



# MARCH NEWSLETTER

## PASTOR'S THOUGHTS

### Grief

Such a short word for a long process. Grief is like traffic and taxes in that we aim to avoid them as much as possible. Yet the author of Ecclesiastes has a different take.

The heart of the wise is in the house of mourning, but the heart of fools is in the house of mirth.

Throughout this book, the way of the wise and the fool are contrasted. There are many things that we learn, that shape us, in the house of mourning. House parties leave the participants with little except a hangover.

Unfortunately, just like traffic and taxes, we will all face grief eventually. When we find ourselves in the painful place, my prayer is that we learn new things about grace.

## UPCOMING

### KEENAGER'S BREAKFAST | Tuesday, March 3

All senior retirees meet for breakfast at Bob Evans in Eaton @ 9am.

### MEN'S BREAKFAST | Saturday, March 7

For all men - 7:30am in the gym for great food & fellowship!

### NURSING HOME MINISTRY | Sunday, March 8

All are invited to join us as we worship with those at Maple Gardens Nursing Home (515 S. Maple St. Eaton) at 2pm.

### WOW SMALL GROUP | Widows or Widowers

Saturday, March 14th at noon meet in our church's commons area. Please plan to share the cost of pizza for lunch that will be provided. Bring your own drink & your favorite card/board games. Please respond about your plans to attend. Contact Shirley Clark (937.733.2628) with questions/comments. See you there!

### FAITH PROMISE SUNDAY | March 15

Faith Promise allows us to extend our reach and support mission work locally, regionally, and around the world. On March 15th, we'll gather to hear how your Faith Promise contributions are making a difference. Begin praying now about how God may be leading you to take part.

### THANK YOU

Thank you so much for your cards, flowers & the funeral meal provided for our family follow the funeral for Betty Marr. It was greatly appreciated!

The Marr family

## EASTER SCHEDULE

### March 29 - Palm Sunday Egg Hunt

Join us for Palm Sunday service and then stay for our Easter Egg Hunt! We will have a free lunch before we let the kids loose to hunt eggs. It will be a great event to start out holy week and to invite family and friends. Hope to see you there!

### Maundy Thursday—Thursday, April 2 @ 6:30 pm

This is a special service of feetwashing & communion.

### Easter Sunday — April 5 at 10:00 am

*Jesus is alive!* It's not just that Jesus returned to life, He promised a new vitality for everyone who would trust in Him. A life filled with meaning and purpose is found in following Jesus.

*Who in your circle of family and friends needs to experience this hope and life?* Make a point to personally invite someone to join you this Easter Season!

## WORSHIP ARTS MINISTRY



Some exciting things are happening in our Worship Arts Ministry this March and April! On Sunday, March 22 at 6 p.m., we're thrilled to host the Christian Choral Community of Central Indiana for a free concert, with a love offering taken during the service. This wonderful group formed simply because they love singing songs of faith together and sharing them with their community. Many of the singers are people I once sang with in the Madison Park Church of God choir in Anderson, and their conductor was the Worship Pastor I interned under. They are incredible musicians and even better people. You won't want to miss!

March 29th begins Holy Week. For our Maundy Thursday service on April 2, I need volunteers for Communion setup and Foot-Washing. If you'd like to serve but don't want to wash feet, there are other roles available—just let me know!

Matthew Duffie

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT KIDS**

Plan to join us Wednesdays in March from 6:30p-7:30p for kids worship and a Bible story! Our Wednesday night program is for kids ages 3 (must be potty trained) - 6th grade. Note: There will be no Wednesday Night Kids on April 1st due to Spring Break.

**VBS IS COMING!!!**

Our Rainforest Falls VBS is coming!! Mark your calendars for June 14-18th from 6-8:30pm. Start praying now for God to show you how you can serve alongside us for the biggest ministry event of the summer! There will be a bin in the commons to collect plastic rectangle table coverings in different shades of green, pink, and orange. In April plan to visit our *Adopt a Prop* display in the commons to find out how you can help us with decorations!



**CANDY DONATIONS NEEDED!**

There will be a bin in the commons to collect Easter candy for our EGG-stravaganza event and also for the youth Egg My Yard fundraiser. It will take a considerable amount of candy for both events. Please consider donating for these wonderful Spring events!

**PALM SUNDAY FAMILY EGG-STRAVAGANZA**

On March 29, plan to join us after service for a time of fellowship with family, food, and an egg hunt for people of all ages! You won't want to miss this kick-off to Holy Week! \*Invite some friends and bring a basket to join in the fun!

**GET CONNECTED @ [elcog.com](http://elcog.com)**

Small groups and Sunday classes offer an opportunity to study the Bible in a smaller, more discussion-based setting. Check our website for more information.

**FEBRUARY GIVING/ATTENDANCE:**

	AM Attn.	Offering	Bldg/Reno Fund	Faith Promise
Feb. Online		\$4,768.00		\$275.00
2/1/26	161	8,702.00	339.00	386.00
2/8/26	170	7,433.69	100.00	175.00
2/15/26	173	6,672.35	168.00	411.00
2/22/26	154	5,603.00	329.00	306.00

Average Weekly Offering: \$ 8,294.76  
 Average Weekly Offering Needed 2026: \$8,056

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT YOUTH**

We meet every Wednesday from 6-7:30p, where we share a meal, worship, play games and go through a lesson together. Bring your Bible, a friend and open heart for Jesus.

**SMALL GROUPS**

Guys & girl's Bible study (7th - 12th grade) at 6pm every Sunday for dinner and fellowship. Bring your Bible, appetite & a friend! (Feb. 8 will be @ church in youth room)

- Guys meet at Hays' house (6664 Paddock Rd., Eaton)
- Girls meet at Tania's house (320 Lutheran Dr., Eaton).

**IYC REGISTRATION**

If you are joining us for IYC Cincinnati this summer, we will need your first payment of \$180 to register by Sunday, March 1st! See Tania or Allie to turn in your payment or to have it taken out of your account!

**JACOB'S LADDER**

On Wednesday, March 4th, we will be helping out at Jacob's Ladder! Instead of coming to the church that night, plan to meet at The Nazarene Church at 6pm!

**YOUTH OUTING**

Join us on Saturday, March 28th to go Roller Skating at The Skate in Richmond, then to grab pizza and ice cream! Meet at the church at 5pm with money to skate and grab dinner after. And bring as many friends as you can!

**LOVE PACKAGES**

Love Packages need donations of Christian materials to send overseas. See container in Commons for list of what they need.

**FOOD BANK**

The food bank is in need of canned vegetables. Please put donations in the container in the commons or go to Walmart.com/sparkgood and search for "The Common Good" and you can see their needs and have items shipped directly to them

**BIRTHRIGHT OF EATON**

You can help by donating your money, time or new/used baby clothes up to 24 months. Stop in @ 212 E. High St. for a tour or to drop off donations.

**COMMUNITY RESOURCE NEWSLETTER**

<https://hitfoundation.org/resource-newsletter>. Use this link to download a newsletter listing all the available resources to help individuals in the county.