

April 23, 2026

My hope is that by time you read this I will be on my way to Florida. I am looking forward to a long weekend of resting in the sun with the sound of ocean waves as my background music. Pastor Ann Champion is excited to share with you the story of Moses from Exodus 4 this week as you continue with our Called series.

Last week we talked about how we are Called to Trust and looked at the trust a young girl named Mary had to have. God was calling her to be the mother of the Messiah.

Mary's "yes" placed her at risk and made her vulnerable in her world. But she was saying "yes" to God, not to the misunderstandings, fears, or judgements of others. She trusted God's will and trusted that God would provide, no matter what she faced.

As you continue to both listen and "trust in the Lord with all your heart..." (Proverbs 3:5) spend some time reflecting on these questions this week:

- When has God called you to trust in uncertain circumstances?
- How do you find assurance when God's call feels risky?
- Where is God asking you to step out in faith today?

Also, give this song by Lauren Daigle a listen. It's called "Trust in You"

After months of listening, our P3 students, Alex, Callie, Stella, Kate, Scott, and Meredith have all heard and answered the call to follow and proclaim Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior.

On Sunday evening, we celebrated their decision with their families and several of the leaders who serve on our ministry teams.

Y'all!!!! It was SO GOOD! It felt like a second worship service!!

There was food, fellowship, conversation, testimonies, and prayer. Our past and future P3 students were also present and participating.

A HUGE thank you to the ministry team members who shared the evening with us and our P3 families for their support of these students.

Let's pack the pews on Sunday May 24th as these students make their public profession of faith in Jesus and become members of Port Byron First United Methodist Church.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Becky

Ways to share LOVE with our Detroit Team

You can make a direct contribution to our team. Follow this link <https://motownmission.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 Pastor 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 condiments (ketchup, mayo & ranch), toothpaste, shampoo & conditioner, body wash, dish soap and laundry detergent, green beans, mac & cheese, and pancake mix.

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.

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 23-United Women of Faith meet at 1:30 pm

April 23-26-Pastor Becky vacation

April 26-Rev. Ann Champion, Preaching

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

Looking Ahead-**Sunday, May 24th**-Pentecost and Confirmation Sunday! Wear red to celebrate Pentecost and stay after worship for cake to celebrate Confirmation!