

WATCH BRIDGEPORT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH ONLINE

The service is streamed live at 10:45 AM, on Sundays, and is archived online for later viewing as well. Share this with persons you know who are out of town or unable to attend our Worship Service in person. **Visit the Church Website at** www.bridgeportumc.org and click "Watch Online".

REVIVE RECOVERY meets each Wednesday at 6:30 PM at our Johnson Avenue Campus.

BIBLE STUDY — THE BOOK OF ACTS: Join us for our Bible study on the Book of Acts on Thursdays, at 7:00 PM in the Intermediate Chapel (Sanctuary Overflow area). We'll explore how the early church was formed, challenged, and sent into the world—and what this Spirit-led story means for the church today. Whether you are new to Bible study or looking to go deeper, you are welcome.

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH RUMMAGE SALE

Spring cleaning? "One man's junk is another man's treasure". We are going to begin taking donations for our Annual Whale of a Sale on Friday, May 1. You may bring your donations to the gym weekdays from 8-4, (Except Monday, May 25) until May 29. Please do not send tires, paint, large exercise equipment, electronics, stuffed toys and used under garments and swimwear. Look for more information about the sale in upcoming weeks.

SHEPHERDS CORNER is next Sunday

They are in need of non-perishable food items (peanut butter, spaghetti sauce, noodles), cleaning supplies, paper products and hygiene items. You may place your donations in the basket in the Narthex or you can drop it off at Shepherd's Corner, 119 Pennsylvania Ave. Thanks for your help!

Weekly Devotional Reading

Sunday: Matthew 6:24-34

Monday: Psalm 34:15-22

Tuesday: 1 King 19:15-21

Wednesday: Genesis 1:20-31

Thursday: Joshua 1:6-9

Friday: Matthew 27:45-56

Saturday: John 16:16-28

Breath Prayer This Week

Heavenly Father, as we grieve, comfort us with your promise to be close to the brokenhearted. Strengthen our spirit, and remind us of your hope and peace. Amen.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES AND BIBLE STUDIES

Adult Sunday School Classes:

Bread of Life SS/Library/9:30AM

Faith, Family, Friends/Parlor/9:30 AM

Youth SS/Education Building/9:30 AM

Young Explorers SS/ages 3-5th grade/

Primary Chapel/9:30 AM

Nursery Care/Infant-2 year old/

Nursery/9:30 AM

Children's Church Ages 5 thru 5th

grade/10:45 AM/Children's

Church room, back of

Sanctuary

Lectionary Bible Study/Thursdays/

Library/10:00 AM

Bible Study/Sanctuary overflow/

Thursdays/7:00 PM

L.I.F.E. Bible Study/Johnson Ave.

Campus/Tuesdays/ 7:30 PM

AVAILABLE SERVICES—ASK AN USHER FOR ASSISTANCE

6:15 PM SATURDAY EVENINGS, infants through age 5, Nursery, hallway by back Chapel

8:30 Service Childcare - infants-5 years, Nursery, hallway by back Chapel

10:45 Service Childcare - infants-2 years, Nursery, hallway by back Chapel

10:45 Service Childcare for 2, 3 & 4 yr. olds, Educ. Bldg. - 1st room on right

10:45 Children's Church - ages 5-5th grade, Children's Church Room

Large Print Hymnals at main entrance to the Sanctuary

Prayer Cards to indicate special concerns are located in the pew racks

Membership Directories are available in the Church Office.

SATURDAY EVENING WORSHIP SERVICE

April 18, 2026

6:15 PM

BRINGING IN THE LIGHT

GATHERING MUSIC

Jordan Groves

*HYMNS

Thine Be the Glory

UMH 308

*INVOCATION

*THE LORD'S PRAYER

MINISTRY STEWARDSHIP AND OPPORTUNITIES

~ Use the e-giving tab on the website, mail in your donation, or place it in the baskets at the entryways.

~ Please visit our website, bridgeportumc.org for regular updates.

WORD IN MUSIC

*SCRIPTURE LESSON

1 Corinthians 15:1-11

EASTER SEASON SERIES –

RESURRECTION VOICES: WITNESSES TO EASTER FROM THE EARLY CHURCH

MESSAGE

Of First Importance

Rev. Dr. Matthew Paugh

*HYMN OF RESPONSE

Because He Lives

UMH 364

PASTORAL PRAYER

*CLOSING HYMN

Easter People, Raise Your Voices

UMH 304

*TAKING THE LIGHT INTO THE WORLD

*SENDING FORTH AND POSTLUDE

Child Care is available for infants – 5 years old in the Nursery in the back hallway by the Chapel

*Indicates standing as able.

SUNDAY WORSHIP @ JOHNSON AVENUE

April 19, 2026

9:45 AM

Gathering to Praise

*Prayer of Invocation and Invitation

*Scripture Choruses and Songs

Jim Harris

Growing in the Word

*Scripture

1 Corinthians 15:1-11

EASTER SEASON SERIES –

RESURRECTION VOICES: WITNESSES TO EASTER FROM THE EARLY CHURCH

MESSAGE

Of First Importance

Rev. Dr. Matthew Paugh

Glorifying God Through Communion and Response

Confirmation

Holy Communion

(This sacrament or "Holy Covenant" is a way of visibly remembering God's Sacrificial Love given in Christ Jesus and receiving his grace anew.)

Going Forth to Share and Serve

Ministry Stewardship and Opportunities

*Closing Song

*Benediction and Sending Forth

*Indicates standing as able.

Bridgeport United Methodist Church

April 19, 2026 † 8:30 AM & 10:45 AM



THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

OF
FIRST
IMPORTANCE

WE ARE COMMITTED TO THE VISION OF "MATTHEW 25"

We are a community of faith focused on being in ministry with and for the least, the last, the lonely, and the left out. Jesus said, "When you do it to the least of these, you do it unto me" (Matthew 25:40). This is our primary work. Please join us as we strengthen ourselves for the task in worship, prayer, and study and then go forth to serve in Matthew 25 Ministries.

WORSHIP CELEBRATION

PRELUDE

As we gather, we are mindful of our Maplewood Worship Service. Today's leader is Nancy McClure.

BRINGING IN THE LIGHT AND THE WORD

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Reader: Friends, Christ is risen!

ALL: Christ is risen indeed!

Reader: Because Christ is risen, death does not win.

ALL: Thanks be to God, who gives us victory through our risen Lord.

Reader: Because Christ is risen, our hope is not in vain.

ALL: This is the good news of first importance.

Reader: Christ is risen!

ALL: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia! Come, let us worship the risen Christ!

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Reader: Christ is risen!

ALL: Christ is risen indeed!

Reader: Blessed are you, O God of the resurrection! To you be praise and glory forever. From the deep waters of death you brought your people to new birth by raising your Son to life in triumph. Through him, dark death has been destroyed, and radiant life is everywhere restored.

And yet, O God, we confess that we do not always live as resurrection people. We grow discouraged. We question whether our faith makes a difference. We wonder if anything we do matters.

And so meet us here. Open our hearts to your living presence. Speak your truth into our lives again.

By your Spirit, shape us as your people, that we may be steadfast in hope, faithful in love, and confident that our labor is not in vain.

ALL: We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. Amen.

*THE LORD'S PRAYER

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. Amen

TITHES & OFFERINGS



SIMPLY
SCAN THE
QR CODE
TO GIVE

FIRST TIME USERS, SIGN UP FOR AN ACCOUNT OR GIVE ANONYMOUSLY. ESTABLISHED USERS LOGIN. THOUGHTFULLY GIVE.

*HYMN OF WORSHIP *Thine Be the Glory* UMH 308
 WORD IN MUSIC *Amazing Grace* arr. Evelyn Simpson-Curento

(10:45 Children K-5th Grade only may leave for Children's Church.
 Younger children see back of bulletin for locations of nurseries.)

Amazing grace (how sweet the sound) that saved a wretch like me!
 I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see.
 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved;
 how precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!
 Through many dangers, toils and snares I have already come:
 'tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
 When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,
 We've no less days to sing God's praise than when we've first begun.

*SCRIPTURE LESSON *1 Corinthians 15:1-11*

Now I want you to understand, brothers and sisters, the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you— unless you have come to believe in vain.

For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures and that he was buried and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I but the grace of God that is with me. Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you believed.

Reader: This is the Word of God for the people of God.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

*HYMN OF PRAISE *He Is Lord* UMH 177

EASTER SEASON SERIES –

RESURRECTION VOICES: WITNESSES TO EASTER FROM THE EARLY CHURCH MESSAGE *Of First Importance* Rev. Dr. Matthew Paugh

*HYMN OF RESPONSE *Christ Is Risen* UMH 313 (Tune: HYFRYDOL)

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *Affirmation from 1 Corinthians 15:1-6 and Colossians 1:15-20* UMH 888

Leader: This is the good news which we have received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved:

People: Christ died for our sins, was buried, was raised on the third day, and appeared first to the women, then to Peter and the Twelve, and then to many faithful witnesses. We believe Jesus is the Christ, the Anointed One of God, the firstborn of all creation, the firstborn from the dead, in whom all things hold together, in whom the fullness of God was pleased to dwell by the power of the Spirit. Christ is the head of the body, the church, and by the blood of the cross reconciles all things to God. Amen.

MINISTRY STEWARDSHIP AND OPPORTUNITIES

- ~ Please fill out a prayer card if desired and place it in an offering basket.
- ~ Use the e-giving tab on the website, mail in your donation, or place it in the baskets at the entryways.
- ~ Please visit our website, bridgeportumc.org to check for regular updates.

*DOXOLOGY *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* UMH 94
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

MOMENTS OF GUIDED PRAYER

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Reader: Christ is risen.

ALL: Christ is risen indeed!

Reader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

ALL: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Reader: We give you thanks and praise, O God. At your word, you created

all that is. You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life. When we turned away from you, your love remained steadfast. And when death cast its shadow over your creation, you did not abandon us.

But in the fullness of time, you sent your Son, Jesus Christ, who lived among us, who suffered and died on the cross, and whom you raised from the dead in power and glory. By his resurrection, you have broken the power of death and opened the way to everlasting life. You have declared that death does not win, and that your purposes will not fail.

And so, as Easter people, give us confidence that our labor in the Lord is not in vain. Send us out in the power of your Holy Spirit to love and serve, to witness and work, until that day when Christ comes again and all things are made new.

ALL: All honor and glory are yours, O God of resurrection, now and forevermore. Amen.

*SENDING HYMN *Easter People, Raise Your Voices* UMH 304

*TAKING THE LIGHT INTO THE WORLD

*SENDING FORTH
 POSTLUDE

*Indicates standing as able.

Those Ministering in the Service

Rick Curtis - liturgist (8:30); youth liturgists (10:45); Chancel Choir;
 Rev. Sarita Robinson - Associate Pastor; Tom Price - pianist

Flowers on the Altar are in celebration of Orian Post's 20th birthday, with prayers for his safety and guidance as he completes Navy Boot Camp, given by John, Jenny, Audra, and Oliver Murray.



OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK (April 19– April 26)

SUNDAY

8:30 AM	Worship Service	Sanctuary
9:30 AM	Bread of Life Sunday School	Library
9:30 AM	Faith, Family, Friends SS	Parlor
9:30 AM	Young Explorers SS (Pre K3-5th)	Primary Chapel
9:30 AM	Youth Sunday School	Education Building
9:45 AM	Worship @ Johnson Ave.	Johnson Ave. Campus
9:45 AM	Maplewood Worship Service	Maplewood
10:45 AM	Worship Service	Sanctuary
5:00 PM	Cherub Choir	Primary Chapel
5:00 PM	Jubilate Singers	Children's Church Room
5:30 PM	Children's Handbells	Children's Church Room
5:30 PM	Seraphim Singers	Fellowship Hall
6:00–7:00 PM	Mid/Sr. High Youth	Education Building

MONDAY

7:00 AM	AA Morning Meditation	Johnson Ave. Campus
9:00 AM	Preventicare	Nursery

TUESDAY

10:00 AM	Staff Meeting will not meet	Fowler Heritage Room
6:00 PM	United Methodist Men's Mtg.	Johnson Ave. Campus
7:30 PM	L.I.F.E.	Johnson Ave. Campus

WEDNESDAY

6:30 PM	Revive Recovery	Johnson Ave. Campus
7:00 PM	Chancel Choir	Fellowship Hall

THURSDAY

7:00 AM	Men's Prayer and Coffee	Johnson Ave. Campus
9:00 AM	PreventiCare	Nursery
10:00 AM	Lectionary Class	Library
6:00 PM	Sweet Hour of Prayer	Johnson Ave. Campus
7:00 PM	Bible Study	Sanctuary Overflow

FRIDAY

7:00 AM	AA Morning Meditation	Johnson Ave. Campus
9:00 AM	Sister's Bible Study	Fowler Heritage Room

SATURDAY

6:15 PM	Saturday Evening Service	Sanctuary
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SUNDAY, April 26

8:30 AM	Worship Service	Sanctuary
9:30 AM	Bread of Life Sunday School	Library
9:30 AM	Faith, Family, Friends SS	Parlor WILL NOT MEET
9:30 AM	Choir Recognition Breakfast	Fellowship Hall
9:30 AM	Young Explorers SS (Pre K3-5th)	Primary Chapel
9:45 AM	Worship @ Johnson Ave.	Johnson Ave. Campus
9:45 AM	Maplewood Worship Service	Maplewood
10:45 AM	Worship Service	Sanctuary
6:00-7:00 PM	Mid/Sr. High Youth	Education Building

BRIDGEPORT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Dr. Matthew Paugh, Senior Pastor † Rev. Sarita Robinson, Associate Pastor
 Rev. George Bramble, Pastoral Care † Rev. Jim Lang, Education
 Dr. Dan Hughes, Director of Chancel Choir † Brett Miller, Organist
 Jim Harris, Tom Price, Accompanists † Russ Francis, Treasurer
 Kim Kapp, Jennifer Walker, Administrative Staff † Polly Steele, Director of Preschool
 Becky Thornton, Director of Joyful Noise Afterschool Program
 Dan & Katherine Hughes, Seraphim Directors † Katherine Hughes, Jubilate Director
 Jennifer Lawson, Cherub Choir Director
 Dorothy Prunty, Denny Owens, Cathy Hamilton, Michael Moran, Facilities