

Fourth Sunday in Lent

Easter Hill United Methodist Church | March 19, 2023

Rev. Dr. Dale M. Weatherspoon, Pastor

Our Mission is to know Christ and to make Christ Known

Worship Celebration | **4th Sunday of Lent** | **Year A**

March 19, 2023 | 10:00 a.m. | The star (✦) indicates where we are to stand.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Mrs. Jo Ann Lawson

The Lord Is My Shepherd (Psalm 23)

One: The world offers busy schedules and more stuff to do, but God offers rest.

Many: The Lord is my Shepherd; I shall not be in want!

One: The world offers faster cars and bigger houses, but God offers comfort.

Many: The Lord is my Shepherd; I shall not be in want!

One: The world offers war and terror, but God offers protection.

Many: The Lord is my Shepherd; I shall not be in want!

One: The world offers cheap love and cheap thrills, but God offers goodness and mercy.

Many: The Lord is My Shepherd; I shall not be in want!

All: Come now and let us dwell in the house of the Lord!

(Junius Dotson, Fourth Sunday in Lent, Year A)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION – (In Unison)

Mrs. Jo Ann Lawson

O God of miracles and mighty deeds, we acknowledge your healing and comforting presence in our lives. We confess that we have been [drawn in] by materialism and driven by consumerism. Open our [hearts] to a new way of being. Send your anointing and grant us fresh insight for spiritual breakthroughs. Shine the light of your truth into our relationships and grant us victory over every secret and shame. We thank you in advance for healings and renewals in our lives. In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

✦ OPENING SONG

p. 454, UM Hymnal

“Open My Eyes, That I May See”

✦ PRAISE SONG

“Open the Eyes of My Heart”

PASTORAL PRAYER

Pastor Dale

Prayer requests via online @ www.easterhill.org/prayer

PRAYER SONG <i>“Open Our Eyes”</i>	p. 2086, The Faith We Sing
WORSHIP WITH TITHES AND OFFERINGS UMCOR Sunday Special Offering Lay Servant: It’s offering time! Church: Praise the Lord! How to make your offering via the “Giving link @ www.easterhill.org/giving ”	Mrs. Jo Ann Lawson
OFFERTORY PRAYER	Mrs. Jo Ann Lawson
DOXOLOGY <i>“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”</i>	p. 94, UM Hymnal
MOMENT WITH THE CHILDREN	Mrs. Vicki Carr-Trotter
THE WORD OF GOD 1 Samuel 16: 1-13 John 9: 1-41	Mr. Charles Wright Mrs. Jo Ann Lawson
MUSICAL SELECTION <i>“Be Healed”</i>	Voices of Easter Hill
THE MESSAGE	Pastor Dale
GUEST PRESENTATION	
✦ CLOSING SONG <i>“Open My Eyes, Lord”</i>	
CLOSING BENEDICTION	Pastor Dale

As you leave this time of worship, may God’s presence follow you, heal you, and empower you to witness and *to witness to* the goodness and love of God everywhere you go. Amen.

Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Director of Worship Arts, August 2022.



CONDOLENCES to the family of **Mrs. Gussie Berry** who joined the band of heavenly angels on **Thursday, March 2, 2023**. Ninety-seven years young. Let us give God thanks for Gussie's life and faithful witness. Let us keep Gussie's family, especially her daughters Shirley, Sue Ann, Marian, Eddie and Debbie and her granddaughter Destiny in our prayers. A funeral service will be held at Easter Hill on **Thursday, March 23, 2023 at 11 a.m.**



OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDY & SERVICE

SHEPHERDS

The Shepherds' Ministry meeting is **TODAY** at **12:30p** via Zoom following the 10 am worship service. All Shepherds are encouraged to attend and give a report on their flock.



LENTEN STUDY – the six-week Lenten Study, using “*Faithful Lent: Connecting the Practices of Lent and Anti-Racism*”, will be held via Zoom each **Wednesday, March 22 through April 5**. Our next class is: **March 22 @ 6p**

ADULT BIBLE STUDY



The Adult Bible Study will meet on **Wednesday, March 22** at **1p** via Zoom. Contact Barbara Scott with any questions. **We Make the Road by Walking, by Brian McLaren** is the book used for the study.

CHURCH COUNCIL

The Church Council will meet on **Thursday, March 23, 2023** at **6 p.m.** via Zoom. Contact the church office with your email to added to the invitation email list.

ELDERTECH ACADEMY: Let's Get Back To Work! | March 24



Computer tutoring is being offered through the Eldertech Academy via Zoom each week. There will be **One class session per week: Fridays** at **11:00 a.m.** The Zoom link invitation will be sent to you each week prior to the session. If you would like to join the class, contact the church office to give us your email address.

MISSION & OUTREACH – Heifer Ark



Fill the ark is a missions-giving program that spans four weeks. It offers real life solutions to world hunger and shows that one can make a difference in today's world. As you fill a giving bank with money. Your gift can share God's love and end hunger and poverty around the world. So, pick up your arks today and return them by **April 12, 2023**. If you would like to make a donation via check, make it out to Easter Hill with Heifer in the memo section. **Mission and Outreach Committee**



**I AM
NAACP
ARE YOU?**

**TEXT JOIN TO 20707
TO BECOME A MEMBER.**

#JOINNAACP

Join the NAACP
 The time is now. By becoming a member of NAACP, you'll join a network of activists standing up to injustice, fighting back against systemic racism, and answering the call for equality. **THRIVE WITH US** It's one thing to succeed as a community – it's another thing to thrive. For more information contact: M Braxton or E Avelino

NAMI CC Presents...






Black Minds Matter 2!
 Presented by the African American Uplift Program

***Via ZOOM**
 Meeting ID:
 863 0852 3473

**PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR
 AFRICAN-AMERICAN FAMILY SUPPORT GROUP**

Mental Wellness Wednesdays
Every 4th Wednesday of the month
7:00pm – 8:00pm
 Facilitated by Gigi Crowder

MARCH 22, 2023

For more information, assistance, and to RSVP, contact Gigi Crowder at (510) 990-2670 or gigi@namicontracosta.org

Dear Easter Hill family and friends,

It's that time of year and we're excited to share our plans for our **71st Women's Day Celebration** at Easter Hill United Methodist Church.



United
Women
in Faith

Our featured speaker will be **Reverend Carol Estes**.

It will be held in person and live streamed on **Sunday, April 23, 2023**, at **10:00a.m.** during our regularly scheduled church service. We look forward to an uplifting and prayerfully inspired worship service.

We invite you to share in our chosen colors. We hope you'll come dressed in **Shades of Purple**.

Our mission theme for this year is: **A Mosaic of Love, Faith, and Hope**.
Our Scripture: **1 Corinthians 13: 13**

We invite all who are interested to join in our **Women's Choir Ensemble**.

Please Contact our Women's Day Chair Karolyn Langston or our President Kimberly Nutting if there are questions or interest in joining.

We request donations of **\$150** as you are able. We also welcome donations with "In Memory, Honor, or Celebration" messages of 25 words or less to be printed in the souvenir booklet. These must be received by **April 9, 2023**.

Forms and envelopes will be available beginning **March 19**. Please make checks payable to "*Women of Easter Hill*." Deliver or mail the forms with donations to *Women of Easter Hill, Attention: MS. Marion Laurant, Easter Hill UMC, 3911 Cutting Blvd., Richmond, CA 94804*. If you need additional information, forms, or envelopes see Marion Laurant or Awo Baah-Ahrin. Beginning March 12, Marion & Awo will be available in the Mann -Swisher Hall to collect any donations and completed forms.





United
Women
in Faith

Bobbie L. Alexander Award Nomination

Nominee's Name	Date
Name of Person Submitting Nomination	

The **Bobbie L. Alexander Award** is reserved for women-like Bobbie, who have served the United Women in Faith (formerly United Methodist Women's) Organization above the call of duty in Christian and Community Service

This service could include any area of service in the church/ community i.e.: Choir, VBS, Mission, Prayer Ministry, facilitating a Bible Study class, teaching Sunday School, serving meals at the Souper Center, visiting those who are incarcerated, attending City Council meetings or any other type of civic or service involvement. The list could include so much more.

Please describe in detail how your nominee makes a difference in the life of others and why she is a good candidate to receive the Bobbie L. Alexander Award in 2023.

Please return nominations for this award to:

Carolyn Benjamin | 510 222-7320 | wescam35@yahoo.com

Barbara Williams | 510 967-9847 | wiyata550@yahoo.com

Gladys Carey-Sewell | 510 685-5979 | mandg@comcast.net

Deadline for submission is April 9, 2023 | *Late nominations will not be accepted*

CALENDAR EVENTS | March 20- March 26, 2023

Monday, March 20, 2023

10:20a CD Group | [via Zoom](#)
7p Q Place | [via Zoom](#)

Tuesday, March 21, 2023

6p UWF Women's Day Committee | [via Zoom](#)

Wednesday, March 22, 2023

1p Adult Bible Study | [via Zoom](#)
6p LENTEN STUDY | [via Zoom](#)
7p Black Minds Matter 2 | [Via Zoom](#) | **RSVP**

Thursday, March 23, 2023

11a BERRY FUNERAL SERVICE
6p Church Council | [via Zoom](#)

Friday, March 24, 2023

11a ElderTech Academy | [Via Zoom](#)

Saturday, March 25, 2023

9a Prayer Ministry | [via Zoom](#)

Sunday, March 26, 2023

10a Worship Service (Lectionary Year A)
In-person Attendance | *Live Stream on Facebook*
11:30a Choir Rehearsal
1:30P Just Faith Ministry Study | In-person



CHURCH OFFICE HOURS & CONTACT INFO

Monday, Wednesday & Friday: 10a.m.- 5p.m.
Telephone: 510.235.4226
Facsimile: 510.235.2116
E-Mail: eumc1234@sbcglobal.net
Pastor's E-Mail: pastordale316@gmail.com
Web Site: www.easterhill.org

STAFF

Rev. Dr. Dale M. Weatherspoon, Pastor
Rev. Phil Lawson, Pastor Emeritus
Dr. Anthony Gordon, Co Senior Lay Servant
Linda Wright, Co Senior Lay Servant
Rev. Dr. D. Mark Wilson, Director of Music
Audrey Cormier, Organist
Kimberly Harvey, Director, Voices of Easter Hill
Joyce Clark, Administrative Assistant

Bishop Sally Dyck, Interim Bishop
Rev. Shinya Goto, District Superintendent

STATEMENT OF WELCOME

All creation is of sacred worth. All humans are sacred images of God. Easter Hill United Methodist Church affirms, without reservation, Jesus' life, and ministry of unconditional love. As an inclusive and nurturing family of families, Easter Hill will continue to welcome and offer hospitality to all persons regardless of age, race, gender orientation, religious, economic, educational, or social status.



PLEASE TAKE OUR CLIMATE JUSTICE MINISTRIES SURVEY

The California-Nevada Climate Justice Ministries Task is here to equip our annual conference to respond to the challenges and injustices of the climate emergency. We are approaching this in four ways: *climate justice through faith-inspired* connection, education, advocacy, *and* action. Right now, as we seek connection with those doing this work, we would like your help with completing a brief survey. **Survey Link:** <https://forms.gle/APsoX3d8jLv3UYme9>

We are circulating this survey to assess which churches have green teams or are active in creation care or environmental/climate justice ministries, which churches and individuals want to know more, and how people concerned about climate justice would like our Task Force to assist them. We have received over thirty responses so far, and the answers are shedding light on where our pastors, administrators, members, and churches are in relation to this issue—including some happy surprises. We are beginning to compile the results of the survey so far and will publish an initial summary when we get it done. We are keeping the survey going for a time to gain more information. It would be helpful if you would fill one out as well.

Upcoming: The Final Two Climate Justice Ministries Webinars

Session 5, “Climate Justice: A Global Movement”

An African Youth’s Perspective | Thursday, March 16, 6:30 p.m.

This webinar includes a reflection with Rev. Debbie Weatherspoon about environmental justice and climate justice are related to faith, a brief overview with Rev. Sharon Delgado about the climate justice movement, followed by a presentation by Pato Kelesitse, a young South African climate justice leader who works as a Project Officer at South African Climate Action Network. Kelesitse will share her vision and passion about sustainable and just development in Africa, including the empowerment of women and importance of developing just economic systems. She will speak to the importance of networks such as Global Shapers and other organizations in engaging and promoting the voices of young global leaders.

Session 6, “Climate Action: The Role of the Church

Thursday, March 30, 6:30 p.m.

This webinar on the role of the church in the work of climate justice will feature Cal-Nevada Deacon Candidate Kristina Sinks, currently working for Greenfaith, who will share her passion for the beauty and power of worship, liturgy, and theology. Others who will speak on the role of the church in the work of climate justice are Rev. Richenda Fairhurst, a Pacific Northwest pastor who is a leader in the UM Creation Justice Movement and who works with Faiths4Future and Multifaith Climate Café; Gregory Stevens, the Northern California Director of Interfaith Power and Light; and Rev. Dale Weatherspoon, currently pastor of Easter Hill United Methodist Church. They will cover the role of the church in speaking out prophetically, witnessing to God’s love for creation, practicing solidarity with those who are most vulnerable, joining together to promote climate justice, and moving toward a justly and sustainably sourced clean energy system.

Find the Zoom link here: <https://www.cnumc.org/newsdetails/climate-change-what-is-at-stake-online-webinar-17269591>

View Past Webinars here: <https://www.youtube.com/@calnevclimatejustice>

Reach out to us with questions or suggestions at climatejustice@cnumc.org

Find our Facebook Page at <https://www.facebook.com/CalNevClimateJustice>

*Copyright (C) *2023* *|Cal-Nevada Climate Justice Ministries Task Force*. All rights reserved. January 2023 Report*