APRIL 2024

United Fellowship Lutheran Church 2115 Washington Blvd Easton PA 18042 Office open 9am-3pm 610.258.0081 office.unitedfellowship@rcn.com

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
S Sanctuary FH Fellowship Hall K Kitchen	L Lounge SS Sunday School Room	QR Quilters Room NS Nursery School O Main Office	PO Pastor's Office CR Choir Room			
	<i>1</i> -AA Mtg 9am (FH) OFFICE CLOSED GSCNS CLOSED	2- A Place to Belong Sr. Center 10am-2:30 pm (FH)	3 -Quilters 9:30-12:30 pm -Staff Mtg 5pm	 4-Fellowship & Community Building Mtg 4pm Youth Mtg. 6pm -Girl Scouts 7-8pm (FH) -Council reports due 	5	6
7-Sunday School 9:00am -New Member Class 9:00am -Worship 10:15am - -Youth Easter Program -Confirmation Class 6:30pm @ St. Andrew's	8-AA Mtg 9am (FH) -Food Pantry Delivery 9am	 9-A Place to Belong Sr. Center 10am-2:30 pm - Arts & Crafts -New Member Class 2:30pm -Council Mtg 6pm (L) 	<i>10</i> -Quilters 9:30am- 12:30pm -Veteran's Group 10- 11am (L) -Choir: Bells 6pm Chancel 7pm	11 -Food Pantry 6-7:30pm	<i>12</i> Backpack Pals donation delivered -GC Bingo set-up (FH)	13 Gift Card Bingo 12noon-?
14-Sunday School 9:00am New Member Class 9:00am -Worship 10:15am with Holy Communion -Property Mtg -Social Ministry Mtg	<i>15</i> -AA Mtg 9am (FH)	 16-A Place to Belong Sr. Center 10am-2:30 pm (FH) -New Member Class 2:30pm -Evangelism Mtg 6pm 	17 -Quilters 9:30am-12:30 -Choir: Bells 6pm Chancel 7pm	<i>18</i> -Safe Harbor Meal Delivered -Food Pantry 6-7:30pm	19	20
21 -Sunday School 9:00am -Worship 10:15am with Holy Communion -New Member Installation -Worship & Music Mtg	22-AA Mtg 9am (FH) -GSCNS Board Mtg 6pm -Christian Ed Mtg 6:30pm	23-A Place to Belong Sr. Center 10am-2:30 pm (FH) - Bingo -Policies & Procedures Mtg 4:30pm -Stewardship Mtg 6pm	24 -Quilters 9:30am- 12:30pm -WUFLC Bible Study 12 noon -Choir: Bells 6pm Chancel 7pm	25	26 - THE GREAT BAKE DOWN -Murder Mystery Theatre @ UFLC w/ covered dish starting @ 6pm	27 Mission District Assembly @ St. Stephen's
28-Sunday School 9:00am -Worship 10:15am -Healing Service -No communion -Potluck Lunch	29 -AA Mtg 9am (FH)	<i>30</i> -A Place to Belong Sr. Center 10am-2:30 pm (FH) - Worship Service				

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The Great Bake Down

A Bake-Off Murder Mystery

An Easton Cluster of Lutheran Churches Event Friday, April 26, 2024 Covered Dish starting at 6:00 p.m. @ United Fellowship Lutheran Church

Come out for a great evening of food, fun, and fellowship!



Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton | Easter 2024

"So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them, and they said nothing to anyone for they were afraid." That's where the Gospel of Mark originally ended. And it just seems so odd to me. It's so abrupt. I mean, the women had seen the angel. He'd announced that Jesus was raised from the dead, and then he tells them all this good news and wants them to go on their way. And they just are not going to say a single word.

There are three words in that passage that really stand out for me, especially in the Greek. One is fear — *phobos*. We get phobia from that. The other one is amazement — *ekstasis*. We get ecstasy from that. And the other one has to do with being seized. It actually means "being possessed." So we take a look at these women, and they've had this miraculous appearance by an angel. They've heard the good news that Jesus has raised from the dead, and they're too afraid to do anything about it, and they just are going to be silent. It seems that nothing changed. They came to take care of Jesus' dead body because on the Sabbath they could not work. But on the first day of the week, they were there. They have this announcement, and then it's all the same.

Sometimes I think we feel like nothing's changed. Sometimes I think that the events in our country, in our church, around the world are just so terrifying and so overwhelming that it seems like the resurrection really didn't make a difference. But these three words really say something about the women, and I think about us and, most especially, about Easter. When they said that they were filled with amazement — this is this ecstasy, *ekstasis* — they were really standing. It means literally standing in a different place. So though they were still in the tomb and they hadn't reacted yet, nevertheless, everything had changed. And because of the resurrection, we, all of us, are standing in a different place. The <u>whole of</u> creation is standing in a different place. And the word for fear, *phobos*, phobia we get from that. But it's really a sense of trembling in the presence of God, of awe that they were actually filled with awe — not paralyzed by fear but filled with awe. And I hope this Eastertide and all year round, we have a sense of the presence of God that fills us with awe. And it also says that they were seized with fear. Well, the word means "possessed." And yes, we believe that in baptism because of the resurrection, Jesus sent the Holy Spirit and we now are all Spirit-possessed.

When things seem to be staying the same, when things seem to be happening and coming at us so quickly, I think it's very important to take time to be a little amazed, to be standing in a different place, to have a sense of this awe and trembling before the Lord, and to allow ourselves to be possessed by the Spirit, who will give us power and courage in these times.

My favorite hymn is "Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song." It's *ELW* 808. And the last verse goes like this: "I fear in the dark and the doubt of my journey; but courage will come with the sound of his steps by my side. And with all of the family Jesus saved by his love, we'll sing to his dawn at the end of our journey."

Be well, dear church. Happy Easter.