

Flying in Faith May 16, 2010



"St. Celestina of the Cosmos"
Liza Myers

We come to be opened
by visions that can enlist us
in larger causes
and more caring actions.

We come to hear stories
that might take us
into a deeper kind of integrity,
and reconnect us
with our better selves.

So may the warmer fullness
that we seek
fill our hearts, our minds and
our souls.
Amen.

Rex A.E. Hunt

The Other Evangelical
Evangelical United Church of Christ

Following the God
made known in the life
and teachings of Jesus...

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

MISSION MOMENT

Laurel Hayes, Campus Minister
Webster University

OPENING WORDS

One: *The spider, juiced crystal and Milky Way, drifts on his web through the night sky
And looks down, waiting for us to ascend ...*

At dawn he is still there, invisible, short of breath, mending his net.

*All morning we look for the white face to rise from the lake like a tiny star.
And when it does, we lie back in our watery hair and rock.*

Spider Crystal Ascension, Charles Wright

Many: **Holy One,
ascending and descending with equal ease,
tune our hearts to hear your coming.**

*HYMN 597

"Shall We Gather at the River"

tune: Hanson Place
source: Robert Lowry

**Shall we gather at the river,
Where bright angel feet have trod,
With its crystal tide forever
Flowing by the throne of God?**

Refrain

**Yes, we'll gather at the river,
The beautiful, the beautiful river;
Gather with the saints at the river
That flows by the throne of God.**

**Ere we reach the shining river,
Lay we every burden down;
Grace our spirits will deliver,
And provide a robe and crown.**

Refrain

**Soon we'll reach the shining river,
Soon our pilgrimage will cease;
Soon our happy hearts will quiver
With the melody of peace.**

Refrain

*LITANY (*People's response in bold*)

author: M. Young

One: We come to re-weave the unraveling fabric of community
To re-connect once more with the larger human family

Many: **To find once more that place of calm.
To remind ourselves that we belong.
And to remember what it is we belong to.**

One: We come –

Many: **To centre ourselves,
to open ourselves,
to remember ourselves.
And to celebrate the life we share together.**

Welcome!

A word about diversity:

We strive to be a safe place for all people to worship regardless of race, creed, age, cultural background, sexual orientation or gender identity.

A word about children:

We love children, babies, and teens and we welcome all ages to share worship with us. Professional childcare is available throughout the morning for those who prefer. Activity folders (available in the Narthex) allow children of all ages to respond creatively to worship. A playtime for preschool age children is offered after the Chancel Steps at the 11:00 a.m. service.

A word about special needs:

We are committed to making our worship service as accessible as possible. We offer special hearing devices, accessible seating, and other services as requested. Please let us know how we can help make this worship experience more accessible.



ASCENSION
Hare thee well; for I must leave this mortal plane behind me.

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*RESPONSE

"Good News!"

source: African-American Spiritual

**Good news! The chariot's coming.
Good news! The chariot's coming.
Good news! The chariot's coming.
And I don't want it to leave-a me behind.**

Guitar chord diagrams: G, D, G, D, G, G/D, Em, C, G/D, D, G.

Lyrics: Good news! - The char-i-ot's com-ing. Good news! - The char-i-ot's com-ing Good news! - The char-i-ot's com-ing, And I don't want it to leave-a me be-hind.

SCRIPTURE

Acts 1

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..... When they were all together for the last time, the apostles had one burning question: "Lord, is this the time? Will you regain our freedom now and give us our own king to reign over Israel?"

..... Jesus replied, "Only the Father can decide such things and the timing is none of your business. Just focus on this: the Holy Spirit will flood over you and drench you with power, giving you the passion and courage to be my witnesses. Then you will be able to tell everyone about me, in Jerusalem, all over Judea and Samaria, and even to the ends of the earth."

..... That was it - his last words. Right before their eyes, he was carried up into the air where he soon disappeared into the clouds. They just stood there stunned, staring into the sky. Suddenly two men appeared next to them, dressed in white robes! They said, "You Galileans! What are you standing here for, staring into the sky? Jesus has been taken into heaven, but don't worry. He'll be back, just as surely - and just as mysteriously - as he left."

SACRED STORY

"The Book of Negro Folklore"

ed: Langston Hughes & Arna Bontemps

Once all Africans could fly like birds; but owing to their many transgressions, their wings were taken away. There remained, here and there, in the sea islands and out-of-the-way places in the low country, some who had been overlooked, and had retained the power of flight, though they looked like other men.

*RESPONSE 514

"Over My Head"

source: African-American Spiritual

**Over my head I hear music in the air.
Over my head I hear music in the air.
Over my head I hear music in the air,
there must be a God somewhere.**

Over my head, I hear crying in the air...

Over my head, I hear praying in the air...

Over my head, I hear laughter in the air...

In our Prayers



TABLE PRAYER AND PROCESSION TO THE TABLE 8:00 AM

INVITATION, REMEMBRANCE AND BLESSING

Come, Holy Spirit, come.

Bless this bread and bless this fruit of the vine.

Bless all of us in our eating and drinking

that our eyes might be opened,

that we might recognize the risen Christ in our midst

indeed, in one another. Come, Holy Spirit, come.

*The Congregation is invited to come forward by the center aisle...
partaking of the bread and cup, lighting a candle in prayer, and placing
an offering in the plates beside the table.*

CELEBRATION OF GIVING 11:00 AM

*The ushers collect our tithes and offerings to support
the work of this community.*

Our Special Offering for this month is Camp MO-Val .

RESPONSE 282 "Every Time I Feel the Spirit" tune: Traditional Spiritual

Every time I feel the Spirit,

Movin' in my heart, I will pray

Yes, every time I feel the Spirit,

Movin' in my heart, I will pray

Upon the mountain my Lord spoke

Out of his mouth came fire and smoke

I looked around me, it looked so fine

I asked my Lord if all was mine (chorus)

Jordan's River, chilly and cold

Chills the body but not the soul

There ain't but one train upon this track

It runs to heaven and runs right back (chorus)

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION:

One: Open our ears —

Many: **to hear what you are saying to us
in the things that happen to us and in the people we meet.**

One: Open our eyes —

Many: **to see the needs of the people round us.**

One: Open our hands —

Many: **to do our work well to help when help is needed.**

One: Open our lips—

Many: **to tell others the good news of God's love and
bring comfort, happiness and laughter to other people.**

One: Open our minds —

Many: **to discover new truth about you and the world.**

One: Open our hearts —

Many: **to love you and our neighbor as you have loved us.**

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music are noted where available.
Unless otherwise noted, all hymn
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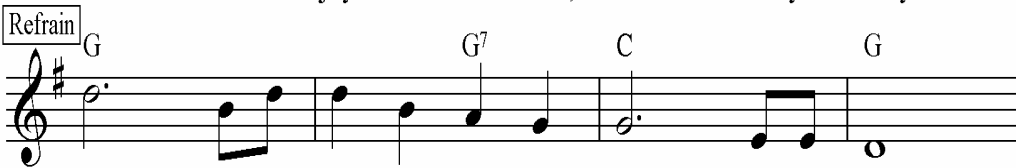
<http://thebillabong.info/>



Some glad morn-ing when this life is o'er, I'll fly a - way;
When the shad-ows of this life have gone, I'll fly a - way;
Just a few more wea-ry days and then, I'll fly a - way;



to a home on God's ce - les-tial shore, I'll fly a - way.
Like a bird from pris-on bars has flown, I'll fly a - way.
To a land where joys shall nev - er end, I'll fly a - way.



I'll fly a - way, O glo - ry, I'll fly a - way;



When I die, hal - le - lu - jah, by and by, I'll fly a - way.

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**

Bulletin recycling: Though we invite you to take your bulletin home to review the prayers and opportunities throughout the week, if you choose to leave your bulletin after the 8:30am service place it in the blue box and we will use it again!

Sharing our Gifts

During our Procession to the Table (8:30am) and Celebration of Giving (11:00am), we are invited to consider our offerings. The easiest way to make a financial offering is to drop check or money, marked clearly for EUCC or for special offerings, in the basket during worship. You can also set up electronic giving, which saves paper—and you never need your checkbook. Please contact the church office for more information.

May Special Offering

The Servant Team of EUCC would like to invite the members of the Congregation to help restore life to women in Africa who have experienced birth trauma. We will do this by supporting the work of our own Lewis Wall and the Worldwide Fistula Fund. Throughout the month of May we will collect donations for this great cause. Please make checks out the EUCC while noting Worldwide Fistula Fund in the memo section. Thank you for your support.

Financial Updates

For the three month period ending March 31, 2010 the General Fund contributions received were \$76,262, other income was \$1,653 for a total of \$77,915. Expenses were \$73,923. The result is a surplus on March 31 of \$3,992. The weekly average of contributions received was \$5,993. The weekly average needed is \$6,013. Difference is a shortfall of \$20 per week.



SPECTRUM MUSIC SERIES AT EUCC

Featuring Marlissa Hudson-Soprano, Paul Huppert-Violin and Daniel Schene-Piano. Presenting music composition of Verdi, Puccini, Mozart, and Franck. Suggested donation for adults \$10, children and students free. A reception will immediately follow. For more information-contact Paul Huppert at 314-913-5579

Did you know?

Darcy Swanson, our Children's Choir director, offers private music lessons. The annual recital for her students is this afternoon at 3pm.

Yoga

Yoga is an ancient tradition which speaks to the healthy intersection of mind, body, and spirit. As an embodied prayer, it fosters our connection with the sacred through attention to our bodies. Amy Soell, EUCC member, is a certified Yoga instructor who shares this ancient worship form with our community each Saturday morning at 7:30am. There is no fee for this class and new friends are always welcome. (No class on May 15 and May 29).

Still Speaking Center...

is our nickname for the 212 Building. How will this building be used by our community and/or the wider community? God is still speaking, and we are doing our best to listen! Our Wellness Advisory Group, our Adult classes, our Youth, and our Governing Body have all been calling this space "home" during our construction. It has literally been our Still Speaking Center...

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY...MAY 23RD

CHURCH PICNIC...SUNDAY JUNE 6 AT 12 NOON

GOVERNING BODY RETREAT... JUNE 12

SHANNONDALE FAMILY CAMP...JUNE 11-13

JULY 4TH PICNIC... JULY 3RD!

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING... JULY 11

PEACE TRAIL (VCS)...AUGUST 2-6



EUCC Members and Friends are invited to a celebration of the ministry of **The Patterson Family...Steve, Deb, John and Sophie** as they depart on their new adventure!!

OPEN HOUSE
SATURDAY, MAY 22ND
1PM-4PM
1100 WEBSTER CROSSING CT
WEBSTER GROVES, MO

Any questions, contact
Jenny Davis at
(314) 961-1263

The EUCC family is invited to share in our celebration of **Winnie Hawker-Boehnke's**

graduation
SATURDAY, MAY 29TH
4PM-7PM
@ GARY'S
311 EUCLID AVE
ROCK HILL, MO

Adult Education this Spring

Sunday Mornings at 9:45am
212 Building

Bible Study Returns:

Exploring video lectures on the Old Testament presented by Amy-Jill Levine, renowned OT scholar. As Professor Levine observes: "The Old Testament is endlessly fascinating because it offers everything to explore: myth, saga, and history; tragedy, comedy, and farce; economics and politics; literature and poetry of surpassing beauty; court intrigue and prophetic morality; heavenly miracles and sometimes heavenly silence; questions of theodicy; answers that satisfy and answers that may not; destruction and rebuilding; despair and hope."

Parent Group:

Exploring Children's spirituality, Sunday mornings at 9:45am.

On Sunday, May 30th we are honored to be hosting Steve Cutting from the Asian Rural Institute. Located in Northern Japan, the Asian Rural Institute (ARI) is an international training ground for grassroots rural leaders. Christopher Grundy, EUCC friend and Eden professor, served with ARI and commended Steve to us. Our Servant Team accepted the invitation to host ARI and is happy to offer this opportunity to learn new ways of living the gospel. Better yet, join us on Sunday morning, May 30th!

Who Are We . . . in the UCC?

Over the past few months we have explored our history, our values, and our place in the United Church of Christ. This time we'll discuss our financial commitments to mission and to the UCC.

Mission has always been an important part of our church's history. As part of our annual budget we give ten percent of our income to others, just as many families decide to tithe, or give ten percent of their income to charity. We donate cash to several local agencies, including Joint Neighborhood Ministries and Webster Grove – Rock Hill Ministries. We donate sandwiches to Gateway Homeless Services, and so Sandwich Ministry is part of our budget.

As a part of our outreach, we support the St. Louis Association of the UCC. Last time we discussed the work of the St. Louis Association. Only 16% of the Association's budget is used for program and administration costs. Eighty-four percent of the Association budget is Outreach, dedicating nearly \$150,000 to local agencies, some of which we support as part of our outreach budget.

Another portion of the ten percent that we give away is our donation to OCWM, Our Church's Wider Mission. This constitutes half of our annual giving. OCWM monies are sent to the Missouri Mid-South Conference. About three-quarters of the money stays in the conference, and the other one-quarter is sent on to the national UCC.

Conference money is used to assist churches in pastoral searches, support MoVal and Shannondale, provide youth and young adult programs, counsel churches experiencing conflict, provide grants to local agencies, send delegates to general synod meetings, and provide leadership support.

National UCC money is used for missionaries, human rights advocacy, disaster preparedness and response, economic and racial justice education, peace and prison ministries, music and liturgy resources, Christian education resources, among other things.

THIS WEEK AT EUCC

Sunday, May 16th

8:30am—Worship
9:45am—Church School
9:45am—Bible Study (Still Speaking Center)
9:45am—Parent Group (Still Speaking Center)
9:45am—Coffee Fellowship
11:00am—Worship
12:00pm—Youth in Worship Band Practice (Choir Room)
3:00pm—Swanson Music Recital (Sanctuary)
4:00pm—Youth in Community
6:30pm—Contemporary Christian Writing Group (Still Speaking Center)
7:00pm—Spectrum Music Series (Sanctuary)

Monday, May 17th

9:15am—Job Jar Gang
12:15pm—Staff Meeting

Tuesday, May 11th

10:00am—Orchard House Bible Study
12:15pm—AI-Anon Meeting (Fireside Room)
6:30pm—GB Meeting (Still Speaking Center)
7:00—LaLeche League (Fireside Room)
7:00pm—Phase 1 Building Committee Meeting

Wednesday, May 12th

5:30pm—Sts C&F Weekday Mass
6:30pm—Children's Choir
6:30pm—Wellness Advisory Group (Still Speaking Center)

Thursday, May 13th

6:30pm—St. Louis Equality Dancers (Fellowship Hall)
7:30pm—Chancel Choir

Friday, May 14th

6:00pm—WG Mom's Connection Rummage Sale Set-up (Fellowship Hall)

Saturday, May 15th

7:30am—Yoga Class
8:00am—WG Mom's Connection Rummage Sale (Fellowship Hall/Upper Lot)
1:00pm-4:00pm—Open House Celebration for The Patterson Family (1100 Webster Crossing Ct., Webster Groves, MO...Maps from EUCC on the table in the Narthex)

Sunday Morning

Shared Ministry Opportunities — Signups are in the Narthex

Ministry		Today	Next Week
Liturgists	Read the Morning Scripture and Prayers	OPEN	OPEN
Shepherds	Help Carolyn play with our preschoolers	Julianne Smutz and Mia Ulmer	Love-Bryant Family
Crib Room Assistants	Help Carole play with our babies (two shifts)	Amy Soell	Peggy Thater
Ushers	Greet worshipers and (at 11:00am) collect offering	Teri Hillen Sarah Webster Linda Kolley Jan Ittner Steve Bardelmeier Sean Bryant	Bob and Bobbie Pahmeier Bob and Jean Karr Bob Risk and Ray Mulligan
Coffee Hour	Provide finger foods and greet community between services	OPEN	Confirmation Celebration
Money Counters	Count the weekly offerings and enter into database	Bob and Gigi Hill	Nick Gilham and Jeremy Meyer
Welcome Table	Greet visitors and members		

Pastoral Team
Katherine Hawker,
Marilyn Stavenger, Al Schon
Pastoral Assistant, Sue Schindel

Music Team
Donita Bauer,
Jill Thompson, Darcy Swanson

Field Ed Student, Deborah McBride
Sunday AM, Carolyn Held
Nursery, Carole Janssen
Campus Minister at Webster, Laurel Hayes

President, Laura Bardelmeier
Secretariat, Paul Mack
Financial, Ken Ulmer
Facilities, Wynn Miller
People, Debbie Gregg
Community, Patty Pelikan, Janet Rundquist
Servant, Lori Winter, Laura Evans
Learning, Ruth Panhorst
Worship, Lil Lau

Endeavoring to maintain the unity of the Holy Spirit in the bond of peace, we are open to and affirming of each child of God, recognizing that we are called to be as one reconciled Body with members of every race, gender identity, ethnic origin, sexual orientation, class, age and physical or mental health and ability.

Evangelical United Church of Christ
204 E. Lockwood Webster Groves, MO 63119
314-968-1727

inquisitive. inclusive. intentional. intimate. inspiring.
The Other Evangelical
www.evangelicalucc.org