

“The Reminder”

Fairview Center Church
1495 90th Street, Monmouth, Illinois 61462

April 2026

Hi again,

As promised, as Paul Harvey used to say, “And now the rest of the story.”

As you will remember, last month we were talking about Beauty and the Beast. How, because of Adam’s sin, we all have a little beast within each one of us. We talked a bit about how the soldiers went above and beyond what they were instructed to do with Jesus. They added mockery, humiliation, another beating and spitting on Jesus as an added bonus to his suffering. Lent and Easter is the perfect time to face the fact that there is something beastly within each of us. Something beastly that makes us do things that even surprise us. Have you ever surprised yourself when the beast showed up? “Wow! Where did that come from?” “What in the world got into me!” “That was not me!” The Bible has the answer to those questions. The Bible has the answer when the beast shows up and the answer is SIN! There is something bad, beastly in each of us. We are by nature children of wrath, Ephesians 2:3. It is not that we can’t do good. We do. It is just that we can’t keep from doing bad. To put this in theological terms, we are totally depraved. Though made in God’s image, we have fallen. We are corrupt at the core. The very center of our being is selfish and perverse. David said, “I was born a sinner, from the moment my mother conceived me,” Psalm 51:5. Could any of us say any less? Each one of us was born with a tendency to sin. Depravity is a universal condition. The Bible says: “All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned, every one, to his own way,” Isaiah 53:6. “The heart is deceitful above all things and beyond cure. Who can understand it,” Jeremiah 17:9. “There is none righteous, no, not one. All have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God,” Romans 3:10, 23.

Many would disagree with such strong words. They would say, “Compared to everyone else, I’m a good person.” You know, a pig might say something similar. He might look at his pen pals and say, “I’m just as clean as everyone else.” Compared to humans, that pig needs help. Compared to God, we humans need help. The standard for sinlessness is not found in the pig pens of the world but at the throne of heaven. God, himself, is the standard. We are beasts. Our deeds are ugly. Our actions are harsh. We do not do what we want to do, we do not like what we do, and what’s worse, we can not change. We do try. “Can a leopard change his spots? In the same way, Jerusalem, you cannot change and do good, because you are accustomed to doing evil” Jeremiah 13:23. The apostle Paul agreed with the prophet; “The mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, it does not submit to God’s law,” Romans 8:7. Can we live without sin for one day? Can we live for one hour having only pure thoughts and actions? Can we live five minutes of worry-free, anger-free, unselfish living? I don’t know about you, I can’t.

We have a problem; we are sinners, and the wages of sin is death, Romans 6:23. We are not holy, and anyone whose life is not holy will never see the Lord, Hebrews 12:14. We are evil, and evil people are paid with punishment, Proverbs 10:16. So what can we do? Allow the spit of the soldiers to symbolize the filth, in our hearts. Then see what Jesus does with our filth. He carries it to the cross. Through the prophet he said, “I did not hide my face from mocking and spitting,” Isaiah 50:6. Mingled with his blood and sweat was the essence of our sin. In God’s plan, Jesus was offered wine for his thirst and to numb his senses, so why not a towel for his face? Simon carried Jesus’ cross, but he did not clean the face of Jesus. Angels were a prayer away. They could have taken the spit away. Yet, Jesus never commanded them to so. For some reason, the One who chose the nails also chose the spit. Along with the spear and sponge of man, he bore the spit of man. Why? Could it be that he sees the beauty within the beast?

Pastor Mark’s Message continued on page 8

Mission Statement:

God’s Servants - John 13:1-11; **Celebrating Christ** - Luke 15:11-32;

Sharing His Love - Matthew 22:34-40; **Making Disciples** - Matthew 28:16-20

If you have an article, story, or picture to share in the Newsletter, please send it to: fairviewcenter@gmail.com

No later than the 20th of the month.

Thank you!

As we continue to broadcast our Worship Service on Facebook Live, there are limitations on what can be streamed. There may be times that the sound will be muted on Facebook Live during the service because it is not legal to rebroadcast certain elements that are copyright protected or may be muted due to confidentiality issues. The sound will return once that part of the service has concluded.

Thank you for your patience and understanding.

PLEASE JOIN US!

SUNDAY SCHOOL & WORSHIP

- ◆ Sunday School - 9:00 a.m.
- ◆ Worship Service - 10:00 a.m.
As the weather permits, our Worship Service will be held in the Pavilion.
- ◆ We continue to offer our 10:00 a.m. Worship Service on Facebook Live.
- ◆ Follow us on [facebook](#) at Fairview Center UMC.



Visit our Church Library!
There are lots of great books to read!

Please take a look at the small bulletin board in the Educational hallway to see current newsletters from: Strom Center, Henderson Settlement, Galesburg Rescue Mission, Navigators, Athletes in Action and Long Journey in Thailand.

Fairview Center Church

Fairview Center Women’s News:

April 12th: UWF Blanket Sunday.

Monday, April 13th: Mary Circle meets at 1:00 p.m.

Hostess: Susan Higbee

Lesson: Judy Miller

Lesson: “ Seeds of Hope”, 33 page .

Saturday, April 18th: UWF West District Spring Meeting at Centenary UMC, Jacksonville, IL. Registration/Breakfast treats at 9:00 a.m. Worship/ Meeting at 1:00 p.m.

Program: Midwest Mission Update by Lisa Rigoni.

Love Gifts ‘gift cards’ collection is underway. Love Gifts will be given to Cunningham Children’s Home and Lessie Bates Davis Neighborhood House.

Please consider donating an Amazon, Walmart, or Visa gift card. There is a collection basket located in the front of the church.

Fairview Center Church Men’s News:

Sunday, April 19th: Men’s Devotional Group will meet at 8:00 a.m.

Donuts and coffee will be served.

Fairview Center Church
2026 Head Usher Upcoming Schedule

April - May 10th : Tom Jenks
May 17th -June: Craig Long
July - August 9th: Chad Long
August 16th - September : Brian Postin
October - November 8th: Blake Burns
November 15th - December: Adam Martin

Thought for April:

3 Nails
1 Cross
4 Given

Prayers & Concerns

Fairview Center is....**Prayerful!** In this world today, I think everyone would agree with me that there is a lot of prayer needed. Do I hear an amen? Please continue to pray for our country and its leaders, our military and their families, those who struggle with poverty and the homeless, Christians under persecution, our state and local government leaders, the lonely and disheartened, our elderly, healthcare providers, and those who have not experienced the joy of knowing Jesus Christ as their personal Savior. During worship we have also been praying for a number of people. Please continue to pray for:

Those affected by the COVID virus; political and civil unrest in our country; those battling cancer-families & caregivers; students, parents, and school personnel; and those with unspoken concerns.

Please help us keep this prayer and concern list up-to-date. Please let us know of a misspelled name. Also, let us know if someone has returned to good health. We want this list to be accurate and current. Send information to: fairviewcenter@gmail.com Thank you!

Jay & Alice Benoit
 Josie Blake
 Heidi Brown
 Charlie Burns
 Donald Canada
 Russell Carlson
 Mindi Allbee-Diemer
 Jane Dolieslager
 Glenn Evitts
 Diane Hawk
 Bonnie Inman
 Carol Jenks
 Matthew Kuehn
 Becky Marshall
 Raquel Mercer
 Jim McCrary
 Emily Ray McIntyre

Mike McNall
 Dana Moon
 Lindsay Murdock
 Kenny O'Brien
 Steve Rennison
 Craig Rima
 Blaine Robinson
 Lana Schiefer
 Curt Shimmin
 Eldon Sipes
 Lane Sipes
 Elaine Slaughty
 Russell Stewart
 Barbara Goff Thomas
 Russell Trulson
 Raven Vank
 Owen Wyatt
 Joyce, Julie VanSike's mom

The homeless, afraid, and lonely.
 Those with unspoken concerns.
 Those devastated world wide by severe weather.
 Senseless violence throughout our country.
 Senseless violence throughout the world.



**If you have immediate need to prayer,
 please call Pastor Mark
 at 815-531-9081.**

New devotionals are available:

UPPER ROOM - March & April (regular print)

UPPER ROOM - March & April (large print)

OUR DAILY BREAD - March/April/May (regular print)

These publications can be picked up on a table located in the Education Wing Hallway or on the table located inside the west entryway. If you would like one delivered to you, please send an email to: fairviewcenter@gmail.com or call the church at 309-734-2300. Tell us which devotional(s) you would like and the best time for them to be delivered.

Please help us keep the prayer list up-to-date.

Contact the church if you would like to add a name, make a correction, or remove a name.

Let's celebrate!

April Birthday's

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Tim Brechbiel
Owen Frost | 15. Dakota Newman |
| 2. Richard Parrish
Bella Jane Slater | 16. Craig Miller |
| 4. Ed Robinson | 17. Melinda Clark
Phillip Parrish |
| 5. Deb Manuel | 18. Chris Sprout |
| 6. Richard Brokaw
Brock Miller
Marcia Parrish | 19. Darby-Alisha-Lee Edmunds
Adam Martin
Curt Shimmin |
| 7. Kelsey Crain | 21. Kim (Shimmin) Crain |
| 8. Emma Marie Ray | 22. Betsy Hamil
Brian Postin |
| 9. Carol Jenks
Doug Tatman
Rev. Sarah Wanck | 23. Torrey Conard
Judy Miller |
| 10. Debbie (Davis) Hruby | 24. Jeannine Elliott
Madelyn Higbee
Marcum Spears |
| 11. Tyler Smock | 25. Laikyn Marie Martin
Bennett Tatman |
| 12. Nicole Jones
Teryan Newman | 27. Donna Butler |
| 13. Lois Brechbiel
Gail (Kulczewski) Sparks | 28. Cecily Conard |
| 14. Blake Burns
Allison (Lam) Janusz
Amos Talbott
Jennifer Shimmin | 29. Madison Gentle
Mark Parrish |

Happy heavenly birthday to all our family and friends.

*"Your life was a blessing,
your memory a treasure.
You are loved beyond words
and missed beyond measure."*

- Renee Wood

Baptismal Birthdays

- Dana Poole 04.02.1961
Fred Jenks 04.05.1942
Kay (Sprout) Jenks 04.05.1953
Scott Shoemaker 04.06.1958
Lane Sipes 04.06.1958
David Polle III 04.06.1958
Ben Long 04.09.1944
Eldon Sipes 04.10.1955
Clint Smock 04.11.1993
Christina Shimmin 04.11.1971
Stephenie (Shimmin) Gambetta 04.11.1971
Thomas Smock 04.12.1992
Hayden Alan Postin 04.15.2018
Milo Sprout 04.17.1949
Brian Higbee 04.19.1992
Curt Shimmin 04.21.1946
Shane Sipes 04.22.1984
Hannah Marie Kozak 04.22.2012
Velda Shimmin 02.24.1966
Allison Hamil 04.26.1998

April Anniversaries

2. Chad & Lindsay Long '05
3. Rob & Marianne Peirce '93
25. Rev. Jan Roy & Francis Pearsall '92
26. Ron & Deb Manuel



Please notify the church office of any names which need to be added, corrected, or removed.

Thank you!

Fairview Center Church

April Events:

Thursday, April 2nd: Maundy Thursday Service 7:00 p.m. at FCC. Pastor Mark will be giving the message.

First UMC will be joining us for the service. Holy Communion will be served.

Friday, April 3rd: Good Friday.

Sunday, April 5th: Easter Sunday Service with Holy Communion.

Sunday, April 12th: UWF Blanket Sunday



WANTED:

OCC SHOEBOX PROJECT LEADER(S)

Prayerfully consider working with Tina this year as OCC Shoebox project leader.

This could be one or several people. We want to have a succession plan in place.

Our OCC Shoeboxes have been delivered to South America!

We received a beautiful OCC Shoebox Thank You from Guyana. Our Shoeboxes traveled over 2,150 miles!

Dear Fairview Center Church,

Hello from Guyana!

Thank you so much for the shoebox gift. I really appreciate the time and love you put into packing it just for me. It made me feel very happy and special.

Thank you also for your kind letter and for sharing about your church and community,. It is wonderful to know there are people thinking of me and wishing me love and peace.

May God continue to bless you, your family, and your church.

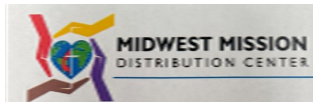
With gratitude,

Rayanna



Thank you Fairview Center Church

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,
 Thank you for your generous gift!
 May God bless you as together we
 work to show His love as the hands,
 feet, and heart of Christ.
 In His service,
 Midwest Mission Family



Dear Friends,

Thank you for investing in our community through Jamieson Community Center. Your donation of \$150 will be used for our general fund. 2025 proved to be a challenging year for people in our community, with more than 1,000 families served by our pantry. Other programs saw similar increases. Because of people like you, no one was turned away.

I had the chance to connect with many of our families during our Community Christmas Store. I was reminded that while I may think a person looks fine on the outside, things may not be fine at all. Whether they faced illness, homelessness, or even the death of a child, their stories weigh heavy on my heart, I admire their courage in the face of the obstacles they work to overcome. They are so grateful for ALL of the people in our community who make the store possible. Not only would their children have a good Christmas, but each parent who shopped left feeling valued and lifted through the compassion and generosity

When basic needs are met for every person, our community is healthier and better. Thank you for the role you play in lifting neighbors in need through compassion, kindness and service..



Sincerely,

Nancy Mowen, Executive Director

Invitation from Tina: **Save The Date!**

Saturday, May 2 at 10:00 a.m. at Fairview Center Church.

Tina is hosting a Period Party Brunch in the church basement. Menstrual period kits will be assembled for Loving Bottoms Diaper Bank. Bring a box of tampons, enjoy brunch and fellowship while helping alleviate period poverty in our area.

All are welcome and may bring some friends along. Have fun visiting and volunteering while assembling kits and learning a little about the mission of Loving Bottoms Diaper Bank, Loving Bottoms Diaper Bank will provide all kit supplies except tampons.

Looking Ahead to the May Newsletter:



Recognition of our youth who will be promoting/graduating this year.

Pictures from the Blessing Bag mission event that was held March 29, 2026.

Plans for our 2026 VBS event.



Fairview Center's all call system: Call-Em-All

Our Call-Em-All messaging system provides the church with the ability to notify all on the call list of important information: prayer requests, special services at the church or Pavilion, important meetings of the church, weather related announcements, etc. If the message will not play through because it is repeating, press the number **1** and that should correct the problem. If you miss a call or would like to listen to the last message sent to you call: **(877) 565-8456**.

If you are not receiving the calls and would like to be on the call list, please let the church office know and your phone number will be entered into the system. Email your name and phone number to: fairviewcenter@gmail.com or leave a note on the desk in the church office.

Quilters Have Been BUSY!

Over the last couple of months our Quilters have been busy making quilts, wash clothes, pads, receiving blankets and waterproof bags. On March 3rd, the items were inventoried and packed into bags. Our friends Merlin and Edith Ray delivered the items to Midwest Mission Distribution Center on March 4, 2026

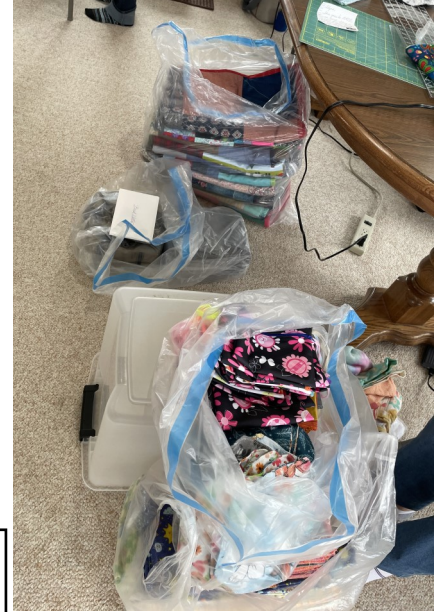
- 16 - Cover Them With Love Quilts
- 31 - Receiving Blankets
- 167 - Baby Wash Cloths
- 39 - Small Feminine Pads
- 33 - Waterproof Bags

In addition the following items were sent:

- 2 - Twin Sheet Sets
- 2 packages of gauze Sponges (200/pkg)
- 8 - Onesies Sleepers (3-6 months)
- 1 - Fleece Baby Jacket
- 8 - Short Sleeved Onesies (3-6 months)



Marianne is busy inventorying the items and packaging the items for transport to Midwest Mission Distribution Center.



The following items were donated to Loving Bottoms from the Gifts for Baby Jesus collection that was held during the month of December.

Tina took these items last month when she went to volunteer at the facility.

Merlin Ray wheeling our donations into MMDC. We sure appreciate the help Merlin and Edith provide us!



- Newborn Diapers = 31 Lg/XL Pull Ups = 4
- Size 1 Diapers = 88 Pads = 32
- Size 2 Diapers = 71 Liners = 64
- Size 3 Diapers = 26 Adult Overnight Pads = 56



**2026 Cunningham Children’s Home
Festival of Quilts**

“Celebrating a tradition that offers warmth, comfort and hope to the youth at Cunningham.”

Friday, April 10: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Saturday, April 11th: 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Location: Spiritual Life Center, 1301 N. Cunningham Avenue, Urbana

Pastor Mark's Message continued from page 1

Here is where the correlation with Beauty and the Beast ends. In the fairy tale, the beauty kisses the beast. In the Bible, the Beauty does so much more. He becomes the beast so the beast can become the beauty. Jesus changes places with us. We, like Adam, were under a curse, but Jesus "traded places with us and put himself under that curse," Galatians 3:13. What if the Beauty had not come? What if the Beauty had not cared. Then we would have remained a beast. But the Beauty did come, and the Beauty did care. The sinless One took on the face of a sinner so that we sinners could take on the face of a saint. Praise God for Jesus Christ, who became sin for us. Praise God for Jesus Christ, who took the full force of God's wrath. Praise God for Jesus Christ, who rose victorious over sin and death. Hallelujah! He is risen with healing in his wings. Healing for my sins and your sins. Thank you Jesus.

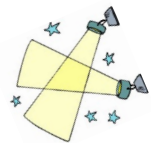
Your fellow servant,

Pastor Mark

Last Lenten Lay Breakfast for 2026

(Strom Center, 6:30 a.m.)

April 3rd: Heritage Bible Church



SPOTLIGHT ON OUR AMAZING YOUTH!

Our youth have been successful both in the classroom and on the courts! Below are some accomplishments that have been submitted to the church office from some of our proud church members! (Just a reminder, anyone can submit some news to the Newsletter. Our members LOVE hearing about our AMAZING Youth!)

Recent WMOI/WRAM Athlete of the Week winners: Nolan Jenks and Ada Kunkle. Both were recognized for their outstanding contributions on the basketball court!

Congratulations to Ada Kunkle for being named to the Lincoln Trail Girls Basketball 2025-2026 All Conference Honorable Mention Team. Ada was also named to the LTC Academic All Conference Team.

Congratulations to Nolan Jenks who was named to the LTC Boys Basketball 2025-2026 All Conference 2nd Team. Nolan and Aiden Martin were named to the LTC Academic All Conference Team.

United FFA News: Nolan Jenks, Aiden Martin and Peyton Martin recently took part in District Record Books competition. Nolan placed 3rd in Grain Production. Aiden placed 1st in Diversified Crop and Peyton placed 3rd in Diversified Ag Production. With Aiden's top finish, it placed him in the Top 5 in the State. This earned him the opportunity to compete at State Awards Day.

March 11th and 12th the Immaculate Conception



Jayden Kunkle played the part of Scar.

Several church members attended the play and said the play was OUTSTANDING! and Jayden was EXCELLENT in his performance



If you would like to view the Newsletter in color then visit our website! fairviewcenter.org

Fairview Center Church Hosts Lenten Lay Breakfast



The 50th Annual Lenten Lay Breakfast series got under way on Friday, February 20th and continued each Friday morning through Good Friday, April 3, 2026. Strom Center was the host for the series. The Breakfast series was sponsored by the Warren County Ministerial Association.

On March 13th, Fairview Center Church was in charge of the program. Several church members took part in the program and in helping with the breakfast. Jayden began the service playing the prelude, "Tis So Sweet To Trust In Jesus" on his saxophone. Stan accompanied Ada as she sang "Hymn of Promise" .



Richard gave both the Opening and Closing Prayers.



Kay gave a reading of "Hymn of Promise" before Ada sang her solo.



Velda gave a reading of "When I Survey The Wondrous Cross" before the song was sung by everyone in attendance.

Buchanan Community Chorus
PRESENTS
AMERICA!
CELEBRATING 250 YEARS

Friday, May 1, 2026 7 p.m. Faith United Presbyterian Church
 200 S. 8th Street Monmouth, IL

Saturday, May 2, 2026 2 p.m. First United Methodist Church
 221 E. Broadway, Monmouth, IL

Carolyn Kellert - Chorus Director
 Joy Boostrom - Assistant Chorus Director
 Lenna Burnett - Chorus Accompanist

This program is partially supported by a grant from the Buchanan Center for the Arts, the Illinois Arts Council, and The National Endowment for the Arts.

Free Will Donation



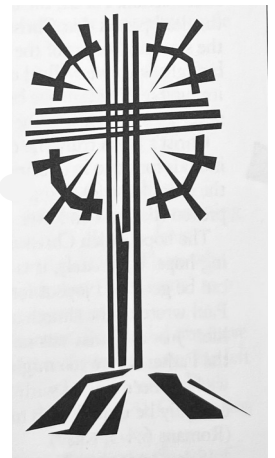
This picture of the Church Mouse was taken on St. Patrick's Day!



Answer to last months question: The Church Mouse was visiting the Petrified Forest in northeastern, Arizona near the town of Holbrook.

A Prayer for Easter

Lord, Thank you for spending 33 years with us:
 for announcing Love
 from the high heavens;
 for introducing Love in an
 obscure manger setting;
 for living Love in a family
 framework;
 for sharing Love with the poor
 and deprived and diseased;
 for showing Love to the
 unlovable and unloving;
 for letting little children
 feel Love in your arms;
 for suffering on a cross
 because of Love;
 for loosing Love upon the
 world to take up residence in us;
 for your Love that will
 not let us go. Amen



—Forrest Ness

Do you know where
 the Church Mouse
 was found in the church?



For God
 so loved
 the World that
 He GAVE us His only BEGOTTEN
 Son, that whosoever
 Believeth
 in HIM
 should not Perish
 but HAVE
 EVERLASTING
 Life
 John 3:16

April is Earth Month

Earth month is an annual observance throughout the month of April. This is a time to focus on different environmental issues and is observed throughout the world.

Earth Day is officially observed on April 22.

The very first Earth Day was celebrated in 1970.



According to the website:kingjamesbibledictionary.com

How many times is the word EARTH mentioned in the Bible?

- A. 845
- B. 895
- C. 987

The first reference of EARTH is in which Bible Verse?

- A. Genesis 1:1
- B. Genesis 1:2
- C. Genesis 1:10

The last reference of EARTH is found in which Bible Verse?

- A. Revelations 20:8
- B. Revelations 21:22
- C. Revelations 21:24

Earth Day World Scramble

NRECVEOS: _____

GEOYCOL: _____

RMENTNENIVO: _____

AGLLBO: _____

ENUTAR: _____

TPELNA: _____

YECCREL: _____

RAHET: _____

Answers hidden on page 12.

Can you name 3 animals that start with the letters in EARTH?

E 1.

2.

3.

A 1.

2.

3.

R 1.

2.

3.

T 1.

2.

3.

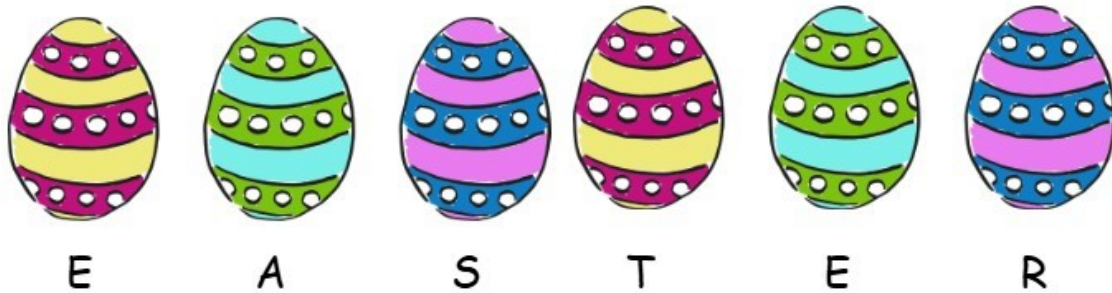
H 1.

2.

3.

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Pastor Mark Canada
Parsonage address: 1493 90th Street, Monmouth, Illinois 61462
Pastor's Cell: 815-531-9081
conserve, ecology, environment, global, nature, planet, recycle, earth
email: ubnmission2@gmail.com

Easter Egg Story



E is for **E**ach of us. God loves everyone.

A is for **A** broken world, so He sent His Son.

S is for our **S**ins that Jesus took away.

T is for the **T**omb where He lay three whole days.

E is for the **E**my tomb. The stone was rolled away.

R is for the **R**isen Lord. Jesus is alive today!