



# *The Clarion Call*

## *Love God, Love Everyone, No Exceptions*



Dear Union Chapel:

### **Saddle up and let's mov'em out!!**

I remember attending a meeting with other pastors way up in what is called “the northern tier” of Pennsylvania. I cannot recall the name of the church where we gathered, but I recall some of the history related to that church. It was built somewhere in the mid 1800’s. It was a unique design for a church of that time. Very nice. One of the things we learned that day is that the church was only occupied for about seven years and then the congregation moved and built a new church, closer to Mansfield, PA, roughly 12 miles away. **As it was told and explained to us that day, the reason they occupied this location for only seven years and then built a new church was because they understood the population had shifted, folks were not going to travel the 12 miles, and they understood their purpose to be grounded in mission and ministry with people, not grounded in a building.**

So here we are, about 175 years later, and you know what I find? Sometimes about 12 miles can still make a huge difference. Recently Mark Smith was back for a visit and he shared the difficulty he and Debra have had in finding a new church in Alabama. In Mark’s words, *“Mike I just don’t think we are going to find another Union Chapel.”* What a great affirmation of Union Chapel’s church family, mission, ministry, and more. We are not perfect, but words like that remind us that God is indeed doing some great work among us! **So let me raise a few questions at this point. Why then does the population center closest to us, Berkeley Springs, WV, not find its way to Union Chapel? How far would someone be willing to drive to come to our church building and connect with us?** (Notice I didn’t say, connect with God, because many would answer, “I don’t need a church building to connect to God, I can do that from anywhere”). Again, 175 years later, 12 miles seems to make a huge difference, still.

I believe over the next months, after Easter, we should begin praying and discussing and dreaming about what it would look like if we were to find creative ways to take Union Chapel into Berkeley Springs. I don’t know the details of it just yet, I am praying and asking the Spirit to move and guide and speak to us about possibilities. I do know that in Jesus’ earthly life, 80% of his ministry was done around the Sea of Galilee, not inside a synagogue, or church building. And after he resurrected from the dead he kept going where the people were, the scriptures say he appeared to more than 5,000. Well, to do that in that ancient world, you certainly are not staying put! I am currently working with Rev. Bill Brown, Director of New Faith Expressions, within our conference. In April I will attend a three-day seminar about the same, “new faith expressions.” On March 14<sup>th</sup>, Bill will be in Hagerstown at Leadership Days, teaching about the same. **If you would like to go, please let me know, we will register you for his class and pay your way! (Here is the information link, but let me know soon!)**

[https://b65de766771c0b853a36-be165dca3b4edda77f8dc2ad6b17900c.ssl.cf2.rackcdn.com/uploaded/c/0e9741347\\_1579295739\\_connect-leadership-western-region-event-guide-info.pdf](https://b65de766771c0b853a36-be165dca3b4edda77f8dc2ad6b17900c.ssl.cf2.rackcdn.com/uploaded/c/0e9741347_1579295739_connect-leadership-western-region-event-guide-info.pdf)

I really believe the church of the future won’t just meet in buildings that are familiar to us, but the church will meet wherever people are willing to gather in Jesus’ name, to study, to worship, and to serve. **How far would you be willing to drive, to take Union Chapel and more importantly, to take Jesus, to others?**

**Worship / Holy Week Planning Team Meeting, Tuesday March 10th @ 6:30pm**

Please consider being a part of the planning for a great Holy Week, including Palm Sunday, Holy Thursday Agape Meal at Berkeley Springs State Park, Tenebrae Good Friday service, and Sunrise service as well as our combined Easter Morning worship. There is lots to plan for the best week of the entire year, as God's people!

**HOLY WEEK at Union Chapel:**



- Thursday April 9<sup>th</sup> Agape Meal, Berkeley Springs State Park, 6pm
- Friday April 10<sup>th</sup> Service of Tenebrae, Union Chapel UMC, 7pm
- Saturday, April 11<sup>th</sup> Easter Egg Hunt, Union Chapel, 12 noon
- Sunday, April 12<sup>th</sup> Sunrise Service, 6am, Union Chapel UMC, next to Columbarium
- Sunrise Pot Luck Breakfast, 7am
- Easter Combined Worship, 9am

More details to come as well as opportunities to serve and make the best week of the year even more spe-

*Lenten Dinners*  
Schedule:

**March 4th:** Rev. John Wunderlich (District Superintendent) speaking with our Choir providing music

**March 11th:** Rev Bob Osbourne speaking with our Praise Team providing music

**March 18th:** Pastor Josh Rider speaking with Judy \* Eddy Wiles providing music

**March 25th:** Pastor Aaron Brewer, Afresh Church, speaking with Eric Profitt providing music

**April 1st:** Pastor Tony Pirrone, speaking with Jim Smalley providing music



**Protocol For Recognition & Grace Through Separation**  
**March 8th 6pm at Union Chapel**

As we prepare to share information concerning the "Protocol" it may be helpful to submit questions concerning the document ahead of time. While information at this point is limited and the "Protocol Document" is still a work in progress as details are drafted, identified and made, myself and a couple of others from our church, who have volunteered to assist me, will do our best to have answers as best we are able at the meeting. Please email or write your questions and give to Pastor Mike.

Thank you and God bless you all.

Reflections for Lent, inspired and written by Glenna Hovermale and Pastor Mike, these six devotions, for six weeks, will tug at our hearts and our phones and more than anything, our relationship with Christ.

Individual reflections will be emailed weekly, posted on Union Chapel Facebook, and hard copies are also available).

The season of Lent is the 40-day period of time (not counting Sundays) prior to Easter. It starts on Ash Wednesday and ends on Easter Eve. For Christians, Lent has always been a time to prepare ourselves for Easter and focus on our relationship with God. Jesus spent 40 days in the desert being tempted by Satan. During those 40 days he *fasted*. *The Christian fast is denying our bodies (the flesh) of those things we daily depend upon; food, drink, (and these days, screen time), in order to focus on our spiritual wellbeing and relationship with God.* Traditionally, Christians fast from things such as bread, alcohol, or chocolate.

What if we approach the season of Lent a little differently?

In today's world we seldom have the luxury of stillness. Instead we are making the most of every waking moment by multi-tasking like a super hero. We are often over-extended with tasks to complete, overwhelmed with responsibilities, and over-stimulated by a constant barrage of noise, notifications, and accessibility. Our cell phones are always just inches away from our reach, providing yet another opportunity for busyness and noise.

But, what if we do things differently during Lent this year?

What if instead of giving up pizza and French fries or chocolate, we consider giving up some of our busyness? What if we lay aside screen time and be still? What if we turn the volume down on our daily noise, so that we can hear what God has to say to us? What if take the time to listen, to feel, to reflect, and to be fully present?

What if we, like Jesus, intentionally set aside some time when we log off of our devices and let God in?

In 1 Kings 19: 11-14, Elijah is expecting to encounter the Lord in a powerful wind that tore apart mountains and rocks, in an earthquake, and in a fire. Instead, he found the Lord in a gentle whisper. During this season of Lent, will you commit to logging off of devices and listening for the Lord's gentle whisper?

## Taxpayers should know the telltale signs of a scam

Taxpayers are filing their taxes and may be waiting for a response from the IRS. It tends to be a period when thieves increase their scam attempts. They try to get people to disclose personal information like Social Security numbers, account information and passwords. To avoid becoming a victim, taxpayers should remember these telltale signs of a scam: The IRS and its authorized private collection agencies will never:

- Call to demand immediate payment using a specific method such as a prepaid debit card, gift card or wire transfer. Generally, the IRS will first mail a bill to any taxpayer who owes taxes. All tax payments should only be made payable to the U.S. Treasury. Taxpayers should never make checks out to third parties.
- Threaten to immediately bring in local police or other law-enforcement groups to have the taxpayer arrested for not paying.
- Demand that taxes be paid without giving the taxpayer the opportunity to question or appeal the amount owed.
- Ask for credit or debit card numbers over the phone.
- Use email, text messages or social media to discuss personal tax issues, such as those involving bills or refunds.

## Taxpayers should stay alert because scammers don't take a vacation

### FINANCIAL THOUGHTS

The beginning of a new year is a good time to be thinking about having financial items in order. Consider the following:

1. Have you updated your estate documents recently? Changes in life circumstances may cause you to want to change your executor, beneficiaries, or other important terms to your will or other documents. If you do not have a will or other documents, it would be wise to complete this task and have your thoughts and choices put in writing
2. Beneficiary designations - in addition to your will, it is important to review life insurance policies, investment and retirement accounts, and any other plans and policies to make sure these are current.
3. Did you know there are many circumstances when it's best to have a specific beneficiary or beneficiaries instead of simply naming your Estate?
4. Did you know it may be useful to have someone else listed as a present or future owner of your bank and investment accounts?
5. A power of attorney and living will are important documents. Do you have these and are they current?

**"Your Finance Committee will be meeting April 21 in preparation for our church Council meeting on the 28th of April. We are working to improve information and communication regarding our finances and this year's actual results. If you have any questions or thoughts for consideration please contact Bruce (cell 540.246.4237 or email [bruce.elliott@cpa.com](mailto:bruce.elliott@cpa.com) )."**



# What is the U.S. Opioid Epidemic?

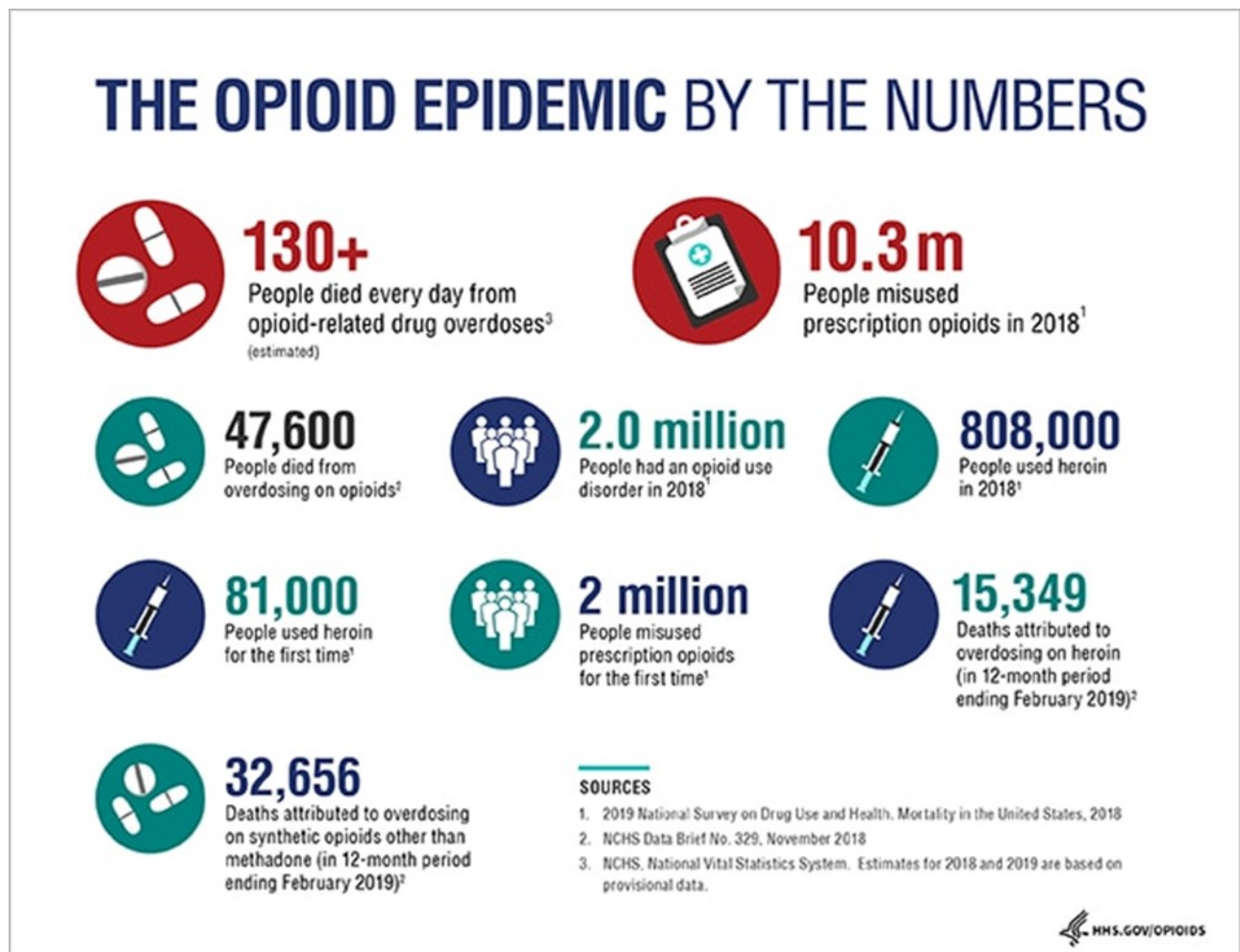
## FIND TREATMENT

Top of Form

Bottom of Form

- In the late 1990s, pharmaceutical companies reassured the medical community that patients would not become addicted to opioid pain relievers and healthcare providers began to prescribe them at greater rates.
- Increased prescription of opioid medications led to widespread misuse of both prescription and non-prescription opioids before it became clear that these medications could indeed be highly addictive.

In 2017 HHS declared a [public health emergency](#) and announced a [5-Point Strategy To Combat the Opioid Crisis](#)





## Understanding the Opioid Crisis

### Opioid Crisis

Devastating consequences of the opioid epidemic include increases in opioid misuse and related overdoses, as well as the rising incidence of newborns experiencing withdrawal syndrome due to opioid use and misuse during pregnancy.

### Understanding the Scope of the Epidemic

### Opioid Overdose

Opioid overdoses accounted for more than 42,000 deaths in 2016, more than any previous year on record. An estimated 40% of opioid overdose deaths involved a prescription opioid.

### Why do Adults Misuse Prescription Drugs?

Policymakers can use this information from the National Survey on Drug Use and Health to help inform substance abuse prevention and treatment needs in their communities.

More and detailed information may be obtained by visiting

<https://www.hhs.gov/opioids/about-the-epidemic/index.html>

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We request that all Christmas Decorations and any other old flowers be removed from the cemetery by April 1, 2020 so we may get ready for this year's mowings. Any flowers left on site after this date will be removed and disposed of.

Thank you for your cooperation.  
Union Chapel Cemetery Association  
304-258-5199





# Youth Ministry

After much prep work and decorating on Feb. 14, the youth presented their annual Valentines Dinner on the 15th. Everyone had a great time. Several compliments were received on the food and especially on the "professional" service. The older and the younger youth worked really hard but enjoyed the evening. .Donations totaled \$614.00. This will go to the youth fund to help pay for youth events throughout the year.

Youth attended the monthly event at "The Blue" on Feb. 23. Youth and adults had fun at basketball, pool, snacks and fellowship. A devotional was presented on "judging others". This sparked a good conversation and several students provided some good testimonies. The next "Blue" event will be March 29 at 6 PM. All youth grades 6 through 12 are invited regardless of church affiliation.

Youth and leaders are working on upcoming events for the year. An evening out to see The Globe Trotters in Winchester is planned for March 19. More events are in the works including summer camp. Reidonna and Debbie appreciate all input from students and parents.



## Mission Monthly Backpack Program

### General Description

The Starting Points Backpack Program provides food for the weekend or during school breaks to students in Morgan County who otherwise may not have food to eat. Teachers discreetly place bags in students' backpacks to take home.

### Participants Role

The first person standing in line picks up a double bag, hands it to the next person who adds either a canned/package food item, and sends it down the assembly line. The last person ties the bag and it is placed in a carrier bag to go to a specific school. Bags are packed separately for those kids with food allergies or special dietary requirements.

### Frequency

Every Thursday during the school year; at the Board of Education building at 247 Harrison Avenue, Berkeley Springs. Hours are from 9:30am until done. Usually 1 ½ hours. Union Chapel UMCs designated day is the 2nd Thursday of each month, but you would be welcome any Thursday.



**Ladies dinner is March 24th 6pm at Cacapon State park.  
Sign up sheet is in Narthax.**

**Also, thank all that helped making and packaging the candy for the Valentine Candy Sale. Second year it was a success! Donations went to Santa's For Senior's, Operation Christmas Child, Ladies Ministry and to the Church. Left overs were given to hospice and treat bags sent to the police department. ...**

**March 25, Ladies Ministry is providing the Lenten Dinner. Please arrive at 5:00 with contributions and to help set up.**

**Ladies Bible Study is on break.  
Next gathering will be Wednesday, April 15th.  
The evening interest was low compared to morning study, so the gathering shall remain at 10:30am.**

**Bowling followed by eating dinner  
April 21st at 3pm at Berkeley Springs Bowl.**

+

**LOVE GOD  
LOVE OTHERS**

### DC Homeless Mission

Last Sunday of each month our Homeless team makes a trip to Washington D.C. Our goal is to deliver meals, water, clothing, health kits, blankets, and shoes to the homeless of Washington D.C.

Contact: Arnie Stotler 304-433-1222 / Vickie Miller 304-279-7103

If you would like to go see and experience first hand what the DC Homeless Missions is all about just let Arnie or we will save you a spot in the van.



The United Methodist Church:  
[www.umc.org](http://www.umc.org)

Baltimore Washington Conference of the United Methodist Church:  
[www.bwcumc.org](http://www.bwcumc.org)

Western Region of the Baltimore Washington Conference of the United Methodist Church:  
[www.bwcumc.org/westernregion](http://www.bwcumc.org/westernregion)





**Simeon and Anna Squad  
Union Chapel  
United Methodist Church**

**SIGHT AND SOUND TRIP  
QUEEN ESTHER – 17 JUNE**

**Simeon and Anna** will once again conduct a bus trip to the Sight and Sound Theater in Ronks, (Strasburg) PA. This year will be a new production of **Queen Esther**. Come with us for a day of fellowship, fun and food. Experience one of the most riveting Bible stories of the Old Testament. Enjoy magnificent music, acting, voices, sets, special effects and the wonderful live animals.

Our trip is scheduled for the **17<sup>th</sup> of June, 2020**. The cost is the same as last year; \$130 per person. This includes the bus transportation, breakfast in a bag and refreshments on the bus, tickets to the show, dinner at the delicious Hershey Family Restaurant and games, prizes and fellowship on the bus.

So please mark your calendar, get on the list and look forward to a wonderful event. Seats on the bus always sell out quickly so please see Dave Harden or Joyce Kline to confirm your reservation. Payments may be coordinated with Dave, with all payments due by Wednesday the 6<sup>th</sup> of May.

Checks payable to **Simeon and Anna**. Cancellations may not be made after 20 May, 2020. That is the date our final payments are due for the bus and show.

If you haven't been to **Sight and Sound**, check out their website at [www.Sight-Sound.com](http://www.Sight-Sound.com).



**Nurse's Corner  
March 2020**

Before writing this I was going through my emails and came across an email that I regularly receive. It was concerning a 40 day prayer challenge for Lente. I read through the materials and decided I would do this challenge. I encourage all of us to take the time each day to prepare our hearts for Easter and to reflect on God, bringing each of us closer to Him. With the turmoil our world is in now I find myself praying more than I ever have. Praying and talking with God gives me peace and calmness. I wish each of you the same peace and calmness I have found. May you have a blessed Easter season. Blessings, Kim

**Father, help me to see this holy season of Lent as a time of spiritual renewal, rather than a time of deprivation. Motivate me to reach a new level of experiencing your grace.**

**ATTENTION—**

If you see any areas of the Church that need attention, either inside or outside, please contact Dave Fink at: [dave.finkcumc@gmail.com](mailto:dave.finkcumc@gmail.com) or Harry Weiss at: [harryweisscumc@aol.com](mailto:harryweisscumc@aol.com) or any members of the Union Chapel Board of Trustees

Kathy Zeigler, our Administrative Assistant will be working in the church office on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Please email her at [ucumcwv@gmail.com](mailto:ucumcwv@gmail.com) with Newsletter information and Bulletin information.

**If you are interested in any information discussed from meetings, minutes are available by printed copy or can be sent via email. Please contact Kathy if you are interested in meeting minutes.**

**To join the Church's e-mail prayer chain, or to submit your own prayer request for a friend, family member, or neighbor, contact Darlene Unger (304) 671-0340 atlantaplus5@aol.com**

**Offering Envelopes**

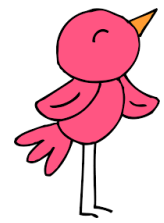
If you need offering envelopes for 2020 please sign up on the yellow pad in the narthex or call Bruce Elliott (cell 540.246.4237).  
If you have unused envelopes from 2019 please use them.

**"SAVE THE GIRLS"**

**"SAVE THE GIRLS"** Help ladies who need: bras - new or fairly new, underwear - new or fairly new, Always pads, tampons. There will be a collection box for donations of these items in the Narthex. Cash donations will also be gratefully accepted.  
May God Bless You Contact Joyce Kline 304-258-5199

**CHURCH USERS**

If you raise or lower the temperature in the space you are using, please read the posted temperature settings located under each thermostat throughout the Church. Thanks, Your Board of Trustees



*With God*  
All things are Possible

**Recycle your *Upper Room* and *Daily Bread* booklets.** There is a labeled container in the Narthex for the used booklets. They will be included with meals for the homeless when the church members visit DC each month.

**MCEIC-  
MCEAT**  
Mission Request  
For March  
Cans  
of Carrots

**MCIEC**  
Is in need of volunteers. Two people must work each shift. They are open Tuesdays and Fridays 9 to 3. There are two shifts each day. If there is only one volunteer Bill Locke can team you up with someone. Please have the volunteers contact Bill at 304-258-3327.



**SHOEBOXES**  
For the Month of March  
Crafts  
(no toothpaste)



NOT ALLOWED—Breakables, food products, chocolate, medicine, liquids, candy, toothpaste, body-wash, lotion, used or dirty items, money (except \$9 shipping), war-related toys and games, pocket knives, paint sets, bubbles, hand sanitizer, balls with glitter liquid inside, drink mixes, seeds

If you would like the opportunity to serve with this ministry, please contact Debbie weiss, 304-258-8831. Also we are always looking for ways to raise money for this mission. Won't YOU be a part of this heartwarming mission to bring children all over the world, closer to God? You won't be disappointed.



**"Declare His glory among the nations,  
His wonders among all peoples."**

PSALM 96:3

Cody Hess	3/2
Rhonda Spielman	3/3
Faith Hovermale	3/4
Bob Miller	3/4
Rylen Clipp	3/4
John Petro	3/5
Dave Forsberg	3/6
Tiffany Sirbaugh	3/6
Nicholas Frenzell	3/8
Donna Fallin	3/9
Kathy Zeigler	3/9
John Belcher	3/10
Mark West	3/10
Dixie Stoltz	3/11
Adam Migliaccio	3/14
Zachary Bullock	3/14
Hunter Schultz	3/14
Andrew Brock	3/16
Loretta Brown	3/16
Thomas M. Melson	3/17
James Mahan	3/18
Isaac Omps	3/19
Bill Selby	3/20
Thelma Lambert	3/22
Jean Meyers	3/23
Kayla Schultz	3/23
Mark Dawson	3/24
Stacy Heironimus	3/24
Arnie Stotler	3/26
Mark Smith	3/29
Joyce Kline	3/30

**ATTENTION  
FELLOWSHIP HALL  
USERS**  
When you leave the hall please ensure that the blinds are left open. This is necessary so that the Sheriff and the Deputies can see in when responding to a security issue here.

**Goodwill Fund**

Donations accepted in wooden box at Back of Sanctuary. Goodwill Fund is collected the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each



Just a reminder, we email the monthly newsletter in a PDF File, if a paper copy is needed please let Kathy know. Please make sure Kathy has your correct email address for electronic information.



Follow us on **Instagram**




Like us on **Facebook**





**Union Chapel United Methodist Church**  
*Love God, Love Everyone,  
 No Exceptions*



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 <b>Combined Service 10am</b>	2	3	4 <i>Crafts 10:30am</i>  Simeon & Anna 1pm  <b>Lenten Dinner 6pm</b>	5 <i>Men's Prayer Group 8am</i>  <i>Emmaus at Wesleyan 6pm</i>	6	7
8  <b>Protocol Meeting 6pm</b>	9 <i>Starting Points 1-5pm</i>  <b>Men's Meeting 7pm</b>	10 <b>Holy Week Team Planning 6:30pm</b>	11 <i>Crafts 10:30am</i>  <i>Simeon &amp; Anna 1pm</i>  <b>Lenten Dinner 6pm</b>	12 <i>Men's Prayer Group 8am</i>  <i>Backpackers</i>	13	14
15 <i>Blood Pressure Screening</i>	16 <b>Safety Meeting 6:30pm</b>	17  <b>Happy St. Patrick's Day!</b>	18 <i>Crafts 10:30am</i>  <i>Simeon &amp; Anna 1pm</i>  <b>Lenten Dinner 6pm</b>	19 <i>Men's Prayer Group 8am</i>	20  <b>Spring</b>	21
22	23	24 <i>Starting Points 3-5pm</i> <b>Ladies Dinner @ Cacapon State Park 6pm</b>	25 <i>Crafts 10:30am</i>  <i>Simeon &amp; Anna 1pm</i>  <b>Lenten Dinner 6pm</b>	26 <i>Men's Prayer Group 8am</i>  <i>Emmaus at UC 6pm</i>	27	28
29 DC Homeless Trip 3pm	30	31				

[www.umcunionchapel.org](http://www.umcunionchapel.org)

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 Berkeley Springs, WV 25411  
 Office Number:304-258-2107

Pastor: Rev. Michael Leedom  
 pmikeunionchapel@gmail.com  
 Cell Number: 304-707-1776