



# Easter is Sharing Christ's Victory



I don't know about you, but this Lent's message series: <u>He Chose the Nails</u> from Pastor Max Lucado has had a big impact on me. All I can say is that "Jesus did it all" (forgiveness, new life, sanctification and a future filled with love and hope) for you and me and everyone who accepts Him. Finally, I want to leave you with this Easter blessing from The Rev. Max Lucado from the fourteenth chapter of his book: <u>He Chose the Nails</u>:

"I Have Won the Victory:' God's Promise in the Empty Tomb With the cross, [God] won the victory. Colossians 2:15 On the first Easter morning ... the smothering silence that insulates the domain of the dead from the world of the living was suddenly shattered. -Gilbert Bilezikian But now in a single victorious stroke of Life, all three—sin, guilt, death—are gone, the gift of our Master Jesus Christ. Thank God! 1 Corinthians 15:57 msg But thanks be to God, who always leads us in victory through Christ. 2 Corinthians 2:14... His Movement The official response of [some] Jewish leaders to the rumors of the resurrection: Of course they say he's alive. They have to. What else can they say? The actual response of the Jewish leaders to the resurrection of Jesus: "A great number of the Jewish priests believed and obeyed" (Acts 6:7). The decision of the Jewish leaders about the church: "If their plan comes from human authority, it will fail. But if it is from God, you will not be able to stop them" (Acts 5:38–39). The response of the church: "The number of followers was growing" (Acts 6:1)... The discovery made by every person who has tried to bury the faith: The same as the one made by those who tried to bury its Founder: He won't stay in the tomb. The facts: The movement has never been stronger. Over one billion Catholics and nearly as many Protestants. The question: How do we explain it? Jesus was a backwater peasant. He never wrote a book, never held an office. He never journeyed more than two hundred miles from his hometown. Friends left him. One betrayed him. Those he helped forgot him. Prior to his death they abandoned him. But after his death they couldn't resist him. What made the difference? The answer: His death and resurrection. For when he died, so did your sin. And when he rose, so did your hope. For when he rose, your grave was changed from a final residence to temporary housing. **The reason he did it:** The face in your mirror"<sup>1</sup>

It is our hope that you will carry the blessings of Christ's Lent and Easter seasonal experiences far into the rest of your life. And as always, may this and every issue of our Church's Messenger serve as your invitation to the activities and events contained within this newsletter.

Blessed to Be Your Florida Pastor,

Fred Ball

<sup>1</sup>Max Lucado, <u>He Chose the Nails;</u> Word Publishing - A Thomas Nelson Company @ 2000, Nashville, Tennessee



April 1, Easter Sunday Services: 7 am Sunrise Worship at Veteran's Park (East end of Broad Street at Indian Riverbring a chair) & 10 am Service of Resurrection & Communion.

Message: Christ's Promise in His Resurrection from Mark 16:1-8

April 8, Second Sunday of Easter

1 John 1:1-2:2- signs of the presence of the risen Lord in our midst: honest confession and assurance of God's forgiveness; John 20:19-31-The Risen Jesus helps Thomas believe in him.

The message is called: Keeping the Resurrection Alive in Us.

April 15, Third Sunday of Easter, Native American Awareness Sunday

1 John 3:1-7-we are God's children now as we abide in Jesus; Luke 24:36b-48 - The resurrected Jesus appears and walks with his followers to the town of Emmaus.

The message today is: Making Jesus Known to Us and Others.

April 22, Fourth Sunday of Easter, Festival of God's Creation Sunday

Message: Following our Shepherd Leader, Jesus

1 John 3:16-24 let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action

John 10:11-18 Jesus - "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.

April 29, Fifth Sunday of Easter, Heritage, and United Methodist Children's Home Sunday

Message: A History of Love from 1 John 4:7-21 – "let us love one another, because love is from God" and John 15:1 -8–Jesus said, "If you abide in me, and my words abide in you …"

# **March Prayer Focus**

"If anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come." — 2 Cor. 5:17

April 1–7 — Giving truly of ourselves

- April 8–14 Help us fight the confusion of injustice as we face the suffering in our world.
- April 15–21 Spiritual strength and perseverance
- April 22–28 What can we do for our planet?
- April 29–May 5 Rest for the minds, bodies and spirits of both the strong and the weary

Lay Liturgists/Readers for March 2018

April 8 — Jan Grimard

April 15 — Jennifer Evans

April 22 — Laurilee Thompson

April 29 — Fay Kikta



. Yee, my servant shall prosper, he shall be raised high and greatly exalted." ( Isaiah 52:13)

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Easter Fools' Day

By Kira Schlesinger www.MinistryMatters.com

The challenges of navigating the liturgical calendar and our secular calendar are nothing new, but the way things fall in 2018 is particularly interesting. The Christian observance of the season of Lent began on Ash Wednesday, which also happened to be February 14th or, Valentine's Day. Forty days plus several Sundays later, we will celebrate Easter on April 1st, also known as April Fools' Day. The latter observance (I hesitate to call it a holiday) is primarily a celebration of practical jokes and pranks. In the era of the internet and "fake news," sometimes these jokes can be difficult to spot. Generally finding that many of these pranks and jokes wind up on the wrong side of the line that separates fun from harmful, I tend to abstain from April Fools' — but sharing a date with Easter has invited me to reconsider.

Depending on one's view of the resurrection, the April Fools'/Easter mash-up could either be a commentary on the "joke" Jesus plays on death or, more cynically, a denigration of the historical resurrection as a joke. If, as preachers, we choose to broach this topic, we must be sure to clarify that the resurrection is no joke. Jesus was not just "playing" dead for a few days only to surprise and startle the disciples by jumping out of the tomb.

Going beyond pranks or practical jokes, there is something in humor that can reveal truth and help call power to account. The role of the court jester or "fool" was not only to entertain with dance, music, and comedy but also to give bad news to the ruler. In Shakespearean plays, the jester is often the voice of common sense and honesty, pointing out the follies of those in higher stations. As the lowliest member of the court, the jester could make political observations and judgments that would land a higher nobleman in jail. In the Middle Ages, Death was often portrayed in jester's garb as one who has the last laugh and who humbles everyone regardless of standing, just as the jesters made fun of everyone.

In our celebration of Easter, in our encounter with the empty tomb, in our experience of the Risen Christ, we know that Death does not get the last laugh. If anyone plays the fool or the jester, it is Jesus. By his silence in front of Pontius Pilate, he reveals the kangaroo court for the sham that it is. By his submission to violence, torture, and death on a cross, he reveals these things as ultimately powerless. In spite of his lowly social standing, Jesus calls to account the religious and political authorities of his day.

The poet Emily Dickinson wrote, "Tell all the truth, but tell it slant," a kind of guiding principle for a jester or fool. There are ways in which we can call the abuses of power to account by means of joke or satire that we cannot say directly. Importantly, in our use of joke or satire, we must be careful to "punch up" to those in power as the fools did, rather than down to those who are oppressed. This is the difference between effectively calling to account and merely bullying.

Beyond indulging in pranks or practical jokes, the concurrence of Easter and April Fools' Day has the potential to unlock aspects of God's character and the resurrections that we might not normally consider. After all, Paul writes to the church in Corinth that the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved, it is the power of God (1 Corinthians 1:18). These two are not mutually exclusive. On Easter, the power of God is foolishness in the sense that it reveals worldly power and death for what they are. It is God-in-Christ who gets the last laugh, not Death.

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#### **Atlantic Central District News**

From Our District Superintendent, Rev. Dr. Gary Spencer Please share this with leaders in your local church:

In April we are going to have our District Training led by Vitality Share Groups (Vision 2020) across the District. We will have 6 regional gatherings so people can be together in a ministry zone. The theme will be Strategic Partnerships. My hope is every church will participate and bring all your leaders and others. My challenge is for every church to bring 20-30 people or more to this. Why? Because it is good in regions to be in fellowship and see we are not alone and we do have strength in numbers. Second is to learn about various ways we can work together. The fact that the river has moved means we must adapt or die. Adaptive work is hard and even causes resistance (again look at Acts) but it is also exciting. My hope is in 2018 we will be willing to take big risks for the sake of the Kingdom and allow our preferences to take a back seat to God's mission to bring His Kingdom here on earth as it is in heaven.

Let me close with a few Biblical themes suggested in the book Better Together, that we will need to do this work:

**Humble** "Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in *Humility* consider each other better than yourselves" (Phil. 2:3, emphasis added)

**Purposeful** "Being like-minded...*being one in spirit and purpose*" (Phil 2:2, emphasis added) **Stronger** "Two are better than one, because they have a good *return* for their work" (Eccles. 4:9, emphasis added)

**Fruitful** "This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples" (John 15:8) (p. 10-11)

Peace and love,

Gary



# From a member of **Bike Florida**:

"My wife are from Canada and recently participated in the annual Bike Florida bike tour. We were among the group that camp inside and of course ended up staying at your church for a couple evenings. We just wanted to express our thanks for your hospitality in allowing us to stay. We also wanted to especially thank the friendly pastor who stopped by to greet us and proceeded to give us a talk in the history on the history of the church and the city of Titusville. He certainly made us feel welcome in our home away from home! Please pass on our thanks and we certainly enjoyed our brief stay in your community and at your facility.

> Thanks again Richard and Melissa Oldfield Bowmanville, Ontario"



**Page Four** 

April Anniversaries

- 7 Nancy & Gene Burgess
- 25 Bob & Peggy Moyer
- 10 Kurt & Sue Erlenbach
- 14 Joshua & Laura Anne Pray
- 14 Bonnie & Gene Sego
- 17 Dale & Donna Mays



- 2 Brian Baldwin
- 2 Frenchy Grimard
- 2 Dot Hudson
- 2 Karen Styles
- 3 Kayla Makufka
- 3 Don Worner
- 4 Mike Brooks
- 4 Red Honaker
- 4 Ann Kennedy
- **5** Charles Custer
- 5 Karen Shaw
- 5 Beth Williams
- **6** Wesley Stephens
- 7 Sharlene Raulerson
- 7 Susan Russell
- 8 Matt Driscoll

- 8 Mildred Frasher
- 8 Kendell St. Jean
- 9 Mileena Crews
- **10 Daniel Mayer**
- 10 Nell Rudisill
- 10 Boe Wooten
- 11 Joan Headlough
- 12 Keneisha Jeanty
- 12 Imogene Smith
- 12 Ann Thompson
- 13 Bonnie Elmore
- 13 Natalie Howe
- 15 Natalle Howe
- 16 Margaret Humphrey
- 16 Bill Walls
- 17 Chuck Caro
- **19** Jackie Mooney

- **19 Scott Stallard**
- 20 Meagan Graves
- 23 Barbara Scarborough
- 24 Caitlan Clark
- 24 Bernie Coveney, Jr.
- 27 Travis Maust
- 29 John Lennard
- **30 Judy Brooks**
- **30** Tommy Grimes
- **30** Scott Kennedy
- **30 Bill Page**

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# **GARDEN CREATURES**

| ♦ APHID         | ♦ GNAT          | ♦ RED ANT    |
|-----------------|-----------------|--------------|
| ♦ BLACKBIRD     | ♦ GRASSHOPPER   | ♦ SAWFLY     |
| ♦ BLACKFLY      | ♦ GREENFLY      | ♦ SHREW      |
| ♦ BLUE TIT      | ♦ HEDGEHOG      | ♦ SLUG       |
| ♦ BUMBLEBEE     | ♦ HORNET        | ♦ SNAIL      |
| ♦ BUTTERFLY     | ♦ LADYBIRD      |              |
| ♦ CABBAGE WHITE | ♦ LEAF MINER    | ♦ SPARROW    |
| ♦ CARROT FLY    | ♦ LEATHERJACKET | ♦ SPIDER     |
| ♦ CATERPILLAR   | ♦ LILY BEETLE   | ♦ SPRINGTAIL |
| ♦ CENTIPEDE     | ♦ MAYFLY        | ♦ SQUIRREL   |
| ♦ COCKCHAFER    | ♦ MEALY BUG     | ♦ THRIP      |
| ♦ CRANEFLY      |                 | ♦ THRUSH     |
|                 | ♦ MOLE          | ♦ WASP       |
| ♦ CUTWORM       | ♦ MOSQUITO      | ♦ WEEVIL     |
| ♦ DAMSELFLY     | ♦ MOUSE         |              |
| ♦ DRAGONFLY     | ONION FLY       | ♦ WHITEFLY   |
| ♦ EARTHWORM     | ♦ PEA MOTH      | ♦ WIREWORM   |
| ♦ EARWIG        | ♦ PIGEON        | ♦ WOODLOUSE  |
| ♦ FROG-HOPPER   |                 | ♦ WREN       |
| ♦ GALLFLY       | ♦ RED ADMIRAL   |              |
|                 |                 |              |

## **Celebrate Recovery**

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Do you have a hurt, habit or hang-up? (Is there a bad habit or addictive behavior that you would like to work on in a Christian 12 Step Group?) Do you want to talk about it in a confidential small group meeting? Celebrate Recovery has started again and meets every Saturday at 9:30 am in the Adult Studies Room.

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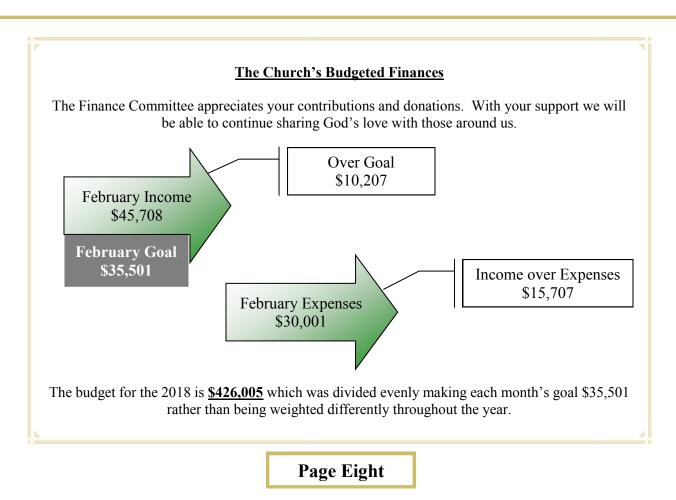
## **Do You Know of a Church Member or Church Attendee Who Needs a Visit?**

Please e-mail the church office at office@fumctitusville.com or call us at 321-269-7631 ext 204 or 207 and tell us.

# **United Methodist Beliefs Class**

Whether you have never heard of The Christian Church: "United Methodist" or you have been a United Methodist all of your life, you are cordially invited to a three week Sunday school class on United Methodist beliefs. This class will begin on Sunday mornings after the morning worship service (about 11:20) and last until noon in The Adult Studies room. It is being taught by Pastor Fred Ball.

The class covers such topics as: sharing your life's story and Christ's story; telling the story about the Christian and First United Methodist Church; what First Church does and how you can participate in our ministries. This class will begin on Sunday, April 8th, and finish on April 22nd. If you want to join our church, you'll want to attend these 3 sessions. If you cannot stay after worship services to attend these classes, please contact Pastor Fred and he will be happy to arrange a special class for you during the week (this would be about 90 minutes). Everyone is welcome to attend!







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Saturday, April 7th @ 7:30 a.m.

Please save the date of Saturday, April 7th in order to volunteer to work around First UM Church at 7:30 am. Your grounds committee has a few volunteer jobs that need to be done so that your church can be a more beautiful place in which to worship God and do ministry and mission. We are in need of people to do various tasks inside and outside the church. Please bring your work clothes, a pair of work gloves, and yard tools (we may also do some inside work as well). We will meet at the church's office complex at 7:30 a.m. to receive our assigned tasks. Thank you in advance.



"I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me...Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." – Matthew 25:35,40

Our food pantry has been a blessing to this community for over 7 years. Families from all over Brevard County come to receive assistance from our church. Thanks to the generosity of our community and this congregation, we have been able to feed over 20,000 families. Each family receives groceries, some of which are customized for special needs like baby food or food that doesn't require stove heating. The food pantry is always in need of baby food as well as other foods to assist the needy. If you are able to donate non-perishable foods or money to stock the pantry, please drop your donation by the front office any weekday or Sunday morning.

Our food pantry operates out of our office lobby every Friday (including holidays) from 1:00 p.m.-3:30 p.m.

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#### ADULT COLORING - First Monday each month @ 10:30 a.m.

Teas & More at Searstown Mall — Coffee is available if you don't drink tea and pastires, too. Many adults find coloring relaxing, a time to reflect, and fellowship. Bring a coloring book and colored pencils. We will have extra supplies on hand.

#### KNIT WITS - Tuesdays @ 11:00 a.m.

Anyone wishing a beginners class is welcome. Hope to see you there.

#### **BIBLE STUDY**

Wednesdays @ 10am - Adult Studies Room - Led by Jan Gilreath Thursdays @ 1pm - Adult Studies Room - Led by Adrienne Herrell

**LINE DANCING** – Thursdays @ 2:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall Join Adrienne for fun and exercise.

LADIES DAY OUT - 1st & 3rd Thursday of each month

April 5 – 11:30AM – Meet 11:30am at Quams for lunch

April 19 – Sanford Boat Ride with Gourmet Lunch (3hrs) \$64.21pp Bus leaves 9:00am. To reserve a space, call Carol Stephens at 321-267-2600.

#### AFTER CHURCH SOCIAL - Sunday, April 8th @ 11:00 a.m.

Come one, come all. Let's share together our latest experiences, family stories, introduce ourselves to new members and enjoy each other's company.

#### FRIDAY FELLOWSHIP: Mine the Moon for Water? - Friday, April 20th @ 6:00 p.m.

Our speaker Phil Metzger from UCF will give a presentation on the development of possibly mine the moon for water. What a possibility!! Join us for this fascinating presentation and fellowship. Dinner is a pot luck. We will supply coffee, iced tea, sodas and paper goods.

#### SUNDAY NIGHT FAMILY SHARING GROUP

A small group fellowship and study that meet once a month. Call Pat Clark for more information.



#### SPECIAL SPRING TEA TASTING - Saturday, May 5th @ 12:00 p.m. at Tea World

Join us for a special Tea Luncheon at Tea World and music sung by Mario. Enjoy tea sandwiches, delicate sweets and delicious hot and Iced teas. Mario will entertain us with his beautiful voice. Cost is \$25 per person and includes tax & gratuity. Seating is limited so reserve early. Reservation deadline is April 23rd.

YOUNG AT HEART SENIOR EXPO - Thursday, May 10th @ 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

May is Older Americans Month. Our community Expo includes free admission, key note speaker free food samples, health screenings, exercise demos, and door prizes. Tell your friends to join us for this educational and fun event.

To sign up for any of these programs, check the table in back of the sanctuary or call Sandi at 269–7631, ext 206 and leave a message. <u>It's very important to sign up so we can pre-</u> pare for the program.

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April 2018

# **First United Methodist Church**

| Sunday  | Monday   | Tuesday   | Wednesday   | Thursday  | Friday   | Saturday   |
|---|--|---|---|---|--|--|
| 1 Easter<br>7:00am Easter Sunrise Svc.<br>9:00am Sunday School<br>EAS FER   | 2<br>10:30am Adult Coloring<br>3:00pm Worship Design<br>7:00pm SPR Comm. Mtg.  | <b>3</b><br>11:00am Knit Wits<br>5:00pm Joyful Noise (bell choir)                 | 4<br>8:00am Pastors' Meeting<br>9:00am Patchwork Friends<br>6:00pm Men's Quartet<br>7:00pm Chancel Choir                          | 5<br>11:30am Ladies Day Out<br>2:30pm Line Dancing<br>6:00pm Instruments of God   | 6<br>1-3:30pm Food Pantry<br>6:00pm Youth Getaway  | 7<br>7:30am Garden Club<br>8:00am Comm. Breakfast<br>9:30am Celebrate Recovery           |
| 8<br>9:00am Sunday School<br>10:00am Worship<br>11:00am After Church Social | 9<br>10:30am Adult Coloring<br>1:00 pm Sarah Fernandez<br>Fran Nolan's House<br>3:00pm Worship Design<br>7:00pm Finance Comm. Mtg. | 10<br>11:00am Knit Wits<br>5:00pm Joyful Noise (bell choir)                       | <ol> <li>Pastors' Meeting</li> <li>8:00am Pastors' Meeting</li> <li>6:00pm Men's Quartet</li> <li>7:00pm Chancel Choir</li> </ol> | 12<br>9:15am Retired Teachers<br>2:30pm Line Dancing<br>6:00pm Instruments of God | <b>13</b><br>1-3:30pm Food Pantry<br>6:00pm Youth Getaway                                | 14<br>8:00am Comm. Breakfast<br>9:30am Celebrate Recovery                                |
| 15<br>9:00am Sunday School<br>10:00am Worship                               | 16<br>1:00pm Staff Meeting<br>3:00pm Worship Design<br>7:00pm Trustees Mtg.  | 17<br>11:00am Knir Wits<br>3:30pm Dove Circle<br>5:00pm Joyful Noise (bell choir) | 18<br>8:00am Pastors' Meeting<br>10:00am ADK<br>6:00pm Men's Quartet<br>7:00pm Chancel Choir                                      | 19<br>9:30am Ladics Day Out<br>2:30pm Line Dancing<br>6:00pm Instruments of God   | <b>20</b><br>1-3:30pm Food Pantry<br>6:00pm Youth Getaway<br>6:00 p.m. Friday Fellowship | <b>21</b><br>8:00am Comm. Breakfast<br>9:30am Celebrate Recovery                         |
| 22<br>9:00am Sunday School<br>10:00am Worship                               | <b>23</b><br>3:00pm Worship Design   | 24<br>11:00am Knit Wits<br>5:00pm Joyful Noise (bell choir)                       | 25<br>8:00am Pastors' Meeting<br>6:00pm Ladies Choir<br>6:00pm Men's Quartet<br>7:00pm Chancel Choir                              | 26<br>2:30pm Line Dancing<br>6:00pm Instruments of God                            | <b>27</b><br>1-3:30pm Food Pantry<br>6:00pm Youth Getaway                                | <b>28</b><br>7:30am UMM Breakfast<br>8:00am Comm. Breakfast<br>9:30am Celebrate Recovery |
| 29<br>9:00am Sunday School<br>10:00am Worship                               | <b>30</b><br>3:00pm Worship Design   |   |   |   |  |  |

Pastor Frederick Ball Church Office: 321-269-7631 206 S Hopkins Ave, Titusville, FL 32796 Email: office@fumctitusville.com



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First United Methodist Church 206 S. Hopkins Ave Titusville, FL 32796

Sunday School: 9:00 a.m. Worship Services: 10:00 a.m.

Church Office Hours: 8am – 4pm, Monday - Friday Closed from 12:00 – 12:30 p.m.

Phone: (321) 269-7631 Fax: (321) 269-8359 E-mail Address: office@fumctitusville.com Website: www.fumctitusville.com Facebook: www.facebook.com/682694095204027



#### **FUMC Staff**

- Rev. Fred Ball Pastor Ext 204 1 2 Mario Davis - Administrative Assistant Ext 207 3 Keith Meck - Facilities Manager Ext.202 4 Sandi Bandieri - Director Adult Ministries Ext 206 5 Carol Henn - Music Director Ext 209 6 Nursery Ext 208 7 Receptionist - Volunteer Ext 201 8 Amy Martin - Director Children's Ministries Ext 205 9 Dr. Bob Titus - Pastor Emeritus Home: 321-603-0235 Cell: 321-289-1657 10 Keith Cooke - Financial Secretary
- 11 J.D. Daniel Organist
- 12 Steve Rossi Sound Tech
- 13 Josh Huss Lights and Visuals
- 14 Jim Burt Custodian

