



From the Office of the Pastor

We are in the middle of the Easter Season but we know all is not well on planet Earth. Every day we see and hear reports of violence, pain, and suffering across the globe. As I write this, Sudan and Ukraine are engulfed in the destructive fires of war; there several civil wars, terrorist insurgencies, drug wars, ethnic violence, and political unrest in at least two dozen additional countries from Afghanistan to Yemen. And that does not even mention domestic, ethnic, and racial violence all over the world.

All of this makes it easy to fall into despair and lose hope, because it is nearly impossible to wrap our heads around all that suffering and depravity.

So how can we sing our Alleluias during Easter season without feeling hypocritical, as if we are closing our hearts and minds to the reality of suffering all around us. More importantly, *what does it mean to be an Easter people in our day and age and in the context of world events around the globe?*

We know that Jesus' life and ministry were not all myrrh and roses. People wanted to stone him for blasphemy (Luke 4:28). Powerful and sinful men wanted to destroy him; there are many reports of this throughout the Gospels. His Earthly life certainly did not end with a peaceful and happy death. All of that is certainly true.

But there is another truth that we can take comfort in. **Jesus rose from**

the dead. God, who took the form of human flesh and suffered excruciating torture and execution, returned victorious, unable to be contained by the tomb and death. God in Jesus could not and was not defeated by the evil deeds of sinful people. Jesus' love for his friends, his disciples, his apostles, and Creation won! Love always wins.

Jesus never promised that our lives would be easy. Instead, Jesus invited us to be his followers post-Resurrection. He spent three years teaching his followers (that includes you and me) how to be and how to navigate life in a way that glorifies God, and he encouraged us all to embody what we learned in the way we live. Jesus commissioned us to “go forth and make disciples for the transformation of the world” when things go well, and also when we face all kinds of difficulties: conflict, rejection, abandonment, loss, sickness or injury, fear and anxiety, fatigue, and so on. Having walked this Earth, he knows, he understands, he experienced it all. And he stands with us today to comfort us in our own grief and to empower us to comfort others.

Indeed, we **ARE** Easter people, we are called to be witnesses to the Easter story, to our relationship with the Living God, to understand what it meant 2,000 years ago, what it means today, and what it meant every year in between.

As Easter people we open ourselves to the hope, the promise, and the joy that Jesus's life, ministry, teachings, suffering on the Cross, and Resurrection offer us.

By faith we know that God will not leave us in the self-inflicted darkness of our sins and sorrows, but that we, too, will be raised with Jesus.

*What does it mean
to be an Easter
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Our suffering may leave physical and emotional scars on our bodies, but we can live our lives with empathy, recognizing our own vulnerability, to do our best to help heal the wounds of others, and to help them deal with their sorrows.

Through it all and in spite of it all, **Alleluia is our Song!**

Christ is Risen!

The Tomb is empty!

Praise the Lord!

Alleluia!

Philos,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Asher". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Pastor Asher

God is my conscience; Jesus lives in my heart!



The second Sunday in May is set aside in the United States as Mother's Day, a day of celebration and memories. There are mother-figures with whom we will spend time this year, whom we will call or text our greetings, to whom we will send flowers or for whom we will prepare a special meal. Quite a few of us can connect with our moms and mother-figures only through memory. All of these ladies, whether they are still living or not, have left their marks and handprints on our hearts and souls.

To celebrate Mother's Day, most families pay special tribute to their moms. There are cards, flowers, balloons, special gifts, breakfasts in bed or at McDonald's, restaurants are booked for weeks in advance. These are just some of the ways that families thank their moms, and that is as it should be.

Unfortunately, for some families Mother's Day is simply a time when everyone attempts to atone for an entire year of indifference and neglect, disrespect, and lack of appreciation.

As a pastor I both like and tremble at the idea of Mother's Day. Every time I hear "Happy Mother's Day!," it reminds me of the women with whom I sat as a clinical chaplain during difficult times, right after their child died or they miscarried or as a pastor when they learned of the passing of their child.

I think of the women who feel that they failed as mothers and condemn themselves to live in a place where no one is allowed in to love them or ease their pain.

But I also remember times when I was privileged to be in a room shortly after a baby was born, and asked to conduct a short bed-side service thanking God for new life.

Mother's Day is important and it is complicated.



I think that being a mother is a lot like having faith. On one hand it is life-giving and transformational, on the other hand it can be filled with despair, anxiety, and tears.

The love that each of you received from your mothers will be a part of your life forever. May you have a meaningful and memorable Mother's Day.

Philos,

Asher

Donna Goes Walk About



For those of us counting (me!) there are only about 14 days left until we can start planting flowers in the yard! I just love spring when God shows off all the fresh new flowers and trees. And this year, I am expanding the size of my garden and I am hopeful for a great harvest. I KNOW God is in charge and can do all things, BUT, I still find myself surprised and excited when my flowers come back in spring, my tomato plants actually produce tomatoes and my peony plants always bloom right around Memorial Day. As always, I am looking forward to a great summer and I wish the same for you! Spring is always a great reminder of the possibility of new beginnings and fresh starts. Make the most of yours!

“Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”- Philippians 4:6-7

I have always had compassion for friends whose mothers had gone on to be with the Lord but now as I travel through life without Mom, I have a better understanding of their feelings. What a blessing to have a wonderful mother. The unconditional love you get is the epitome of priceless. As we approach Mother's Day, if you are blessed enough to have your mother here with you, honor her and give her the biggest hug you got. If you are in the group that I have recently become a member of, honor your mom by sharing all the wonderful memories you can remember. I am told that the heartache doesn't go away, it just gets a little easier. I'm still waiting for that time to come. Thank you Lord for showing us your love through our mothers.



"Honor her for all that her hands have done, and let her works bring her praise at the city gate." - Proverbs 31:31

Love you Mom. Thank you for all the unconditional love, support and wonderful memories.

The beneficiary of this year's Women of Hope Banquet is Grateful Acres, a care farm near Middletown, and a dozen of us went for a tour on Saturday April 22nd. What wonderful work Ally Kennedy is doing at her farm! We are so pleased to help her in some small way. We are looking forward to a wonderful evening on May 11th.

I guess that's all for this month. See you on Sunday!

Donna



Pictures from our Grateful Acres tour



Prayer for the Season of Easter

Loving and Gracious God,

my Lord, my Rock, and my Redeemer!

I pray for faith and courage as I strive

to confess my shortcomings to you.

I pray for

a path that leads me to you,

an identity that grounds me in you,

a set of goals to live a productive life,

dreams to work towards, and

vision, courage, and resilience

to reach for these dreams.

Fill my heart with a song of hope that glorifies you and
your presence in our world.

I pray that the Holy Spirit will help me to resist my sinful
predispositions and evil forces around me so that the
words of my mouth, the meditations of my heart, and my
actions be acceptable to you.

Amen!

You're invited

Women of Hope

Banquet

&

Silent Auction



* * * *

Thursday, May 11th - 6:00 PM

St. Georges United Methodist Church

Tickets: \$15

* * * *

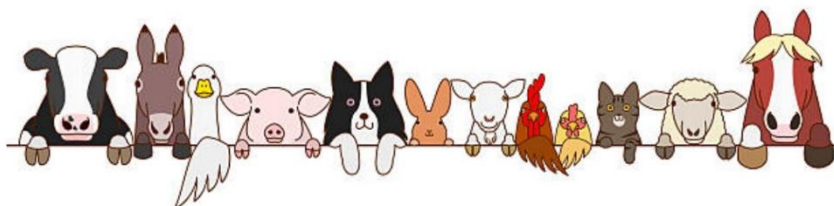
For advanced tickets (*no tickets at the door*),
please contact by April 30th:

Sue 302-563-6204 or Anita 302-545-6335



Auction Benefit:

Grateful Acres



United Methodist Women

Women of Hope Banquet

Don't forget the "Women of Hope" Banquet and Silent Auction is on Thursday, May 11 at 6pm at the church.

All women are invited to enjoy a delicious dinner and fun shopping while supporting "Grateful Acres" in

Middletown. Reservations for the evening should be made by May 4th and cost of the dinner is \$15per person. Contact Anita Mokienko or Sue Tobin to make your reservation.



Auction Items



The Methodist Women are still looking for donated items to sell at the auction. We need new or gently used items as well as plants, baked goods or handmade items. All money received from the auction will be donated to "Grateful Acres" of Middletown. Please drop off items by Sunday May 7 and leave them in the box in the social hall. Only baked goods can be donated the day of the auction.

The next meeting of Methodist Women will be on Thursday, June 8th. We will be putting together personal care baskets for the local Women Shelters. Donations of personal care items such as shampoo, soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, combs, brushes, small Kleenex packs, etc can be dropped off at the church or brought to the meeting that night.

Friendship Star Quilters

Last month the quilters donated over 35 quilts. Some went to the hospitals, some to foster care kids, and some to people from our church. We have many more quilts in various stages to work on this month. We meet on Tuesday, May 2 from 9:30 to around 4. Lunch will be served. Bring your sewing machine if you can.



Scout Update

Troop 123 working the concession stand at the Blue Rocks game.



Happy Birthday to

Jim Stewart.....May 7
Heidi McEvoy.....May 15
Jack Harmon.....May 18

Donna Cavender.....May 7
Kyle McEvoy.....May 15

Happy Anniversary to



Doug & Melissa Cavender....May 16
Kent & Heidi McEvoy.....May 20

Jim & Sue Tobin.....May 19
Carole & Earl Jaques.....May 31

Loving Like Jesus

While waiting for a train at a station in Atlanta, Georgia, a young man wearing slacks and a dress shirt sat on a bench. As he struggled with his tie, an older woman encouraged her husband to help. Another stranger took a photo of the trio when the elderly man hunched over and began teaching the young man how to knot the tie. When this photo went viral online, many viewers left comments about the power of random acts of kindness.

For believers in Jesus, kindness to others reflects the self-sacrificing care that He showed for people like us. It's an expression of God's love and what He desired His disciples to live out: "We should *love* one another" 1 John 3:11, John equates hating a brother or sister to murder (v. 15). Then he turns to Christ as an example of love in action (v. 16).

Selfless love doesn't have to be an extravagant display of sacrifice. Selfless love simply requires us to acknowledge the value of *all* God's image-bearers by placing their needs above our own . . . every day. Those seemingly ordinary moments when we care enough to notice the needs of others and do what we can to help are selfless, when we're motivated by love. When we see beyond our personal space, step out of our comfort zones to serve others, and give when we don't *have to* give, we're loving like Jesus.

By Xochitl Dixon

Young Disciples Page and Activities

Happy Mother's Day

My mom is _____ years old

My mom is
really good at

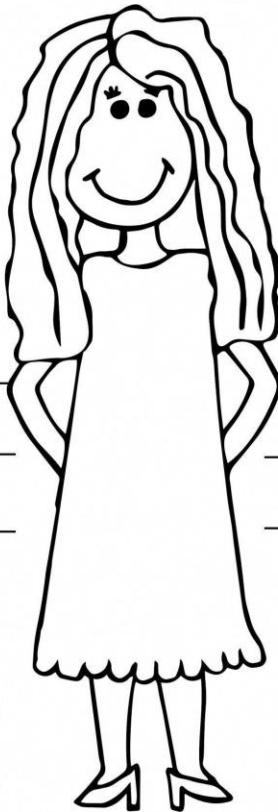
Mom's favorite
thing to do is

Mom always says

My mom is
happy when

Mom is not
very good at

My mom loves
me because

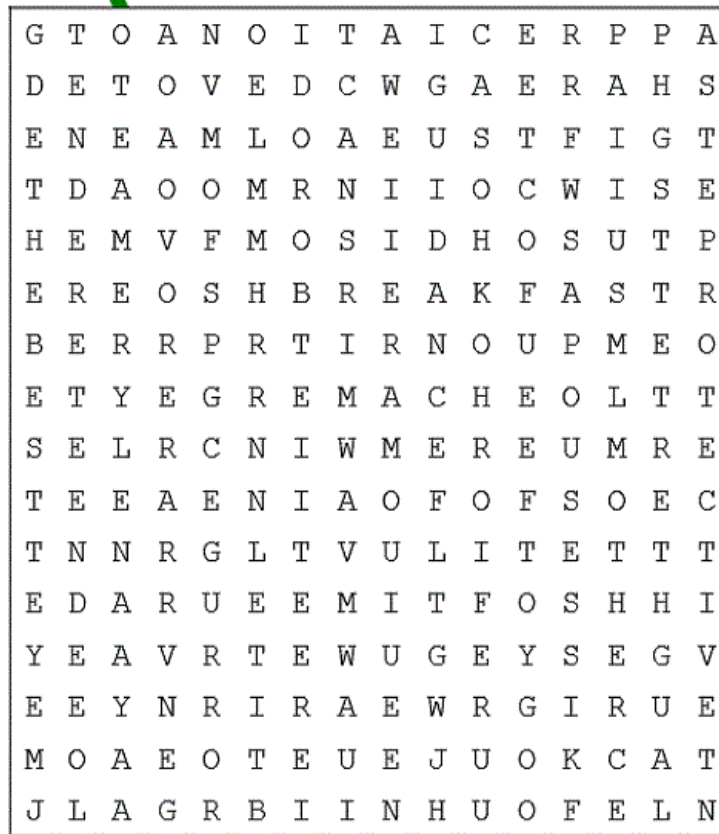


Mom, I love you because

Young Disciples Page and Activities



Mother's Day
Second Sunday of May



APPRECIATION
BEAUTIFUL
BREAKFAST
CANDY
CHARMING
COMFORT
DEVOTED
FLOWERS
FORGIVING
GIFTS

GUIDANCE
HUGS
JEWELRY
JOY
KISSES
LAUGHTER
LOVE
MATERNAL
MOM
MOTHER

NURTURE
PERFUME
PROTECTIVE
SHARE
TELEPHONE
TENDER
THE BEST
WARM
WISE



How to Reach our Bishop and District Superintendent

Our Bishop



Rev. Latrelle Easterling

Peninsula-Delaware Conference

Bishop Felton Edwin May

Resource Center

139 N. State Street,
Dover, DE 19901

Website: www.pen-del.org

Phone: 302-674-2626

Toll Free: 1-877-736-3351

The Peninsula-Delaware Conference
office is open:

Monday thru Thursday
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Our District Superintendent



Rev. Joseph Archie

Delaware District Office

900 N Washington St
Wilmington, Delaware 19801

Website: delawaredistrictumc.org

Phone: 302-655-8873

e-mail:

delawaredistrictumc@gmail.com

The District Office is open:

Monday thru Thursday
8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.



Our Pastor: Rev Asher F. Tunik

Email: pastorasher@gmail.com

Cell Phone / Voice Mail / Text: 443-350-5077

I am in the Church office on Friday mornings and by appointment. Rest of the week I work from my home office and can be reached via phone or e-mail/text.

St Georges United Methodist Church
P.O. Box 145
St. Georges, DE 19733



Please Mark Your Calendar



Sunday, May 14: Mother's Day
Observance at St. Georges'
United Methodist Church



Sunday, May 28: Pentecost Sunday

Sunday, May 28: Memorial Day Sunday
Observance at St. Georges.

Monday, May 29: Memorial Day

Sunday, June 4: Observance of Pentecost
at St. Georges

When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:1-4a).

