

"Heavenly Father, as we move forward in this season of renewal, empower us to be your hands and feet in the world. Help us to see those on their "mats" in our community and to offer hope and healing. May the risen Christ guide us as we strive to be a light in the darkness, bringing your love



**April 2025**

## **Lexington United Methodist Church**

*Where We Seek, Serve and  
Share Christ*

[www.lexmoumc.org](http://www.lexmoumc.org)

**Office: 660-259-2483**

Rev. Andrew Sanders, Pastor  
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417-770-6731 (cell)

Liz Johnson,  
Administrative Assistant  
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Janet Thompson,  
Music Director

Sarah Black,  
Council Chair

Sunday worship: 11 a.m.  
Sunday School: 10 a.m.  
Adult Sunday School: 10 a.m.  
Youth Group, Sundays 6 p.m.  
Worshiping Winds Rehearsal:  
Sundays, 9:30 a.m.

Choir Rehearsal: 10 a.m. Sundays

## **LET US SHARE THE HOPE OF CHRIST WITH ALL**

**A**pril brings the gentle reminders of spring, a season of renewal that mirrors the profound message of Easter. The echoes of "He is risen!" resonate in our hearts, calling us to a life transformed by hope and action. As we move beyond the Easter celebration, let us carry the spirit of resurrection into our daily lives, embodying the essence of a "Mat" church.



Rev. Andrew  
Sanders

Our journey to becoming a "Mat" church was illuminated on Ash Wednesday as we reflected on John 5:1-15. This passage recounts Jesus' encounter with a man who had been an invalid for 38 years, lying destitute near the pool of Bethesda, desperate for healing. Jesus, seeing the man whom so many had overlooked, commanded, "Get up! Pick up your mat and walk." This act demonstrates Jesus' power to restore physical ability and offer new life—a power that foreshadows the ultimate resurrection.

role as a community that recognizes and serves the broken, downtrodden, and hurting. The image of the "mat" represents those in desperate need of assistance. Just as Jesus and his disciples brought healing and renewal, we are called to do the same. Even after being healed, those in Scripture carried their mats—a tangible reminder of their past struggles and a testament to God's transformative power.

We, too, carry our "mats"—our past experiences—which should constantly remind us of the hope and renewal found in Christ.

Let us not allow the spirit of Easter to fade. Instead, let us commit daily to being a "Mat" church. This means actively seeking opportunities to serve, offering compassion to those who are suffering, and sharing the hope of Christ's resurrection with everyone we encounter.

Throughout Lent, we explored our

**Pastor continued on page 4**



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**Sundays: Worshipping Winds rehearsal**  
9:30 a.m.

**Choir Rehearsal** 10 a.m.

**Mondays: Quilters** at 1 p.m

**Wednesdays: Exercise Group:** 9 a.m.

**BABY GRACE: First & Third Saturdays,**  
10 to Noon.

**Tuesday, April 8: Election Day.**

**HARVESTERS DISTRIBUTION:** April 14, 8  
to 11 a.m.

**WOMEN'S GROUP:** Friday, April 11,  
Noon for carry-in lunch.

**Friday & Saturday, April 11-12: Scouts**  
Lock-in, Buddy Black Family Life Center.

**Monday, April 21: Church office closed.**

**CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING:** Monday,  
April 21, 6 p.m., Choir Room.

**COMMODITIES:** Thursday, April 24, 8:30  
to 11 a.m.

**Palm Sunday:** April 13, 11 a.m.

**Maundy Thursday,** April 17, 5:30 p.m.

**Good Friday,** April 18, 5:30 p.m.

**Easter Egg Hunt,** Sunday, April 20, 10  
a.m.

**Easter Sunday Service,** April 20, 11 a.m.

**YOUTH GROUP:** Sundays at 6 p.m.,  
starting April 20th.

**Adult Sunday School:** Sundays at 10 a.m.

**Children's Sunday School:** Sundays at 10.



**April 7**

**Jan Thompson**

**April 13**

**Rebecca Anderson**

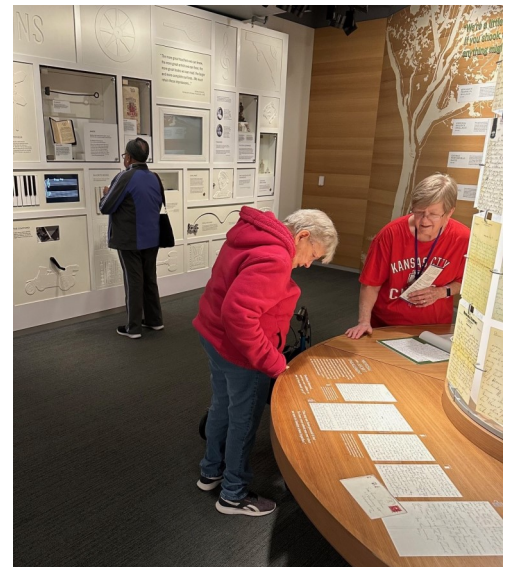
## Children's Sunday School

We are in need of **two Children's Sunday School teachers** to continue the 10 a.m. Sunday classes beginning May 4, 2025. Please reach out to Pastor Andrew and/or Sarah Black if interested. We're so grateful to **Bria Dobson & Jess Eaton** for their time of service. The kids love them!

## A day at Truman Library & Museum



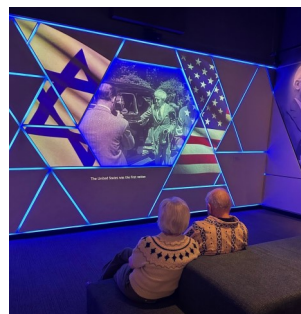
A group from LUMC took a fun tourist trip to the Truman Library on March 12th. From left are Maxine Palmer, Rose Seitz, Sarah Black, Pastor Andrew, Mable Hawkins, Janet Cado and "Harry Truman!" Not pictured is Debbie Hatfield, Susan Small & Joey Schumaker. The group had a nice lunch in Independence after.



Left: Rose Seitz takes a sit down break while Mable Hawkins walks through one of the exhibits. Right: Maxine Palmer and daughter Debbie Hatfield look over yet another exhibit at the Truman Library, while Mable Hawkins check out another exhibit. The Truman Library & Museum underwent a renovation that was completed in 2021 in celebration of Truman's acceleration to the presidency of the United States.

Far Right: Pastor Andrew made it to the Truman Oval Office as it would have looked during Truman's presidency.

Right: Susan Small and friend Joey Schumaker look at a display in which Truman recognized the Israel as a new nation on May 14, 1948.





Liz Johnson | Secretary

♦ **Present:** Sarah Black, Teri James, Sharol McMullin, Roger McFadden, Liz Johnson, Rev. Andrew Sanders, Phillip Davis, David Cooley, Thomas Rowland, Jim Martin, Nancy Oles and Cheryl Cooley – by phone. Plus, Randy Hansen, guest (Lexington emergency management).

♦ Chairman Sarah called the meeting to order.

♦ Pastor Andrew opened with prayer.

♦ **Randy Hansen, Lexington emergency management** was introduced to present information on how the church is used as an emergency space in the case of power outages in Lexington and/or other emergencies and his responsibility toward it. This began in 2011 with a generator set up at the church. In 2019 the generator was paid for fully by a grant. It was further upgraded recently to cover nearly the entire church from the Buddy Black Family Life Center up to the sanctuary – but not including the sanctuary. We have cots, blankets and pillows stored on site. The health department and hospital also have additional bedding supplies.

♦ **Spiritual Development | Pastor Andrew:** 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 was read.

♦ **2025 Leadership Covenant:** Council members not in attendance in February, read and signed the covenant.

♦ **Leadership | Pastor Andrew:** Pastor announced that Donna and Scott Slusher have indicated they're ready to become members of the church. Two Sundays ago, the Bria and Lance Dobson family became members. Phillip suggested that when folks become members, that a member of the council – likely the chairman – stand with them and welcome them. He suggested presenting a plaque with the cross and flame on it, or certificate of some sort. Liz J reminded council that we have new member (and visitor) bags with goodies in them including a large sip cup with the church name on it and cross and flame that is given to new members. In addition, it was mentioned

that the new members, on the day they join, should stand in the reception line with the pastor at the end of the service so as to meet other congregants.

♦ **February Minutes:** Sharol moved to accept the February minutes with the addition of her name as present at that meeting, which was seconded by Phillip. So passed.

♦ **Finance Report:** Phillip moved to accept the minutes, seconded by Jim Martin. So passed.

♦ **Finance:** Teri reported that we ended February with a tad over \$250 in the checking account. She indicated that the electric bill was very high and already is high for March.

♦ **Fundraisers | Lexington Trade Days | Sharol McMullin:** Sharol explained that Kathryn Roberts, who volunteered to lead the Lexington Trade Days event set for the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of each month through November, will be in Florida for the month of April – therefore – the first Trade Days has been moved to the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday in May. (5/24). Kathryn has already secured two food trucks – an ice cream truck and one with Mexican fare. Kathryn will work with Liz J in the office for accepting payments toward vendor spaces and advertising information.

♦ **Fundraisers | Harvest Dinner | Sharol McMullin:** Finance has chosen November 1<sup>st</sup> for hosting a Harvest Dinner in the Buddy Black Family Life Center from 6 to 9 p.m. It will include a free will donation, silent auction (possibly a live auction that may include an auctioneer), live entertainment throughout the evening including music and asking River City Players to perform a scene from their current play, and reaching out to the high school drama teacher for ideas. Cheryl Cooley and Teri James will provide the meat prep for the meal, but we will need church members to supply side dishes and desserts, plus volunteers to help during the evening. Committees will need to be formed. We will advertise in the newspaper, chamber and on social media. The event is to benefit church missions (apportionments).

♦ **Fundraisers | Homes Tour/Marcia Hicklin | Liz Johnson & Sharol McMullin:** Quilter Marcia Hicklin has graciously offered to conduct tours in her historic home – not only inviting the community but also those in her reenactment community. We would need to provide at

least 7 volunteers to be in the rooms in the house during the tours. Marcia will provide historic information. She suggested we provide baked goods for a bake sale to generate more income for the church. Liz J will reach out to Marcia to begin planning this – at least one to two tours for now – the first will be June 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>. Roger motioned to do the tours, seconded by Sharol. So passed.

♦ **Quarterly Dinners | Teri James:** We will have our first quarterly potluck meal following the June 8<sup>th</sup> service in the Buddy Black Family Life Center.

♦ **Easter:** Easter is April 20<sup>th</sup>. We will have four being confirmed on Easter Sunday. Pastor Andrew is currently holding confirmation classes. Sarah an Easter egg hunt. It was decided to have the egg hunt at 10 a.m. on Easter followed by cake and punch for the confirmands before the service. Liz J will get artificial flowers for the altar for Easter instead of live ones. Liz J will order the confirmation cake.

♦ **Stewardship:** Sarah read the guidelines of the council for this month. It includes stewardship plans for the fall. The council put this in the hands of the Finance Team – whose next meeting is April 8<sup>th</sup>.

♦ **Graduation:** We have two graduates this year. One is Karen Yates' granddaughter, Chloe, and the other is Anthony Dye, our new member of Whispering Winds. We will look into Lexington graduation dates and plan for honoring them.

♦ **Property | Trustees | Roger:** Regarding lawn mowing, we are going to use the same person who mowed last year. Roger removed the flags from the flagpole prior to the last big storm and has had to replace the rope on the pole which included renting a scissor lift. Thomas called Every about their smart thermostat program – however – the promotion has ended and the cost would not be viable. Phillip suggested that we replace the two thermostats in the Buddy Black Family Life Center with the Smart Thermostats so they can be controlled from an app on the phones. Liz J most often has to regulate those for assorted building rentals. Roger said he will look into that. Additionally, trustees will get all the thermostats on a twice a year battery changing schedule to avoid batteries going bad.

♦ The meeting was adjourned.

♦ **Next:** Monday, April 21, 2025 at 6 p.m.



WORSHIP: Sundays 11 a.m.

Sunday School: 10 a.m. Adult &  
Children's Classes.

Choir Rehearsal: 10 a.m.

Worshiping Winds Rehearsal: 9:30 a.m.

ONLINE: [lexmoumc.org](http://lexmoumc.org)



## Treasurer's Report

### March 2025

March Offering:	\$17,824.41
Reimbursements:	\$ 4,903.85
Avg Expenses:	<u>-\$13,641.00</u>
Total	\$ 4,183.41
*Avg. Expenses 2025	\$ 13,641.00 (per month)

(February's offering includes a one-time large donation to the church).

**Teri James:** Treasurer

**Liz Johnson:** Finance Secretary

**Sharol McMullin:** Finance Chair

**Sarah Black:** 2025 Council Chair

**Jim Martin:** 2025 PPR Chair

**Pastor:** Rev. Andrew Sanders

*"Whoever has a bountiful eye will be blessed, for he shares his bread with the poor." ~ Proverbs 22:9*



### Help needed for historic June tour

We will be partnering with **Marcia Hicklin**, owner of historic property, Hicklin Hearthstone, on June 20 & 21st with a home tour. We're looking for volunteers to help with the tours through 2-hour shifts in various rooms. All information is provided for this air conditioned environment. Proceeds will benefit church missions. A sign-up sheet is available on the table in the church hallway. Please reach out to **Liz Johnson** for more information: 660-259-2483.

### Pastor... continued from pg. 1

Heavenly Father, as we move forward in this season of renewal, empower us to be your hands and feet in the world. Help us to see those on their "mats" in our community and to offer hope and healing. May the risen Christ guide us as we strive to be a light in the darkness, bringing your love and compassion to all. Amen.



Bring the little ones for our annual **Easter egg hunt, Sunday, April 20th at 10 a.m. (Easter Sunday)**. Then stay for our beautiful Easter Sunday service at 11 a.m.!

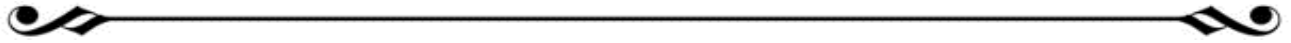
Small candy is needed to fill the plastic eggs, please, before April 13th. Drop off at candy at church office.

Fifth Sunday in Lent, April 6, 2025

## Scripture Reading: Psalm 126

*Hope is being able to see that there is light despite all of the darkness.*

—Archbishop Desmond Tutu



Are you familiar with your state flag? A number of state flags lack words. Arizona, Alabama, Alaska, Hawaii, Tennessee, Maryland, New Mexico, South Carolina and Texas have no text whatsoever (The C and the O on the state flags of Colorado and Ohio, respectively, count as text.)

Some states have words, but the words simply identify the state: Kansas, Idaho, Wisconsin, Oregon, North Dakota and others.

But most do indeed have words. Take Connecticut, for example. Its flag features the Latin phrase, *Qui transtulit sustinet*, which means, “He who transplanted still sustains” — referring to the early settlers who believed that God guided them to the new land and would continue to sustain them.

Georgia’s flag cites the motto not only of the state but of our federal union, “In God We Trust.” Vermont’s flag bears the words, “Freedom and Unity.”

My favorite, however, is the state flag of Rhode Island, which proclaims the word “Hope,” which is also the state motto. The motto has been a part of Rhode Island’s identity since its early colonial days, symbolizing the hope of religious freedom and new opportunities that led to the state’s founding.

Can you imagine what it’s like to live without hope?

Hope is often described as the anchor of the soul, providing stability and direction even in the midst of life’s storms. It is the belief in the possibility of a better future, a brighter tomorrow, and the potential for change. But what happens when this essential human quality is absent?

It is possible that some of you dear readers feel there is no hope. You are burdened by despair, trapped in a cycle of pain, with no possibility of escape. Every challenge, no matter how small, can seem insurmountable. Perhaps you also live in fear, think your life has no purpose, that you are living in a world without color.

Fortunately, we serve a God of hope, and this God wants you to experience hope — abundantly! “May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit” (Romans 15:13).

—Timothy Merrill

*Prayer: O God, like the psalmist David, I sometimes wonder, “Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me?” Then I remember his response: “Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my salvation and my God.” Thank you for being my salvation! Amen!*

## Daily Bible Readings

**Sunday:** Luke 1-3

**Monday:** Deuteronomy 23-25

**Tuesday:** Deuteronomy 26-28

**Wednesday:** Deuteronomy 29-31

**Thursday:** Deuteronomy 32-34

**Friday:** Joshua 1-3

**Saturday:** Psalm 33

## Verse to Remember

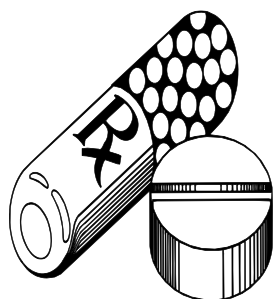
*This book of the law shall not depart out of your mouth; you shall meditate on it day and night.* —Joshua 1:8

## April 2025

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

## A Taste of Your Own Medicine

You take a pill every half hour. You have three pills to take. How long will the pills last?



## Scramble Fun!

Unscramble the following words and then use the letters in the circles to reveal the hidden word.

ROSSC    \_ \_  \_ \_  \_

MTOB     \_ \_ \_ \_

GANLE     \_ \_ \_  \_

TNEOS    \_ \_ \_ \_



**Answers to A Taste ...:** One hour. Take the first at 4 p.m., and the second at 4:30 p.m., and the third at 5 p.m. **Answers to Scramble Fun:** cross, tomb, angel, stone. Hidden word: Easter. **Answers to Double Up:** SPARK, ALIKE, SPOIL, OFFER. **Answers to Your Guess ...:** 1. b; 2. c; 3. a.

## Your Guess Is as Good as Mine!

1. America's first automobile parking meter was installed in Oklahoma City in

a) 1835, b) 1935, c) 1899, d) 1765.

2. The world's first postage stamp was issued in the U.K. in

a) 1653, b) 1753, c) 1840, d) 1904.

3. The first American policewoman began work in

a) 1908, b) 1760, c) 1955, d) 1980.

## DOUBLE UP

This puzzle consists of four five-letter words that use 10 different letters exactly twice. Since there are already two S's, you cannot use another S. But there is only one F. Try to think of a word that has an F in it.

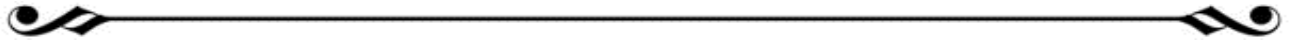
1. S \_ \_ A \_ \_ K      2. \_ \_ L \_ \_ K \_ \_

3. S \_ \_ O \_ \_ L      4. \_ \_ F \_ \_ E \_ \_

Palm Sunday, April 13, 2025

## Scripture Reading: Luke 19:28-40

***In the end, we will remember not the words of our enemies,  
but the silence of our friends. —Martin Luther King Jr.***



If, perchance, a contemporary rock star — let's say Taylor Swift — were to arrive in midtown New York City for an outdoor concert in Times Square or Washington Square, she'd very possibly arrive in a stretch limo, followed by several other vehicles, as well as her personal entourage and staff. Of course, the stage and equipment has already been set up, sound checks are done, everything is ready. She just needs to show up. And when she does, the crowds are there and are going wild — smartphones in the air. People are clamoring for her attention. Everyone wants a piece of her. The crush is incredible.

In Jesus' day, Jerusalem was a big city, but if someone important entered the city, it was likely a military man, or governmental figure of the Roman Empire. He'd likely enter on a large war horse, befitting the powerful man that he was.

But the people didn't care.

But on the day we call Palm Sunday, they care. Enormous crowds were on hand to greet Jesus as befitting the ("Rock of Ages") rock ("Morning") star he was. He entered Jerusalem riding on a colt, fulfilling the prophecy from Zechariah 9:9 that the King would come in humility. The mob shouted and hollered: Hosanna! Hosanna! They gave him the red cloak treatment, casting off their outer garments to create a carpet of cloth as the tiny beast clopped by. The crowds sang like a song might swell in a football stadium, waving palm branches like rally towels, "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!" (Luke 19:38).

Yet, as we know, only days later, thanks to some machinations of his political enemies and a lot of fake news, Jesus would be jeered and ridiculed by a crowd demanding his crucifixion. This stark contrast challenges us to examine the sincerity of our own faith. Following Jesus means more than moments of celebration; it requires a life of commitment, even when the path becomes difficult.

—Timothy Merrill

*Prayer: Lord Jesus, as we remember your entry into Jerusalem, we welcome you into our hearts as our Lord and Savior. Help us to follow your example of humility and servanthood. And may our commitment to you remain steadfast, not just in moments of celebration but in every season of life. Amen.*

## Daily Bible Readings

**Sunday:** Luke 4-6

**Monday:** Joshua 4-6

**Tuesday:** Joshua 7-9

**Wednesday:** Joshua 10-12

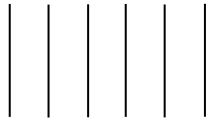
**Thursday:** Joshua 13-15

**Friday:** Joshua 16-18

**Saturday:** Psalms 34-36

## BRAIN DRAIN

You are given the following:



Add five line segments to make 9. See answer below.

# PALM



# SUNDAY

### ANSWERS to Test

Your Bible IQ!: 1E, 2C, 3C, 4C, 5D, 6C, 7E, 8A, 9A, 10D

### ANSWER to BRAIN

**DRAIN:** NINE (Add a slanting segment twice, and three horizontal segments to get NINE.)

## TEST YOUR BIBLE IQ!

Knowledge is acquired in many ways. One approach is to review what has already been mastered. See if you remember the correct responses to the questions below. These questions review and connect with many well-known stories in the Bible. Answers below.

1. All of these are part of the story of Noah except: A. a dove, B. a rainbow, C. an olive branch, D. a raven, E. an apple. (Genesis 6-9)
2. Hagar was the handmaid to this matriarch: A. Bathsheba, B. Ruth, C. Sarai, D. Rebekah, E. Rachel. (Genesis 16)
3. King David succeeded: A. Solomon, B. Samson, C. Saul, D. Isaiah, E. Jeremiah. (1 Samuel 18)
4. Which person is mismatched? A. Gideon/trumpet, B. Moses /burning bush, C. Joseph/slingshot, D. Daniel/lions. (1 Samuel 17)
5. Which biblical figure's faith was tested by many trials? A. Adam, B. Moses, C. Noah, D. Job, E. Solomon.
6. Jacob saw angels going up and down a: A. highway, B. bridge, C. ladder or stairway, D. mountain, E. tree. (Genesis 28)
7. Elisha healed the waters of Jericho by putting this into the spring: A. blood, B. an olive, C. wine, D. sand, E. salt. (2 Kings 2:19-22)
8. In the Old Testament, Zion refers to: A. a city, B. heaven, C. a prophet, D. a name for God. (Psalm 48:1-2)
9. The Bible says that all but which river flowed through the Garden of Eden? A. Jordan, B. Tigris, C. Gihon, D. Pishon, E. Euphrates. (Genesis 2:10-14)
10. Nebuchadnezzar was responsible for the destruction of: A. the hanging gardens, B. the wall of Jericho, C. the city of Sodom, D. the temple at Jerusalem. (2 Kings 25:8-12)



Easter Sunday, April 20, 2025

## Scripture Reading: Luke 24:1-12

*Our old history ends with the cross; our new history begins  
with the resurrection. —Watchman Nee*

It's Easter Sunday when we are reminded that the resurrection of Jesus Christ is the very heart of our faith. More than that, Easter triumphantly proclaims that God is always at work, bringing life amid death, hope amid despair.

To that end, let's think of a metaphor. In a peaceful meadow, there was a caterpillar who lived a simple and content life. She was unaware that a great transformation awaited her.

One day, she entered a deep sleep, all while weaving an intricate cocoon around herself. She remained there for many days, hidden away and quiet. The other creatures of the meadow wondered if she had died, and some even grieved their loss.

But after some time, the cocoon began to move, and shortly thereafter, a monarch butterfly emerged. The transformation had not been easy, and the butterfly's gossamer wings were weak and fragile at first. She struggled to fly, and for a time, she remained on the branch to which the now-discarded cocoon was still attached.

Then, slowly, the butterfly's wings grew stronger. With the sun shining down on her and the wind encouraging her, she spread her wings and took to the sky. The other creatures of the meadow marveled at how death had been transformed into life; how the earthly had been transfigured into something beautiful; how what had been old had miraculously become new — dazzlingly new!

There are parallels to what is going on at Easter. *Theologically*, like the butterfly's cocoon, the tomb seemed like a place of death and loss. But in the resurrection of Jesus, what seemed like an end became the ultimate beginning — a new life for all believers. Just as the butterfly was transformed, we, too, are transformed by the power of the resurrection, given new hope and life.

But *experientially*, the message of Easter is that even in the darkest moments, when all seems lost, there is always the promise of renewal and resurrection, just as the butterfly emerges from its cocoon to soar into the sky.

—Timothy Merrill

*Prayer: Loving God, we thank you for the victory of life over death, hope over despair, and love over fear. Through Jesus, you have given us the promise of eternal life, and the assurance that no darkness is too great for your light to overcome. We thank you for the new beginnings you offer us, for the power of your redeeming grace. May we live in the joy and freedom of your resurrection, sharing your love and hope with a world in need. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.*

**Daily Bible Readings**

**Sunday:** Luke 7-9

**Monday:** Joshua 19-21

**Tuesday:** Joshua 22-24

**Wednesday:** Judges 1-4

**Thursday:** Judges 5-8

**Friday:** Judges 9-12

**Saturday:** Psalms 37-39

**EASTER WORD  
HUNT**

**Directions:** Look for ten (10) words related to the Easter season. Words can be read forwards or backwards or either direction vertically. Answers below.

T	D	W	M	H	H	T
E	Y	D	N	A	C	E
N	E	C	H	I	C	K
N	Q	T	N	U	H	S
O	L	I	L	Y	G	A
B	U	N	N	Y	G	B
P	A	R	A	D	E	F

**NAME THE  
STATE**

In the space provided, write the names of the states in which the following three-letter words are found:

**EXAMPLE:** OUT/ SOUTH  
DAKOTA

**ASK:**

**SIP:**

**ORE:**

**EGO:**

**WAS:**

**ASH:**

**TON:**

**GIN:**

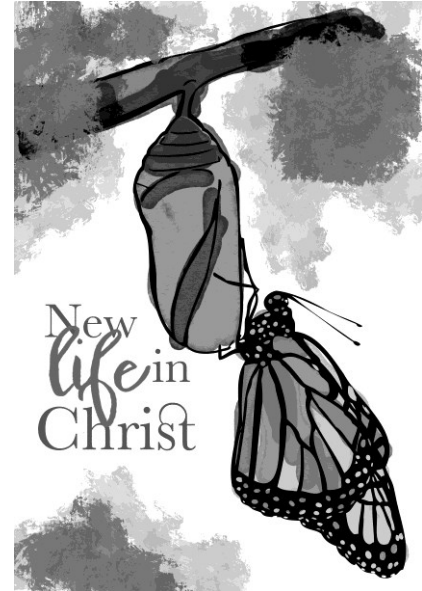
**CUT:**

**SEE:**

**INN:**

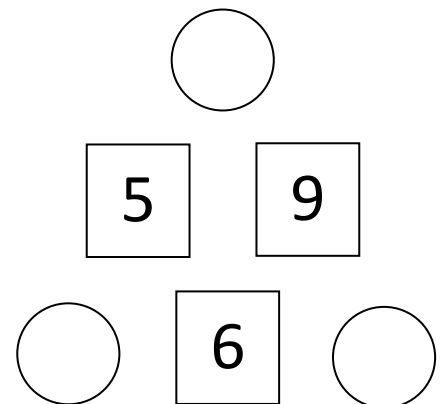
**USE:**

**SET:**



**ARITHMOGRAM**

Place a number in each of the circles on either side of the squares so that the sum of the numbers in the adjoining circles equals the number in the square.



**ANSWERS to NAME**

**THE STATE:**

ASK=Nebraska, or

Alaska

SIP=Mississippi

ORE=Oregon

EGO=Oregon

WAS=Washington

ASH=Washington

TON=Washington

GIN=Virginia

CUT=Connecticut

SEE=Tennessee

INN=Minnesota

USE=Massachusetts

SET=Massachusetts

**ANSWER TO**

**ARITHMOGRAM:**

Clockwise from the

top circle —

4, 5, 1

**Answers to Easter**

**Word Hunt:** lily,

parade, chick,

bunny, candy, hunt,

dye, basket, egg,

bonnet

Sunday, April 27, 2025

## Scripture Reading: John 20:19-31

*To forgive is to set a prisoner free and discover  
that the prisoner was you. —Lewis B. Smedes*

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### The Parable of the Two Brothers

Once upon a time, there were two brothers: James, the older; and John, the younger. They lived on neighboring farms. They had always lived in harmony. One day, however, a conflict arose. It began with a small misunderstanding and soon snowballed into a major dispute. Words were exchanged, and they stopped speaking to one another. Years went by.

One day, there was a knock on James' door. It was a carpenter looking for work. "What's your name?" James asked.

"Manuel," said the carpenter.

"Well, Manuel," James said, "I want you to build a fence on my property. Build it so high that I won't have to see my brother John again."

Manuel nodded and went to work. But instead of building a fence, he built a bridge that spanned the stream between the two farms. When John saw the bridge, his heart was touched. He realized that his brother James still wanted to reconcile, despite their differences. James, for his part, was astonished. When John walked across the bridge, James was there to meet him, and they embraced in a tearful, joyous reconciliation.

"Thank you, Manuel," said the brothers in unison.

"My pleasure," said the Carpenter. "Some people call me Immanuel, but I also go by Jesús."

The Carpenter gathered his tools to leave. "Stay, stay!" the brothers cried in unison. "We have more work for you!"

But the Carpenter smiled and said, "I have many more bridges to build elsewhere," and went on his way.

—Timothy Merrill

*Prayer: Loving God, thank you for the gift of reconciliation. Through your grace, you restore broken relationships, and heal wounded hearts. Thank you for the peace that comes from forgiveness and for the unity found in your love. Help me to be an instrument of reconciliation in the world. Amen.*



**Daily Bible Readings**

**Sunday:** Luke 10-13

**Monday:** Judges 13-15

**Tuesday:** Judges 16-18

**Wednesday:** Judges 19-21

**Thursday:** Ruth 1-4

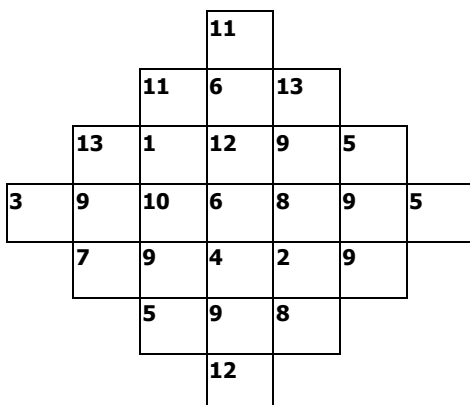
**Friday:** 1 Samuel 1-3

**Saturday:** Psalms 40-42

## NAME GAME

Some words that we use, such as these described below, come from the names of people. Identify the words and transfer the circled letters to the corresponding spaces in the diagram below to form a set of words in both directions.

1. A candy bar named after President Cleveland's daughter: B O \_ \_ \_ \_ \_.
2. A type of button-up sweater named after an English earl: C \_ \_ \_ \_ O \_ \_ \_ \_.
3. A tight-fitting garment with long sleeves and a high neck that is worn by a dancer — named after a French trapeze artist: L \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ O.
4. A Christmas flower named after a botanist: P \_ \_ O \_ \_ \_ \_ \_.
5. A type of engine named after its German inventor. Many pickup trucks use fuel with this same name: D \_ \_ O \_ \_.
6. A method for sterilizing milk named after a French chemist: P \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ O \_.
7. A beef dish containing sour cream named after a Russian count: S \_ \_ \_ O \_ \_ \_ \_ \_.
8. A unit of electrical power named after a Scottish inventor: W \_ O \_.
9. A device found in amusement parks that consists of a huge wheel with seats on it is named after what American inventor? E O \_ \_ \_ \_.
10. Denim trousers named after a German immigrant who participated in the California gold rush: L \_ O \_ ' \_.
11. A hoisting device used on oil wells named after an English hangman: D \_ \_ \_ \_ O \_.
12. A type of thin, crisp toast named after an Australian opera star: M \_ O \_ \_.
13. A kind of driver used on a four-slotted screw named after its inventor: P \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ O \_.



## Verse to Remember

*I waited  
patiently for the  
LORD; he turned  
to me and heard  
my cry.*

—Psalm 40:1



- ANSWERS:**
1. Baby Ruth
  2. Cardigan
  3. Leotard
  4. Poinsettia
  5. Diesel
  6. Pasteurization
  7. Stroganoff
  8. Watt
  9. Ferris
  10. Levi's
  11. Derrick
  12. Melba
  13. Phillips