



## **STRAFFORD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

### **MONTHLY NEWSLETTER**

**APRIL 2015**

PASTOR: John Inmon

Church Address: 200 E. Chestnut, Strafford MO 65757

Phone: 417-736-3148

Website: [straffordumc.org](http://straffordumc.org)

Sunday Service Times

Sunday School: 9:15am

Morning Worship: 10:45am

Wednesday Service: 6:00pm

Dear Friends,

Awwww, the fresh air of Spring and the growing lawns are a sight for sore eyes. Spring has made it and I'm loving every minute of it...even the seasonal allergies associated with it. We had a wonderful turnout for the Easter Egg Hunt on April 4<sup>th</sup>. We couldn't have asked for better weather last Saturday for the Egg Hunt, and we had nearly 40 children show up for the event! Our very own Heidi Goodin dressed up as the Easter Bunny, and we took pictures of the children with her and were able to send home a copy of the picture with them. We had 3 different areas divided by age so the children were able to get plenty of eggs. Thank you to all who helped set up the event, volunteered that day and/ or provided candy. We couldn't have done it without such a giving, loving church.

Pastor John's Easter Service was very encouraging last Sunday. There was a very nice turnout and Jeanie and the choir were inspirational. I can't say enough on how much I enjoy hearing them perform. Pastor John has more to say in his message below about Easter, so be sure and keep reading.

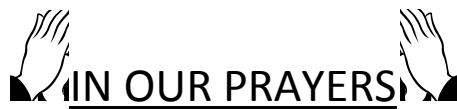
The Wednesday Night Kids Group (ages 5-10), enjoyed an evening out at Springfield's Sky Zone Trampoline Park and then dinner at CC's Pizza on April 1<sup>st</sup>. We have seven regular

attendees to our Children's Church on Wednesday nights, and we always find ways to learn about God and the many lessons of life during our classes. It's such a good group of kids that come and we always look forward to new visitors. If you know any young ones that would like to join our lively group of kids, we meet on Wednesday evenings from 6:00-7:00.

Enjoy the wonderful weather we have having and I'll see you Sunday!

April Potter

***MISSION STATEMENT: We open our Hearts, our Minds, and our Doors and we answer the call of making Disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world***



Our Country, Our Church, Our Military, The sick and infirmed, Caregivers  
Penny Baker            Gail Boever            Myra Bruner            Galen Bumgarner  
Frank Costello        Rex Easterly        Doug Favor        Family of RW Goodin  
Family of Howard Graham    Pat McBeath            Mike Paxson  
Billie Jo & Anthony Robertson    Jauleta Todd    Roger Todd    John Williams

## Message From Our Pastor

Easter is here. This is the time when we celebrate the Risen King. We have completed the forty days of Lent. That time of reflection, the inward look of our lives.

Now we move forward in celebration, and that's what we should be doing: celebrating.

Celebrating the defeat of death, the forgiveness of our sins, our ability to have eternal life.

All we have to do is believe and follow. Pretty basic words, especially when we think about the outcome. God's grace is there for us all the time, it is free, and we don't have to do anything, just accept it.

What an awesome God we serve, what a big God we serve.

I hope we as a church can realize more and more each day that we need to become more passionate about our worship and our serving of our mighty God.

We need to adopt the five core practices of a fruitful congregation:

**Radical** Hospitality

**Passionate** Worship

**Intentional** Faith Development

**Risk-taking** Mission and Service

**Extravagant** Generosity

In God's Love,

Pastor John

# APRIL

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<b>1</b> 6:00 Praise Service 6:00 Kidz 7:00 Youth 7:00 Choir Practice	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>  <b>UMW</b>  Easter Egg Hunt 2-4
<b>5</b> 9:15 Sunday School  10:45 Church  <b>EASTER</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> <b>5:00 Council Meeting</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> 9:15 Sunday School  10:45 Church	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 6:00 Praise Service 6:00 Kidz 7:00 Youth 7:00 Choir	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> <b>UMW District Meeting</b> <b>9 AM</b>
<b>19</b> 9:15 Sunday School  10:45 Church	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> 6:00 Praise Service 6:00 Kidz 7:00 Youth 7:00 Choir	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> 9:15 Sunday School  10:45 Church	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 6:00 Praise Service 6:00 Kidz 7:00 Youth 7:00 Choir	<b>30</b>		

## CRANBERRY SALAD

Submitted by: Caroline Stagner

- 1 Large or 2 small boxes of Cherry Jell-O
- 1 ½ Cup boiling water
- 1 Can (20 ounce) crushed pineapple undrained
- 1 Can (16 ounce) whole berry cranberry sauce
- ½ Cup seedless red grapes halved
- ¼ Cup chopped pecans

Mix all ingredients and enjoy!

## CORN & BROCCOLI BAKE

Submitted by: Caroline Stagner

1 Can (16 ounces) cream style corn

1 package (10 ounce) frozen chopped broccoli (thawed)

½ Cup crushed Saltine Crackers

1 Egg Beaten

1 Tablespoon minced onion

2 Tablespoons butter melted

Place in greased bowl at 350°

Save some buttered crumbs for top

Bake for 45 minutes