



THE WORD



THE WORD

March 2019 Newsletter for the Ministry & Fellowship of Manly Memorial Baptist Church

OUT OF MY MIND

I overheard someone the other day saying that they couldn't wait for things to dry out so they could start getting their garden ready. (They may be waiting a while!) Whenever I think of gardens, I remember a former neighbor of mine.

I lived next door to Red when I pastored a church on the Northern Neck of Virginia. He had one of the prettiest gardens you'd ever want to see, and each summer his garden produced some of the sweetest, most delectable vegetables you'd ever want to taste. I know, because Red was always generous enough to share his bounty with me and Lucy.

Of course that beautiful garden didn't automatically spring up each year. It took hours of work. The soil had to be prepared, seeds or seedlings had to be bought and planted at the right time, and the layout of the garden had to be planned. But each year, because of Red's planning, preparation, work, and the good Lord's provision, Red was able to enjoy the fruit of his labor.

One of life's chief lessons is that most things, to be fully experienced and enjoyed, need careful preparation beforehand. This is true in the spiritual realm also. An uplifting worship experience, an insight from the scripture, or a renewed awareness of God's presence, usually doesn't just happen. They occur when we have prepared ourselves for these touches of the Holy Spirit.

Though Easter isn't until next month, I am convinced that unless we begin our spiritual preparations for it now, we will likely miss the full impact of its meaning and significance that God wants us to experience.

There are several ways to begin preparing yourself for Easter. Be faithful in attendance for worship and Sunday School each Sunday (we have some great Bible studies going on!). Participate in the Ash Wednesday service, 6:30 pm on March 6th. Be a part of the special Community Lenten Services our church is hosting each Thursday at 12:10 pm. Plan now to attend our Maundy Thursday service (April 18th) when the choir will present "It Is Finished." Continue reading the Bible as we make our way as a church through the Psalms. And spend some time asking God to show you how you can walk more closely with him each day.

If we are faithful in preparing our souls for his use, I believe that God will reward us with a bumper crop of his spiritual fruit as we encounter Holy Week and Easter this year.

Your Pastor,
Mike

On **March 6th at 6:30 pm**, we will have a brief Ash Wednesday service. Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent, a time of reflection the church has observed for over 1,700 years to encourage believers to examine their walk with the Lord and refocus their lives on the reality of the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Our Ash Wednesday service will include responsive readings, prayers, a time of silence and the imposition of ashes on the forehead, reminding us of our mortality and our dependence on the promise of eternal life in Christ.



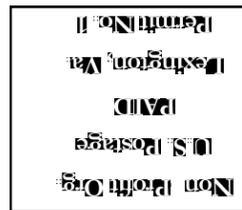
Manly Memorial will once again host the Community Lenten Services at **12:10 pm** in the sanctuary on **Thursdays, March 7th - April 11th**. The services will last about 20 minutes and a light lunch will follow in the Fellowship Hall for \$5.00.



The Annual Community Palm Sunday Parade will be held on **April 14th, 9:30 am at Hopkins Green**. The members of all the downtown churches are invited to gather for a prayer and Bible reading, and then walk through the streets of Lexington. We stop at the various churches and ask God's blessing on them as they serve Jesus Christ. Those who participate will be back at Manly shortly after 10:00 am.



On **Thursday, April 18th, at 6:30 pm** the Adult Choir will lead a very special Maundy Thursday service by Mary McDonald titled "It Is Finished." The mini musical traces Jesus' journey to the cross by using many familiar texts and melodies. It will give you a chance to take a moment from all the busyness of our interconnected lives to contemplate the meaning of Christ's sacrifice for *you*. The service will include a special communion together. Plan now to be a part of this very moving service.



Manly Memorial Baptist Church
202 South Main Street
Lexington, VA 24450
www.manlybaptist.com
(540) 463-4181

BIBLE STUDY FLOATERS

March 3rd - Loretta Ballard
March 10th - Phyllis Puckett
March 17th - Barbara Heckman
March 24th - Loretta Ballard
March 31st - Phyllis Puckett

HALL WATCH

March 3rd - Patsy Paxton
March 10th - David Moore
March 17th - David Campbell
March 24th - John Wranek
March 31st - Rolf Piranian

OFFERTORY PRAYER

March 3rd - Dale Raymond
March 10th - Emma Ernst
March 17th - Barbara Cash
March 24th - Lena Hill
March 31st - Steve Higgins

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

March 3rd - Vickie Kave & Noah Campbell
March 10th - Sherry Miller & Patsy Williamson
March 17th - Katlyn Bradley & Rosana Clancy
March 24th - Katlyn Bradley & Sherry Miller
March 31st - Katlyn Bradley & Sherry Baucom



8th Dale Raymond
9th Everette Huger
11th Dee Fuller
12th Braeden Hartbarger
Garner Fleming (VMI '21)
13th Clyde Keen
14th Jeannie VanNess
15th Carol Bozeman
16th Hunter Grist
22nd Alicia Raymond
28th Fred Huger
Ryan Krese (VMI '22)
31st Clyde Mull



Unfortunately, we were unable to visit in nursing homes in February due to the flu and colds that kept us away. We did, however, collect a large supply of flip-flops for Honduras. Also, Anita Cruze was able to deliver to Lisa's House the cleaning supplies we had collected in January. We encourage members to make individual visits to the nursing homes whenever you can.

Our project for March will be a tea at Lexington House - date to be determined. We will ask for donations at our meeting on **Monday, March 11th, at 5:15 pm in the Choir Room.** We encourage all to attend as we need to discuss the possibility of having a Women's Sunday.

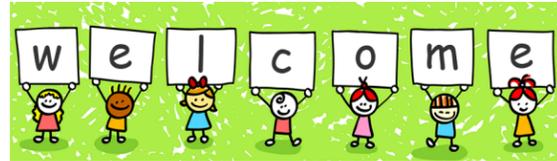
The Week of Prayer for North American Missions is **March 3rd thru 10th.** The theme this year is Sending Hope and 1 Peter 1:3 is the focal verse. We will have a brief program at our March 11 meeting. **Our goal is \$1,500.** Please join us to learn about a how a few of our 5,200 North American Mission Board missionaries are sharing the hope of Christ with people they work with.



The Mission Trip Committee headed by Lannie Ballard met on Sunday, February 17 to discuss plans for this summer's trip to Nickelsville. As of now there are 8 people interested in going and we are hoping that number will grow as we plan. The trip is scheduled for **Sunday, June 30th thru Friday, July 5th.**

We discussed last year's expenses and ways to raise funds for next year. This will include some Wednesday night meals, baked goods auctions, car washes and a **yard sale on Saturday, April 6th** in the Fellowship Hall. If you have items to contribute, they can be left in the Men's Bible classroom and will be transferred downstairs to fellowship a couple days before the sale. All the money for the trip is raised so if you would just like to make a donation, it will be greatly appreciated.

Our next meeting will be **Thursday, March 7th at 5:45 pm in the Backpack Room.** If you are interested in going or would like additional information, please join us!



We would like to welcome Katlyn Bradley as our new Children's Director! Katlyn attended Manly Memorial for six months before joining on January 20th. During that time she has been actively involved with the youth, children and outreach activities. Katlyn recently received a degree in Youth Ministry (focusing on Preschool - 6th grade), and in May she will graduate with a Biomedical Science degree from the University of Lynchburg. Katlyn is very passionate about having a positive influence on our children and helping them develop a relationship with God, so they can make a positive impact on today's society. She is excited that God opened this door and is ready to get started exploring this path in her life.



The deacons held a retreat on February 23rd to discuss our thoughts about this year's journey with God. We would like to show God's love by helping people to make connections to God, to others in the church, and to those outside the church. We discussed in small groups three areas of focus based on the book *Scrappy Church*. The three areas are an "outward deluge" of showing God's love to others; supporting our vision of a "welcoming church;" and "closing the back door," by keeping up connections within the church. We invite you to join us in prayer about our journey with God, to join us in reading the book, and to join us by talking with any deacon about how you can be a part of our journey. This journey with God is for each and every one of us at Manly Memorial.



The MMBC Endowment Fund invites applications for funding for 2019 church activities. We are especially excited to hear of new plans that you may have to show God's love to others. **Please send a summary of the request to Deborah Caylor, Endowment Fund chair, at dcaylor@wlu.edu by Monday, April 1st.**

Include in the summary the following information: (1) your name, e-mail, and phone number; (2) the church group's name, if it is for one of our groups (such as Youth Group or Children's Group); (3) a description of the request; and an estimated cost or budget. If you have any questions, please feel free to e-mail Deborah at the address above or talk with any member of the Endowment Fund Board of Directors (Justin Spears, Bucky Joyce, Jan Meador, and John Wranek).

March 6th - Patsy Paxton & Friends

March 13th - Youth Group

March 20th - Patsy Paxton & Friends

March 27th - Restaurant (To Be Announced)



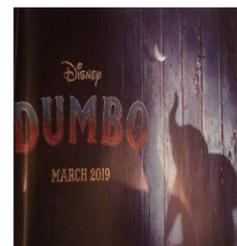
The Meador-Steele Handbell Choir has rehearsals on **Wednesdays, at 4:45 pm.** Please contact Lee Higgins (540-230-5533) for more information.

Children's Choir will rehearse on **Sunday March 3rd & March 17th at 5:00 pm.** Please contact Lee Higgins (540-230-5533) for more information.



The cake & casserole ministry will meet on **Saturday, March 9th at 9:00 am.** Please join us!

Sunday morning, **March 10th,** daylight savings time will start! Please remember to set your clocks forward 1 hour before bed on Saturday night, March 9th. We look forward to seeing you!



Saturday, March 30th children (K-5th grade) are invited to Wendy's for lunch at **12:30 pm** followed by *Dumbo* the movie showing at the RC State Theater. **Please RSVP with Katlyn Bradley (461-2278 or children@manlybaptist.com) by Sunday, March 24th if your child would like to attend.**

The youth are offering tulips for Easter Sunday as a fundraiser. The cost is \$12.00 and you may dedicate your tulip "In Memory" or "In Honor" of a loved one. **Sunday, March 31st** will be the last day to place your order.



Sunday, March 3rd 5:00 pm
Dinner, Game & Bible Study

Friday, March 8th - Sunday, March 10th
Journey Youth Weekend (Eagle Eyrie)

Wednesday, March 13th 4:00 pm
Cook & Serve Wednesday Fellowship Meal

Sunday, March 17th 5:00 pm
Dinner & Service Project at Lisa's House

Sunday, March 24th NO YOUTH GROUP

Monday, March 25th 6:00 pm
Dinner at Don T's & Clean Up Service Project at The Community Table

Sunday, March 31st 5:00 pm
Dinner, Game & Bible Study



SUNDAY MORNINGS AT 9:45 am

"Mine" Bible Study

Have you ever wondered how to grow your faith? Well, the good news is, there isn't just one way! And you don't have to figure it out on your own—Jesus gave us all an example of what it looks like to grow our faith in God. In this series we will take a look at a few things Jesus taught us that can help us grow a faith of our own!

March 3rd with Laura Jones
There Is A Direct Connection Between Growing And Serving!

March 17th with Thomas Smals
In Tough Times, God Works In You So That He Can Work Through You!

March 24th with Katlyn Bradley
Dealing With Doubt Is Part Of Growing Your Faith!

"Famous Last Words" Bible Study
If you knew your time on Earth was coming to an end, what would you want to say to the people in your life? For Jesus, the days leading up to His death were filled with meaningful conversations with the people around Him. In this series, as we look at some of His famous last words, we'll discover what Jesus really wanted His followers—both then and now—to know.

March 31st with Molly Kay Moore
Remember What God Has Done For You!