



# West Point UMC

A P R I L 2 0 1 1

“There was a violent earthquake for an angle of the Lord came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled the stone and sat on it.”  
Matthew 28:2

## Expletive Deleted

I am not a big fan of the Oscars, but a recent acceptance speech caught my attention. Melissa Leo won the award for her role in last year's *The Fighter* and in her excitement, she used what my children used to call “a naughty word.” Much to Ms. Leo's credit, she apologized afterwards and did indeed appear quite contrite. Thanks to a tape delay process, very few people heard what she actually said. Likewise, if you would read a transcript of her speech chances are good that you would read the text of her words up until that troublesome “naughty” word appears but you probably won't see that actual word. Instead you would see a two word phrase: “expletive deleted.” When an editor deletes an expletive, like the one Melissa Leo used in her acceptance speech, they are doing so in order to tell the story as accurately as possible without being offensive in the process. “Expletive deleted” is therefore a useful device. There is a down side to “expletive deleted” however and few examples speak to this better than the late George Carlin. This gifted comedian once did a routine about the seven words you can't say on television. As I recall the monologue, which was incredibly funny, it said a lot about the power of words and how much power we give them. But you can't understand the power of those words, or perhaps more importantly, why they should be avoided if you don't know for sure what they actually are. Without those seven actual words, Carlin's monologue would have failed dramatically and to delete them as expletives would have ignored the larger context in which George was speaking them. Don't misunderstand. I'm not pitching Carlin's albums nor am I trying to legitimize those particular words. As a matter of fact, *I don't want* to actually hear those words either on television or in normal conversation. They simply aren't necessary. However, necessary or not, they do exist and when they are spoken, they are a part of the record. What Melissa Leo said on February 27th of this year cannot be unsaid. She can apologize for it, as she did. But she cannot unsay it. That's true for us as well. If we think of our lives as language and our words as our actions then we have plenty of experiences that could be considered expletives — experiences that we would just as soon have deleted. Wouldn't it be great if we could sanitize our past and remember it how we want to rather than how it necessarily was. Wouldn't it be great if we had a censor or an editor working on our behalf to “clean up” our expletives? But we don't. We can't run away from our record.

This year, Easter comes in the month of April. We Christians celebrate the risen Christ and give thanks for the reconciling promise of the cross. If we push this theme of our lives as

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# April 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5 <i>Administrative Council mtg 7:00 PM</i>	6 <b>Morning bible study 9:00 AM</b> <i>Little Beamers 4:30—6:00 PM</i> <b>708</b>	7	8	9
10	11	12 <i>Women's bible study 7:00 PM</i>	13 <b>Morning bible study 9:00 AM</b> <b>708</b>	14	15	16
17  Palm Sunday	18	19 <i>Women's bible study 7:00 PM</i>	20 <b>Morning bible study 9:00 AM</b> <i>Little Beamers 4:30—6:00 PM</i> <b>UMW 7:00 PM</b> <b>708</b>	21 <i>Serving At Attica UMC 4:00—7:00 PM</i>  <b>MAUNDY Thursday</b> <i>Maundy Thursday Service @ Attica UMC 7:30 PM</i>	22 <i>Good Friday Worship Service @ Weaver Chapel UMC 7:30 PM</i>  <b>GOOD FRIDAY</b>	23
24 <i>Easter Sunday Sunrise service 6:30 AM</i> 	25	26 <i>Women's bible study 7:00 PM</i>	27 <b>Morning bible study 9:00 AM</b> <b>708</b>	28	29	30

**S E R M O N S & S C R I P T U R E  
L E S S O N S**

April 3

- 4th Sunday of Lent
- Sunday School 8:30 AM
- Traditional Worship 9:30 AM

Colossians 3:1, Mark 8:36-37, John 14:1-3, John 3:16. Guest Pastor Mike Link's sermon will be "Heaven".

April 10

- 5th Sunday of Lent
- Holy Communion
- Sunday School 8:30 AM
- Traditional Worship 9:30 AM

Luke 12:13-21 & Romans 8:6-11. Pastor Jeff's sermon will be "Billy Ray's Lament."

April 17

- 6th Sunday of Lent
- Sunday School 8:30 AM
- Traditional Worship 9:30 AM

Matthew 21:1-11 & Isaiah 50:4-9. Pastor Jeff's sermon will be "The Problem with Palms."

April 21

- Maundy Thursday Service at Attica UMC — 7:30 PM

Come join our cluster observance of the Lord's last Supper

April 22

- Good Friday Service at Weaver Chapel UMC — 7:30 PMAM

Come join our cluster churches observance of the Passion of the Christ.

April 24

- Easter Sunday
- Sunrise Service 6:30 AM
- Easter Breakfast 7:15 AM
- No Sunday School
- Traditional Worship 9:30 AM

Matthew 28:1-10 & Acts 10:34-43. Pastor Jeff's sermon will be "Expletive Deleted."

**APRIL BIRTHDAYS**

**CINDY CADE      APRIL 3**

**JILL CRAIG LUZON**

**RUTH BUCKNER      APRIL 6**

**DAVID EMERICK      APRIL 7**

**HELEN VAN HOOK      APRIL 8**

**TISH GREEN**

**TERESA CRAIG      APRIL 10**

**JB VAN SICKLE      APRIL 11**

**KRISTINE BURKE      APRIL 12**

**KELLIE HARBATH**

**DORIS CRAIG      APRIL 13**

**ART BILYEU**

**CARL HOLTMAN      APRIL 15**

**WREN CRAIG**

**THELMA SMITH      APRIL 16**

**IKE CHEESMAN      APRIL 17**

**MIKE RITCHIE      APRIL 24**

**JEREMY RITTER      APRIL 25**

**KIM EMERICK**

**KRIS EMERICK      APRIL 27**

**COLIN NICOSON**

**JACOB NICOSON**

**JASMINE GUTIERREZ      APRIL 28**

**LISA SYNASAEI**

## Prayer Concerns

Matt Bowman, Nora Lamb, Ray Record, Diane Gaither, Mike Stout, Jim Hale, Dexter Andrews, Shirley Lutes, Joanna Cook, Aubry Deno, Heather and Jenny Baumgartner (missionaries going to Uganda), Vince Barry, Mary Lou Lawson, Patty Stetler, Florence Denny, Bailey Keller — a little girl facing life sustaining surgery, Elizabeth Matthews, Sarah Elizabeth Barr, a premature newborn and her parents Chuck and Christie, Delaney Loveridge, Clayton Whitehead, Ron & Nancy Oliver, Donna Bell McCall, Josh, Becky and Gabe Beeler, Darlene Christian, Michael Williams Jr. Lila Seelen, (Karen Vester's aunt) Aubry Deno, and Nichol Chase Dellen (Jay Blessing's granddaughter)

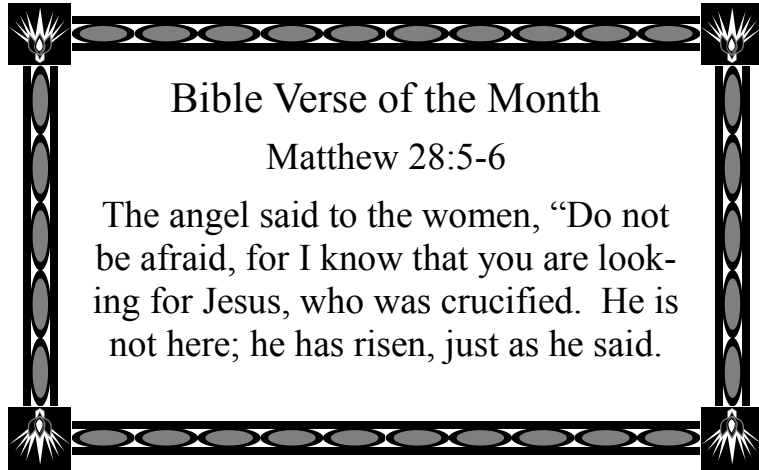
The family and friends of Dagmar Murray (Friend of Nellie Van Sickle) on her recent passing

The family and friends of Sally DeSutter on her recent passing

All our men and women in uniform, particularly Cody Hamilton, John MacIntosh, Rob Gaither, John Barton, Chad Gooden, Nathan Marks and Jeremy Ritter, especially those serving in harm's way.

## The Tax Man Cometh

It's that time of year again. You know, that time usually after the Super Bowl and before April 15th, where we Americans diligently get ready to settle up with the tax man. Darlene Christian would like you to know that your giving records will be cheerfully forwarded to you if you but ask for them. However, if we don't hear from you, we will assume you don't want them. You can contact Darlene at dcmc2@tds.net, or at 572-2719.



### Bible Verse of the Month

Matthew 28:5-6

The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; he has risen, just as he said."



## Japan/Pacific Emergency

**UMCOR  
Advance  
#3021317**

Please give generously to our Japanese Friends.



### Women's Bible Studies

#### Come Join Us

"The disciple Jesus loved." That is how the Apostle John referred to himself as he remembered Jesus. Beth Moore's riveting bible study is about to conclude and it has shown that yes indeed, John's legacy was love. And although John refers to himself that way, he makes it clear that Jesus is not only capable of loving all of us, he is abundantly willing to. We reflect on what an adventure this bible study has been as it draws to a conclusion.

We have yet to determine what our next topic will be but details will be announced as soon as they are available.

## Wednesday Morning Bible Study Perseveres

Having concluded the our bible study on “Understanding the Six Phases of Faith” by Pastor Rick Warren, we have launched into a equally challenging Lenten study with Rev. Adam Hamilton. We are studying the events that are included in the last twenty four hours that Jesus spent on the earth. We begin with the Passover dinner and go through to the resurrection. If you are not plugged into a bible study and are free on Wednesday mornings, please feel free to come join us

### How things stand with our new property

As time goes by, we are faced with a challenging, soul searching, gut checking question: “are we continuing to wait patiently on God, or are we drifting?” I fear that we are doing more drifting than patiently waiting. There is not a doubt in my mind that waiting patiently on God is a spiritual discipline and it is indeed pleasing to God. However, that’s not the same as doing nothing. While Joseph was languishing in prison, unfairly convicted of a crime he didn’t commit, he was waiting patiently on God. But he wasn’t just sitting. Look for us to continue waiting patiently on God’s direction for what He would have us do, but look closely because while waiting, we intend to continue also moving towards what we think God is preparing us for. Stay alert! God is working mightily in our lives. Blessings, Pastor Jeff



### *Volunteers Needed*

*Once a month we do a more through cleaning of our church.  
We would like to have volunteers to help with this process.  
There is a sign up sheet in the back of the church. If we get  
twelve volunteers, any one person would only have to do it once*

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language and our words as actions, is there any expletive more ugly than the cross? Is it any wonder that we consciously or subconsciously try, year in and year out, to “delete” that particular expletive and sanitize Easter. It would be great if we could pole vault from the warm fellowship and good feelings of Maundy Thursday straight to Easter Sunday. I don’t know about you but oh how I wish that human hearts weren’t so hard, both then and now, that Jesus could have accomplished his earthly mission without the cross. But the cross is reality. The cross is part of the record and we can’t get to Easter without going through Good Friday. We can’t run away from that — we can’t delete it.

What we can do is embrace it. We can embrace the fact that we serve a generous and gracious God who would send His Son to take the heat for our expletives. We can embrace the fact that while a righteous and Holy God has to let our record stand, that same God is so otherworldly loving that He would accept us, expletives and all, if we would but agree to turn away from them. That’s what Easter is really all about isn’t it? Jesus didn’t come to sanitize our records. He didn’t come to delete our expletives. Jesus came to show us that through the power of a loving God, we don’t have to be defined by them. Jesus came to show us that in terms of our expletives, yesterday does not equal today. He came to show us that while God loves us just the way we are, He also loves us way to much to allow us to stay that way.

And now may the Lord bless you and keep you; may the Lord cause His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; may the Lord turn toward you and give you peace.

Blessings,

Pastor Jeff



## April Birthdays

Rachael Goans	April 8
Kenzie Emerick	April 12
Adie Green	April 13
Jonathan Coblentz	
Konrad Ferger	April 20
Lindsay Snider	April 28

**If we missed anybody, please accept our apologies and let Pastor Jeff know so we can update our records!**



## Hey Light House;

No kidding! It's April. We will continue our study on faith using Rick Warren's six stages of faith this month. First of all though, we will begin our month with a fundraiser. See below.

April 6: We will go to Purdue University to play the role of patient's for Karla Ross's nursing students. We will meet at West Point UMC at 4:30 & travel to the Student Union for a bit to eat and then over to the nursing science building. We should be back by 8:00 PM.

April 13: Phase Three in Rick Warren's study on faith.

April 20: Phase four in Rick Warren's study on faith.

April 27: We will discuss fund raisers for our Youthworks trip and enjoy our time together.

**Remember that April is our month to be ushers. If you can't be there on the day you agreed to be, you are responsible for your replacement.**

April 3 Cole Maxwell & Haley  
Bridwell

April 10 Levi & Melia Bilyeu

April 17 Lindsay Snider & Kennedy  
Maxwell

April 24 Sarah Emerick & Jordan  
Coblentz

## Little Beamers!!!

We met twice last month and had double the fun. This month we will do the same. On April 6th we continue exploring the bible through that great video. On April 20th we will have our annual Easter Egg Hunt. Don't forget about Vacation Bible School in June. It's right around the corner. In fact, VBS starts on June 6 and ends on June 10 with the wrap up program on Friday night at 7:00 PM See Pam Katter for details. See you on April 6th!

## Our Vision Statement

We envision the West Point United Methodist Church to be the focal point of our community and to be a welcoming church reaching out to everyone; offering all the opportunity to know and serve God; providing fellowship; offering spiritual leadership; and teaching the Word of God.

**For more information about West Point UMC, contact us at 765-572-2256, or  
wpumc@tds.net or check out our webpage at  
Www.westpointunitedmethodist.org**

Sunday School:                      8:30 AM  
Traditional Worship                9:30 AM

**West Point UMC**  
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