

MARCH/APRIL 2023

THE MESSENGER

A Publication of the Gibson City United Methodist Church

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~Pastor Gary
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Calendar

Worship With Us

Saturdays @ 5:30pm

Sundays @ 8:45am

Attend in person, listen
(WGCY 106.3FM), watch
(on Facebook)



April 2nd—Palm Sunday—8:45am

April 6th—Holy Thursday- Communion service 6pm

April 7th—Good Friday - Stations of the Cross 5-7pm

April 9th—Easter Sunday—8:45am

Palm Sunday

We invite the kids to come and wave palms and enter the sanctuary as Jesus entered Jerusalem. During the service we will also take up our Parade of Palms offering that goes to our missionaries.

Holy Thursday

Pastor Gary will lead a Holy Communion Service at 6pm in the Sanctuary.

Good Friday

Our Elementary and Middle School Youth will be hosting an adaptation of the Stations of the Cross. You are invited to come anytime between 5 and 7 pm to walk through the stations. Please take the time to come support our youth and prayerfully remember what Jesus walked through.

Easter Sunday

Join us at 8:45am for the Celebration of The Empty Tomb and the fact that Our Lord Is Risen!!



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Office Hours:
8:30a-3:00p M-Th
8:30-12:00p Friday



OFF THE CUFF

Ephesians 5: 19-21 Speak to one another with psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your hearts to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ....

If you were in church or listening to the service on March 5th you may recollect hearing me say that I really dislike being out of the loop. So, I thought I would use this opportunity to bring you all up to date and inform you about an unbelievable turn of events that I see as a borderline miracle that God has blessed us with.

When some members of our trustees were re-attaching some gutters that had lost some of the nails holding them to the building, it was noticed that our roof was really in bad shape. They brought this to the attention of the full board, and all agreed that it was time to start the process of getting the project rolling.

Most will remember the “August-Monsoon” that crippled Gibson City, and a few months later the straight-line winds that caused a lot of damage here in town. As it turns out, our area was designated to be a “disaster area” and this opened up opportunities that wouldn’t necessarily be in place, otherwise.

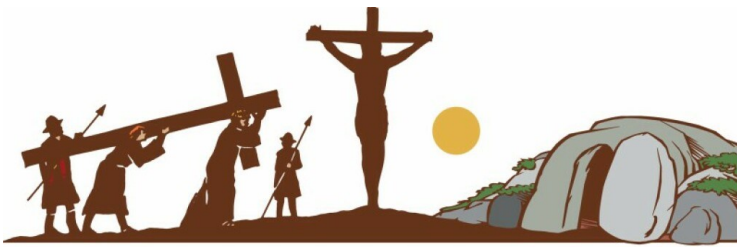
This created an opportunity for some outside resources to become available to our town. You probably have noticed that there are many new roofs on homes. Because of the turn of events that happened, we reached out to one of the companies that came into town who were helping people become informed to the things that might help them get things back in shape.

We, “The Gibson City United Methodist Church” through the efforts of a company out of Bloomington, IL. “York Consulting Services” were able to reach an agreement with our insurance company, “Church Mutual”, and to make a long story short, we will be having a new roof put on our building this year (most probably late spring).

The estimate for the new roof was over \$100,000.00 dollars, and the estimated out-of-pocket cost for us will be close to \$20,000.00 dollars + or – a few thousand. WOW! If you are trying to do the math, that is close to a \$90,0000.00 dollar gift that God helped us realize! Can someone say “Amen”!

I can’t praise God enough for allowing all the proverbial “Ducks” to line up so that we are able to move the kingdom work of God to be realized through the ministry of this church. We should never loose site of that which God is calling us to, so others can know his love more fully. Thank You Jesus, Amen!

Well, I hope this helps us all stay “up-to date” and maybe we all will feel a little more informed... Praise God!



STATIONS of the CROSS

Good Friday (April 7th) from 5-7pm. You are invited to come anytime during those hours and be led by our Youth through 9 stations of the cross. Because it is being created by our youth means that it will be relevant to all ages. Bring your family, invite your friends. Spend some time on Good Friday reflecting on the walk Christ took at the end of his earthly life. Then, join us on Sunday at 8:45am to celebrate the fact that three short days later, Our Lord AROSE!!

On the way to his death, Jesus shows us how to live and how to die. We cannot rise with Christ unless we walk the path with Him. It is by dealing with our own problems in the right spirit that we come to know God's love and God's mercy. As we enter into the Way of the Cross with Jesus, let us feel as he felt, hurt as he hurt, love as he loved.

Our Wednesday Night Youth are busy creating a Walk-through Prayer Service. It will be presented on

Parade of Palms

Our special offering Parade of Palms offering will be collected on April 2nd and will benefit our supported missionaries:

- **Doug & Cindy Tankersley**
Helping lead the expansion of Men for Missions into the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Puerto Rico, Albania, Mexico, and the United Kingdom.
- **Robb & Sheila Warfield**
Lead a mission school in Senegal, Africa. They have students from all over the world.
- **Mark & Rebecca Smallwood**
Teachers/Directors at the Redbird Mission School in Kentucky.
- **Les & Debbie Dornan**
Doctors with the United Mission Hospital in Tansen, Nepal.



Below is a list of members who could use your extra prayers and if you are able, a card or small care package.

GAH Annex

Doug Hager
Evelyn Wachstetter
Don Rhodes
Joann Longmire
Carolyn Williams
Don Jensen

Heritage Manor

Alfred Landau
Edna Goembel
Carol Hari
Judith Peters
Pauline Beesley

Outside of Gibson City

Janece McCullough

Servicemen & Women

WO Colton & Emily Young
SSGT Austin Chase (& family)
Carter Wilson

OFFERING AND ATTENDANCE

Jan-Feb Offering	\$17,952.67			
February	4/5	11/12	18/19	25/26
Saturday Evening	14	15	17	18
Sunday Morning	88	85	89	93
Online Worshippers	12	25	14	15

STAFF

Pastor: Rev Gary Fairchild fair57@aol.com; (217) 883-1957

Secretary/Youth Coordinator:

April Rotramel office@gcumc3.org; (217) 784-5452

Organist: Beverly Nagle • **Choir Director:** Ruth Davis

Custodian: Dave Merritt



GCUMC UPDATES

Thank You

We want to thank those who sent valentines to our mother, Pauline Beesley. She also wants to thank you. She really enjoyed reading every one and telling Greg and I

who had sent them. She misses being able to come to church and listens on the radio every Sunday. Again, thank you from all of us. ~Greg Beesley, Sue (Beesley) Byes, and Pauline Beesley

Thank you for all the lovely valentines and all the things you do for us in Holly Brook.

Sincerely and God Bless, Carol & Ron Bielfeldt

Thanks to all for the valentines. It was so nice to be remembered. ~Margaret Farmer

Thank you for all the beautiful valentines. I appreciate all your love and support. ~ Evelyn M Kelley

Mission Report

From Dinesh re: Children's Orphanage in Nepal: "Children home going well. Kids had class test and all secured good marks. One student graduated from home last year and glad he decided to get water baptism last month and also going to the university and serving as children teacher in my church. Even though he is out of children home and living with his relative he wanted to get bachelor degree so we told him we would like to support for his collage fees and we are doing it. God is been so so good!!! We got new staff girl who is very devoted Christian to serve the kids. Others children are doing great too!!! Some thousands books and tracks got translated and published. God is been so so good!!!"

Thank you very much for your heart to be a blessings to Nepal brother. Finished painting the children home and right now we have 12 kids in the children home. Pawan got graduated this year and he has joined the collage in kathmandu. We have told him that we will support for his education fees and paid for a year already. But we need to raise more fund for his education. Please pray that is the main need for now.

We have 2 more graduating in a year again and we want to help for their college too if they want to study so we need to now raise more support on that area. We just don't want to say goodbye after high school and done our part we want to see them stablish so please pray for this. Thank you.

Our Mission Sock collection for March is for the Orphanage in Nepal (it is the same one Pastor John Tennyson visited a few years ago). Pastor John is still in contact with the director there, Dinesh. Dinesh is in the photo in the top row at the far left. As requested by Dinesh our mission sock money will go to help with the college funds for Pawan.

New Name!

The Midwest Mission Distribution Center is shortening their name. They felt their name was long and often shortened in various ways, creating extreme inconsistency. "Mission" was the word most commonly omitted and the one they felt was the most important. Therefore, they have decided to shorten their name to **Midwest Mission**. They hope the name won't be such a mouthful, allowing it to be used more consistently and better highlight their mission focus.

March

22 SPRING BREAK—No Wednesday Fellowship

April

2 Men's Breakfast—7:00am

2 Palm Sunday—8:45am

6 Holy Thursday Service—6pm

7 Stations of the Cross

9 Easter Sunday

14/17 Office Closed

15/16 Mission Socks—Emergency Food Pantry