



# Mount Vernon

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

## The Messenger

### Mark Your Calendar

Subject to CoVid-19 restrictions being lifted



**Tuesday thru Friday**

8:30 to 2:30

Lynn McDonald

Administrative Assistant

April 7

Leadership Team at 6 pm

April 10

Good Friday Service at 6 pm

Office & SBS Closed

April 12

*Easter Sunday He Is Risen!*

April 14

MVMW at 11 am

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### Coming Soon

May 5	Leadership Team at 6 pm
May 12	MVMW at 11 am
May 15	MV Graduation
May 25	Memorial Day
	SBS Closed

# April 2020 Leadership

**Lead Usher:**

Mike Pyle

**Audio/Visual Technology:**

David & Lynn McDonald

**Offering Counters:**

Need 2 Volunteers

Please call Church office if  
you are willing to volunteer

**Bus Driver:**

Volunteers Needed

## Check Us Out Online!

Check out our homepage at  
[www.mtvunited.org](http://www.mtvunited.org) and leave  
us a message!

## Save Your Best Choice!

Best Choice labels just contact-  
ed me saying that the bonus will  
now be on every 1,000 labels  
turned in. We currently have  
just under 500, so we only need  
another 500 to get the \$60 re-  
ward. Since our Walmart  
doesn't offer Best Choice prod-  
ucts, if you can get out to Auro-  
ra or Monett, they have many of  
the Best Choice items in the  
grocery stores. It would be a  
good excuse to get out of the  
house and go for a little ride to  
get some needed groceries for  
the label collection. Thanks to  
everyone who has put the labels  
in the basket in the entry. Stay  
safe.

Please make sure the number  
underneath the barcode starts  
with "70038", these numbers  
denote the Best Choice brand. You  
are appreciated and you are  
helping fund the education of our  
children.

## Mark's Message

Have you ever heard of Lyle Lovett? He's that tall thin singer with the rooster hair that was married briefly to Julia Roberts. His music is kind of hard to categorize. It's kind of a mixed bag of country-m.o.r.-jazz-big band. He sings a song called "Family Reserve" that's about a funeral, and how he saw people he hadn't seen since the last time somebody died. When I heard that song it struck me how true that was. There are people in our own family that we do not see, speak to, correspond with, or....anything. We don't see them until there is a funeral, or sometimes a wedding. Sometimes it's because of geography, and sometimes it's by choice. In our very own families, there might be brothers that don't speak to one another, sisters that are actively hostile toward each other, a certain aunt or uncle that "no one talks about". We have hostilities and resentment that get carried all the way to the grave. It's a shame. Certainly, in my family it's no different. My father and my uncle lived a couple of thousand miles apart, but were light year apart concerning any kind of relationship. So how do we fix it when the fabric of our family is torn?

I think the answer might lie in those 15 attributes of love that Paul gives us in the 13th Chapter of 1st Corinthians. You remember them, don't you?

"Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres."

These few words say so much. When I read them in the context of today's devotional, one of them really jumps off the page. "It keeps no record of wrongs." How many family "squabbles" would be instantly erased if that were true? How many family wounds that have festered for years are because of some slight or argument that happened 10, 15, 20 years ago or more? Why do we let them go so long? Pride? Stubbornness? Stubborn pride?! Forgive me if I offend, but I have to say.... GET OVER IT! In the book of Matthew the Peter asks Jesus about forgiveness. "How often should I forgive my brother if he sins against me?" Do you remember Jesus's answer? Seventy times seven. Now for you literal folks that's 490 times (I doubt any of you have been wronged by someone 490 times). But Jesus gave that figure to represent a concept.....always. You should always forgive. Let's face it, it's not always easy to forgive. Sometimes it's downright hard. But that's what Christ calls us to do. So we come to the question. Is there someone in your family that you haven't spoken to in a long time because of some real or perceived issue? Is it time to get over it and move on? Is it time to pick up the phone or the pen and open the lines of communication? Love is the most excellent way. Forgive today and make that phone call or write that letter. After all, you don't want the next time that person sees you to be at your funeral!

Lord help us to cherish our family. Especially in their diversity. We know that each of them is an integral part of the fabric of who we are and where we came from. Help us to look past their faults to see our own. Guide our steps this day Lord. We pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

Pastor Mark

**Step By Step is closed until further notice but will be making a Week to Week decision on being open during the current Covid-19 situation.**

**The End of Year Program will be re-scheduled for a later date.**

**Happy  
Easter!**



### **Emmaus**

Our local Emmaus Reunion group meets at 5:30 pm on the first and third Thursdays at the Church. We encourage anyone who has attended or if you just wants some information to come and find out what Emmaus is all about.

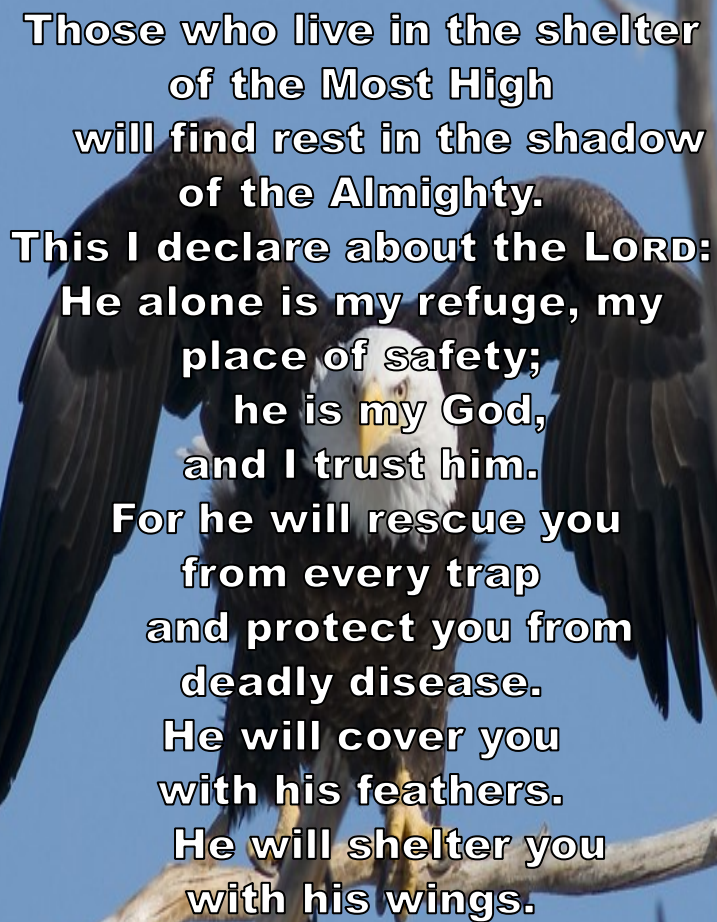
### **The Mustard Seeds**

*Planting seeds in faith*

Our Small Group meets in room 103 after Sunday morning worship. We are a multigenerational adult group, our format is casually studying, sharing, and fellowshiping together. We continue to work our way through John Ortberg's "If You Want to Walk On Water You Have To Get Out Of the Boat". Currently our conversation centers around the question; are you on a mission from God? And how will we know. Due to the informal nature of the group, drop-ins are always welcome!



April 2020



Those who live in the shelter  
of the Most High  
will find rest in the shadow  
of the Almighty.  
This I declare about the LORD:  
He alone is my refuge, my  
place of safety;  
he is my God,  
and I trust him.  
For he will rescue you  
from every trap  
and protect you from  
deadly disease.  
He will cover you  
with his feathers.  
He will shelter you  
with his wings.



**Youth**  
**Sunday Morning Study**  
Starting after Worship  
The Book of Acts



Do you surf the web? Have a Facebook page? Like us on Facebook or you can get an update on what is going on at Church on our website:

**[www.mtvunited.org](http://www.mtvunited.org)**

If you would like to announce an event you can email the church office at:

**[office@mtvunited.org](mailto:office@mtvunited.org)**

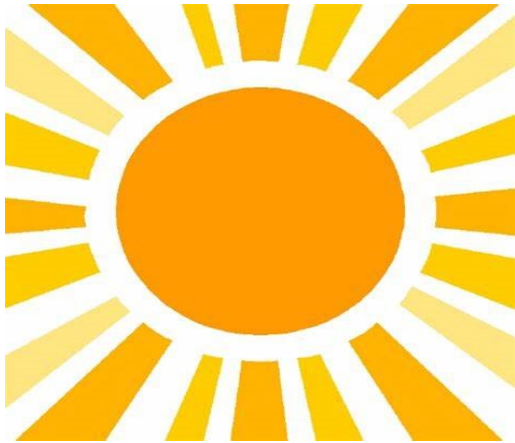
or drop off your item in the "website/social media" mailbox outside the church office.

### **Way-to-Go**

Do you need a way to go? If so, there may be an answer to your dilemma! Our transportation ministry assists in transporting church members to such places such as doctor appointments, the grocery store, or to other nearby places. There is no cost for this service.

However, a minimum of 48 hours notice is required. For more information, or to schedule a ride call Ann Knott at 417-466-8575.





## Sonshine Group

The Sonshine Group meets Sundays at the Church at 5 pm for study and finishes up with a potluck dinner at 6 pm. When we are able to meet again we are starting a new study:

“Choose Joy: Because Happiness Isn’t Enough”  
by Kay Warren.

“Joy is the settled assurance that God is in control of all the details of my life, the quiet confidence that ultimately everything is going to be all right, and the determined choice to praise God in all things.” Kay Warren

All are invited to come and enjoy the Word and fellowship.



# Joys And Concerns

## **General Prayer Requests**

Ian McDonald

## **Cancer Treatment**

Michelle Vivio

Holly Wright (Ann Knott's  
Granddaughter)

## **Health and Healing**

Dick Healey

Martha Toft

Kathy Berberich

Jean McDonald

## **Military**

Nathan Harralson

Lt. Anthony Richardson

Landon Hull

Lt. Jonathan Healey

Jacob Lamkins

Please keep the following in your prayers:

Marilyn Meyer's nephew, *Alan Miller* in New Mexico was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer and a spot on his kidney.

Our people in the nursing homes:

**Mt. Vernon Place Care**

**1425 S Landrum St**

**Mt. Vernon**

*Larry Carl*

*Doris Duwe*

*Shawna Woolsey*

Drop a card off to our  
Nursing facility members. If  
you would like an updated  
directory contact the Church  
office.

**Lawrence County Manor**

**915 Carl Allen Dr**

**Mt. Vernon**

*Larry Brumfield*

*Carl Hult*

**Oak Pointe of Monett**

**1011 Old Airport Rd**

**Monett, MO 65708**

*Lonnie Baugh*

If anyone needs anything during this  
time of uncertainty you can call the  
Church office or contact  
Shelley (417-366-0296) or  
Geoff Mosely (417- 366-0283).

## We Need You

Check out the volunteer sign-up sheets for 2020 on the shelf at the coat rack in the foyer. There are still opportunities to:

count money  
usher  
operate the PowerPoint  
drive the bus.



## MVMW Mt. Vernon Methodist Women



### TO: ALL LADIES of the CHURCH

11 ladies attended the March 12<sup>th</sup> luncheon meeting at the Golden Plate in Sarcoxie. Ann Knott had the devotion sharing a story about Habakkuk, from the book of Habakkuk. It reminded us that we need to step out and listen to God and do what He asks of us.

Our April meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 9, 11 am, at Mocha Jo's Coffee Café in Monett. Shirley Greene will share a devotion. We were planning to invite Lonnie Baugh to join us,

but we'll just have to play it by ear with the virus restrictions. Stay safe and we can get through this. Blessings to all.

Judy Kitchen