



*Unless I See*

## Welcome to Urbana First United Methodist Church!

*Our mission is to journey with people to get them connected to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ; to one another; and to the community, through intentional discipleship!*

April 12, 2026

10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Second Sunday of Easter

Liturgical Color: White

### APPROACHING GOD'S THRONE

PRELUDE

Hannah Freeman-Choi, *piano*

GREETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Margie & Larry Jobe, *liturgists*

+CALL TO WORSHIP

Easter people, Christ is risen!

**Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Christ *is* risen indeed! Yet we, like Thomas, may find questions bubbling up:  
How do we know? What's the proof? Is Resurrection real?

**Within our questioning, Christ appears.**

We may find ourselves like the other disciples, witnesses of Christ's resurrection who struggle to understand the doubt of others.

**Within our certainty, Christ appears.**

Whether you come to worship full of certainty or doubt, you are welcome here, for we are all participants in the story of God's salvific work in the world, a story still unfolding all around us.

**We gather to worship, believing that in certainty and doubt, the resurrected Christ dwells among us! Amen.**

*(Dr. L. Hancock, Discipleship Ministries)*

### SEEKING GOD'S FACE

OPENING PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER

**All:** Our father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on Earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

1. Open my eyes, that I may see  
glimpses of truth thou hast for me;  
place in my hands the wonderful key  
that shall unclasp and set me free.

*Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.  
Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit divine!*

2. Open my ears, that I may hear  
voices of truth thou sendest clear;  
and while the wavenotes fall on my ear,  
everything false will disappear. *Refrain*

3. Open my mouth, and let me bear  
gladly the warm truth everywhere;  
open my heart and let me prepare love  
with thy children thus to share. *Refrain*

**+AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

**All:** I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; The third day He rose again from the dead, He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Christian Church, the communion of Saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

**OFFERTORY**

*You're Worthy of My Praise*  
(c. D. Ruiz; CCLI 487976)

Caitlin Richardson, *soloist*

**+PRESENTATION OF GIFTS & OFFERING**

UMH no. 95

**All:** Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise Him all creatures here below;  
praise Him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

**HEARING GOD'S VOICE**

**SCRIPTURE LESSON**

1 Peter 1:3-9

Liturgist

## CHORAL ANTHEM

*Worthy is the Lamb*

(c. L. Lenox)

Sanctuary Choir

Davion Williams, *music director*

## THE MESSAGE

Rev. Robert K. Freeman, *directing pastor*

## TIME OF REFLECTION & PRAYER

You are invited to come and pray at the altar, light a candle to illuminate your prayers before God, come forward for one of our liturgists for a blessing or remain where you are for a time of contemplation and reflection during the musical selection.

## +HYMN OF RESPONSE

*Victory in Jesus*

UMH no. 370

1. I heard an old, old story, how a Savior came from glory,  
how he gave his life on Calvary to save a wretch like me;  
I heard about his precious blood's atoning, then I repented of my sins  
and won the victory.

*O victory in Jesus, my Savior forever!*

*He sought me and bought me with his redeeming blood;*

*he loved me ere I knew him, and all my love is due him;*

*he plunged me to victory beneath the cleansing flood.*

2. I heard about his healing, of his cleansing power revealing,  
how he made the lame to walk again and caused the blind to see;  
and then I cried, "Dear, Jesus, come and heal my broken spirit,"  
and somehow Jesus came and brought to me the victory. *Refrain*
3. I heard about a mansion he has built for me in glory,  
and I heard about the streets of gold beyond the crystal sea;  
about the angels singing and the old redemption story,  
and some sweet day I'll sing up there the song of victory. *Refrain*

## SENDING FORTH

## POSTLUDE

Hannah Freeman-Choi, *piano*

+ *Please stand as you are able*



# Easter Lilies



Thank you to everyone who donated an  
Easter Lily for the church altar this Eastertide!  
You may pick up your plants after the service.

## **The Congregation**

**Rev. Robert & Felecia**

**Our Parents**

**Our Son, Joseph**

*Suellen & Steve Fink*

## **The Freeman Family**

### **The Pailin Family**

**Jean Gates**

*Rev. Robert & Felecia Freeman*

**Rose**

*Hannah &*

*Prentice Freeman-Choi*

**Amy Govert Thomas**

*Marie & Rich Govert*

## **Our Family**

### **The Easter Season**

*Margie & Larry Jobe*

**John Merz**

**Ruby Bowlen**

**Joan Christian**

**Jean Gates**

**Betty Newton**

**Mary Kay Phillips**

**Ruth Ann Shurts**

*Nancy Merz*

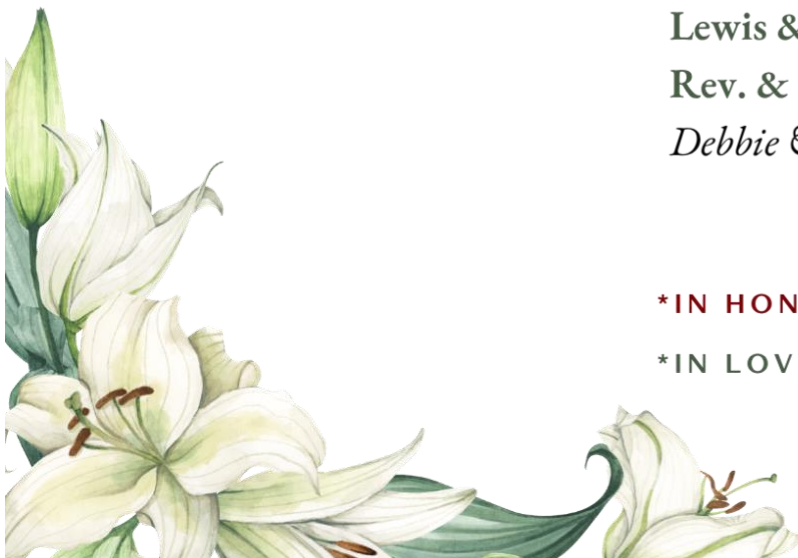
**Lewis & Charlotte Aurelius**

**Rev. & Mrs John E. Muir**

*Debbie & John Muir*

**\*IN HONOR OF**

**\*IN LOVING MEMORY OF**





# Urbana First UMC News and Announcements

## WEEKLY PRAYER REQUESTS

Prayer is how we communicate with God. In prayer, we share our hearts. We also pause to listen for wisdom and guidance. As John Wesley wrote, "All that a Christian does, even in eating and sleeping, is prayer, when it is done in simplicity, according to the order of God." Please be in prayer for these members & friends of the Urbana First Community:

**Homebound:** Gladys Baxley, Gary and Anna Engelgau, Darla Kvidera, Marjorie Mead, Joyce Smith, Mrs. Mary Ross

**Prayer Concern:** Shirley and Tom Gordon, Nancy Moser, Averie Spencer (Infant health issues) and Family, Nancy Lopeman, Pastor Freeman, Nancy Merz, Steve Moser (knee surgery), Darla Kvidera (Broken Hip), Paige & Nick Banovz (Family Loss).

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:** Ryker Spencer (April 2), Clara Brooks (April 13). Ed Smith (April 13), Pam Bedford (April 17), Marie Govert (April 21), Judy Smith (April 26), Brenda Carter (April 27)

## CHURCH VOLUNTEER NEEDS FOR APRIL

We are looking for volunteers to help us in the life of the church in March. Each volunteer position would take one to two hours of service. Please see the list below and contact Paige in the church office via email if you are willing to assist.

- Leaders: Persons to help lead the Adult Sunday School class and the Midweek Bible Study on Wednesdays
- Church Office: Light cleaning and dusting
- Sunday Morning Hospitality: Setting up parlor, making coffee
- Ushers: Assist with collecting offering during service
- Greeters: Welcome people and visitors to our church, set out the bulletin

## YOUNG ADULT GROUP EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Young Adult Group is looking to expand! But to do that, we need to form a committee. We are looking for a group of one to two people from our church to help Steven plan and execute events for YAG. If you are interested in a committee position, please contact Steven at [YAG@urbanafirstmethodist.org](mailto:YAG@urbanafirstmethodist.org)

### April Event

**When:** Saturday, April 18th at 5:00 p.m.

**Where:** Urbana First UMC Parlor

Join us on Wednesdays for a time of fellowship, faith building, and food. This group is open for all to attend!



### YOUTH GROUP MEETING

**When:** Fourth Sundays at 4:00 p.m.

Our Jr. & Sr. High youth group will now be meeting on the fourth Sunday of the month. Our next meeting is on Sunday, April 26

### NOISY OFFERING FOR MARCH & APRIL: Courage Connection

*"Courage Connection showed me that I wasn't alone. I found strength in the stories of others---and in myself."*

Courage Connection is here to help those who face domestic violence and encourage their success. Their mission is to ensure everyone in our community has the education, support and resources to live in safe, healthy relationships. The number of folks they serve in Champaign County continues to rise. The Courage Connection organization is trained to respond to domestic violence situations. They are focused on providing the best assistance possible, capable of stepping in immediately to support the victims. Please open your hearts to the victimized.



### SANDWICHES, SOUP, AND SHARING (Bible Study)

**When:** Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m.

**Where:** Urbana First UMC Parlor

Join us on Wednesdays for a time of fellowship, faith building, and food. This group is open for all to attend!

# This Week at Urbana First

## Sunday, April 12

9:15 a.m.—Adult Sunday School (*Library*)  
9:30 a.m.—Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal  
10:00 a.m.—Fellowship (*Parlor*)  
10:15 a.m.—Children’s Church, Toddler-2nd  
10:30 a.m.—Worship Service  
10:50 a.m.—Children’s Church, 3rd-5th

## Monday, April 13

6:00 p.m.—Community Group (*Parlor*)

## Tuesday, April 14

5:30 p.m.—People’s Chorus (*FH*)

## Wednesday, April 15

10:30 a.m.—Bible Study (*Parlor*)  
6:00 p.m.—Day Care Meeting (*Zoom*)  
6:00 p.m.—Brownie Troop Meeting (*FH*)  
6:30 p.m.—Sanctuary Choir

## Thursday, April 16

5:00 p.m.—Day Care Potluck (*FH*)  
6:00 p.m.—Girl Scout Troop Meeting  
(*Parlor*)

## Friday, April 17

*Church Office Closed, Staff Sabbath Day*

## Saturday, April 18

1:00 p.m.—Baby Shower (*Parlor*)  
5:00 p.m.—YAG Game Night (*Parlor*)

## Sunday, April 19

9:15 a.m.—Adult Sunday School (*Library*)  
9:30 a.m.—Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal  
10:00 a.m.—Fellowship (*Parlor*)  
10:15 a.m.—Children’s Church, Toddler-2nd  
10:30 a.m.—Worship Service  
10:50 a.m.—Children’s Church, 3rd-5th

## Church Office Hours

Monday-Wednesday: 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Daycare Hours: 7:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.



***“Helping people to get connected to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, to one another, and to the community!”***

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217.367.8384—[office@urbanafirstmethodist.org](mailto:office@urbanafirstmethodist.org)

[WWW.URBANAFIRSTMETHODIST.ORG](http://WWW.URBANAFIRSTMETHODIST.ORG)

REV. ROBERT K. FREEMAN, DIRECTING PASTOR

Parsonage: 217-607-8113

**CHILDREN’S CENTER DAYCARE:** (217) 367-0842

KATIE BEAULIN, DAYCARE DIRECTOR

RACHEL HARP, ASSISTANT DAYCARE DIRECTOR

## Today’s Worship Team

Pianist: Hannah Freeman-Choi

Liturgists: Margie & Larry Jobe

Ushers: Rich Govert, David Gordon

Children’s Church: Linda Bailey

Tech & Stage Team: Johnie Wilson,

Jack Marshall, Joseph Tingling

PowerPoint & Bulletin: Paige Banovz