



# Darlington and Fayette United Methodist Churches April 2026



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## Holy Week and Easter Services



Come Worship With Us!

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# Grief Share®

see page 4

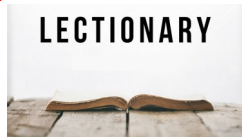


Order Easter Flowers

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## Holy Week and Easter Services

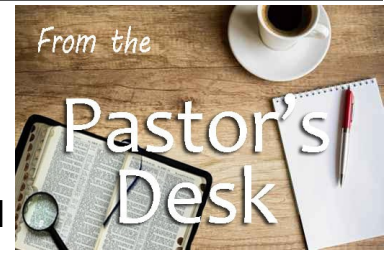


Come Worship With Us!

<b>Palm Sunday</b>	<b>March 29</b>	8:30am Worship at <b>FUMC</b> 10:00am Worship at <b>DUMC</b>
<b>Maundy Thursday</b>	<b>April 2</b>	6pm at <b>DUMC</b>
<b>Good Friday</b>	<b>April 3</b>	6:00 pm Worship at <b>Immanuel United Church of Christ</b>
<b>Easter Sunday</b>	<b>April 5</b>	8:30am Worship at <b>FUMC</b> 10:00am Worship at <b>DUMC</b>

## “Weather, Storms, and Faith”

March in Wisconsin has a way of keeping us humble. One week, we enjoy warm, sunlit days that feel like spring has finally arrived. By the next, a blizzard sweeps in, blanketing the roads and reminding us that winter is never far away. Even April often holds snow, and sometimes May will surprise us with a final frost. As much as we study forecasts, plan our schedules, and bundle up, we never truly know what the weather will bring.



Isn't life much like that? We have moments of joy, warmth, and clarity. We also face sudden storms, loss, heartbreak, illness, or uncertainty that arrive without warning. The author of Ecclesiastes reminds us, "To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven" (Ecclesiastes 3:1). We understand this in theory, but when life's storms hit, even the wisest among us can feel overwhelmed. Sometimes the challenges we face seem beyond our understanding, beyond our capacity to endure.

As human beings, we naturally ask, "Why?" When brokenness or grief enters our lives, our minds seek reason. Yet often, there is no clear answer. And while we may never fully grasp the reasons behind our suffering, we are called as Christians to bring those questions and feelings to God. We are invited to place our trust in Him, to listen for His guidance, and to lean on His presence, "Cast all your anxiety on Him because He cares for you" (1 Peter 5:7).

Pain, sorrow, and emotion are not meaningless. They are part of the seasons of life, shaping us and drawing us closer to God. During Lent, we are reminded of the suffering and sacrifice of Christ, reflecting on our own struggles and on the brokenness of the world. Holy Week brings us to the shadow of the cross, the weight of loss, and the reality of death. Yet through Easter, we see that God brings new life out of despair, hope out of sorrow, and light out of darkness.

Just as a sturdy house can withstand a storm, a life rooted in Christ can endure the unexpected trials that come our way, "Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock" (Matthew 7:24). What truly matters is not avoiding the storms in life, but knowing who we hold on to when they come. It is in the presence of God, within us, among us, and beside us, that we find the strength to face each challenge.

As we move through this spring, let us embrace the changing seasons of life, trusting God's guidance through joy and sorrow alike. Let us remember that even in the coldest blizzard or the most unexpected storm, God's presence is unwavering. May the hope of Easter remind us that every winter of the soul can give way to resurrection, new life, and abundant joy. In the storms and the sunshine, let us hold fast to Him, our constant refuge.

*Rev. Han Lee*

### Extra Giving from Offering Envelopes during the Month of March



- In Memory of Roger Gorgas given by Owen & Ruth Thompson.
- In Memory of Roger Gorgas given by Tom & Jill Reilly.
- In Memory of Lois Gordon given by Joyce Nethery.
- In Memory of Lois Gordon given by Cinda Quinn & Family.
- In Memory of Pastor Han's Mom given by Todd & Cheryl Chiaverotti.
- In Memory of Mike Curry given by Karen Curry.

Add your loved ones or friends to this list by filling out your offering envelope and designating an **extra** amount to be given in Memory or in Honor of someone to celebrate a Birthday or Anniversary. It's a great way to acknowledge those special people in your life. The amounts will never be listed!

#### A look at the Darlington numbers for February.

Income	\$ 14,908.84
Expenses	- <u>12,366.89</u>
Difference	\$ 2,541.95
<b>YTD 2026</b>	
YTD Income	\$ 23,988.46
YTD Expenses	- <u>24,274.72</u>
YTD	(\$ 286.26)

#### 2026 Apportionment Total - \$26,484

Paid YTD - \$1,671  
 Balance Left for 2026- \$ 24,813  
 Percentage paid - 6.3%

### Online Giving & Mobile Giving

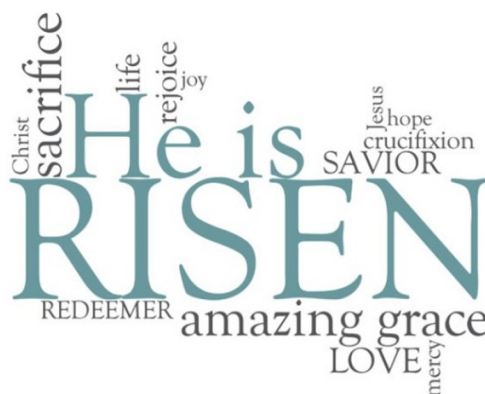
Go to <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-ZJ3M/home> for our online giving version or download the app in your Apple or Google Play app. Enter with church code **FS4XM7**. Thank you for your continued support to the church.



A special Easter offering envelope can be found in your box of giving envelopes in addition to your regular Sunday envelope.

All extra Easter offerings will be placed in our general fund to meet the many regular needs of our congregations.

For those wishing to donate, we invite you to send an extra Easter offering to 550 Main St or place in the offering plate on any Sunday.



# With our Sympathy

We mourn with our community the passing of

**Casey Boatman  
His Wife**

Sarah Boatman  
105 Nesheim Trail  
Mt. Horeb, WI 53572



**His Parents**

Robert & Ellen Boatman  
8443 Hwy 81  
Darlington, WI 53530

# Grief Share®

When: Thursdays March 5-May 28, 2026  
Time: 6:00—8:00 p.m.

Where: First Baptist Church  
15691 County Rd K  
Darlington, WI 53530

Contact: Gary Swigart  
gary@fbcdarlington.com  
608-558-7128

Or register at: [griefshare.org/findagroup](http://griefshare.org/findagroup)  
Cost: No cost for this Grief Share



## Religious Education

**If you have a child in grades 1st-8th**, please let Jamie Smith or the church office know so we can update our list. If you are willing to serve or lead, contact the office.

**The children meet every Wednesday from 6-7 p.m.**

## Annual Conference Ingathering

The Wisconsin Conference Disaster Response Team and Mission Motivation Committee have been working with Midwest Mission Distribution Center (MMDC). We will be collecting supplies until June 1. Please have your items to the church or Pastor InSun by then.

Items Needed:

### Personal Dignity Kit

- 1 Bath Hand Towel - No kitchen towels
- 1 Bath Washcloth - No dishcloths
- 1 Adult Toothbrush – No multipacks
- 1 Bar Soap - 3-4 oz
- 1 Shampoo - 15-18 oz
- 1 Deodorant - 2-3 oz - stick, roll on, or pump
- 1 1-gal Re-sealable Plastic Bag

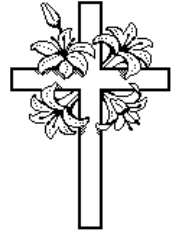
### Home Care Kit

- 1 Liquid Household Cleaners (no spray bottles)
- 1 Dish Soaps—42-64 oz
- 1 Liquid Laundry Detergent 100-150 oz total
- 1 Scrub Brush– with or without handle
- 1 5 gal Round Bucket with a re-sealable lid

To provide a kit without shopping or sewing, bring a monetary donation to Annual Conference or send to: Wisconsin Conference of The UMC 750 Windsor Street, Suite 104 Sun Prairie, WI 53590

Please write check to: Wisconsin Conference add "Ingathering Home Care Kit" to memo line.

**Easter Flowers given in Honor or Memory of loved ones...**



In Memory of Sue Eicher Shager & Don Eicher  
 In Memory of Sue Eicher Shager  
 In Memory of Don Eicher  
 In Memory of Tara Lund  
 In Memory of Bill McConnell  
 In Memory of Walt & Freida Leu  
 In Memory of Chester & Della Pratt  
 In Memory of John Kowalski  
 In Memory of Shorty & Gert Pratt  
 In Memory of Linda Pratt Larson & Lori Pratt Fox  
 In Memory of Robert Johns & Joyce Kowalke  
 In Memory of Gary Ringen  
 In Memory of Norman & Lois Gordon  
 In Memory of Chris Phillipson  
 In Memory of Paul & Lois Alm  
 In Memory of Kirk Staver  
 In Memory of Philip Parkinson  
 In Memory of Vicki Parkinson Sue  
 In Memory of Bonnie & Henry Elzen  
 In Memory of Kent Havens  
 In Memory of Jordyn Shea Paulson  
 In Memory of Grandma Mary Lancaster  
 In Memory of Shirley Hendrickson  
 In Memory of Past Choir Members  
 In Memory of Buck & Polly Douglas  
 In Memory of Vivian Allendorf  
 In Memory of Ralph & Margaret Whalen  
 In Memory of Morry & Mayme Smith  
 In Memory of Charlie Mieke  
 In Honor of Carol Mieke

Joan Thompson  
 Barb Eicher  
 Barb Eicher  
 Carly Lund  
 Shirley McConnell  
 The Pratt Family  
 The Pratt Family  
 Mary Ann & Sue Kowalski  
 The Pratt Family  
 The Pratt Family  
 Todd & Cheryl Chiaverotti  
 Jill Ringen  
 Cinda Quinn  
 Linda Bawden  
 Linda Bawden  
 Linda Bawden  
 Christine & Scott Parkinson  
 Christine & Scott Parkinson  
 Christine & Scott Parkinson  
 Donna Havens & Family  
 Paulson Family  
 Debbie Strutt  
 Debbie Strutt  
 Darlington UMC Choir  
 Doug & Sheila Kelly & Family  
 Dick & Lori Allendorf  
 Judy Whalen  
 Carly & Troy Winslow  
 Carly & Troy Winslow  
 Carly & Troy Winslow



# Graduation Sunday

We have one senior, Mya Wiegel, that will be Graduating this year. **We will hold Graduation Sunday on Sunday May 17.** Please join us. Thank you for supporting our student as she venture into the “real world”.

## Rosie's Bags

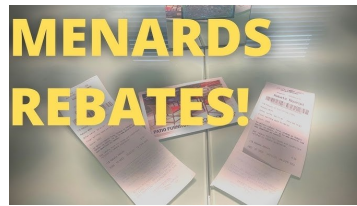
**Rosie Bags** are back and looking for donations. Rosie Bags send a weekend snack bag home with about 40 DEMS students per week. With rising costs and growing number of students in need, our funds over time have depleted quickly. We are asking for **monetary or food donations** to help offset the cost of snacks for our needy students. Any questions, please reach out to Danielle Hardyman or Jamie Hartwig.

If you would like to donate to this program, submit donations in the offering plate or send to the church office. Please mark donations “Rosie’s Bags”. Thank you for your support.



## Helping the Church

Feel called to help out the church but can't figure out a way to do it..... Do you shop at Menards??? If you do then consider keeping your rebates for the church. If you don't send them in and want to donate, either send them to the Church, attention Vickie Pratt, Treasurer, or drop them in the collection plate. They can use your donated reward dollars to purchase supplies. **THANK YOU.**



## Church Use Reminder



**We invite you to use our nursery room during church service. We also have rooms available in the Education Building and church, should you want to host a meeting or gathering. Please contact the office to reserve. As always, we ask that you kindly pick up after use and leave the rooms as you found them. Thank you**

The Choir will be singing on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month.

Choir practice will be on Wednesday nights at 7pm. If it is a Sunday that they sing, they will have practice at 9 a.m. to run through the songs.

**We are looking for more people to join the choir. If you are interested please contact Doug Kelly.**



## Starting With What We Have

In a Lenten devotional I read recently, Rev. Lizzie McManus-Dail reflected on the story of Jesus feeding the five thousand. When the disciples saw the crowd gathering, they immediately began doing the math. There were simply too many people and far too little food.

Their focus was on the problem.

But Jesus started somewhere else.

Instead of beginning with what was missing, Jesus began with what was already present: five loaves and two fish. What seemed impossibly small to the disciples became the starting point for a miracle in the hands of God.

Churches can fall into the same pattern of thinking. We sometimes begin by naming everything we lack — too few volunteers, tight budgets, or not enough people in worship. Scarcity can shape the way we see our future.

But the Gospel story reminds us that God does not begin with scarcity. God begins with what we have.

I once heard a pastor describe stewardship this way: imagine placing everything your church has on a table — your people, your ministries, your building, your finances, your passion for serving others. It might not look like much compared to the needs of the world.

But that is exactly how the miracle of the loaves and fishes began.

The miracle did not start with abundance. It started with a small offering placed into Jesus' hands.

And that is often where God's work begins today as well.

This reflection was inspired by a devotional by Rev. Lizzie McManus-Dail in the Sanctified Art Lenten devotional *The Good News Is... Together, the Impossible Is Possible*

*Rev. Jason Mahnke, Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation*



Scrip sales cost you nothing and provide support for our church. The UMW sells Scrip cards: gift cards to over 750 retailers. These cards are sold to you at face value, costing you nothing more than you would normally spend. They are purchased though a discount, yielding a small profit for the church.

You can place an order with Sheila Kelly at [kellysheila87@gmail.com](mailto:kellysheila87@gmail.com) or 608-482-1141. You can even purchase scrip on-line for immediate arrival of your printable gift cards at <https://www.raiseright.com/> Thank you Sheila for your hard work directing this important fund raising program!

## *Darlington & Fayette United Methodist Churches*

### DAILY BIBLE READING PLAN FOR APRIL 2026

<u>DATE</u>	<u>SCRIPTURE</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>
4/01/26	Colossians 3:1-4	Set Your Mind on Things Above
4/02/26	Psalms 118:1-2, 14-24	The Lord – My Strength, Song, Salvation
4/03/26	Acts 10:34-43	The Resurrection of Jesus Christ
4/04/26	Matthew 28:1-10	The Resurrection of Jesus Christ
4/05/26	John 20:1-18	The Resurrection of Jesus Christ
	<b>(Easter Sunday)</b>	
4/06/26	I Corinthians 15:12-23	The Resurrection of the Dead
4/07/26	Colossians 1:21-23	Reconciled to God by Christ
4/08/26	Psalms 16	A Prayer for God's Protection
4/09/26	Acts 2:14, 22-32	Peter Addresses the Crowd
4/10/26	I Peter 1:3-9	Jesus Christ – Our Living Hope
4/11/26	John 20:19-23	Jesus Appears to His Disciples
4/12/26	John 20:24-31	Jesus Appears to His Disciple Thomas
4/13/26	Galatians 4:4-7	Redemption Through Jesus Christ
4/14/26	Nehemiah 12:43-47	Sacrificial Offerings
4/15/26	Romans 3:21-26	Righteousness Comes by Faith
4/16/26	Psalms 116	Thanksgiving to God
4/17/26	Acts 2:14, 36-41	Three Thousand Baptized in One Day
4/18/26	I Peter 1:17-23	Redeemed by the Blood of Jesus
4/19/26	Luke 24:13-35	Jesus – On the Road to Emmaus
4/20/26	Isaiah 40:8-11	The Sovereign Lord – As a Shepherd
4/21/26	Matthew 7:13-14	The Narrow and Wide Gates
4/22/26	Acts 2:42-47	The Fellowship of Believers
4/23/26	Psalms 23	The Lord – A Caring Shepherd
4/24/26	I Peter 2:19-25	Suffering as Jesus Suffered
4/25/26	John 10:1-6	Jesus – the Good Shepherd
4/26/26	John 10:7-15	Jesus – the Good Shepherd
4/27/26	Psalms 31:1-16	God – Our Refuge and Rock
4/28/26	Acts 7:54-60	The Stoning of Stephen
4/29/26	Isaiah 28:16-17	The Lord – Our Cornerstone
4/30/26	I Peter 2:1-10	Living Stone – Chosen People

*Darlington & Fayette United Methodist Churches*

**WOMEN OF THE BIBLE WEEKDAY READING PLAN FOR APRIL 2026**

<u>DATE</u>	<u>SCRIPTURE</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>
___ 4/1/26	II Samuel 3:12-16	David's first wife Michal is returned to him.
___ 4/2/26	II Samuel chapter 11	Bathsheba and King David.
___ 4/3/26	II Samuel 13:1-22	Tragic story of Tamar.
___ 4/6/26	II Samuel 14:1-24	Joab summons a wise woman from Tekoa.
___ 4/7/26	II Samuel chapter 20	An unnamed wise woman saves the city Abel of Beth Maacah.
___ 4/8/26	II Samuel 21:1-14	King Saul's concubine Rizpah protects her son's bodies after their death.
___ 4/9/26	I Kings 1:1-4	Beautiful Abishag serves King David.
___ 4/10/26	I Kings 3:16-28	Two prostitutes judged by King Solomon.
___ 4/13/26	I Kings 10:1-13	The Queen of Sheba visits King Solomon.
___ 4/14/26	I Kings 11:1-13	King Solomon's failure - foreign women.
___ 4/15/26	I Kings 14:1-18	Jeroboam's wife goes to Ahijah (prophet.)
___ 4/16/26	I Kings 17:1-16	Prophet Elijah and widow at Zarephath.
___ 4/17/26	I Kings 17:17-24	Elijah raises the widow's son to life.
___ 4/20/26	I Kings 21:1-16	Queen Jezebel – Naboth's vineyard.
___ 4/21/26	II Kings 9:30-37	Death of Queen Jezebel.
___ 4/22/26	II Kings 4:1-7	Unnamed widow's oil.
___ 4/23/26	II Kings 4:8-37	Unnamed Shunammite woman's son raised to life by the prophet Elisha.
___ 4/24/26	II Kings 5:1-14	An unnamed Israeli captive girl suggests Naaman go to the prophet Elisha to be healed of leprosy.
___ 4/27/26	II Kings 11:1-16	Athaliah (daughter of Ahab and Jezebel) rules in Judah.
___ 4/28/26	II Kings 22:3-20	The prophetess Huldah is consulted.
___ 4/29/26	I Chronicles 7:20-26	Sheerah built three towns.
___ 4/30/26	I Chronicles 15:25-29	Michal (King David's wife) despises David.



**NEW TESTAMENT BIBLE READING PLAN SCHEDULE – APRIL 2026**

(Schedule-Read one chapter **each weekday** to complete the New Testament in one year.)

<u>End of Week (Saturday)</u>	<u>Chapters Completed</u>	<u>Check-off</u>
April 4	Luke 23	_____
April 11	John 4	_____
April 18	John 9	_____
April 25	John 14	_____

*(Progress Milestone: 82 chapters read – 31.4% of the New Testament)*

**April Lectionary**

April 2

**Maundy Thursday**

Exodus 12:1+4 (5-10)  
 Psalm 116:1-25, 12-19  
 1 Corinthians 11:23-26  
 John 13:1-17, 31b-35

April 3

**Good Friday**

Isaiah 52:13-53:12  
 Psalm 22  
 Hebrews 10:16-25  
 John 19:1-42

April 4

**Holy Saturday**

Job 14:1-14  
 Psalm 31:1-4, 15-16  
 1 Peter 4:1-8  
 John 19:38-42

April 5

**Easter Sunday**

Jeremiah 31:1-6  
 Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24  
 Corinthians 3:1-4  
 John 20:1-18

April 12

**2nd Sunday of Easter**

Exodus 15:1-11  
 Psalm 111  
 1 Peter 1:3-9  
 John 20:19-31

April 19

**3rd Sunday of Easter**

Isaiah 51:1-6  
 Psalm 34:1-10  
 1 Peter 1:17-23  
 Luke 24:13-35

April 26

**4th Sunday of Easter**

Ezekiel 34:7-15  
 Psalm 100  
 1 Peter 2:19-25  
 John 10:1-10



- Apr 1 Victoria Whitford
- Apr 5 Cody Ryan
- Apr 5 Jeanne Boyle
- Apr 5 Lora Brown
- Apr 6 Lori Neumann
- Apr 6 Katie Calvert
- Apr 6 Kory Douglas
- Apr 7 Jack O'Brien
- Apr 8 Caitlyn Davis
- Apr 8 Matt Walter
- Apr 11 Carla Ostby
- Apr 11 Marla Ostby
- Apr 11 Brynn Gossens
- Apr 12 Valda Ostby

- Apr 12 Becky Cohen
- Apr 13 Debbie Strutt
- Apr 14 Jane Walter
- Apr 15 Levi Long
- Apr 17 Mia Zuberbuhler
- Apr 18 Joan Teasdale
- Apr 19 Michael J. Gould
- Apr 19 Vickie Pratt
- Apr 21 Aurora Lund
- Apr 22 Gina Crist
- Apr 22 Mason Wiegel
- Apr 23 Casey Parkinson
- Apr 25 Dawson Douglas
- Apr 26 Allie Halvorson
- Apr 27 Aliyah Gould
- Apr 27 Maggie O'Brien
- Apr 27 Bob Boatman
- Apr 28 Jason Davis
- Apr 30 Christine Craig
- Apr 30 Tim Stover



- Apr 4 Gary & Kathy Blossch
- Apr 5 Jerry & Mary Paisley
- Apr 13 Scott & Chris Parkinson
- Apr 22 Chad & Alison Goebel
- Apr 30 Bob & Ellen Boatman



April Acolytes

- April 5 Rya Fitzsimons  
Piper Ritchie
- April 12 Chesne Fink  
Cruz Fink
- April 19 Cheyenne Elzen  
Ryley Burbach
- April 26 Coby Lancaster  
Hendrix Lund

April Liturgists

- April 5 D- Judy Whalen  
F- Lance Lansing
- April 12 D- Joan Thompson  
F- Pam Gould
- April 19 D- Kent McConnell  
F- Ron Ingwell
- April 26 D- Kent Mieke  
F- Dennis Wirth

April Ushers

- April 5 Cathy Paulson  
Beaver Paulson
- April 12 Tim Pratt  
Vickie Pratt
- April 19 Tim Stover  
Stephanie Stover
- April 26 Todd Chiaverotti  
Cheryl Chiaverotti



- Sneak peak at May 3  
Liturgist: D- Judy Whalen  
F- Lance Lansing
- Ushers: Beaver Paulson  
Cathy Paulson
- Acolytes: Wheeler Douglas  
Kynrk Johnson

# COME Worship WITH US

# April 2026



	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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				1 6:00 Religious Education	2 <b>Maundy Thursday</b> 10-3 <i>Darlington Food Pantry</i> 6:00 <i>Maundy Thurs Worship</i>	3 <b>Good Friday</b> 4:00 Second Harvest Mobile Food Pantry 6:00 Good Friday Worship @ Immanuel Church	4 <b>Holy Saturday</b>
5 <b>Easter Sunday</b> <b>Communion</b> 8:30 Worship in Fayette 10:00 Worship in Darlington w/Choir	6	7 10-3 <i>Darlington Food Pantry</i> <b>Manor worship</b>	8 6:00 Religious Education 7:00 Choir Practice	9 10-3 <i>Darlington Food Pantry</i>	10	11	
12 <b>2nd Sunday of Easter</b> 8:30 Worship in Fayette 9:00 Choir Practice 10:00 Worship in Darlington	13	14 10-3 <i>Darlington Food Pantry</i> 6:00 SPRC mtg.	15 6:00 Religious Education	16 10-3 <i>Darlington Food Pantry</i> 6:00 <i>Finance mtg.</i> 6:30 <i>Admin mtg.</i>	17	18	
19 <b>3rd Sunday of Easter</b> 8:30 Worship in Fayette 10:00 Worship in Darlington w/Choir	20	21 10-3 <i>Darlington Food Pantry</i>	22 6:00 Religious Education	23 10-3 <i>Darlington Food Pantry</i>	24	25	
<b>Pastor on Vacation April 20-27</b>							
26 <b>4th Sunday of Easter</b> Sub Preacher Kalee Crist 8:30 Worship in Fayette 10:00 Worship in Darlington	27	28	29 6:00 Religious Education 7:00 Choir Practice	30			

