

Dear Church family,

If someone were to write a biography about your life, do you think that a large part of it would be about the events that happened in one week's time? Is there a week in your life that is so important that it is worth spending the majority of ink on? That is exactly what the Gospel writers do in regards to the life of Jesus. Although the Gospels do reveal some of the historical life and events of Jesus Christ, they are much more than simple biographical information about Him. They are the good news of God's kingdom come in the person and work of Jesus, God's one and only unique Son. The gospel message is one of redemption and rescue, salvation and freedom, death and resurrection, obedience and faithfulness.

All 4 Gospels agree that the last week, more specifically the last 8 days, of Jesus' life was of utmost importance. In relation to chapters, Matthew devotes about 30% of his gospel to it, Mark roughly 40%, Luke 25%, and John devotes nearly half of his Gospel to the last week of Jesus' life on earth. Even the Apostles' Creed follows suit on this emphasis.

There is no wonder then that the church calls this week "Holy Week." Traditionally, Holy Week is Palm Sunday through Saturday. However, we can call it Holy Week plus One. It is a week like no other the world has ever seen or will ever see again. Beginning with the triumphal entry into Jerusalem and concluding with Jesus' death and resurrection, Holy Week plus One is a very special time in the life of the church that beckons believers to refocus our lives on Christ and to reflect on who He is and what He has done for the world.

Jesus came to earth to bring about God's kingdom, to be true Israel for the world. All of His teachings, miracles, and relationships, His very purpose and life, have led Him to the cross and death. Yet, Holy Week has plus One. The 8th day, as we sometimes call it, says that death was not the final word over Jesus. "He is risen!" are the words that echo from the heights of the heavens to the depths of the sea. These three words change everything. "He is risen!" is the culmination of Holy Week and of all that God set out to do through His Son. "He is risen!" is the rally cry that the church embodies and proclaims to the world. "He is risen!" is the faith that we confess, calling us to discipleship and to make disciples. There is no other story, no other week (Sunday to Sunday), no other proclamation so important as this.

The New Testament letters follow the Gospels and they are the ongoing work of Holy Week and Easter. Paul, Peter, James, John, along with so many other men and women throughout the centuries have picked up and embodied the events of Holy Week and the rally cry of, "He is risen!" How will you pick it up and allow it to flood your life? May the good news of "He is risen!" saturate your very being so much so that you can never turn from it to the left or the right, but seek to live it day and day out. May you truly have a Blessed Holy Week and a Happy Easter!

We invite you to join us for worship this Holy Week. On Palm Sunday, April 2, the children will process and sing along with the choir. On Maundy Thursday, April 6, we will have a tenebrae-like service with Scripture readings, prayer, music, and communion at 7:00 PM. Then, Easter, we have a special early service at 8:00 AM followed by breakfast at 8:30, Sunday School, and worship at 10:30 AM celebrating the great day of resurrection. Come and invite a family member or friend to take this journey of Holy Week plus One with you.

~ Michael and Aaron

### Mission Spotlight!

April—Frontier Fellowship

Frontier Fellowship works with communities all over the world to reach the more than two billion people who have never heard of Jesus. They seek to engage the world's least-reached places, supporting efforts to establish local churches that can proclaim the Good News of God's Kingdom to their communities and beyond. It is their hope that someday all people, from every distinct group on earth, will encounter the grace of God and become thriving expressions of the Body of Christ in their unique contexts.

Denise Sciuto is the local Associate Director for Frontier Fellowship. She partners with Sudanese and South Sudanese to support their work in Sudan, South Sudan, and Uganda. Denise has traveled to Sudan and Uganda to learn more about their ministries and she loves to bring people with her. Please pray for Denise and our partners in Africa and consider whether God may be calling you to join in!

This month, Denise has asked us to pray for her and our mission partners in the following ways:

- Please pray for our South Sudanese partners. They are currently training new Christians on how to start small churches. They are also translating key scripture into various ethnic languages.
- I would like to visit our friends now living in Juba, South Sudan. Pray for God to provide the opportunity and timing. He has in mind those who should travel with me to Juba.
- Please pray for the Pastors in the South Sudan Presbyterian Evangelical Church. Many of them have children, but education in South Sudan is very limited. Pray that God would provide a way to educate the next generation of South Sudanese.
- Pray for our Christian partners still living in Khartoum, Sudan. They are under brutal military control. They are still pressing on and sharing the Good News. They also provide Theological education.

#### Save the date!

Our ministry and mission team is planning a church-wide service day on **Saturday, May 13th**. Sign ups and more information will be announced later in April.

#### Mark your calendars for VBS...

VBS will kick-off on June 25th and run the evenings of **June 26th—June 28th**. The theme is **BABYLON: Daniel's Courage in Captivity**.

### Youth Page



**C.2G.S.**— The Jr/Sr. High Sunday School class will focus on selected parables of Jesus.

Sunday, April 2nd—Game Night at the church with a Bible study on the John's version of the death and resurrection of Jesus.

For our next event in April, we are planning to get together for a mission project with our friends from Lebanon Church. This will entail some labor type work for folks who are not able to do the labor themselves. More info to come.



**MESSENGER DEADLINE FOR MAY IS APRIL 18th.**

# DAILY BIBLE READINGS

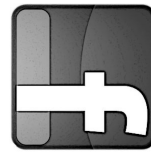
## APRIL, 2023

- 1 Luke 19.1-27 Palm / Passion Sunday
- 2 Luke 19.28-48
- 3 Luke 20.1-19
- 4 Luke 20.20 - 21.4
- 5 Luke 21.5-38
- 6 Luke 22.1-38 Good Friday
- 7 Luke 22.39-23.12
- 8 Luke 23.13-56 Easter
- 9 Luke 24.1-35
- 10 Luke 24.36-53
- 11 Psalm 42
- 12 Psalm 44
- 13 Psalm 46
- 14 Psalm 47
- 15 Psalm 48
- 16 II Samuel 11.1-27
- 17 II Samuel 12.1-31
- 18 II Samuel 13.1-21
- 19 II Samuel 13.22-39
- 20 II Samuel 14.1-33
- 21 II Samuel 15.1-37
- 22 II Samuel 16.1-23
- 23 II Samuel 17.1-29
- 24 II Samuel 18.1-33
- 25 II Samuel 19.1-43
- 26 II Samuel 20.1-25
- 27 II Samuel 21.1-22
- 28 II Samuel 22.1-51
- 29 II Samuel 23.1-39
- 30 II Samuel 24.1-25



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### Easter Sunday Services and Activities

**April 9, 2023**

**Sunrise Service—8:00am**

Easter Breakfast will be served from 8:30am until 10:00am in FH. You do not have to attend the Sunrise Service to take part in breakfast.

**Menu:** Egg Casserole, Fruit, Breakfast Sweets, Coffee and Juice

**Sunday School for all ages—9:30am**

**Worship Service—10:30am**



Church softball season is just around the corner! The season begins sometime in mid-May and runs through July, ending with a Saturday tournament (official dates TBD). Games are typically on Tuesday and Thursday evenings.

Please contact Pastor Michael if you're interested in playing.



**Saturday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>**

**Church Rummage Sale**

**8:00am—1:00pm**



Clean out your cupboards and closets and sell your treasures...

Cost is \$10 for an 8-foot table and you keep the profits.

The money raised from the cost of the tables will go towards a new fence for the church garden (to help keep the deer out).

**Plan to set up your table Thursday,  
April 20th from 5pm to 7pm.**

To reserve a table, contact Courtney Plyler  
at 724-761-6934  
or c\_link\_37@yahoo.com



### Health Ministry



In thinking about our spiritual health, here is Candace Bure's reflection from the April issue of Woman's Day magazine:

"True grace, grace from God, is an unmerited favor. There's no way to earn it and no way to pay it back. The verse below is a reminder that grace is a gift, one we can all give one another as God has given it to us. Easter is coming, when we celebrate the most extravagant gift ever—the gift of grace. Be ready to believe and receive."

**Scripture:**

"God saved you by His grace when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God. Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it. For we are God's masterpiece."



**Ephesians 2:8-10 NLT**



### Monthly Financial Snapshot

	February	YTD
Envelope, Loose, Rent	\$ 32,061	\$ 56,089
Operating & Mission Expense	\$ 31,399	\$ 69,122
Difference	662	\$ (13,033)

Mission Support—5 Star Global Ministries



### Generous Gestures

The Son of God walked out of the tomb. And He offers us joy—not sadness or gloom. Be generous with your faith, show His love to another. Invite a friend to church, or maybe a sister or brother. Let's continue to be generous throughout the Easter season. Clen-Moore Church's doors are open, and Jesus is the reason!