



Jasper United Methodist Church



85 West Church Street, Jasper, GA 30143
Phone: 706-253-2100, Fax: 706-253-2110, www.jasperumc.org
Facebook: Jasper United Methodist Church / YouTube: Jasper UMC GA

April 2023

As Seen from the Meadows:

April is here with Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday! This month hosts some of the most moving celebrations of our faith. It also marks the end of the first quarter of the 2023-year and a prime time to consider a church's financial state. So know before we go any further that is what we will be sharing.

One of the things that is included in my area of responsibility is knowing where the church is when it comes to budget, donations and spending. It is one of my least favorite things to have to be aware of weekly. Every week as our treasurer sends me an email with the income to date and the expenses to date. Up until around 2021, those reports were not so bad to see every week, JUMC was meeting our expenses and staying in the black most weeks. In 2022, we began to have more weeks in the red and I began to dread opening those reports. We did well to end the year in the black just slightly but all those donations came in during November and December. I am sorry to say, 2023 has begun in the same manner; I think we may have had one week where the report has been in the black by a few dollars. The Staff Parish Relations committee made a decision to do away with a staff position; the Finance committee went over the budget; and with that work from both committees, we managed to cut our budget by about \$40,000 for 2023. Our church leadership knows there could be tough decisions in our future and those conversations have begun. We also know there are many folks in our congregation who are making donations every month and we are thankful for your faithfulness and dedication to God and our church. Financial giving is a spiritual discipline that is just as important as reading the Bible, praying and serving in the church and community. The spiritual discipline of generosity reminds us that all we have comes from God and God only asks for a small portion in return. The Bible speaks of it as a tithe or a tenth or 10%. Let us consider it this way: God blesses us with ten apples and God asks that we return just one back to God's ministry within our church. That means we have 9 apples to eat and enjoy. Returning one apple does not seem so hard and yet we find it difficult to let go of that apple. Sometimes we feel we cannot do a tithe or a tenth, so we just do not give anything. Please understand it is better to give something even if it seems small in your eyes. When we give even a little, God uses it to share love and grace. In turn, we receive a blessing from knowing we gave something to share in the ministry. To meet our budget we need to receive \$12,315 each week. This is not impossible for 300 to 400 folks each week in person and virtually. Our JUMC Church Council would like to ask each of us to look at our giving and see if it can be adjusted to ease the general operations of the church from week to week. If we are having a hard time giving up that one apple then consider giving a small part of that apple. If we are giving the whole apple or two the JUMC is thankful! If you are a virtual member and are not sure how to donate, please reach out to the church office, 706-253-2100, or to me, Pastor Greg, greg.meadows@ngumc.net, 770-851-8305. We are blessed with a congregation of dedicated followers of Jesus and we can, with God's help, get through this and be the church God calls us to be in Jasper and beyond.

I cannot close out April without lifting up how blessed I am to be the father to my twin boys, Gregory and Wesley. When we first found out we were having twins, we were in shock. There were times when it was not easy keeping up with twins but without either one our life would not be complete. God blessed us on April 2 and 3 with two healthy baby boys and now our life is blessed with two young men who are changing the world for the better. On top of that, our life has been blessed with two more daughters. We love you Gregory and Sarah and Wesley and Jordan!!

Yours in Christ,

Greg

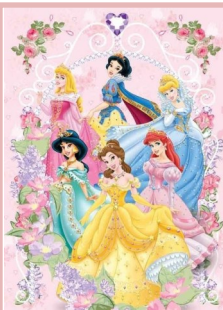


Registration for the 2023-2024 year is in full swing! We still have openings with limited availability in some classes. For more information about our program and to register visit www.jasperumc.org.

On April 22 from 11:00-1:00 the preschool will host an open house for prospective families. Parents and children will have the opportunity to tour the school, meet the teachers, and peruse the curriculum. Please share this information with potential families!

It is hard to believe that the countdown to the end of the school year is near. The preschool's last day of school will be Wednesday, May 17. Our pre-kindergarten graduation for our 4-5 year-old graduates will be held on May 17 at 9:00 AM in the sanctuary. Then at 11:00, the tiny tots, two's, and three's will perform their spring musical for adoring fans in the sanctuary. Anyone is welcome to join us for some major adorableness!

Peace, Love, Joy,
Kelly Wisniewski, Preschool Director



JUMC Preschool PRINCESS PROM

Friday, April 28th from 6-7:30.

Princesses (and Knights as well) are welcome to bring a member of their royal family as a guest.

Please RSVP by April 18th to Kelly at kwisniewski@jasperumc.org or Cindy Jackson at topso23@aol.com



United
Women
in Faith

SEEKERS CIRCLE:

Ladies, come join the Seekers Circle for a time of fellowship on

Thursday, April 13, at 10:00 am in room 106.

Those who wish to stay afterward will move to the kitchen for even more fun! For more information, call Nancy Henson 770-893-2609.

DORCAS CIRCLE:

Ladies: Please join us on Thursday, April 13, 2023 at 6:00 pm for our next Dorcas Circle meeting fun, refreshments, fellowship, laughter, and devotions. For more information, contact Suzanne Hardison at 770-894-1505.



Thank you to everyone who donated eggs and candy for our Easter egg hunt. Thank you to everyone who helped hide eggs for the children. No KOK or Preschool April 3-7 for Spring Break!



Calling all superheroes! Our Vacation Bible School will be held **June 19th, 20th, and 21st (three days)** this year! We are in need of those who would like to serve in this ministry. Here are some of the areas we need people to serve:

Director of Preschool
Bible Storyteller (Preschool & Elementary)
Preschool/Kindergarten Leaders
Student Guides to take them from station to station
Craft Leader (Preschool & Elementary)
Assembly Leader & Puppet Guide
Recreation Leader (Preschool & Elementary)
Snack Leaders for Children
Snack Leaders for Adults
Clean Up Crew

If you would like to help, call Kelly (706) 253-2100 or email me at kwisniewski@jasperumc.org.

VBS invites children ages 3 through rising 6th graders to answer the call to serve God together. Join the Professor and Super Meer, the adorable meerkat, as young Heroes learn to strive for the things that bring peace and the things that build each other up. Look for more information in upcoming months on how to register online!

Kelly Wisniewski
Director of Children's/Preschool Ministry
kwisniewski@jasperumc.org



The United Methodist Men meet the second Thursday of each month in the sanctuary at 6:00 pm beginning with dinner. The next gathering is April 13th. All men are invited to attend for fun, food, friendship and fellowship. For more information contact Barry Hardison at 404-218-7539 or barryhardison@windstream.net



I thoroughly enjoy the ministry that God has blessed me with. I would not trade my time that I get to, by God's grace, faithfully exposit His Word to His people. We had a great month in our bible study in the Gospel of John and in Elevate talking through our role in transforming the culture by living a life that honors and glorifies God. We plan to continue talking about our influence as Christ followers. We had a great time at the Spiritual Life Retreat at Camp Glisson! Thank you to everyone who helped make it possible for us to attend!

I will continue to thank you for your faithfulness to Christ and His Church! Please be in prayer for our students and parents as they seek to honor and glorify God in their decisions, actions, thoughts, and intention of their heart. Be in prayer also for me that I may speak boldly as I ought to.

Monthly Schedule:

April 2-9: No Elevate or Bible Study Spring Break and Easter

April 12: Gospel of John Bible Study (4:00-5:45)

April 16: Elevate Youth: Influence (1) (5:30-7:00)

April 19: Gospel of John Bible Study (4:00-5:45)

April 23: Elevate Youth: Influence (2) (5:30-7:00)

April 26: Gospel of John Bible Study (4:00-5:45)

April 30: Elevate Youth: Influence (3) (5:30-7:00)

Soli Deo Gloria,

Eric Justice

Director of Youth & Marketing at JUMC

ejjustice@jasperumc.org

Stephen Ledford Memorial Scholarship

Applications for the Stephen Ledford Memorial Scholarship are now available. The scholarship is intended for a high school senior who is active in the Jasper United Methodist Church and plans to attend a post secondary school. *Senior Recognition Sunday will be held May 21, 2023. All seniors will be recognized and scholarships will be awarded.*

The application deadline is Tuesday, May 2, 2023. Applications will be available at the Church office and can be downloaded from the church website at www.jasperumc.org.

Music and Worship Arts

“He is not here! He is Risen! See, the tomb is empty where He lay. He is not Here! He is Risen! Jesus rose on Easter Day.”

Special thanks for all who support our Youth in our Silent Auction, Spring Marketplace and Soup/Sandwich Luncheon. We are blessed to have a congregation who love and support our children and youth. May God continue to lead and guide along our way. This year's dates are Wednesday, April 26th-Sunday, April 30th for our Silent Auction/Soup and Sandwich Luncheon and Saturday, April 29th for our Spring Marketplace.

Here's the schedule for this month:

April 2nd-Palm Sunday-Chancel Choir and Children waving Palm Branches-11 am

April 9th-MAUNDY THURSDAY-"Voices of the Passion"-7pm-Chancel Choir and Dramatic Readings

April 14th-EASTER-7 am Sunrise Worship at Pickens High School then 11 am Worship-Chancel Choir

Looking ahead:

May 7th-4:45 pm-Final Parents' Meeting for SMT 2023 (permission sheets and final payment due)

May 14th-Mother's Day-KOK Musical ESTHER-ORDINARY FAITH-11 am

May 21st-Senior Recognition Sunday-11am-Youth Choir and Youth Bells

June 4th-Youth Choir Presentation before SUMMER MUSIC TOUR 2023 (June 4th-11th to Louisville, KY and Santa Claus, IN)

Please don't hesitate to email me if you have any questions or concerns.

Soli Deo Gloria,

Roxanne B. Golden

Music/Worship Leader

rgolden@jasperumc.org

Holy Week Schedule

April 2 Palm/Passion Sunday

11:00 Worship Service:

Procession of Palms by our children

April 6 Maundy Thursday

7:00 pm "Voices of the Pasion"

Worship Service/Communion

April 9 Easter Sunday

7:00 am Sunrise at PHS

9:45 am Sunday School

11:00 am Traditional Worship

Just Do It!

Stay healthy and prevent outbreaks of vaccine-preventable diseases by staying up to date on vaccines.

Free Covid Vaccinations and Boosters
On April 12th & 26th from 5:30 - 6:30 during Wednesday night supper in the Narthex



Good Samaritan
HEALTH & WELLNESS CENTER
175 Samaritan Drive
Jasper, GA 30143



Fellowship Suppers
5:45-6:30 pm
Adult \$6.00
Child (under 10) \$4.00

Reservations and Cancellations must be made by Monday noon of each week
Phone 706-253-2100

If your group or family would like to prepare and serve a Wednesday night meal as a fund raiser, call the church office to schedule a date.

Call the church office to have names put on the list.
(Names will be on the list for 2 months)

Pray for those who are in need of our Lord's Healing Touch:

Ricky Anglin, Donna Andrews, Elise Andrews, Bill Bartsch, Beth & Bill Boggs, Joan Britton, Merry Grey Caylor, Karen Cole, Phil Cole, Etta Cramer, Kevin Derrick, Caitlin Donohue, Doris Estes, Chris Fairley, Sara Fowler, Peggy Higgins, Patty Gehring, Steve Lawrence, Don Larson, Joyce Leist, Ruth Lovern, Jennie Mayes, Patricia Mayes, George Montgomery, Marcia Phillips, Richard Rambler, Roberta Sarchet, Sandy Tatum, Marcy Walker, Mildred Wilson

Wildwood: Marilyn Hannah (Elaine Hannah's sister-in-law)

Retreat at Jasper Assisted Living: Ruth Lovern, Carolyn Omundson, Nancy Whitmore, Hoyt & Carolyn Jenkins

Chestnut Ridge in Cumming: Marilu Weeks

Rock Creek Manor: Sam & Barbara Peddicord, Jerry Cohn, Donna Dicus, Dayton & Mary Ann Adams

Cedarhurst Assisted Living: George Hall

Our active military family: Kalyn Brooks, Lily Bowen, Max Edward Caylor, Alex Davis, Elliot Gallagher, Emerson Gantz, Dillon Gassaway, David Grossman, Alec Gryski, Dustin Hall, Shawn Hancock, Eric Hunter, Jason Kiernan, John Kiernan, Austin McCormick, Brian Mosiello, Justin Mosiello, Peter Nunn, Stanley Peters, Brett Rush, Mitch Rich, Nathan Russell, Jessie Sams, Ahmed Sohail, Jason Stanley, D. John Thomas, Jesse Vaughan, Steven Walsh, Nathan Watson, Jeremy Willis

Please call the church office if you have a prayer concern, update or to notify us of any family illnesses, deaths or hospitalizations.

For any emergencies after office hours,

Missions Matters

- Second quarter budgeted giving was \$500 to Pickens Habitat for Humanity and \$500 to the Timothy House.
- Wonderful Taste of JUMC and time with Kenyan guests Thomas Agutu and wife Merab.

C.A.R.E.S.

Items can be brought to the church and placed in the C.A.R.E.S. corner in the narthex.
April's focus is **non-perishable food items.**

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR APRIL 2023:

A lectionary is a collection of readings from Sacred Scripture. Readings are arranged according to the Church's calendar and are intended to be read at the regular, weekly gathering of God's people. The weekly readings include scriptures from the Old Testament, a Psalm, an Epistle and a Gospel.

If you would like to read along with the lectionary, the following are the April scriptures from the United Methodist Church Program Calendar:

April 2, 2023	Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 31:9-16; Philippians 2:5-11; Matthew 21:1-11, 26:14-27
April 9, 2023	Acts 10:34-43; Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; Colossians 3:1-4; John 20:1-18
April 16, 2023	Acts 2:14a, 22-32; Psalm 16; 1 Peter 1:3-9; John 20:19-31
April 23, 2023	Acts 2:14a, 36-41; Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19; 1 Peter 1:17-23; Luke 24:13-35
April 30, 2023	Acts 2:42-47; Psalm 23; 1 Peter 2:19-25; John 10:1-10

Sunday Worship Schedule

In-Person:

9:00 am-Contemporary Worship Service

9:45 am-Sunday School

11:00 am-Traditional Worship Service

Online:

Facebook: Jasper United Methodist Church

YouTube: Jasper UMC GA

JUMC STAFF:

Greg Meadows.....	Pastor
Roxanne B. Golden.....	Music/Worship Leader
Eric Justice.....	Director of Youth Ministry & Marketing
Kelly Wisniewski.....	Director of Children's/Preschool Ministries
Cathy Riley.....	Office Manager
Peggy Litherland.....	Financial Manager
Paul Singletary.....	Director of Audio/Visual Ministry
Barbara Gaddis.....	Nursery Coordinator
Nathaniel Singletary.....	Contemporary Worship Leader
Angela Ervin.....	Organist
Ellen Whitten.....	Pianist
Justin Davis.....	KOK Music/Pianist
Ministers.....	All Who Attend