

THE JOURNEY

Bible Reading Schedule

May 24	1 Chronicles 11, 12, 13	John 9:1-23
May 25	1 Chronicles 14, 15, 16	John 9:24-41
May 26	1 Chronicles 17, 18, 19	John 10:1-21
May 27	1 Chronicles 20, 21, 22	John 10:22-42
May 28	1 Chronicles 23, 24, 25	John 11:1-17
May 29	1 Chronicles 26, 27	John 11:18-46
May 30	1 Chronicles 28, 29	John 11:47-57

Jesus and Lazarus [John 11:1-44]

Why do you think Jesus didn't go immediately to help Lazarus?

- He was afraid he would get killed if he went back to Judea
- He didn't always do what people expected or wanted
- He was waiting for the "go ahead" from his Father
- God would receive more glory if Jesus waited until Lazarus died

How would you have felt if you were Mary or Martha?

- Despondent- it's too late Angry – *its about time*
- Consoled (better late than never) Hopeful – *with Jesus it's never too late*

Why did Jesus raise Lazarus from the dead?

- to see his friend again
- to bring relief to Mary and Martha's grief
- to demonstrate to the crowd he was God's Son
- to illustrate he is the "resurrection and the life"
- To glorify the Father

How has God shown his care for you during difficult times in your life?

- caring family friend caring church
- Scriptures like this Healing comfort of his Holy Spirit

If you compare your spiritual life to Lazarus, where would you be?

- feeling woozy still in the grave restored to life
- alive, but wrapped in grave cloths alive, free and joyful!

Our Faith is... BIG
First United Methodist Church

NEW BEGINNINGS

Is your **Faith** an **Obligation** or **Opportunity**?

▶ Open Hearts

"This people's heart has become calloused; they hardly hear with their ears, and they have closed their eyes." Matthew 13:15

HEAL WOUNDS ♦ BUILD TRUST ♦ LEAD WITH GRACE

▶ Open Doors

"Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" John 20:26

REMOVE BARRIERS

Exclusion ♦ Fear and doubt ♦ Resentment

CREATE OPPORTUNITIES

Dreams ♦ Abundant Living ♦ Hopeful Future

▶ Open Minds

"Jesus then explained everything written about himself in the Scriptures, beginning with the Law of Moses and the Books of the Prophets." Luke 24:27

Dream of a New Reality

Inspire Creative Solutions

Faith Moves Mountains

My Faith is... BIG
First United Methodist Church

Matthew 11:1-14 (NIV)

Matthew 11

¹⁶Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. ¹⁷When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted.

¹⁸Then Jesus came to them and said,

"All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in^[a] the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Artist James Montgomery Flagg took the image of Uncle Sam a step further and created possibly Uncle Sam's most famous picture. His version of Uncle Sam showed him wearing a tall top hat with a wide blue band and white stars, a red bow tie and a blue jacket. Uncle Sam is staring sternly ahead and pointing at the viewer. It was its placement on World War I recruiting posters (with the phrase "I Want You For the U.S. Army" beneath it) that truly solidified Uncle Sam as the personification of the United States.