



[TOP](#)

# Churches To Celebrate Easter This Weekend

APRIL 05TH 2012 BY UNKNOWN

## Churches To Celebrate Easter This Weekend

*By Annabeth Miller,  
ShowMe Times Editor*

Beginning Thursday evening, Christians in Dexter and Southeast Missouri will join Believers throughout the world in marking the final days of Jesus' life on earth.

With Maundy Thursday services, Good Friday's solemnity, and the joy of Easter morning, Easter is a celebration of the eternal life that awaits his followers.

Maundy Thursday marks the beginning of the three-day Easter celebration, and you may also be referred to as Holy Thursday, Sheer Thursday, or, intriguingly, Thursday of Mysteries.

The meaning is less of a mystery — it's the Christian holy day that falls before the commemoration of Jesus' passion, death and resurrection that occurs from Good Friday through Easter Sunday. The liturgy is held in the evening, and initiates this Easter period as a tribute to the day of the Last Supper.

Why "Maundy"? It comes from the Latin word *mandatum*, which means "commandment." This specifically refers to the commandment Jesus gave to his disciples at the Last Supper, once Judas had scuttled off, which was "That you love one another, as I have loved you, that you also love one another."

Friday marks Good Friday It is the day when Christians commemorate Jesus Christ's crucifixion, which plays an important part in the Christian faith. Many churches observe the day with a Tenebrae service –a service of light and dark where all light is extinguished, symbolizing Jesus' death on the cross.

Sunday is Easter Sunday – when Christians exclaim “up from the grave He arose!” Many churches continue the tradition of a Sunrise Service, to greet the glorious day at first dawn. Other services and observances will feature special music and messages.

A number of area churches have special services planned:

**Bernie United Methodist**

Bernie UMC will hold a Maundy Thursday service at 7 p.m., Thursday evening with communion, and the readings of Christ's last days. After each reading, a candle is extinguished, until finally the Christ candle itself is extinguished.

Easter morning Sunday School will begin at 9:30 for all ages and Easter Worship at 10:30.

The church is located at 307 Main Street in Bernie and Sue Welborn is the pastor.

**Dexter First United Methodist**

Dexter's First United Methodist Church will observe Maundy Thursday with a service at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 5. Debbie Fisher will offer the special music in this service marking Jesus' last evening with His Disciples.

On Saturday, April 7, the church will host an Easter Egg Hunt for all children in the community beginning at 11 a.m. Fun, games for children will be held at the church until 2 p.m.

Two services of worship will be held Easter Sunday, April 8, at 8:15 a.m. and again at 10:30 a.m. The Chancel Choir under the direction of MaryRuth Boone will present “The Dawn of Resurrection” at both services. A fellowship time in Wesley Hall will be held from 9 until 10 :15 a.m.

The church is located at 501 South Walnut in Dexter. Contact the church at 624-3344 for more information or a ride to services.

**Dexter First Baptist Church**

The First Baptist Church will celebrate Easter with worship at the Bearcat Event Center on Grant Street in Dexter.

Worship will be held at 10:30 a.m. Sunday with the theme "How can I know GOD personally?" and will be An Easter Experience featuring music, drama and video! Childcare will be provided for children ages birth through pre-kindergarten

**Dexter First Christian Church (Disciple of Christ)**

Dexter's First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), will celebrate the events of Easter weekend with a trio of special Services.

Maundy Thursday will be observed with a service t 6 p.m. Thursday evening, April 5. Services for Good Friday will be held at 6 p.m., Friday, April 6. Easter Sunday Services will be held beginning at 10 a.m., Sunday, April 8.

The community is invited to participate in these special services. The church is located at 224 East Stoddard Street in Downtown Dexter.

**Sikeston First Methodist Church**

First United Methodist Church, 1307 N. Main St. in Sikeston, has added an extra service on Easter Sunday, April 8, and will host special worship services during Holy Week, the week preceding Easter.

On Thursday, April 5, the Maundy Thursday service at 7 p.m. in the chapel will center on prayer. (The chapel is located on the north end of the campus.) The message, "He Is With You," will be followed by prayer and communion as worshipers remember the Last Supper of Jesus Christ with his disciples.

Good Friday is a day that recalls the crucifixion of Jesus Christ. The worship service at 7 p.m. April 6 in the chapel will emphasize the depth of Jesus' passion for us.

For Easter Sunday, April 8, an extra service has been added to the morning worship opportunities to celebrate the resurrection of Christ. The day begins with the Traditions service at 9 a.m. in the sanctuary, featuring the choir and traditional elements of worship. A service has been added beginning at 9:30 a.m. in the Family Life Center. That Journey service will be repeated again at the usual time of 11 a.m. in the Family Life Center. The Journey services feature a praise band, prayer and message.

Rev. Geoff Posegate will deliver the message "Who'll Move the Rock?" at all three Easter worship services.

During the Easter Sunday services, the new children's program called GraceLand, located in the east wing of the building, will be open with a nursery, as well as activities and learning opportunities for older children.

The church family of First United Methodist Church invites all to attend any or all of the services

To learn more about the church go to [www.thefunchurch.org](http://www.thefunchurch.org) .

**Liberty Hill General Baptist Church**

Liberty Hill Church begin preparation for Easter with a Maundy Thursday service at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, April 5. In this service, we will have a time of worship and prayer, and we will then be observing communion and footwashing: the last two things Jesus did with His disciples before His arrest and crucifixion.

On Easter Sunday, Pastor Joe Payne be speaking at a 6:30 a.m. sunrise service. Pastor Preston Owens will be leading in a time of worship

At the 10:30 a.m. service, Pastor Phil Warren will address the question, "How Do I Know Jesus is Real?" In this message, Phil will be explaining why belief in Christ is a rational choice, and how the resurrection of Jesus is the pivotal moment of our faith. This will also be the first message in a new series, "Beyond Opinion."

Liberty Hill General Baptist Church is located at [12760 County Road 420, Dexter, Missouri](#), 63841.

*Area churches are always invited to submit news of  
services and activities to the*

*ShowMe Times.*

*Contact the ShowMe Time  
at 573.624.SHOW [bror at  
[email=news@showmetimes.com  
[email=news@showmetimes.com  
[news@showmetimes.com](mailto:news@showmetimes.com)*

*for more information  
or to submit news.*

LAST UPDATED ON APRIL 05TH 2012 BY UNKNOWN

<https://showmetimes.com/Blogpost/umc1/Churches-To-Celebrate-Easter-This-Weekend>

[Go to post](#)



More from ShowMe Times:



SUBSCRIBE TO "CHURCH NEWS"

**ShowMe Gold Sponsors**