4-6); and also on Sat., 20th (10-12). Thanks for your donations.



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Tina Pittinger
- 2 Anna Mae Fessler
- 3 Susan Humpf
- 4 Blanche Wonderly
- 5 Caleigh Keiser
- 6 Howard Lee
- 7 Peiton Mentzer
- 8 Wendy Kline
- 8 Linda Lee
- 8 Laura Keiser
- 8 Jessica Blouch (Adams)
- 9 Audrey Granger
- 11 Phil Boltz
- 16 Rev. Alan J. Smith
- 16 Dan Adams
- 17 Michelle Unger
- 19 Grace Hillegas
- 20 Sam Gienow
- 21 Hillary Leedy
- 22 Amanda Robinson
- 22 Dawn Krissing
- 23 William Major
- 25 Hannah Bashore
- 29 Donald Edcus

Psalm 28: 7-9

The Lord is my strength and my shield, in Him my heart trusts, and I am helped. My heart exults, and with my song I give thanks to Him. The Lord is the strength of His people; He is the saving refuge of His anointed. Oh, save Your people and bless Your heritage! Be their shepherd and carry them forever.



APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

- 20 Gerry & Sharon Tinder
- 22 John & Nancy Rhen
- 28 Rick Metzger & Candace Smith

My Prayer List:

April 2024



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 NL Clothes Closet-sorting 9:00-12:00 AA Meeting 6:00 Ripped 7:00	2 JOY Pantry 10:00-12:00 Conversations With The Father 6:30 Creative Ministries 7:00 Praise Team 7:15	3 NL Clothes Closet-Shopping 10:00-12:00	4 NL Clothes Closet-Shopping 10:00-12:00 JOY Pantry 4:00-7:00	5 LCCM Noon Meal 10:00 JOY Pantry 10:00-12:00 Ladies Night Out 6:00	6 Yoga Stretching 8:30
7 Worship 8:45/11:00 Sunday School 10:00 Praise Team Rehearsal 10:10	8 NL Clothes Closet-sorting 9:00-12:00 AA Meeting 6:00 Church Council 6:30 Ripped 7:00	9 NL Clothes Closet-sorting 9:00-12:00 JOY Pantry 10:00-12:00 "Friends Together" JUMC 1:00 Conversations With The Father 6:30 Creative Ministries 7:00 Praise Team 7:15	10	11 Unload Trailer 4:00 JOY Pantry 4:00-7:00	12 JOY Pantry 10-12:00 Food Box Assembly 6:00	13 Men's Brkfst 8:00 Food Box Distribution 1:00 Spring Fling 4:00-6:00
14 Worship 8:45 11:00 Sunday School 10:00 Praise Team Rehearsal 10:10	15 NL Clothes Closet-sorting 9:00-12:00 AA Meeting 6:00 Trustee 6:30 Ripped 7:00	16 JOY Pantry 10-12 Conversations With The Father 6:30 Creative Ministries 7:00 Praise Team 7:15	17 NL Clothes Closet-Shopping 10:00-12:00	18 NL Clothes Closet-Shopping 10:00-12:00 Jonestown Boro Meeting 6:00 JOY Pantry 4:00-7:00	19 JOY Pantry 10:00-12:00	20 Yaga Stretching 8:30 NL Clothes Closet-shopping 10:00-12:00
21 Worship 8:45 11:00 Sunday School 10:00 Praise Team Rehearsal 10:10 Newsletter Articles Due	22 AA Meeting 6:00 Worship 6:30 Ripped 7:00	23 NL Clothes Closet-sorting 9:00-12:00 JOY Pantry 10:00-12:00 Conversations With The Father 6:30 Creative Ministries 7:00 Praise Team 7:15	24	25 JOY Pantry 4:00-7:00	26 JOY Pantry 10:00-12:00	27
28 Worship 8:45 11:00 Sunday School 10:00 Praise Team Rehearsal 10:10	29 NL Clothes Closet-sorting 9:00-12:00 AA Meeting 6:00 Ripped 7:00	30 JOY Pantry 10:00-12:00 Conversations With The Father 6:30 Creative Ministries 7:00 Praise Team 7:15				