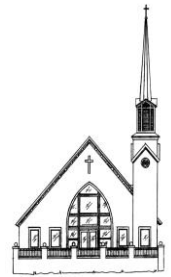


March
2021

Jefferson⁺town *United Methodist Church*

10219 Taylorsville Road, Louisville, KY 40299
Ph: 502-267-1437; Prayer Team: 502-245-2203
Email: churchoffice@jtownumc.org; Website: jtownumc.org



THE PASTOR PONDERERS
And Ponders and Ponders, Poor Guy!

But strive for the greater gifts. And I will show you a still more excellent way. (1 Corinthians 12:31)

Boy, it sure is nice to receive gifts, isn't it? I mean, it's just fun! Especially receiving gifts that are wrapped so we can't see what it is immediately. There is a child-like tingle at such a moment. It doesn't matter how many years we have lived, or the pretext we make about not needing gifts, we all love getting a surprise gift.

Did you hear about the man who thought hard about what to get his wife for her birthday? On the morning of her big day, he turned to his beloved and stated, "Don't get out of bed." He then hurried off downstairs. Realizing he was probably going to return, having made her breakfast in bed, she relaxed a bit and thought of their love. When he hadn't returned after many minutes, she got up and went downstairs, finding him sitting at the kitchen table enjoying a breakfast of bacon, eggs and toast. "My gift to you was to make my own breakfast today!" (an act he got to repeat for the rest of the month, I'm sure!)

The Apostle Paul writes in the 12th chapter of his letter to the Christians in Corinth, about spiritual gifts. After much instruction on this issue, he concluded the chapter with advice to strive for the best of gifts, and in finding those in particular, our Lord's desire is to, "...lay out a far better way for you." (Eugene Peterson's *The Message*)

We journey through the Lenten season as an opportunity to grow closer to God and experience that "more excellent way." Love, of course, is the more excellent way for all persons in which to walk and live. Through the exercise of various spiritual disciplines, we are strengthened in the "inner person." (Ephesians 3:16)

Whereas many people today would scoff at the notion of developing a life that routinely included prayer, Bible reading, meditation, giving, and perhaps most of all, fasting; the Christian pilgrim understands the benefits of such discipline. So, I encourage us all to work through these steps of our Lenten journey, making progress towards a oneness with Christ. As they used to say in all the great Western movies, "Happy Trails to You!"

Working to Build the Kingdom with you until Jesus returns! *Bro. Bob*

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## "Spring Forward"

*Daylight Saving Time begins at 2:00 AM on Sunday, March 14<sup>th</sup>.* Be sure to set your clocks ahead one hour before going to bed on Saturday, March 13<sup>th</sup>.

## Lenten Décor



A special thank-you to Stan Rader, Fran Pullias, Mary Lou Falvey & Rosanne Broome for the Lenten decorations in the sanctuary. Round wooden discs were made and painted black by Stan; Fran painted a single theme word on each disc. These discs will be placed, one per week, during the worship service, until we have all six discs on the altar Holy Week. Mary Lou and Rosanne set up the decorations on and around the altar. Thanks to all of these persons for their part in making and setting up these beautiful decorations. They add so much to worship!

## Worshipful Wednesday With Communion—March 10<sup>th</sup>

Those who can't worship with us in larger gatherings are invited to *call the church office and reserve a ½ hour time slot* (Noon, 12:30PM, 1PM, 1:30PM, 2PM, 2:30PM, 3PM) for the March Worshipful Wednesday devotionals (2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday). We will be observing Holy Communion.

## Daylight Saving Time Begins Sunday, March 14<sup>th</sup>

Please remember to “Spring Forward” you clocks one hour before gong to bed on Saturday!

## United Methodist Committee on Relief Special Offering-March 14<sup>th</sup>

This special offering helps alleviate human suffering and advances hope and healing. When war, conflict or natural disasters disrupt life to such an extent the communities cannot recover on their own, UMCOR provides humanitarian relief. Please give generously on March 14<sup>th</sup> or drop off or mail a donation to the church.

## Finance Team Meeting-Tuesday, March 16<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 PM

Members of the Finance Team should attend (meeting to be held in the CAYA classroom with social distancing--please bring a mask).

## Congratulations to the Reyes Family!

Dayren Reyes became an official U.S. Citizen on Thursday, February 25, 2021. She follows in her mother's footsteps, and Dayron is not far behind. Baby Girl Reyes will be born in the U.S. in March, so when Dayron receives his citizenship, the whole family will be U.S. citizens!

## New Address

(Please make this change in your 2021 Church Directory)

**Naomi Tokao** (Mary, Courage, Abigail)--9709 Balsam Way, #H17,  
Louisville, KY 40299

## COVID-19 Update

**We are happy that so many in our congregation have reported to us that they've received the COVID-19 vaccination.** We would like to continue to hear from any others who have received their vaccination (first and second shots). We feel like, at this time, we still need to require social distancing and the wearing of masks. Thanks for your cooperation.

## Red Bird Mission Trip

**Ron Million is planning a Mission Trip to Red Bird this year.** If you are interested in going, please call Ron (cell #502-210-9738) or call or email the church office (phone: 502-267-1437; email: [churchoffice@jtownumc.org](mailto:churchoffice@jtownumc.org)) so Ron can set a date for the trip. Funds are available.



## Lent and Easter Worship Opportunities

(current plans, subject to change)

**Good Friday Communion:** April 2<sup>nd</sup>, from 1-3 PM, Holy Communion will be offered in the JUMC sanctuary. Scripture will be read, and music played as a few people at a time will be directed to the altar rail; as you stand, communion will be served to you. After you receive the elements, you are free to leave.

**Easter Worship**-Sunday, April 4<sup>th</sup>. Three opportunities for worship: 9am, 10am and 11am. Worship will include special music and celebration of Easter. No communion served at these services (communion offered on Good Friday, between 1 PM & 3 PM). Reservations required (limit of 50 persons per service). Please call the church office (502-267-1437) to make a reservation. You will only be allowed to attend the time slot you have chosen.

### **Upcoming Sermons:**

(Sundays, 10:00 AM in the JUMC sanctuary)

3/7—Third Sunday in Lent "A Hanking for the Holy"

(spiritual hunger) *Psalm 81:10*

3/14—Fourth Sunday in Lent "Habits"

(Spiritual Routines to build upon!) *1 Timothy 4:6-8*

3/21—Fifth Sunday in Lent "I'd Like to Buy a Vowel"

(Jesus changes us!) *Matthew 11:28*

3/28—Palm Sunday "Celebration, Not Insurrection" *Matthew 21:8-11*

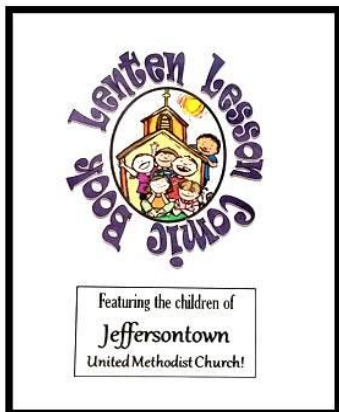
## Children's Ministries

We continue to seek creative means in which to reach our children about various aspects in the life of the Church family. For a teaching lesson about the Christian calendar season of Lent, we created a comic book that explores many of the things that are important at this time of year. That is, a comic book with a twist!

We were able to take a "head shot" photo of our children, and through the use of a website that morphs photos into cartoonish images, we created a comic book for our children that is about our children. Chip Bland helped with the transposition of the kids' photos, while Bro. Bob wrote the script. We are collating the pages

and will be making them available for any who wish to have one. For our families with children, we trust this will be an unusual keepsake for years to come!

**Scouting Ministry:** The scouts continue to meet virtually. They are all working really hard to finish up their current ranks so they can advance in March.



## Birthdays & Anniversaries

(Anniversaries marked with an asterisk)

3/2-Tracie Kiefer; 3/10-Patsy O'Neal; 3/14-Jacob Mattingly, Griffin Pfisterer; 3/17-\*Eric & Michele Edwards, Cooky Thomas; 3/20-Tristan Risen; 3/25-Charles Breeden; 3/27-Nicolle Speer; 3/31-Rebekah Heath; 4/6-\*Chip & Shannon Bland; 4/8-\*Steve & Sherry Mattingly

## *Christian Love and Sympathy to . . .*

. . . Susan and Joe Knight and family in the death of Susan's mother, Miriam Meyer.

## **Mountain Mission Pickup-Monday, March 29<sup>th</sup>**

*We will begin accepting donations Monday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>.* Please have your donations at the church by noon on Monday, March 29<sup>th</sup> (boxed, if possible—empty boxes are located on the pews in the foyer, if you need them). Place your donations in the foyer off the parking lot.

**Urgent Needs:** Men's and Children's summer clothes, socks & underwear, children's shoes, good pots and pans, and good used furniture. ***Processing Plant Needs:*** 16 oz. & 8 oz. coffee cups, Air Fresheners (aerosol cans), Dust Mops, Toilet Bowl Cleaner, Toilet Tissue, Sanitizing Wipes, Paper Towels, Furniture Polish, Windex, Hand Soap (liquid), ***and, of course, all the other good and usable items you donate to the Mission!***

### **Thank You**

***Food Ministry Thank You--***Thank you to everyone who was involved in any way with our Starbucks food partnership. Starbucks decided to discontinue their partnership, but we are still partnering with KFC. We have contacted Harvest Food Program representatives to partner with a new restaurant (Pizza Hut) in the near future. We are currently picking up and distributing KFC. If you or anyone you know needs food and would like some of the KFC chicken and biscuits, please call the church office.

***The dear people you just helped*** with your gift to the United Methodist Committee on Relief (U.M.C.O.R.) may never have the opportunity to meet you, but if they did, I am certain their response would be – *Thank you!* Through your financial support you are serving within a vital network of interactive relationships in the United States and more than 60 countries in which U.M.C.O.R. and partnering agencies engage in direct ministry to persons in need. May we continue to reveal the love of God for men, women, and children of all ethnic, racial, cultural, and national backgrounds and to demonstrate the healing power of the gospel with those who suffer. – *Grace and Peace, Roland Fernandes, General Secretary, U.M.C.O.R.*

### **Church Staff**

(Office Hours: M-F, 8 AM-2 PM)

**Pastor-**Rev. Bob Howell-Cell#502-819-1160; Email: [ukyhowell@gmail.com](mailto:ukyhowell@gmail.com)

**Assistant to the Pastor-**Dayron Reyes-Cell#786-448-8014; Email: [dayronreyes17@yahoo.com](mailto:dayronreyes17@yahoo.com)

**Children's Ministry Coordinator-**Kara Mattingly-Cell#270-505-9519  
Email: [kara.mattingly1208@gmail.com](mailto:kara.mattingly1208@gmail.com)

**Pianist-**Patsy O'Neal-Cell#502-930-5357; Email: [peagreen.sings@gmail.com](mailto:peagreen.sings@gmail.com)

**Secretary-**Teresa Allen-Ph #502-267-1437; Email: [churchoffice@jtownumc.org](mailto:churchoffice@jtownumc.org)

**Nursery Coordinator-**Jessica McNeill-Cell#502-314-7415; Email: [zecknerj1@gmail.com](mailto:zecknerj1@gmail.com)

**Child Development Center Director-**Jennifer Webster-Ph# 502-261-2867; Email: [jumcdc@gmail.com](mailto:jumcdc@gmail.com)

## Endowment Plaque In The JUMC Gathering Area

Three names have been added to our Endowment Plaque that is on the wall in the Gathering Area: Darrell Hicks, Jim Johnson, and Jim Gatewood. The plaque is on the wall to the left of the double door entry to the sanctuary.

| Date      | General Offering     | Attendance |
|-----------|----------------------|------------|
| 1/31/2020 | \$7,051.51           | 33         |
| 2/07/2021 | \$3,273.00           | 44         |
| 2/14/2021 | (combined with 2/21) | 41         |
| 2/21/2021 | \$7,153.00           | 46         |

## Statistical Report

General Offering for February to date (3 weeks):  
\$10,426.00

*Designated Offering:* KY U.M. Homes (5<sup>th</sup> Sunday)-\$70;  
COVID Relief=\$350; Have a Heart for Seniors (Wesley  
Manor)=\$108; U.M.C.O.R.=\$50

Total January General Offering: \$29,356.17

*January Designated Offerings:* Human Relations Day-\$130; KY U.M. Homes for Children and Youth (5<sup>th</sup> Sunday)-\$190

***As a Member of Jeffersontown United Methodist Church, you pledged to faithfully participate in its ministries by your prayers, your presence, your gifts, your service, and your witness.***

*(The U.M. Hymnal, pg 38)*

**Donations Other Than Tithes**-The Tellers request that you please write a separate check for donations to the church other than your tithe (i.e. Capital Fund, COVID-19, Holiday offerings, etc.).

**Charitable Donations**-The JUMC Administrative Council voted to not distribute/endorse requests for donations to charities outside The United Methodist connection.

**Pre-Paying Your Pledge**-Tax advantages are available for persons age 70 & ½ and older who are required to make annual withdrawals from their IRA (if you donate money from that account to the church). Several church members have done this in the past. If you'd like more information, call Lee Hart so he can explain the process & tax advantages 502-267-8066 (wk); 502-254-1682 (home).

## Continuing Ministries

**Jeffersontown Area Ministries**--Donations of shelf-stable food, infant & personal care items.

**Red Bird**-Coca Cola caps/multi-pack end flaps (*inside the end flap*-not the bar code on the outside). Place in the Campbells Soup tin in the Gathering Area.

**KY U.M. Homes for Children & Youth**-5<sup>th</sup> Sunday offerings, or donate online at kyumh.org.

**Lion's Club**-Used eyeglasses (place in church office).

**Kroger Points**-Community Rewards program-choose JUMC as your charity of choice & the church receives 4% of all your purchases. Quarterly checks average \$200!

**Harvest Food Program**-KFC chicken & biscuits delivered to our homebound & others. Hopefully we will be partnering with another restaurant soon (in addition to KFC).

**Mask Ministry**-Face masks made by & donated by church members are on the table in the Gathering Area. No cost. If you need a mask, feel free to take one.

**Water Step**-New or gently used shoes (free of mold or holes). Athletic shoes preferred, but all styles of shoes are accepted. Proceeds from the sale of these shoes fund safe drinking water projects worldwide (which saves thousands of lives yearly). Donated shoes also keeps tons of waste out of landfills. The shoe collection box is in the foyer off the parking lot.

**Laundromat Ministry**- We pay laundry fees for those in need. Please see Dayron Reyes.