

April, 2026



Parish Messenger

Christ Community United Methodist Parish



A Note from Pastor Jess

*Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia! Earth and heaven in chorus say, Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia! Sing, ye heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!*

*Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia! Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!
Death in vain forbids him rise, Alleluia! Christ has opened paradise, Alleluia!*

*Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia! Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!
Once he died our souls to save, Alleluia! Where's thy victory, boasting grave? Alleluia!*

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! We are people of the resurrection! Every day we proclaim that Jesus has been raised from the dead and that he lives still. On Easter Sunday, we get to experience the joy, the amazement, of that day so long ago when the women walked to the tomb in the early morning hours and were surprised to find it empty. "Why do you look for the living among the dead?" the angels asked the women. Well...as far as the women knew, they were looking for the dead among the dead. Last Jesus was seen, he was being taken down from the cross and placed in a tomb. It seemed reasonable, to everyone at the time, that the tomb would be Jesus' final resting place. When we visit the graves of our loved ones, we expect them to physically be present. However, we know the story does not end in death but in life. Death could not maintain its hold on Jesus.

Throughout the season of Lent, we have sought to answer the question "why did Jesus have to die" as we looked at numerous atonement theories. We journeyed with Jesus to the cross and so we discussed the role of the crucifixion in our reconciliation with God. But what about the resurrection? Surely the empty tomb should not be completely overshadowed by the cross. We don't go around telling people that Jesus is dead, we proclaim with our lives that he is risen.

There is an atonement theory that unites the crucifixion and resurrection as a divine act that changes everything. Jesus is not the victim but the victor. Jesus' seeming defeat on the cross enables him to encounter and experience death in order to overcome it. Jesus does not violently fight death and still he conquers it. In the Christus Victor theory, sin and death have been defeated through Jesus. Sin and death are not gone from the world, but they have no power over us.

The hymn "Christ the Lord is Risen Today" wonderfully sums up Jesus' victory over death on our behalf. The lyrics come in part from the apostle Paul's first letter to the Corinthians: *Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting? But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.*

I pray you have a blessed Easter Season!

Peace and blessings, -Pastor Jess

April Birthdays

- 1—John Poston
- 2—Jewell Rockhold
- 6—Marjorie McBroom
- 8—Tony Arnold, Ray Pyner
- 9—Carolyn Coffey, Judy Partridge
- 11—Karen Mattly
- 12—Gary Jones
- 17—Brynn Bellon
- 20—Garrett Jones
- 21—Bridget Kent, Nick Mattly
- 24—Bob Dunlap
- 25—Shari Sindelar
- 26—Kady Wood
- 28—Matt Bellon



April Anniversaries

- 8—Jon & Bridget Kent

Men's Breakfast

Men's Breakfast Group meets at Corydon UMC on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays at 7:00 am for breakfast and Christian fellowship.



Millerton UMC Weekly Community Breakfast



Every Monday morning at 7:30 people gather at Millerton UMC for coffee and breakfast. All are welcome.

Bell Choir Practice

Corydon Handbell Choir practice will be on most Tuesdays. Bell ringers are always needed, both full time and substitutes. Everyone who has a heart for music is welcome. Contact Wayne Jackson at 641-872-2140 if you have any questions.



Easter Services

Maunder Thursday, April 2

Service at Millerton UMC at 6:00

Good Friday, April 3

Service at Allerton UMC at 6:00

Easter Sunday, April 5

Sunrise Services at Corydon UMC, Lineville UMC & New Zion UMC breakfast to follow.

Regular services at 7:00 at Allerton UMC, Millerton UMC and New Zion UMC.

No regular service at Corydon UMC and Lineville UMC



Corydon Chancel Choir

All who enjoy singing are welcome. Since we do not practice every week, an email is sent out before practice as a reminder. If you are not getting the email or you need to receive a text or call, please let either Anita, Wayne or Pastor Jess know.

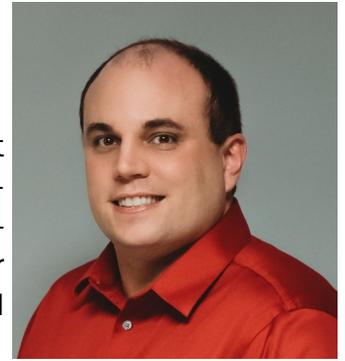


ATTENDANCE

March	1	8	15	22
Allerton	8	9	10	8
Corydon	36	23	30	22
Lineville	18	17	22	11
Millerton	18	18	21	18
New Zion	29	28	27	13
Total	109	95	110	72

Average parish attendance for March was 97. March 22 was a joint service at Millerton UMC.

Tim's Thoughts



Ten years ago, Jess and I had the opportunity to tour the Holy Land. It was a truly amazing experience to be able to connect the stories from the Bible to actual physical places. One of the first stops was the hillside it is believed that Jesus delivered the Sermon on the Mount from and the many other remains in the area around the Galilee. To be able to walk where Jesus walked and stand where he stood was quite a powerful experience!

As we approach Easter, I recall one of Jesus' paths that we also walked, the Via Dolorosa, or the Way of Sorrow. It is believed to be the path Jesus walked as he carried his cross to his crucifixion. Walking the Way of Sorrow was quite the moving experience; seeing the markers along the way denoting the significant moments as Jesus struggled towards the end goal. Then, at the end of the path, was the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. It is a massive church, shared by many different Christian denominations, that contains a giant mound of rock that is thought to be Calvary. As you follow the Via Dolorosa, you can ascend stairs to the top of this rock where there is an altar with an opening underneath where you can kneel down, reach through, and touch the rock where the cross of Jesus may have been placed.

It is an awe-inspiring experience; to walk the path of Jesus' life and death. But the journey does not end there. That church, also known as the Church of the Resurrection, contains the tomb as well. To walk in and see the empty tomb is the most powerful moment by far.

As we have journeyed through Lent, we have been discussing the many theories on atonement; how we are made at one with God through Jesus' life, death, and resurrection. There is no one correct theory, but rather, they offer us many different ways to think about God's love for us and what Jesus was willing to do for us. So, as we head into the day of the resurrection and the 50 days of the Easter season, I invite you to reflect on the journey of Jesus throughout his time on this earth. Whatever part moves you most, whether it is the stories of Jesus' miracles, his great inspiring speeches, the patience he showed his followers, the love he showed in sacrificing himself for us, or the victory he won over death through his resurrection, remember all that the Lord has given you and done for you. Remember the great love he has shown you, then go out and show that love to the whole world.

May the Lord bless all that you do, Tim



United
Women
in Faith

The next United Women in Faith meeting will be a Spring Luncheon on April 28. This will be a potluck luncheon beginning at 11:30. See flyer on page 4.

UWF ladies rang the bell at Corydon UMC in honor of International Women's day on March 8th.

UWF Circles will meet on Wednesday, April 1. Martha Circle at 9:30 and Joanna Circle at 1:30.



UWF

Spring Potluck Luncheon

11:30 am, April 28, 2026

Corydon United Methodist Church

Please join us and bring a friend
for food, friendship and fun

Table service & drinks w





Row 1 Left: Prayer shawls
 Row 1 Right: UWF ladies ringing the bell at noon on International Women's Day
 Row 2: Martha Circle
 Row 3 Joanna Circle
 Row 4 Left: Lineville UMC Children's Sunday School
 Row 4 Right: Children's Sermon at joint worship service
 Row 5: Worshipers at Millerton UMC for a Joint Parish Worship service on March 22





Row 1: New Zion UMC Easter egg coloring and pretzel making

Row 2: Corydon UMC Chancel Choir Practice

Row 3 Men's Breakfast

Row 4: Sanctuary at Lineville UMC and Allerton UMC



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<p>1</p> <p>Men's Breakfast at Corydon UMC 7:00 am</p> <p>Martha Circle 9:30</p> <p>Joanna Circle 1:30</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Maundy Thursday Service at Millerton 6:00</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Allerton UMC Deliver Mobile Meals</p> <p>Good Friday Service at Allerton 6:00</p>	<p>4</p> <p>St. Francis Mass 6:30 pm</p>
<p>5</p> <p>HAPPY Easter</p> <p>Communion & A & A J-M T-A & N</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Community Coffee at Millerton 7:30</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Men's Group Serves Optimist Breakfast 7:00</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Lineville Ad Council at 5:30</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Quilt at Lineville UMC 2:00</p>	<p>11</p> <p>St. Francis Mass 6:30 pm</p>
				<p>Lineville work Wayne Theatre 10-12</p>		
<p>12</p> <p>2nd Sunday Pot Lunch at Corydon UMC</p> <p>J-C & M T-AL& N</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Community Coffee at Millerton 7:30</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Prayer Shawl 9:30 at Corydon UMC</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Men's Breakfast at Corydon UMC 7:00 am</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Food Truck at Allerton 2:00</p> <p>UWF host Birthday party at CSC</p> <p>Parish Council at Corydon UMC 5:30</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Chapel at Corydon Specialty Care 11:00</p>	<p>18</p> <p>St. Francis Mass 6:30 pm</p>
<p>19</p> <p>Communion</p> <p>Native American Special Offering</p> <p>T-C & M J-AL& N</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Community Coffee at Millerton 7:30</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p> <p>St. Francis Mass 6:30 pm</p>
		<p>Pastor Jess vacation April 20-May 11</p>				
<p>26</p> <p>Food Pantry</p> <p>T-C & M -AL& N</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Community Coffee at Millerton 7:30</p>	<p>28</p> <p>United Women in Faith Spring Pot Luck at Corydon UMC 11:30</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Last Week Supper & Planning Meeting 5:00 to 6:00</p>	<p>30</p>		
		<p>Pastor Jess vacation April 20-May 11</p>				

The schedule is subject to change

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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Facebook: Christ Community United
Methodist Parish Corydon, Iowa

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Associate
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timothygaul@gmail.com
319-541-3393

Parish Secretary
Becky Fetters—coryumc@grm.net

Parish Prayer Chain
Call one of the pastors



Worship Times

Allerton
Worship 8:30
Corydon
Adult Sunday School 9:30 - Worship 10:45
Lineville
Worship 9:45 - Children's Sunday School 10:45
Millerton
Worship 9:00
New Zion
Sunday School 9:45 - Worship 11:00