

Wednesday, April 1, 2026

What a joy it was to watch the children and youth parade in waving palms at the beginning of worship on Sunday.

We have spent these weeks of Lent looking at art, hearing poetry, and reading, and proclaiming the Good News! I pray there has been something that has made you wonder, pause, think, and gain new perspective about what the Good News is, how it unfolds, and who it includes. Mostly, I pray it has been an opportunity to rest in the Good news of God throughout this season of Lent.

We have talked about how the Good news is...

- All are invited!
- So Good it catches us by surprise!
- Together, the impossible is possible!
- Protection and care for the vulnerable!
- Rooted in justice, Mercy, and faithfulness!
- Inspiring us to act!

While this past Sunday had the feeling of a celebration, it's important to remember, recognize, and take pause for all the difficult things that happen leading up to next Sunday.

You are encouraged to participate in our upcoming Holy Week worship services throughout the week.

- **Thursday, April 2**-Maundy Thursday: A Service of Silence led by Rev. Becky Butterfield at 7 pm
- **Friday, April 3**-Good Friday Service, Christ United Methodist Church, East Moline-A Quad City United Methodist Coalition Service at 12 pm. IGRC Bishop David Bard will be preaching
- **Friday, April 3**-Good Friday Service, Hampton Grace United Methodist Church, Hampton, IL- An Upper Rock Island County Ministerial Association Service at 6 pm
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Then, join us Sunday as we celebrate the greatest day in history!

- **Easter Sunrise Service** with Lay Leader Nikki Stuart at 7 am
- **Easter Breakfast** hosted by the youth from 7:45am-10 am. Donations will be collected for Summer Ministry activities.
- **Easter Worship** The Good News is... Alive in the World! We will be blessed with the gifts from our choir, the children will get to participate in Kids Korner, and we will celebrate Holy Communion during the 10:30 am service

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Becky

Ways to share LOVE with local TSA workers

The Quad City International Airport has 48 uniformed TSA officers and six managers/workers who have been working without pay due to the partial government shutdown.

The administration office at Moline International Airport is collecting non-perishable, shelf-stable food, toiletries, gas, and grocery gift cards donations to help assist those workers who are currently not receiving a paycheck.

Donations can be dropped off at the airport's administration office Monday-Friday from 8am-12pm and from 1pm-4pm.

Ways to share LOVE with our Detroit Team

You can make a direct contribution to our team. Follow this link <https://motonmission.org/support-your-team> and click "Donate to your team" and follow the prompts provided.

Ways to share LOVE with the Leesman Family

Prayers: Please continue to PRAY!

Meals or monetary donations: If you would like to make a monetary donation during Pator Krey's medical leave to go towards fuel for his travel to and from Galesburg for treatments, other expenses the family may have during this time, or if you would like to provide a meal for the family, please contact Nikki Stuart.

Ways to share LOVE with our neighbors at Whispering Hills

Items for Mission Welcome Kits: The Mission Committee is preparing ongoing Welcome Kits for new residents at Whispering Hills. The following items are needed: shampoo, body soap, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, dish soap, small laundry detergent, cleaning wipes, small all-purpose cleaner, single-roll paper towels, and a 4-pack of toilet paper. Thank you for your donations and support of this local mission!

Ways to share LOVE with those experiencing Food Insecurity

Donate Items for the Upper Rock Island County Food Pantry located at Messiah Lutheran Church. Items most needed now include canned pasta, condiments (ketchup & ranch), and macaroni & cheese. If shopping from your pantry, please check expiration/use by dates.

Support places that support the people with your prayers, presence, or gifts:

Two Rivers UMC Weekly Meal Sight [Service – Two Rivers Church](#)
Cafe on Vine [Building Community One Meal At A Time | Café On Vine](#)

NEST Cafe [NEST](#)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

If you need anything church-related, please contact Interim Pastor Becky, Nikki Stuart, or Melissa Hogren until further notice.

Interim Pastor Becky: 309-292-2287

Lay Leader: Nikki Stuart: 309-738-8099

Church Council Chair: Melissa Hogren 309-230-8400

If you would like to schedule an event at the church, contact email portbyronfirstumc@gmail.com and someone will provide you with the building agreement, policies, and forms to book the date on the church calendar.

EASTER CHOIR! Be part of our Easter Sunday Choir. ALL are welcome and invited! **Practice will be Sunday, April 5th at 9:30 a.m.** The Choir will sing during the 10:30am service.

Every Wednesday- GROW: a faith community for youth in grades 6-12. Doors open at 6:30 pm, Dinner is at 7:00 pm, and Discipleship Activities 7:30-8:30 pm.

Every Sunday-Discipleship Groups for PreK-12th Grade 9:30 am-10:15 am

SAVE THE DATE! Vacation Bible School June 8-10th 9am-11:30 am. Snowball Mountain Challenge!

Our 2026 Summer Youth Service Trip will be to Detroit, Michigan, to collaborate with **Motown Mission** as we serve and learn more about the city and our neighbors who live there. If you know of a student who is currently in 8-12th grade who would be interested in being part of this team, see Pastor Becky for more information!

April 6-Office Closed

April 7-Trustees Meeting

April 8-Pastor Becky meeting with the Upper Rock Island County Ministerial Association

April 12

- Noisy Offering for missions will be collected following the Children's Message
- P3 1:30pm-5:30pm

April 14-SPRC Meeting 7 pm

April 18-P3 Work Day at East Bay Camp!

April 19

- Kids Korner following the Children's Message
- PB First Leadership Potluck with P3 students and families, 6pm

April 22-Pastor Becky attends Women's Clergy Event, Champaign, IL

April 23-26-Pastor Becky vacation

April 23-United Women in Faith

April 26-Rev. Ann Champion, Preaching

April 29 & 30-Pastor Becky meets with Greenhouse Leadership Co-Hort, Moline, IL