

For the Lawson Review: April 1, 2019

News from United Christian Presbyterian Church (UCPC)

(UCPC is located in the downtown neighborhood of Lawson: 305 East 4th Street. Sunday Worship services are at 11 a.m. Adult Sunday school at 9:45 a.m. Childcare provided)

Scripture for April 7: John 12: 1-11, "A God of Surprises." This is also Communion Sunday. We practice "Open Table Fellowship," as Jesus welcomed all, so do we.

Project Linus: UCPC is honored to be a local center of activity for the work of a national effort called "Project Linus." Our church members and other volunteers in the area work all year to make blankets for local needy children. Their mission: *To provide love, a sense of security, warmth and comfort to children who are seriously ill, traumatized, or otherwise in need through the gifts of new handmade blankets and afghans, lovingly created by volunteer "blanketeers."*

Last week, two of our church members delivered over 245 finished blankets to Children's Mercy Hospital and 40 blankets to the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at St. Luke's Hospital. You do not need to be a member of our church to participate in this uplifting effort.

Many ways to celebrate Holy Week and Easter: If you have not had the opportunity to prayerfully experience the spiritual journey of Holy Week, please take note of the following dates and consider joining us: *Maundy Thursday/Holy Thursday: Worship service planned by the United Methodist Church - held at UCPC at 7:30 p.m. Good Friday service - "Light and Shadows Tenebrae Service" - 7:30 p.m. All churches in our area have been invited to participate. The music promises to be powerful. Easter Sunrise at the Lawson Lake/ Boat ramp. Weather permitting. 6:15 a.m. Breakfast generously provided by the United Methodist Church after this service. Traditional worship service for Easter morning, 11:00 a.m. UCPC.*

Signs of Life: One of our happiest developments as a church is the growing presence of children in our midst! Check out our new Children's Choir singing this past Sunday during Worship. (Lawson United Christian Presbyterian Church/Facebook). We are having an Easter season fundraiser for our Children/Youth ministries: "Yard Egging!" Let your little ones wake up to a yard full of eggs on Easter morning! Email LANIODELL@gmail.com for more information.

Festival of Sharing: Our Service/Outreach Ministry is currently organizing "Baby Bundles" for **infants 9-12 months of age**. We are asking anyone who would like to participate to bring the following items to the church: receiving blankets, sweater or sweatshirts, onesies, cloth or disposable diapers, diaper pins. We appreciate the generosity of this Lawson community.

Harvesters volunteer day: Wednesday, April 10. Meet at the church at 11:00 a.m. Harvesters has a tremendous history of providing food for those in need throughout the metro area. The work of volunteers saves them thousands of dollars annually. Please consider being a part of this important work.

Senior Tuesday: April 16. Doors open at 11 a.m. for the program and lunch served at noon. No need to pre-register. All are welcome!

A prayer for those who struggle:

God, rupture in us the fake bravery that teaches that we alone are enough - that without you and your gifts we can even survive. Give us the assurance to seek the help we need and deserve - therapy, medication, treatment, accountability and community. Destroy the powers of shame and isolation that enslave us to false truths, and weed out the American individualism that insists that prayerful words alone, God, are enough to heal injured bodies and minds. Amen. (From: A Prayer for Mental Health and Emotional Wellness; A Booklet of Uncommon Prayer, by Kenji Kuramitsu, Evangelical Social Action/ESA)