



Karen's Chronicles

We are now in the Great Fifty Days of Easter, from the day we celebrated the Resurrection of the Lord – Easter Sunday, April 17 this year – through the day of Pentecost, June 5 this year.

In this season, our Sunday scriptures will show us the Risen Lord Jesus, the Lamb of God: shining through the actions of the apostles; and worshipped by all creatures, for all eternity, in the Revelation to John of Patmos. John's vision shows: spirit and matter together, neither eclipsing the other; eternity and now joined, both here at once. The Resurrection power of God in Christ is working in this world and in the world to come.

The Acts of the Apostles shows the Holy Mystery moving through followers of Jesus. These followers become apostles – "ones who are sent" to share the Good News.

As we worship this May we will see:

Simon Peter, who denied Jesus three times, raise a dead disciple to new life.

Paul, who persecuted disciples, share the Good News with a merchant who worships God. As she listens eagerly to the Gospel, she is transformed. She starts a new life, as a follower of Jesus who shares the Good News with others.

Paul and Silas intervene as their jailer is about to end his own life. They share the Good News with him, and he starts a new life. He becomes a follower of Jesus, who shares the Good News with others.

The Holy Mystery is moving through us followers of Jesus too, motivating us to share the Good News with others. I give thanks to the Risen Lord Jesus as he brings new life within us and among us.

With appreciation,
Pastor Karen



Then I heard every creature in Heaven and earth, in underworld and sea, join in, all voices in all places, singing: "To the One on the Throne! To the Lamb! The blessing, the honor, the glory, the strength, for age after age after age."
Revelation 5:13 *The Message*

From Worship Committee

The Easter season continues on for 50 days, through the Ascension of Our Lord to Pentecost Sunday, seven full weeks after Easter Sunday. We look ahead to Pentecost Sunday on June 5 which celebrates the descent of the Holy Spirit and the gift of Christian unity.

Communion Sunday

June 5 is also Communion Sunday. The Epworth UMC community of faith will receive the bread and juice (yes, cubed bread) as we share this Holy meal in small groups at the altar rail. Surely a time to rejoice in God's grace. The altar rail will be placed in the sanctuary before June 5, and our Epworth choir will have a summer break until September. Thank you to each choir member and their leader.



Want to know a closely guarded secret?

The table decorations for the Van De Mark Hall round tables are available for all to use! The décor for various seasons & celebrations is stored under the stairs coming down from the Narthex into Van De Mark Hall. Each tote is identified as to season or holiday. If round placemats are needed, look in the top two drawers below the kitchen "window".



United
Methodist
Women

*United Methodist Women's
traditional Sunshine*

*Luncheon is May 5th at
11:30am in the Fellowship Hall, honoring women in the
church over the age of 75. Please RSVP to Robin
Krogstad at 406-871-3090.*



From the Daycare

We are singing at the Sunshine luncheon on the 5 of May. Kids are making their Mothers Day gifts for the 8th. I will be ordering sand for the sandbox and a few other places. We are also cleaning up to give to the rummage sale. Summer schedule and license renewal is coming up. Please contact me if anyone is interested in working a few hours a week (3-5pm) until June 10th when school is out.

Finance Committee

	<u>March</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
Income	\$25,258	55,959
Expense	\$21,610	(\$60,427)
Difference	\$3,648	(4,468)

There is a negative from January caused by paying the churches Taxes and Insurance of \$8,116 . the deficit in February was \$6,850. Hopefully our April Report will eliminate the deficit especially if we give a little bit more. It may also help as of Sunday April 24 the offering plates were back to normal as they were passed around .

Thank you, Epworth UMC, for generously giving of yourselves.

Lew Savik, Finance Chair

From Mission Team

Because of your support The Mission Team has been able to provide 1,089 lunches for guests as they left the Warming Center on Sunday mornings this past winter. The Warming Center was open for six and one half months and we delivered sack lunches once a week every week. We wish to thank all of the people who helped in preparation and delivery of these lunches.



From Family Activities



Youth group will be participating in the camp clean-up at Flathead United Methodist Church Camp April 30th and May 1st. We are also planning a "whipped cream plate" fundraiser for the youth group trip to Silverwood. The fundraiser will follow church on May 22nd, which will also be the last day of weekly Sunday School/Youth Group meets. We will meet on the front lawn. The fee will be \$1 for a six inch plate of whipped cream to be thrown or gently lobbed at participants (like myself and youth group mem-

Please contact Hillery Eastman with any questions at eastman@centurytel.net.

Do you enjoy a cup of coffee and sharing time with friends after church service? May Sundays are open for any groups, families or individuals to host a Fellowship time! Our kitchen pantry has ample supplies: crackers, coffee, sugar, creamer, instant decaf, and paper goods. We have 12-cup coffee pots and a 30-cup urn. If you need help with the large urn, Bob Sapp is glad to assist if you give him a call (756-7937). Let the church office know the date you would like to host.



Church Council Minutes — April 18, 2022

Gary Freebury opened the meeting with prayer.

Minutes corrected: Missions Committee plans to have a representative from Valley Neighbors speak to the church in May. Minutes were accepted as corrected.

Committee Reports

Trustees- Jerry Scott reported that the janitor had to be given a new key. A concrete firm from Missoula will finish the new concrete steps so water won't get under the pillars. Rick Ramlow will give an estimate to construct the steps. The sidewalk will be finished after frost is out of ground. May 11/ 12 floors will be stripped and waxed. Jerry will ask Dean Robbins to review Use of Church Facilities document. Committees, please see how stuff on the stage that has been taken from the storage area can be sold at rummage sale April 30.

Family Activities- Hillery Eastman will be asked for directions as to the placing of a mirror in youth area.

Finance - Lew Savik reported March income/expenses, YTD income/expenses. Net loss- \$4,468.

It was decided since COVID numbers are way down, to begin passing the offering plates in the rows. Deb Sapp will make sure there are enough ushers. There will be a note in the bulletin about passing attendance sheets and offering plates.

Day Care Board- Nila Lauder reported that the board has finalized the ad for a new director; the job will be listed with the Job Service and the ad placed in local newspapers.

Missions- LaVerne Scott said the committee is waiting for the Rummage Sale Volunteer sheets so they know how much help there will be. Pick-ups- trucks will be needed on Monday to pack up what is left and take it away. Share the Bounty proceeds will go to Need for Seed and will begin May 22. The Warming Center will receive bags for two more weekends; they hope to continue the program in the fall. Feeding the Flathead cannot do sit-down dinners until fall. One half of the bulletin board in the hall will be for Outreach/Missions.

UMW- Janet Ulrich was one of 80 who attended Conference-wide Spiritual Life Retreat. She also attended the Spring District Meeting. Mission U will be in July and August. The UMW Fall Conference will be in person in Cheyenne, Wyoming.

Music- Dawn Hashley is looking forward to the return of snowbirds. She is also discovering talent in the youth. Lew Savik and Pam Evert expressed thanks to Pastor Karen and Dawn for the services during Lent and Easter.

Sunday School- Carmen Field invited members to sign the Bibles for graduates that are in the hall. VBS is coming up. Most children will be from Day Care. Youth

will be invited to help. Senior Brunch will be May 15.

Worship- Deb Sapp thanked Gail Waller and Bette Albright for organizing Lenten Conversations. Carmen Field and Willi Leatzow decorated the wire cross with yellow and white flowers for Easter Sunday. There were flowers available to be taken tonight. On Pentecost Sunday, June 5, communion will be served with bread and juice at the altar rail.

SPRC- Sharon Young reported they are training on how to operate under the Rule of Christ. Diane Stout's probationary review will take place tomorrow.

IT Cynthia Thorsen thanked those working in the booth—Janet Ulrich, Jana Warnell, and Kris Riley.

Family Activities- Hillery Eastman reported that \$175 was donated for prizes and candy for the Easter Egg Hunt. There were 396 candy filled eggs; 19 kids participated. They decided on their own to split the eggs equally. They will clean the camp April 30 and May 1 and will spend the night at the camp. May 22 is the last Sunday for youth group. They are planning a whipped cream pie throwing event at \$1.00 a pie as a fund raiser. The youth are going to Silverwood. Will camp overnight. Planning fundraisers.

Memorials- Pat Freebury said the committee has a goal to finish the work in the Clifford Room. The area in front of the fireplace has 3 levels; the estimated cost to finish is \$500 to \$700. The committee will help financially with the youth's trip to Silverwood that will be coming up. Pat would like to see something new for DC playground.

Dean Robbins is meeting with the NW Montana Girl Scouts tomorrow. They are interested in using VandeMark Hall for meetings.

Jean Davis invited everyone to the Sunshine Luncheon on May 5 at 11:30. Honorees over 75 are to be celebrated. Children from the Day Care will entertain. She thanked those who delivered flowers and "Upper Rooms".

Pastor Karen thanked church members for the hospitality shown to new people and those who don't attend regularly and for that shown at the Good Friday Service at the Christian Church.

Lay servant course will be presented by Gene Haning April 22/ 23. He will bring the message April 24. Pastor Karen plans to be on vacation June 8 -24. Part of that time will be a pilgrimage in the Iona Community on Iona Island off coast of Scotland. She also plans to visit Scotland. June 12-19- church members will lead the worship services. Stephen Ministers will be available for pastoral care.

Gary Freebury asked members to think about events for the congregation to have fun and fellowship. Pastor Karen closed the meeting with prayer.



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The Visitor



Congratulations to the Class of 2022!

Epworth has eight youth who have been involved with our church. They are graduating this year and we will be honoring them on **May 15th** with a special Bible and reception.

***Kylie M Munsinger
Haley Elizabeth Huff.
Molly Anne O'Donnell
Makenzie Mae Williams***

***Kira Hadland
Rylee K. Houser
Nela R. Petersen
Brooke Mackenzie Walter***

