

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

TODAY, Sunday, April 13 Palm Sunday

9:00 AM -Sunday School

10:00 AM -Worship Service

GREETERS: *Don & Brentta Sheaffer*

WORSHIP LEADER: *M.J. Cline*

USHERS: *Alana Gipson & Gloria Womer*

MONDAY, April 14

6:45 PM -Choir Practice

TUESDAY, April 15

7:00 PM -Women's Prayer Group (Zoom)

WEDNESDAY, April 16

5:00 PM -Filling Easter eggs at Marconi Club

THURSDAY, April 17

5:30 PM -Messy Maundy Thursday

FRIDAY, April 18

2:00 PM -Cross Walk begins at LFUMC

7:30 PM -Good Friday/Tenebrae Service

SATURDAY, April 19

1:00 PM -Easter Egg Hunt at Gilpin/Leechburg Park

SUNDAY, April 20 Easter Sunday

6:30 AM -Sunrise Service at Gilpin/Leechburg Park

10:00 AM -Worship Service

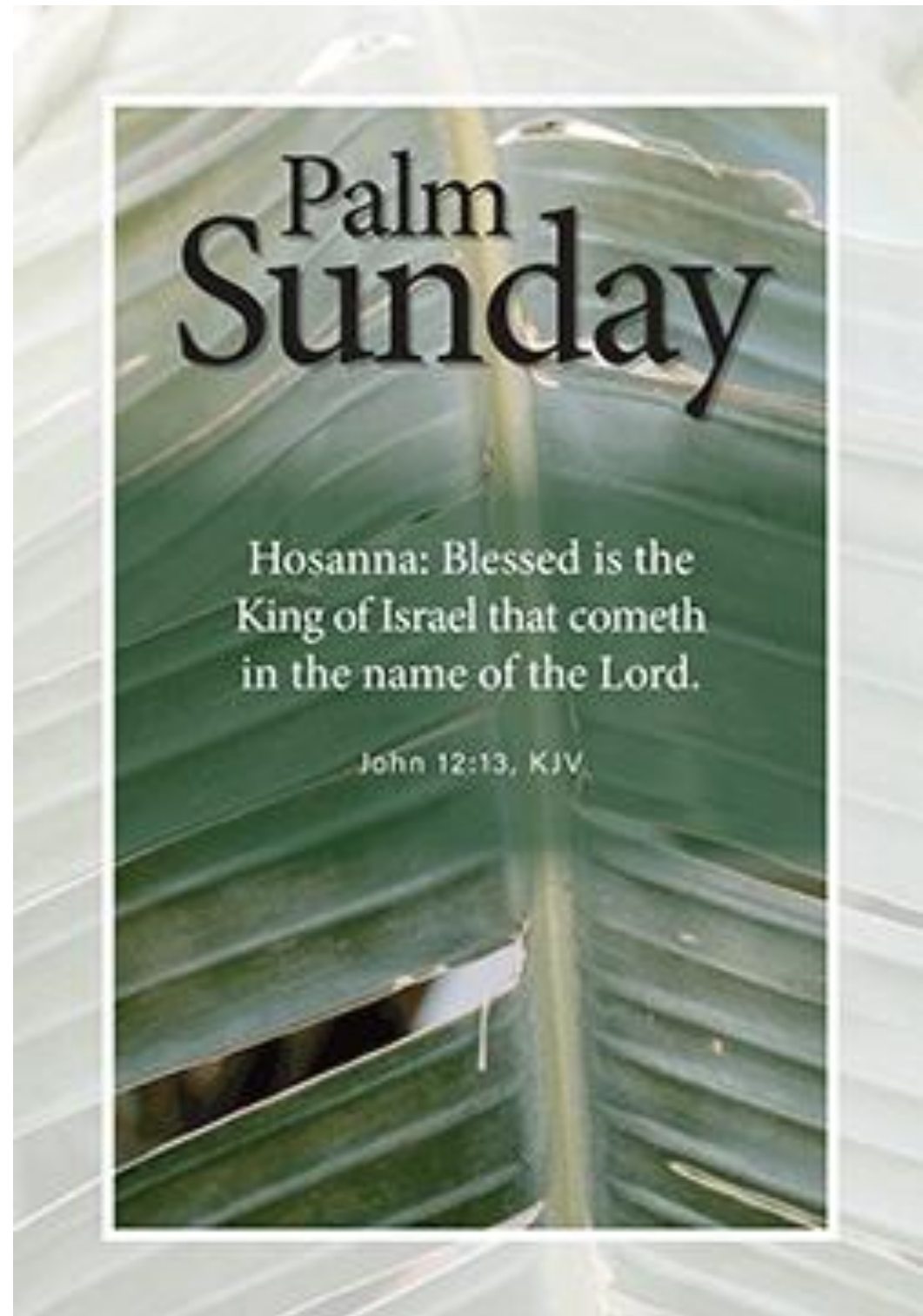
GREETERS: *Pam McGranor*

WORSHIP LEADER: *Don Sheaffer*

USHERS: *Leslie Buckingham, Chris VanDervort, & Paul Wrona*

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The FLOWERS today have been given to the glory of God in celebration of the blessed Easter season for our entire church family by Ward & Cathy Kepple.



# First United Methodist Church

*"Growing, Loving & Serving in Christ's Name"*

Rev. Sara J. Wrona, Pastor

Gloria Womer, Don Sheaffer, Elaine Brenneman Co-Lay Leaders

Gail Varine, Organist / Choir Director

LFUMC.org

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Pastor's Cell: (724) 882-9627

## Palm Sunday

- ❖ We know that everyone is differently abled so please stand or sit as best suits your comfort level.

### Greetings & Announcements

### Prelude

*As the music begins, be silent, be thoughtful, and be reverent, for this is the House of the Lord. Before the service, speak to the Lord. During the service, let the Lord speak to you. After the service, speak to one another.*

- ❖ Centering Chorus "Seek Ye First" #405 v. 1

### ❖ Call to Worship

Today, we join Jesus in the final ascent to Jerusalem, knowing the depths we will descend on our journey through Holy Week.

**Open the gates of righteousness, that we may come worship God!**

We join the disciples in declaring that Jesus, riding on a donkey, is our Ruler, the One who will bring peace and salvation for all.

**Open the gates of peace, that we may come worship God!**

We join the bystanders who questioned and wondered who this Jesus really is, who feared the consequences of angering the powers that be.

**Open the gates of truth, that we may come worship God!**

The journey through Holy Week brings us face-to-face with the stark reality of sin and God's faithfulness to save.

**Open the gates of salvation, that we may come worship God whose steadfast love never fails. ✠**

- ❖ Opening Hymn "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna" #278

### ❖ Opening Prayer (in unison)

God, we gather on this day to begin a week of contrasts. From hope to despair to hope again. As we begin the week, as we join with the crowd, help us cut through the noise to see what is happening, to see what is at stake. As the story unfolds, open us to both the hope and the pain. In this time of worship, prepare us to celebrate, to weep, and to wait. Amen. ✠

### Sharing of Joys & Concerns

### Silent Prayer

### Pastoral Prayer

### The Lord's Prayer

Gloria Patri #70

Choir Anthem "He Is Exalted"

Children's Moment Pastor Sara

Sung Prayer of Illumination Refrain (x2) #601  
"Thy Word Is a Lamp"

Psalter Lesson Psalm 118: 1-2, 19-29 #531

❖ Gospel Lesson Luke 19:28 - 40 #913

Message "Where Do You Stand?" Rev. Sara J. Wrona

### Prayer of Confession (in unison)

Merciful God, With the psalmist, we declare, "Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them!" But we forget that only by your grace can we be righteous. With the crowds, we proclaim, "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!" But we neglect to follow you when you show us the ways to make peace on earth as it is in heaven. With the Pharisees, we notice our siblings doing their best to follow you and command, "Order them to stop!" But we refuse to listen to your command to love our neighbors as you love us. Forgive us, merciful God, and free us to follow Jesus down the road into Jerusalem, confronting the death-dealing

powers of this world with the truth of your peace and steadfast love. Amen. ✠

Hymn "Tell Me the Stories of Jesus" #277

Offertory

*They shall not appear before the Lord empty-handed; all shall give as they are able, according to the blessing of the Lord your God that he has given you.  
Deuteronomy 16:16b-17*

Doxology

Prayer of Dedication

❖Closing Hymn "All Glory, Laud, and Honor" #280  
*The chancel rail is open for prayer as you feel led by the Spirit.*

❖Benediction

❖Community Blessing #301 (refrain)  
"Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross"

Postlude

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✠Unless otherwise noted, worship resources are from Discipleship Ministries of the UMC.

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### MEMORIAL SERVICE

There will be a memorial service for Sharon Wright on Wednesday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> at 10 a.m. here at the church. There is a sign-up sheet for the luncheon after Sharon's service in the vestibule. We need people to make desserts. If you can help please use the sign-up sheet.

For those who are asking here is the address for Sharon's brother Brian Wright:

Brian Wright  
359 Grant Avenue  
Leechburg, PA 15656

## Mission Journey Fundraising/Opportunities:



July 27th - August 1st, We are going to RedBird Mission! We have 9 people currently signed up. We have 11 spots available. If you feel God leading you to join us, please contact Elaine Brenneman or Pastor Sara.

If you want to be a part of the team but can't join us for the week, please consider helping us financially by donating through the following opportunities...

Loose Change collection:

Bring your loose change and place it in containers around the church

Envelope fundraiser:

Please pick up an envelope with a dollar amount from the back of the church, fill the envelope with that amount, and drop in the offering plate.



### VBS June 23-27

We are looking for people who are willing to help during VBS. If you are willing to help please let Pastor Sara or Pam know. We need crew leaders, people to help with games, bible stories, snacks, registration, and decorating. The next VBS planning meeting is Tuesday, May 6<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. Due to only 2 churches participating in VBS this year, please consider giving your time, talents, and/or monetary donations or all three! Thank you.

### UPCOMING NEWSLETTER

If you have anything for the upcoming May/June Newsletter, please have your items into Pam by Tuesday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>.  
Thanks!

## NURSERY

Our Children's Nursery is not currently staffed. You may take your children to the nursery during the service, but they must be supervised by a parent or guardian.

## FINANCIAL SECRETARY NEEDED

Leechburg First UMC is seeking a Financial Secretary. PA state clearances and the FBI fingerprint clearance are required. Anyone interested in applying for the position should contact Tabetha Skrot or fill out an application that can be obtained Pam in the office.

## CROCKPOTS NEEDED

The Caring Crockpot Ministry is in need of gently used slow cookers/crockpots. Some of the slow cookers we are using are starting to show their age, and unfortunately, we have no replacements at this time. Any questions, see Carla, Suzanne, or Pam. Thank you from the Crockpot Ministry.

## CROCKPOT MINISTRY COOKBOOKS

The Outreach/Crockpot Ministry is selling a cookbook with all the great recipes used in class. The cost is \$5. Please see either Carla or Pam.



Beginning on February 25th, we started a new and ongoing fundraiser through Pizza Hut in Lower Burrell. On the last Tuesday of each month, the next date is **April 29**, we are

asking that you help support us by either dining in or doing carry-out at the Lower Burrell Pizza Hut. We receive 20% of the net sales for everyone that presents a coupon that night.

Everyone has to eat supper so why not support your church while feeding your family.

This fundraiser does not require the church to front any money or require manpower to prepare and serve the food. This will also give us an opportunity to share in a time of fellowship for those that choose to dine in.

## First United Methodist Church, Leechburg Prayer List

“...if my people who are called by my name humble themselves, pray, seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land. Now my eyes will be open and my ears attentive to the prayer that is made in this place.”

2 Chronicles 7:14 - 15

### Please be in prayer for Family and Friends:

Andrew M. & family, Bryan, Larry Blankenship, Katie Brayshaw, Camdyn, Dee Coleman, Pat Daugherty, Bob Davis (Pr. Sara's stepdad), Kim & Dale Frederick, Tony Harvey, Debbie Hill, Theresa Hunter, Barry Kamer, Ward Kepple, Ethan Loughner, Dianne LeSueur, Jim, Colleen Morrill, Duncan Morrill, Nancy Morrill, Judy Nolf, Grace Pettner, Rachel Rowe, Linda Sarver, Tim Troup, Bohdi Ward, Clayton Ward, Chloe Womer, and the family of Sharon Wright.

### Our Homebound Members:

Margie Anto, Norma Ewing, Dolores Hepburn, Betty Hunter, Polly Lambing, Lois Learn, Rodger & Gina Morrill, Carol Parsons, Stan & Sally Pepler, Myrtle Prunty, Dave Sherbondy, Bob & Vange Stewart, Dick & Dee Waugaman, Helen Weaver.

**Any changes please let Pam know in the office.**

Our Church Leadership

Greensburg/Pittsburgh District Superintendent Rev. Paul Ritchey

Bishop Sandra Steiner-Ball  
& the WPAUMC Appointive Cabinet

WPAUMC Conference Staff

UMC Council of Bishops

The Church Universal

Our Nation

The People of the Ukraine

Church Missionaries & Agencies throughout the World

Those Who Are Marginalized throughout the World

The Middle East

All those impacted by Hurricane Helene & Milton  
and the California wildfires

## **MESSY MAUNDY THURSDAY**

We are doing something new and exciting for Maundy Thursday this year. Messy Church is held on the 3rd Thursday of the month. For April, that means that Messy Church will fall on Maundy Thursday, April 17th.

We are going to combine the two experiences into one amazing evening. We will gather at 5:30 P.M. to have an introduction to the evening. At 6:00 P.M., we will have supper together. The church will provide the chicken and the drinks. Everyone is asked to bring a dish to share. We will then have time to learn about the symbols of Holy Week and their meaning.

At 7:00 P.M, we will move into the sanctuary where we will have a short service that will include the sacrament of Holy Communion, anointing, and handwashing. The Messy Church children will be helping with these elements of the service.

A sign-up sheet is located in the vestibule. Please indicate how many people will be attending the meal and what dish you will bring to share.

If you have any questions, please see Pastor Sara.



For this holy season of Lent, we have created prayer stations in our chapel on the second floor of the education building. The prayer stations will be open Tuesday – Friday from 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM. They will also be open on Sundays after church. We hope you will consider participating in this Lenten Discipline to draw closer to Christ.

## **Donations Needed for Easter Egg Hunt**

We will be serving hot dogs for the Easter Egg Hunt. We will be also supplying the snack size non/nut candy for the eggs. Please place your donations in the box in the vestibule by Monday, April 14<sup>th</sup>. You may make monetary contributions towards either. Please make sure you indicate that your gift is for the Easter Egg Hunt. We are expecting about 100 kids so any donations you would be willing to give would help tremendously! Thanks for helping us make this an amazing event for the kids in our community and churches! They will be filling the Easter eggs at the Marconi Club on Wednesday, April 16<sup>th</sup> at 5 p.m.

## **LENTEN OFFERING BOXES**

Today is the last day to turn in your offering box. This year we have Lenten coin boxes for collecting your Lenten offering. Your donations help fund our campership program to send children and youth to one of our church camps.

## **TENEBRAE READERS NEEDED**

Readers needed for the Tenebrae Service on Friday, April 18th. If you can help, please email or text Pastor Sara. Thank you.

## **EASTER VOUCHERS**

This year the Outreach Committee has voted to give out \$20 grocery vouchers for Sprinkle's instead of hams. If you know someone who needs a voucher or if you need assistance, call Pam at 724-845-8761 by April 17th. Vouchers will be distributed on a first come first basis. Vouchers will be distributed at the church and can be picked up Tuesday-Friday 10-2. Vouchers must be used by May 31, 2025.



COMMUNITIES OF TRANSFORMATION  
**AWARENESS WALK**  
 ADDRESSING POVERTY THROUGH COMMUNITY

**REGISTER TODAY**



**ROARING RUN TRAIL**  
 681 Canal Road | Apollo, PA | 15613

**MAY 17TH**

**10 AM**

This event is a fundraiser to help spread awareness  
 around poverty and holistic poverty alleviation.

[WWW.COMMUNITIESOFTRANSFORMATION.ORG](http://WWW.COMMUNITIESOFTRANSFORMATION.ORG)



**2 MILE WALK**



**UPCOMING SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS**

During the four Sundays in May, the Sunday school class will focus on Biblical principles of Peacemaking. Sandy McKee will lead the class. Thanks to a grant she received from our Conference, materials and refreshments will be provided at no cost.

Topics will include:

- The Four G's: A God Centered Response to Conflict
- Getting the Log Out of our Own Eye
- Gentle Restoration
- Go and Be Reconciled
- Ideas suggested by the class

All are invited and welcomed to attend.

You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on you, because he trusts in you.

Isaiah 26:3. ESV

**NURTURE COMMITTEE HOAGIE SALE**

The last day for the Nurture Committee's Hoagie Sale orders is today, Sunday, April 13. The order has to be placed then and delivery will be April 23rd.



2025 Annual Conference Mission  
 Project: 1000 UMCOR Hygiene Kits

**GREENSBURG  
 DISTRICT**

**Individually Packaged  
 Toothbrushes**

Bring toothbrushes to the District  
 Conference on April 26 at 10:00 am  
 Community UMC  
 3487 Route 130, Harrison City

Greensburg District has been asked to bring 1000 individually packaged toothbrushes, with no personal advertisement. Please start collecting toothbrushes at your church today and bring your collection to the Greensburg District Conference on April 26, 2025, at 10:00 am at Community UMC, 3487 Route 130, Harrison City.

# Good Friday Cross Walk

through Leechburg

April 18 at noon

Walk begins and ends at First United Methodist Church - 251 Main St.



Sponsored by the Leechburg Ministerial Association

THE CONGREGATIONS OF THE LEECHBURG  
MINISTERIAL AND THE LEECHBURG AREA  
COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION INVITE YOU TO AN

# EASTER EGG HUNT

FUN GAMES - LIVE MUSIC - FOOD

.....  
**SAT. APRIL 19 - 1:00PM**

.....  
**LEECHBURG-GILPIN PARK**

AGES PRE-K - 5TH GRADE FREE REGISTRATION

RSVP ONLINE: [servinggodgracefully.net/egghunt](http://servinggodgracefully.net/egghunt) or call 724-845-7518

