



The mission of Bartlett United Methodist Church is to know Christ and to make Christ known to all people, through worship, education, and service in our community and throughout the world.

The Monthly Message

HOLY WEEK 2025 @ BARTLETT UMC

Earlier this year, I said in a sermon what was the original definition of the word "holy." Given that I struggle to remember what I said after an hour, I won't ask who remembers what that definition was. Initially "holy" simply meant set aside. The utensils and objects in the Temple were holy because they had been set aside for use in the Temple.

Holy Week starts April 13th with Palm/Passion Sunday and ends on Easter Sunday. The Church has set aside the week before Easter each year as a time to focus and reflect upon the last week of Jesus' life that we might more fully appreciate the significance of foot washing, Holy Communion, the crucifixion and of course, the resurrection. You will have numerous opportunities at BUMC. Please note the schedule and make note of a couple of changes. Our Maundy Thursday service will be in the McCarter Chapel at 7 p.m. Also, our Easter sunrise service will be at 7 a.m. in the sanctuary.

People tend to be a bit more receptive to an invitation to a church service around Easter so please extend those invitations.



PALM SUNDAY
April 13 @ 9:00am
Sanctuary

NOONDAY DEVOTION AND LUNCH
April 14-April 18 @ 12:00pm
McCarter Chapel

HOLY THURSDAY
April 17 @ 7:00pm/ McCarter Chapel

GOOD FRIDAY
April 18 @ 7:00pm/ Sanctuary

EASTER
April 20 @ 7:00 & 9:00 am
Sanctuary

Speakers for Noon-day devotions:

- Monday-**
Josh McClurken
Ellendale UMC
- Tuesday-**
Sara Corum
Trinity UMC
- Wednesday-**
Aaron Dennis
Raleigh & Scenic Hills UMC
- Thursday-**
Andy Thompson
Capleville UMC
- Friday-**
Russell Morrow
Mullins UMC

STAFF

- Rev. Dean Emerson
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preschool@bartlettumc.org
- Karen Strawhecker-Assoc. Director of
Music karens@bartlettumc.org
- Lynn Thompson-Youth/Young Adult
lthompson@bartlettumc.org
- Donia Rachele Wade-Director of Music
dwade@bartlettumc.org

OFFICE HOURS

- Monday-Thursday 9:00am-3:00pm
- Friday 9:00am-12:00pm
- Phone: 901-386-4563



**Saturday, April 12
8:00am in Fellowship Hall**

All men are invited to the Men's Prayer Breakfast for a light breakfast, fellowship, and speaker Millington Mayor Larry Dagen. Breakfast is \$5 and first timers eat for free! Call the church office at 386-4563 to reserve your spot. Call David Dunn at 212-4649 for more information.



**United
Women
in Faith**

**Tuesday, April 8
10:00am in Fellowship Hall**

All women are invited to the United Women in Faith meeting with special speaker, Mia Henley with Creative Aging Midsouth followed by lunch. Bring a friend!

Finances ([Rachel Hasty/rhasty@bartlettumc.org](mailto:rhasty@bartlettumc.org))

Pretty much every Monday morning the staff meets to go over the week's events and discuss various calendar items along with joys and concerns. For a long while, when it would come to my turn I would simply remind the staff to be very thoughtful in their spending and make sure that they were spending only what was absolutely essential. I have come to understand the notorious reputation that accountants have for sucking the joy out of a room—I mean, we are tasked with looking at the bottom line and telling a person “yes, you can spend that” or “no, we don't have the money”, not always a very popular responsibility. And for a loooooong while, the answer has been “no” far more than “yes.”

I don't know that I consider myself to be an optimist or a pessimist—I think I'm probably more of a realist than anything. For a while now, Rev. Donna has been telling me that her prayer for me is that God “knocks my socks off” and takes some of the burden of financial responsibility for the church off my shoulders. Again, being a realist, I don't know that my socks will ever, figuratively, be knocked off and I don't really consider it my burden—I just “do the numbers”. But, it has been a little easier each week to lessen the reins. It is a joy and a relief to see us being able to “put a little back” each month and to be meeting our Connectional Commitment which is such an important part of what makes us United Methodists. So there is definitely some peace that has found its way to my job recently and a little bit of cautious optimism.

I've had the opportunity lately to discuss some of the changes that have occurred in the United Methodist Church with various people. Almost always the question of how it has affected Bartlett UMC comes up. I tell people that our numbers might be a little bit smaller but I see a real commitment in those who have remained. The people who have stayed at Bartlett want to be here and want to get back to being the church. Unfortunately, money has been a driving force around here for a while—that happens when your financial situation isn't the greatest. But, we've got a little breathing room now and it's time to get to work and start doing.

Our church leadership has expressed a real commitment to growing our church through the sharing of our time and talents. As Rev. Dean has said many times the Kingdom needs our gifts and service but it does not, and should not, always be about money. We are the church—it's not just the pastors or the staff or the Sunday school teachers or the musicians. We are all the church. What talents do you have to share? Where can you share some time? What are your ideas to get Bartlett UMC out in the community? Do you see a need that you can fill? These are all important questions that we should be asking ourselves as we work together to grow this church in our community and get back to being the church. Come on, everybody! Let's put the “be” back in BUMC!

Youth Ministry (Lynn Thompson/lthompson@bartlettumc.org)

Hey Gang!

I hope you are doing well and I hope that this month finds you in the middle of Lent wanting...desiring...motivated to making changes in your faith journey that maybe have been on your “would have...could have...should have” lists you have been keeping! I’m right there with you! Lent is a time for us to take on or let go of something in our faith journey...or even our personal life that to create a deeper longing for a better relationship with God. What are you passionate about, what peaks your interest when it comes to wanting to serve with joy? Is it wanting to sing to give God glory....SING MORE! Is it standing up for injustices in the world...STAND WITH PURPOSE, is it wanting to be more in the scripture...DIVE IN! What are the things you have always wanted for yourself that God is nudging you to pursue. What are the things too that God is nudging you to stop doing something as well. Constantly finding yourself impatient or worried...BREATHE and LET GO! Not appreciating the body God gave you...GET UP AND GET ACTIVE! Throwing a pity party...STOP! God has blessed us beyond measure until our cup is bubbled up and overflowing! Let’s get busy! Lent is a time to share His goodness, His love and His forgiveness to ourselves personally so that we can take it out into the world and SHOUT IT OUT! Yes! Lent lets us legitimately say “it’s all about me being the BEST of who we are -created by a God who wants and needs us to spread the good news of this Season.

I hope that you will take this Lenten season to jump start something you know needs working on. Just because you started late or tried and didn't do so good when Lent started -doesn't mean to give up - we don't need to use that as an excuse - we are human and we just need to keep the faith because God is needing us NOW to share the Joy of His Kingdom!

So....look again on your Lenten hopes and promises and refresh by:

#1 MAKE a decision to take a look at yourself inside & out & see what God is nudging you to or from

#2 Pray about it with God

#3 ACT on it...it’s ok to take baby steps – remember only God can move the mountain in a day!

#4 Keep God in it – always and always

#5 Give God the praise and thanks for all He has shown you

I hope for your journey to the cross this season, put away the things that need to be gone and bring on things that share the love of Christ. Then we can all come together and celebrate the Risen Christ and the unconditional grace, love, and joy of God together!!!!

Have a blessed day!

In Christ, Lynn Thompson

**MAKE
LENT
COUNT**
PRAY - ACT - GIVE



Youth Events

Next Step

April 3

Easter Eggstravanga

April 5

30 Hour Famine

April 11-12

Breakfast Club

April 15 & 18

Dinner Club

April 28

Contact Lynn Thompson for additional information.

Youth Bible Study meets every Wednesday at 6:00pm in the LEC Youth Room.

United Methodist Youth Fellowship (UMYF) meets every Sunday at 5:15pm in the LEC. All 7th-12th graders are invited! Bring your friends!



Palm Sunday
April 13 @ 9:00am

Easter
April 20 @
7:00am & 9:00am

Kingdom Chorale
Hymn Sing
Wed., April 30 @ 6:15pm

Bowling Green
State University
Collegiate Choral
Wed., May 7 @ 6:30pm

Spring Fling
Wed., May 14 @ 6:15pm



Music Ministry ([Donia Rachelle Wade/dwade@bartlettumc.org/](mailto:dwade@bartlettumc.org) [Karen Strawhecker/karens@bartlettumc.org](mailto:karens@bartlettumc.org))

We are diving head-first into a busy Spring. Check out the important dates and add them to your calendar!

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS to host some singers from Bowling Green State University on Wednesday, May 7! If you can help, please call Donia @ 901-713-9778.

We have openings in Bartlett Bells, our intermediate, fun-loving bell choir, which meets Thursdays from 10:00a.m to 11:00a.m! Reading music is a plus, but NOT a requirement. Join us to enrich your life through music-making! If you're interested, reach out to Karen Strawhecker at karens@bartlettumc.org.

Our vocal ensembles are always accepting new members! If you are interested in joining, feel free to show up at the rehearsal and see how you like it. If you can't commit to a weekly rehearsal, don't worry; we are flexible and understanding. All of our groups enjoy fellowship while practicing to present our best gift in worship.

VOCAL ENSEMBLES	REHEARSALS
Littlest Angels/Wesley ages 3-1st grade	Wednesdays @ 6:00-6:45pm
Kingdom Chorale Grades 2-5	Wednesdays @ 6:00-6:45pm
Youth Crossroads Choir Grades 6-12	Sundays @ 4:15-5:15pm
Chancel Choir Adult	Wednesdays @ 7:00-8:00pm



Kingdom Chorale enjoyed a wonderful tour to Fulton, Kentucky! We visited two retirement homes, Magnolia Place and the Etheridge House, where we performed our concert and invited the residents to join us in a hymn sing. We also enjoyed a fun afternoon at Discovery Park of America! Fulton First UMC graciously welcomed us to serve in worship.



Outreach

Thank you to Cordova Presbyterian Church for their generous donations to our food pantry. Also to the Lakeland Preparatory School orchestra who collected food for our food pantry. Thank you to our congregation for your constant support and donations.

Our children and youth packed bags for food pantry and made cards to put in the bags. GOD LOVES YOU!



We are moving to a new system for tracking attendance on Sunday mornings. The pew pads are returning along with a QR code to register your attendance, prayer requests, and/or tithe. Registering your attendance at church is an important way to stay connected with our faith community. It helps the church keep track of who is attending and ensures that everyone feels welcomed and included. It's a small act that makes a big impact!



Finances (Rachel Hasty/rhasty@bartlettumc.org)

As we have over the past several years, this year's Easter offering will go to help finance a Project Transformation intern (or two!). Project Transformation is a program that addresses 3 unique challenges in one: meeting the academic, physical, social-emotional, and spiritual needs of children; providing meaningful ways for college-age young adults to explore ministry opportunities and develop as young principled leaders for the church and the world; and helping churches connect with their communities. Bartlett UMC has enjoyed a relationship with Project Transformation for several years, providing funding, reading volunteers, and meals for their programs. At a time when so many United Methodist programs are hurting, we'd like at least to be able to lend some financial support to one of such importance. If you would like to donate to this program, you may do so by cash, check, or online at www.bartlettumc.org/give. Simply mark your giving to go to "Easter" and we'll send it on to Project Transformation. If you have any questions, please contact Rachel Hasty in the church office.

Within Our Church Family

Sympathy is expressed to Curtis Wilson upon the death of his sister, Annie Wilkins.

Recreation

Join us each week in the LEC Gym for fun and recreation!

Pickleball— Every Tuesday at 6:45pm (*follow Pickleball-BUMC on Facebook*)

Zumba—Every Thursday at 5:30pm (\$3 per class)

Volleyball— Every Thursday at 6:30pm

Stretch Class—Monday, Wednesday, Friday at 9:00am

Walking Group— Monday & Tuesday at 4:45pm



Tuesday, April 15 at 10:00 in the LEC Gym

Join the Fun Club (ages 50+) for their meeting.

The meeting is followed by lunch for \$10. Call Charlotte White at 381-4954 or 568-3002 to make reservations.

Bartlett United Methodist Church

5676 Stage Road
Bartlett, TN 38134

Phone: 901-386-4563
www.bartlettumc.org

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We Are
HIRING

Position :

- Preschool/Kid's Day Out Director

More information
www.bartlettumc.org



The ASP trailer has arrived for “treasures” you would like to donate! Our Rummage Sale will be May 9-10 but we want you to start bringing in your treasures ...excluding any old tvs or old computer monitors! We will do furniture pickups the week of the sale. We will be available to pick up large items excluding armoires and China cabinets. Call the church office if you will be needing furniture picked up in May. Thank you to all who donate for this amazing mission!

EASTER EGG HUNT

SATURDAY APRIL 5	10am- 12pm	Crafts, Prizes, & EASTER BUNNY
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Bartlett United Methodist Church
5676 Stage Rd.

FREE EVENT!

www.bartlettumc.org