It is election season, whether you like it or not! The good news is that our church has people from every perspective. I think that is one of the greatest strengths in our church family. That is why we are going to spend a few weeks in worship focusing on Christ-like ways to talk about tough stuff. We are not going to water down the arguments that we hear from both sides of the aisle. Instead, my hope is to strengthen the ways in which we model the words of the apostle
James, “Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to grow angry” (James 1:19 CEB). Imagine how different things would be if more of our leaders would follow these instructions.

Instead of waiting on politicians to get their act together, we are going to take responsibility for our own thoughts, words, and actions. I’m looking forward to sharing this time with you as we listen deeply, speak gently, and live like Jesus.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Joe

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**A New Opportunity To Support Thalia UMC!**

For over 20 years, Thalia United Methodist Men have been hosting a monthly Yard Sale as a fundraiser to support missions and scholarships at TUMC. The UMM have always tithed 10% of the proceeds from the yard sales to the TUMC General Fund. This year the UMM are being even more intentional about our financial support of TUMC. The UMM are opening up the opportunity for all who call TUMC home to participate in the monthly yard sales and 50% of the proceeds will be donated to the General Fund.

For anyone interested in supporting TUMC through service, volunteers are needed in shifts from:

- **6:00am - 9:00am:** Set up and preparation
- **9:00am - 12:00pm:** Selling concessions
- **12:00pm - 3:00pm:** Concessions and clean-up
UMM Yard Sales are the 2nd Saturday of the month from April through October

If you can come out for one of these shifts, or even a portion of one of these shifts, please contact Mark McKinney at 123mckinney123@gmail.com to coordinate your time.

RUMMAGE SALE

and

Bake Sale

and lunch to go

are on the horizon!

Friday/Saturday, April 26-27, 2024 9:00 AM– 2:00 PM

Time to clean out those closets, garages, and sheds. Your kind donations are vital to our goal to support missions to women, children and youth!

Please bring your donations to the large hall beginning on April 21. Help with set up that day for one and all are welcome!
During the set up week, April 22-25, we welcome all to fellowship with us as we get ready for the big event.

Donations to the Bake Sale are greatly appreciated. Please bring them to the church on April 24-26. Thanks!

Missions-Rise Against Hunger

Meals you packaged are headed to Philippines!

The Philippines consists of over 7,000 islands in the Ring of Fire in the Pacific Ocean. One of the most environmentally disaster prone countries in the world, it faces near constant threats of natural disasters like earthquakes, typhoons and volcanic eruptions. These disasters cause displacement and major loss of livelihoods and infrastructure, and disproportionately affect poor communities in rural areas, where people rely on agriculture and fishing. The Global Hunger Index, which assesses food insecurity based on indicators that measure undernourishment and undernutrition, categorizes the Philippines as having a “moderate” level of hunger overall. Rise Against Hunger serves the regions of the Philippines where hunger is most urgent.

Your impact
To address some of the food security challenges that children, families, and communities in the Philippines face, Rise Against Hunger partners with organizations that support educational programs by providing meals to children at schools and early child development centers. This is a key part of Rise Against Hunger’s Nourishing Lives pathway. In some cases, the food children receive at school will be the majority of the food they eat in a day. The meals you packaged will help ensure that children have access to the consistent nourishment they need to live healthy lives and successfully pursue their education. Thank you to everyone who volunteered their time and money to packing over 10,000 meals that helped feed hungry children and families in the Phillipines!

Health Kits for Conference
Each year United Methodist churches make kits to be used during disaster. Thalia will be making Health Kits. These Kits will be taken to the Virginia Conference annual meeting in June. We are asking the congregation to help by bringing the following items for the kits.

Please deposit them in the box in the hallway.

The United Women in faith will put the kits together at their next May meetings. Please bring your donations to the church no later than May 5. Thank you for your assistance.

One hand towel (15 x 25 – 17 x 27 inches)
- No kitchen, cleaning, or microfiber towels

One washcloth
- No kitchen, cleaning, or microfiber towels

One comb
- Must be sturdy with at least 4-7 inches of teeth
- No pocket combs or picks
- Rattail and combs without handles are acceptable but must have at least 4-7 inches of teeth

One toenail or fingernail clipper
- No emery boards or metal nail files

Bath-size soap (3 oz. bar or larger)
- No Ivory or Jergen’s soap
- Do not remove from packaging

One adult toothbrush
- Do not remove from packaging
- Personal advertising not acceptable

10 adhesive bandages (¾ by 3 inches)

- Common household bandages acceptable

One one-gallon size re-sealable bag
*Do not add toothpaste when assembling kit

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**Scholarship Announcement**

Thalia United Methodist Men offer three scholarships annually. For details and to obtain an application please contact a current member of TUMM or the Church office. *The application deadline is June 1st.*

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**Choir**

Choir rehearsals are at 6:30 pm in the Choir Room. The choir is in need of additional members! Prayerfully consider joining us on Wednesdays and
Sundays as we worship the Lord through music. Contact Leah with any questions, music@thaliaumc.org.

From The Ladies of Ties That Bind

The ladies would like to share that they are here working and creating items made with prayer and love, and they treasure giving them to those in need of prayer or an extra hug. If you have or know of anyone in need of a special gift, please let one of the Ties that Bind ladies know. Ties that Bind operates through your heartwarming donations! Please consider assisting the ladies with supplies of 100% cotton fabrics and synthetic yarn. You can email Cassie Knapp, Betsy Kincaid, or Mary North and they will be glad to find a lovely gift for your loved one.
Sunday School & Bible Study April 2024

**Christian Home/Good News:**

**Meets in the small hall, next to the kitchen**
In April, we will finish the study of James, Shepherd's Notes, chapter 4. We will then start "Noah Built the Ark in Sunshine" by James Moore.

**Faith Builders:**
**Meets in Room 144, Day School Hallway**
We are about to finish our current book, Secrets of a Prayer Warrior. We will begin our next study in April. Join us!

**Searchers:**
**Meets in the room located just off the social hall**
Beginning the first Sunday in April, the Searchers will begin a new study using the book "Unafraid" by Adam Hamilton. We live in a turbulent world, so how can we live hopefully and faithfully? Join us as we read and discuss this encouraging book.

**Seekers Class:**
**Meets in Room B8, Day School hallway**
The Seekers Class’ next unit is entitled “Empowering Spirit.” We will look at the rational dimensions of mission, especially as Jesus and the early church encountered the stranger, the seeker, the skeptic, the marginalized, and those outside of the Jewish world where the Christian faith was born. This unit gives us an opportunity to reflect on the complexities and wonder of engagement with others. As we are moved by the Holy Spirit, we are empowered to announce the good news, naturally into a vision for peace, reconciliation, and healing. Please join us for lively discussion as we live and love like Jesus.

**Women’s Bible Study:**
**Meets Tuesdays 7-9PM or Wednesdays 9:30-11:30AM**
We are wrapping up our current study and will take a break. Plan on joining us in the Fall on Tuesday evenings or Wednesday mornings.

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**Financial Positions**

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**APPORTIONMENTS YTD: 100%**
**Birthdays**
Kayla Grasper (04/01)
Lee Ann Matroni (04/01)
Nancy Norman (04/01)
Adelaida Bugtong (04/02)
Richard Marshall (04/02)
Teri Morgan (04/06)
Robert Straub (04/06)
Douglas Jones (04/08)
Andrew Matthess (04/08)
Nathan Hutter (04/09)
William Leonard (04/11)
Vanessa Mckinley (04/11)
Eli Senense (04/11)
Beverly Mixner (04/12)
Nancy Cidras (04/13)
Sharon Nealis (04/13)
Haley Mckinney (04/14)
Keir Clark (04/15)

**Birthdays**
Rebecca Falls (04/16)
Kenneth Kramp (04/17)
Alaina Rankin (04/17)
Scott Seitz (04/17)
Denise Smiley (04/17)
Cathy White (04/18)
Bill Shewchuk (04/19)
Janet Garcia (04/20)
Shirley Kenney (04/20)
Edward Smith (04/20)
Sylvia Davies (04/21)
Robert Helmandollar (04/21)
Yamila Bunn (04/22)
Cameron Mckinney (04/23)
Aaron Robinson (04/23)
Mary Ann Armstrong (04/24)
Kay Hofler (04/26)
Charles Monn (04/27)
Anniverseraries
Jane & Steven Saal
Janet & Juan Garcia
Jeniffer & Mark Redden

Prayers
Jane Lock
Tina McNeil
The Cousins Family
The Sturts Family
The Burtchell Family
Lila Wade
Joe Kesterson