



April, 2025

Vermont Street Views

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Pastor's Corner

"Without Easter, Christmas is just another day." My professor had just begun our first class in theology with this basic statement which I've thought about many times over the years. While I love Christmas—and I DO love Christmas—with all of its holiday celebrations, gift giving, and family time—it is Easter that gives Christmas its validity.

Without Easter, Christmas becomes the day when a nice guy, a good teacher, and a wonderful moral example was born. Oh, sure, he claimed to be the Son of God but, without Easter, how does he prove it?

Christ's resurrection—and the eyewitness accounts we have of it—are proof that Jesus is who he said he is—the Son of God who was designated by his Father to become the sacrifice for our sins. And the resurrection proves that God's plan worked! Not only did Jesus die for our sins, he was resurrected to prove to us that we too have been offered eternal life! Glorious day!

Easter is the essence of our Christian beliefs. It is Easter we should be celebrating for weeks on end—52 weeks on end as a matter of fact. The three days from Good Friday to Easter pretty much encapsulate the whole Christian story. Man sinned. Jesus died for our sins so that we wouldn't have to. Jesus lives so that we can live also. That is a message we can share with family and with friends. Tell them that Easter is so much more than baskets and bunnies! Easter means that we live forever! Easter means that we have a God worth worshipping!

Christmas is great, but it is Easter that is most important! So share that news! Celebrate a risen Savior! Be thankful for a God whose unspeakable, extravagant love was willing to forgive our sins in such a spectacular and earth shattering way! And have a wonderful, joy filled Easter!

And by the way...Easter caroling anyone?

Pastor Annelle



Sunday Worship Schedule

9 am Classic Worship
 (Listen LIVE on WGEM 105.1 FM or LIVE stream online)

10:15 am Sunday School

11 am Connection Worship
In-Person ONLY

**Vermont Street
 United Methodist Church
 818 Vermont St.
 Quincy, IL 62301**

217-222-7468 www.vsumc.org

Rev. Rachel Stockle, Pastor
 Rev. Kathy Crozier, Assoc. Pastor
 Rev. Annelle Ruemeller, Director
 of Praise Team

Vermont Street Views

April 2025

April Birthdays

3	Chris Livesay
3	Harold Pickinpaugh
4	Bruce Tode
5	Abigail Barnes
8	John Read
8	John Basinger
10	Cindy Haxel
11	Alexis Barnes
12	Nancy Elliot
14	Jim Shoemaker
16	Clif Weisinger
19	Dan Brothers
23	Georges Messan
24	Bill Dean
26	Chris Larson
27	Fae Jones
30	Larry Embree



April Anniversaries

4/10/1971	Rany & Sebby Fierge
4/18/1964	John & Greta Read
4/19/1985	Harold & Loretta Hyslop
4/30/	Kent & Shelia Stevenson



Leadership Board

Summary of the March 24, 2025 Leadership Board Meeting.

Leadership Board members for 2025 are:

Dikki Andrews	Cathy Staff	Pastor Rachel Stockle
Lee / Leah Hanlin	Julie Brink	Marian Sorenson serves as secretary
Jim Sours (Chair)	Nancy Ogle	Cathy Staff serves as Lay Leader
Brad Billings	Clif Weisinger	
Fae Jones		

• **Goal Review:**

Committees are scheduling meeting to begin their work.

• **Church Goals**

- 1) Continue cooperative ministry among three Quincy UMC churches to strengthen each church and increase community awareness. (Fae Jones, Jim Sours)
- 2) Reimagine and relaunch the 11:00 service. (Dikki Andrews, Fae Jones, Nancy Ogle)
- 3) Improve marketing to the community to foster our public identity. (Brad Billings, Clif Weisinger)

• **Leadership Board Goals**

- 1) Investigate reimplementing the Sunday steward position. (Lee Hanlin)
- 2) Continue stewardship of the church's financial resources. (Brad Billings, Julie Brink, Nancy Ogle, Clif Weisinger)
- 3) Enhance and maintain communication between the Leadership Board, committees, and the congregation. (Dikki Andrews, Brad Billings, Julie Brink, Cathy Staff, Clif Weisinger)

• **Financial Manager Position:**

Pastor Rachel and Cathy Staff have interviewed several people for this position. We are currently still looking for applicants. Ideas were suggested to advertise the position through social media.

• **Informational Brochure:**

A brochure which highlights the work of VSUMC has been created to be used in-house. The Leadership Board had some suggestions for additional information and suggested the use of a graphic designer. Work will continue on this project.

• **Sound System Update:**

Two bids were received from GB Sound:

- 1) Wireless Microphone Antenna Distribution / labor \$2709.96
- 2) Two wireless microphones / labor \$2476.00 Members requested clarification on the bids and upon receiving that information, it was determined that Pastor Rachel would ask the Memorial Committee for the money.

• **Balcony computer:**

The computer is here and should be in operation soon.

• **Flashing Lights in Sanctuary:**

Royalty Electric has determined that the flashing lights are a result of the changeover from incandescent to LED lightbulbs. The wiring is not compatible. Their short-term solution is to revert to some incandescent lightbulbs. Rewiring is in the future, but there is no danger of fire and changing some of the lightbulbs should solve the problem.

• **Annual Conference:**


Lay members attending Annual Conference (June 5-7) will be Grace Messan, Elise Lindgren, and Valarie Vlahakis. One more person is needed to represent VSUMC. If you are interested in attending, please contact Pastor Rachel.

• **Locked Storage Room:**

An upstairs Sunday School room has had a lock installed to secure the boxes of documents from the financial manager's office.

- **2025 Budget :** Continues to be a work in progress.

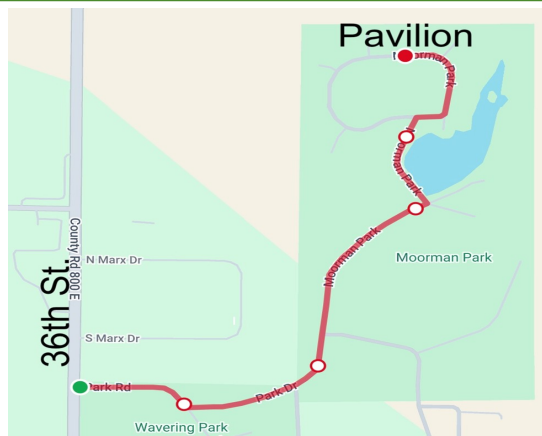


Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1. 9am Quilters 9:30am Staff Meeting	2. 10am Coffee & Conversation 4:45pm Praise Team 5pm Lenten Study 6pm Bell Choir 7pm Chancel Choir 7pm Youth Group	3. 7pm Cooperative Ministries	4.	5.
6. 5th Sunday of Lent 9 am Worship 10:15am Sunday School 11am Connection Worship 6:30pm Lenten Service at Melrose Chapel UMC	7. 9am Care team <i>Views Deadline</i>	8. 9am Quilters 6pm WOW @ Sprouts	9. 4:45pm Praise Team 6pm Bell Choir 7pm Chancel Choir 7pm Youth Group	10.	11.	12.
 13. Palm Sunday Holy Week Begins 9am Worship 9am Baptism 10:15am Sunday School 10:15am One Minute Mission 11am Connection Worship 6:30pm Lenten Service at Bethel AME <i>Labyrinth hours In the Morning only</i>	14 9am Care team  EASTER Lilies <i>Easter Lilies Deadline</i> <i>Labyrinth hours 8 am-12 pm</i>	15. 9am Quilters <i>Labyrinth hours 8 am-12 pm</i>	16. 4:45pm Praise Team 5pm Book Study 7pm Chancel Choir 7pm Youth Group <i>Labyrinth hours All Day</i>	17. Maundy Thursday 7pm Tenebrae  <i>Labyrinth hours 8 am-12 pm</i>	18. Good Friday <i>Church Offices are Closed</i> 	19. 1pm Easter Egg Hunt 
20. Easter Sunday 9 am Worship 10:15am Sunday School 11am Connection Worship <i>Labyrinth hours In the Morning only</i>	21. 9am Care team 6pm Building & Grounds <i>Easter Lilies Pick up Day</i> <i>Christina Off</i>	22. 9am Quilters	23. <i>Administration Professional Dat</i> 10am UWF Meeting 4:45pm Praise Team 5pm Book Study 6pm Bell Choir 7pm Chancel Choir 7pm Youth Group	24.	25.	26. 9am-2pm—UWF Hosting Spring District Café Vermont & Sanctuary
27. Church in the Park Joint Service Between the three UMC Churches in Upper Moorman Park	28. 9am Care team 6:15pm Leadership Team	29. 9am Quilters	30. 4:45pm Praise Team 5pm Book Study 6pm Bell Choir 7pm Chancel Choir 7pm Youth Group			

Church In the Park

On Sunday, April 27, 2025 at 10:30 am we will be having a joint Worship Service with the other United Methodist Churches at the **Large Shelter House** in Upper Moorman Park. There will be a potluck lunch afterwards. Please bring your favorite dish to share with everyone!

Paper Products and Drinks are provided!



United Women of Faith

United Women in Faith will meet April 23, at 10 am in Café Vermont. Loretta Hyslop will be giving the program "A Mother's Hand." All are invited to come and join us for fun, food and fellowship.



Have a Happy & Blessed Easter

Medical Equipment Donations

The three United Methodist Churches are collecting Medical Equipment.

Equipment Needed :

- Folding Walkers
- Canes
- Knee Scooters
- Hospital Beds
- Crutches
- Wheelchairs
- Shower Chairs
- Orthopedic Supplies

More Information can be found in the Gathering Space.

Must be donated by **Easter Sunday!**

Other Upcoming Dates

- April 13— Palm Sunday
- April 13—Olson Baptism
- April 13—One Minute Misson—Fill Easter Eggs
- April 17—Maundy Thursday—Tenebrae Service 7pm
- April 18—Good Friday— Union UMC—5 pm
- April 19—Easter Egg Hunt—1 pm
- April 20—Easter Sunday
- April 23— UWF Meeting at Café Vermont
- April 27—Joint Sunday Service in the Park— 10:30 am—Potluck to Follow



V.B.S

We are looking for a Coordinator to work with Union UMC & Melrose Chapel UMC Coordinators for a Joint VBS Program.

Children Musicians

We are looking for any children who can play musical instruments to play special music on mothers day On May 11th

Please contact Pastor Annelle

A.V Tech

We are still looking for anyone that would be interested in assisting with Worship Tech.

If you have questions about what that may entail please reach out to the office!

Greeters & Ushers Schedule

May Communion Schedule

- 9am** John & Susan Kissick
- 11am** Charlie & Fae Jones

9 am Greeters

- April 13th** Jim Worrell & Karen Weisinger
- April 20th** Jim Worrell & Karen Weisinger
- May 4th** Jim Worrell, Carolyn Brown & Peggy Morey
- May 11th** Jim Worrell
- May 18th** Jim Worrell
- May 25th** Jim Worrell

9 am Ushers

- April** Clif Weisinger & Dave Brown
- May** John & Barb Wooleyhan

11 am Ushers

- April 13th** Charlie Jones and Rob Hernandez
- April 20th** Justin & Nathalie Messan
- April 27th** Church in the Park
- May 4th** Don Larson & Jim Weede
- May 11th** Charlie Jones and Rob Hernandez
- May 18th** Justin & Nathalie Messan

Gathering Place Hosts

- April 13th** Carol Gilliland & Esther Strosaker
- April 20th** Charlie & Fae Jones
- May 4th** Dikki Andrews
- May 11th** Carrol & Mimi McKinney
- May 18th** Graduate Reception

Greeters Sign-up

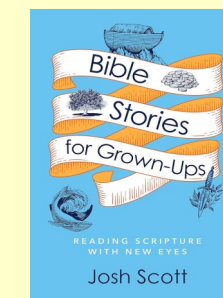
Greeters are **needed this year.** Sign up is in the Gathering Space.

Please consider helping out one Sunday of the year.

Worship Attendance

March			
	9 am	11 am	Total
2nd	57	34	91
9th	77	48	125
16th	68	38	106
23rd	65	37	109
30th	65	42	107

Book Study



We will begin *Bible Stories for Grown Ups* by Josh Scott.

We will distribute books and review the introduction together this week.

See you there! Wednesdays at 5:00 pm

Holy Week Information

Easter Lilies Information

Easter Lilies are just around the corner!
 The price this year will be **\$11.00** a lily. Last day to order will be **4/14/2025**.
 They will be available for pick-up after Easter Service until the 22nd of April.
 Order forms can be found in the Gathering Space.





Easter Lily Order Form

_____ \$ _____
 quantity check / cash \$11.00



PLEASE PRINT

In honor of _____

In memory of _____

Given by: _____



Easter Egg Hunt

Can you help? We need individually wrapped candy as well as small toys and games (balls, bubbles, jump ropes, chalk). Please consider donating.

We will have a One Minute Mission between services on **April 13** to fill the Easter Eggs and get them ready for the hunt!

There is a Facebook Page Event, if you see it please share it with your friends and family! There will be flyers to handout in the Gathering Space .



Easter Offering

This year our Easter offering is UMCOR, The United Methodist Committee of Relief. Our donations will help with the U.S Disaster Funds and the Most Needed account.

Holy Week Information

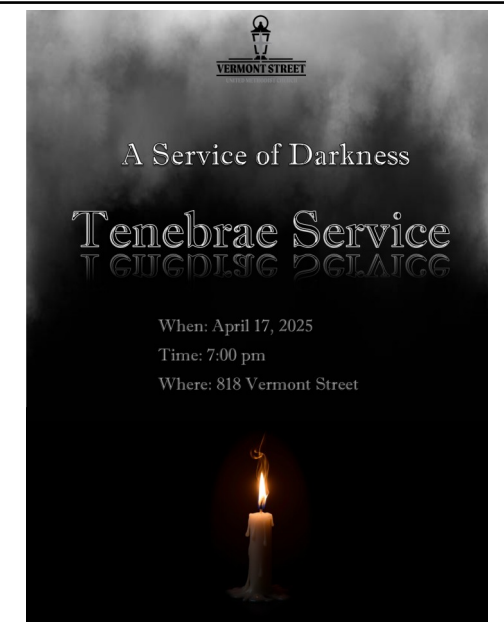
Maundy Thursday / Tenebrae

Tenebrae will be held on Maundy Thursday, April 17 at 7:00 pm.

Please join us for a Service of Darkness.

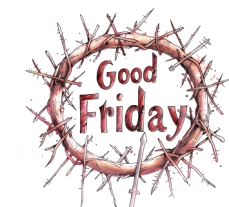
There is a Facebook event on the Vermont Street UMC Facebook page. If you see it, please share it with your friends and family!

There will also be hand out flyers in the Gathering Space.



Good Friday Service

Union UMC will be hosting a Good Friday Service on April 18th at 5:00 pm. It will be a combination of Maundy Thursday and Good Friday.



Labyrinth

The Labyrinth will be available in the church Fellowship Hall starting Friday until after Easter. You may walk the Labyrinth anytime the Church building is open. A reminder, we are closed Good Friday.

Palm Sunday: Morning Only
 Monday: 8 am—12 pm Wednesday: All Day
 Tuesday: 8 am—12 pm Thursday: 8 am—12 pm Easter: Morning Only



Graduate Recognition

Graduate recognition Sunday will be May 18. Please let us know if you have graduates in your family!