# MARCH 2024 | WYNNTON METHODIST CHURCH

# Love God, Love People and Serve Together

# "Our God is Faithful Until Completion"

# March 24, 2024

Growing up, I remember learning scripture verses through music. It was a way that our children's choir director would be able to infuse into our lives both music and the foundational Word of God. I have to admit, that a tune still bounces around in my head from time to time when I hear one of those verses that I was taught in that small classroom at Mt. Calvary Baptist Church in Valdese, North Carolina. One of those scripture songs was from Philippians 1:6: *Being confident of this, He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.* Now my challenge for you this week is to see if we learned the same song for the scripture verse. You can always come by and ask me, and I will gladly sing the song.

But there is power in that word completion. Throughout the Bible, we are able to see different examples where God is showing us the perfection through completion. One example is in the beginning with creation itself. God completed all of His work in six days as we read in Genesis 2:1-2: *Thus the heavens and the earth were completed, and all their hosts. By the seventh day God completed His work which He had done, and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had done.* There is a moment where we see that God has finished His task and responded that it is good, and even for the creation of mankind, very good. God steps back and looks at His creation and realizes the completion of His perfection.

As mentioned in the earlier verse, Paul is speaking to the people of Philippi and helping them to recognize that through Christ we are being renewed and restored each day. We continue to experience the battles in this world, but we are capable of watching as Christ is able to come into our lives and renovate us from the inside out. We seek this as we continue our journey from prevenient and justifying grace and strive toward perfection through sanctifying grace offered to us only by the blood of Christ. God is faithful until completion.

As we continue our Lenten journey, I need each of us to understand that is exactly what God was doing through the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross. Jesus was the final sacrifice that was paid in order that we could have a restorative relationship with God. Each of these Words to Live By has given us the chance to once again experience the journey of Christ to the fulfillment of completion. It should not surprise us of the many prophecies that Jesus fulfilled by enduring and eventually dying on the cross. I just pray that we realize that when He spoke the words, "*It is Finished*," Jesus was becoming the guarantor for our sin debt. Christ was physically laying down His life to receive the product of death we owed and punching our ticket **PAID IN FULL!** 

Christ endured the cross to fulfill Deut. 21:23, Exodus 12:12-13, 22-23, 46, Psalm 22:1-8, 15, 34:20, 69:21, Isaiah 9:7, Isaiah 53, Zechariah 12:10. These are but a few places where we see Jesus fulfilling the prophecies of the Old Testament until completion. However, I still continue to return to where the world was marred by the introduction of sin, and God in the Garden of Eden revealed His plan for completion. In Genesis 3:15, God spoke to the serpent and said, "*And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers, He will crush your head, and you will strike His heel.*" Jesus emptied Himself and came in human form to provide for us a way to reconnect with God. Jesus came to be the propitiation for our sins and to complete the plan to undertake the journey to the cross. As Jesus cries out, "*It is finished*", He declared the final sin debt paid and restored the connection between the Creator God and His fallen creation. He who began a good work in Genesis was faithful to completion through Christ Jesus.

In His grip, Jason

# FLOWERING CROSS

On Easter morning, bring in some beautiful flowers to help decorate the cross, located outside of the Fellowship Hall.

# **GIFTS OF LOVE**

In honor of Kaye Hill by Ramona & Andy Andresen

In honor of **Betty Woodruff on her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday** by Shirley Moon; Mary Nell & Mike Blasingame; Pat & Bruce Kelley; Sue & Bill Pope

In honor of the Sojourners Class by Mary Jean Mullins

# **MEMORIAL GIFTS**

In memory of Bill Cawthorne by the Genesis Class

#### **Endowment Tree of Life**

A Disciple Leaf has been placed on the Endowment Tree of Life in loving memory of Joseph B. Batastini, Jr. by Dorothy Batastini.

# EASTER CANTATA Risen This Day by Benjamin Harlan



Thursday, March 28<sup>th</sup> 6:30 p.m. Sanctuary

# JOYFUL NOTES FROM THE CHOIR!

This Sunday, we celebrate Palm Sunday, and recognize that it is the beginning of the story that leads to the Passion of Christ. Palms to Passion Sunday has been described as "a service that embodies the sharp contrasts of Holy Week." From the festive, joy-filled celebration when Jesus rode into Jerusalem and was met by a crowd waving palm branches and shouting "Hosanna, blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!," to a woeful reminder of the sullen story of Holy Week that leads to the Crucifixion of Christ.

Our Wynnton choirs will tell both parts of the story through our music. The celebration of Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem will be illustrated in our prelude, processional hymn and opening anthems, followed by the story of Jesus' suffering and death represented in our closing anthems: "And No Bird Sang" and "Alas and Did My Savior Bleed."

"And No Bird Sang" by Douglas Wagner - Wesley Choir

Soloists: Dorothy Batastini, Soprano and Debby Hubbard, Alto

Calm was the wind and dark was the sky, when our Lord came to die; Lone, on the cross for our sins He did hang, and no bird sang. Women and men with anguish and fear, then to His cross drew near; Hushed then to feel the bitter pang, no bird sang. Kyrie eleison, Lord have mercy, God's will be done, eleison. No bird sang in the sky, when Christ did come to die.

"Alas, and Did My Savior Bleed" arr. by Mary McDonald - Chancel Choir (Verse text, See Hymn 294) Refrain (original music by Mary McDonald) But drops of grief can ne'er repay the debt of love I owe; here, Lord, I give myself away, 'tis all that I can do.

God's Great Peace to You! Diana B.

#### THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who helped make my 90<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration so special.

I love you all, Betty Woodruff

#### \*ATTENTION ALL YOUTH PARENTS!!!

- Sunday School 10 a.m. in the Basement
- 211 Faith Connection Sundays @ 5-7pm in the Basement!
- Youth Bible Study Wednesdays 6:30 p.m. @ Ambassadors of Christ
- Prayer Breakfast 7:00-7:30 a.m. -Chick-fil-A Whittlesey Rd.
- Youth Praise Band Wednesdays 4:30-5:30pm
- River of Life \$50 Deposit Due April 6<sup>th</sup>
- Summer Camp Dates June 2<sup>nd</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>
- Celebration for Grace An George's last day this Sunday, Marcy 24<sup>th</sup>, from 5-7pm in the Basement



#### THE BRIDGE COLLEGE MINISTRIES

If anyone would like to help support our Bridge College Ministry through providing food for these amazing students each week, please contact Jason and let him know you would like to help. Secondly, if you would like to give funds towards our weekly meal, you can give through our normal giving options and earmark it for Bridge College Ministries. We are having between 20-25 college students on Thursday Nights at 7:30 pm. Thank you for your continued prayers for God to open doors into these students' lives.

In His grip, Jason

#### **NEW OPPORTUNITY FOR CONNECTION**

#### Attention All Young Families, Singles & Young Adults

We have had a GREAT start with our new class. One of our major focuses is providing ministry opportunities to those who are seeking community and connection. This is an opportunity for those who may be a young family, a single at church or a single adult to come and have a conversation about how we can meet your needs and launch new discipleship ministries.

Please join us in the Ministry Center/Fellowship Hall at 10:00 a.m. EVERY SUNDAY to continue the conversations as we prepare to LAUNCH into the new year together. In His grip, Jason

#### WYNNTON NEIGHBORHOOD NETWORK

March is our month to help stock the shelves at Wynnton Neighborhood Network. The Network provides food to a great many needy families each week, but they need help to make that possible. So, we are asking everyone to try to help support this important ministry in our community this month. Below is a list that contains the items that the Network gives out each day, and we are asking that Wynnton bring in as much of it as you can. You can bring it to the church at any point in March and place the items in the bin in the Fellowship Hall or under the Giving Tree. The Network is a blessing to this community and has helped so many that needed it. This is our opportunity to support them, so please join us in filling the shelves this March. If you have any questions, please call Bob Gilstrap. Items needed for the Holiday Distributions: Cranberry Sauce, Brownie Mix, Green Beans, Corn, Yams, Evaporated Milk, Pumpkin Pie Filling, Cornbread Mix, On-going suggested items: Canned vegetables (green beans, baked beans, carrots, mixed veggies, or any other type of veggie), canned meat (tuna, chicken, spam, ham, chili with meat, lasagna, etc.), canned fruit, canned tomato products, macaroni and cheese, spaghetti sauce and noodles, jelly, peanut butter, soup, rice, breakfast cereal, toilet paper, bar soap, laundry detergent (pods).

# HOLY WEEK

Wednesday, March 27 Lunch & Devotion 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Soup and Salad Lunch Church will provide lunch. If you would like to make a donation for lunch, you may do so.

> Maundy Thursday, March 28 Lunch & Devotion 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Soup and Sandwiches Lunch & 5:30 p.m. Italian Dinner 6:30 p.m. Cantata

**Good Friday, March 29** 6:00 p.m. Good Friday Service

#### **BASIC ERT TRAINING &** CHAINSAW SAFETY CLASS

Friday, April 26 | 6 pm - 10 pm ET Saturday, April 27 | 8 am to 12 pm ET Pierce Chapel 5122 Pierce Chapel Rd, Midland, GA 31820 Register now You must register online before April 22<sup>nd</sup> More information can be found at www.sgaumc.org If you have any questions, contact Bob Gilstrap.

#### EASTER OFFERING

This year's Easter Offering will be going to the Soup Kitchen. This offering is above and beyond your usual giving.



**COFFEE STATION VOLUNTEERS** March 24, 2024

Sojourners Class



We had a great Packing Party last October with 277 boxes packed and turned in. For March, we are focusing on collecting washcloths, toothbrushes, hairbrushes, large combs & deodorant.

If at any time you find a good deal on anything we collect, please let us know so we can let others know where to find that item.

Keep in mind, these items are **not** allowed: soap, toothpaste, candy, liquids, camouflage, and tiny tovs/balls.

Items collected: Toothbrushes: 36 Washcloths: 45

Spreading God's love to children everywhere. Pam Gilstrap

#### **BACKPACKS OF GRACE**



Backpacks of Grace is an amazing opportunity that we have to minister to children in our area. Last semester, we served 103 children from Wynnton Arts Academy on a weekly basis. We are always in need of fruit cups, individually packaged snacks (goldfish crackers, pretzels, scooby-snacks, pudding cups, etc.), individually packaged breakfast (cereal, oatmeal, or grits), or financial contributions so that we can purchase these items. Please consider helping.

#### **GRADUATES**



Please call the church office (706-324-2424) with information on those who are completing degrees at the College or Graduate School level. We would like to mention them in the bulletin.

# **READING THROUGH THE BIBLE**

#### Week 11



The story begins to become more intense as the fullness of God's plan is revealed. Christ's teachings are becoming more intential on speaking about the time when He would no longer

be with the disciples. We see Jesus continuing to direct people to their relationship with God and eternity. Jesus intesifies His connection to God as He refers to Himself as the Vine and we are the branches-a foreshadowing of what is to come as His time grows closer and closer to the cross. We end this week as Jesus is praying for preparation to bring the journey to Golgotha. In His grip, Jason

John 14:15-31
John 15:1-17
John 15:18-27, 16:1-4
John 16:5-16
John 16:17-33
John 17:1-19
John 17:20-26

#### **Family Night Supper**

Wednesday, April 3 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Covered Dish Dinner

We will be having family night suppers on the first Wednesday of every month. Everyone is welcome!

#### **OUR STEWARDSHIP**

#### 3-17-24

General Fund	. 10,396.00
Backpacks of Grace	200.00
Easter Offering	100.00
Loose Offering	
Missions	
Other Income	
Operation Christmas Child	100.00
Freezer	100.00
College Fund	50.00
Wynnton Neighborhood Network	

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

on

24	Linell Pringle
26	Elizabeth Harbis
29	Bill White



# **OUR ATTENDANCE**

3-17-24	
8:30 a.m.	42
9:00 a.m.	16
11:00 a.m.	154
Sunday School	82



We're looking for volunteers for the Modern Worship Service. If you play an instrument or sing, feel free to join us at our practices every Friday from 5-8 p.m. in the Ministry Center.



Please use the QR code to sign up to volunteer to serve in the Modern service.



12:00-1:00 pm 5:30-6:30 pm

#### **Our Known Prayer Concerns:**

Jennefer Spell Sue Rogers Frank Feagle Aubrey Walker **Richard Holmes** David Woolbright Shelley Montgomery Pam Feagle Robert Garrard Betty Garrett Sabrina Hart Jeanine Cotton Beverly McDaniel Michelle Foote Abraham Cook Kaye Hill Jaleen Welch Lynn Christenson Rachael Casar Casey Campbell Hans F. Boensel (Uncle of Marc Boensel) **Carrie Thomas** 

**Christian Sympathy for loss of loved one:** Family of Bob Lowery Family of Bill Cawthorne

#### WEEKLY CALENDAR

#### Sunday, March 24

8:30 a.m.	Traditional Worship Service - Sanctuary
9:00 a.m.	Modern Service - Ministry Center
9:45 a.m.	Sunday School for adults, youth & children
10:00 am	Young Adult Discipleship Class - Ministry
	Center
11:00 a.m.	Traditional Worship Service - Sanctuary
5:00 p.m.	211 Faith Connection - Basement

#### Monday, March 25

10:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study

5:30 p.m.6:00 p.m.Bible Study - Home of Beth HendricksonSunday School Council Meeting - Ministry<br/>Center

#### Tuesday, March 26

10:00 a.m. Quilting Group - Alpha Building

#### Wednesday, March 27

9:30 a.m.	Women of Joy Bible Study - Alpha Blg.
11-12:00 p.m.	Lunch and Devotional - Ministry Center
12:00-1:00 p.m.	Prayer Time - Chapel (drop in)
4:30-5:30 p.m.	Youth Praise Band Rehearsal
5:30-6:30 p.m.	Prayer Time - Chapel (drop in)
6:30 p.m.	Handbell Rehearsal
6:30 p.m.	Youth Bible Study - Ambassadors of Christ
7:15 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal

#### Thursday, March 28

7:30 a.m.	Men's Bible Study - Alpha Building
9:45 a.m.	Backpacks of Grace
11-12:00 p.m.	Lunch and Devotional - Ministry Center
5:30 p.m.	Italian Dinner - Ministry Center
6:30 p.m.	Maundy Thursday Service with Choral
	Cantata- Sanctuary
7:30-9:00 p.m.	The Bridge College Bible Study - Basement
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#### Friday, March 29

5:00-8:00 p.m.	Modern Worship Practice - Ministry Center
6:00 p.m.	Good Friday Service - Sanctuary

# SUNDAY'S SERMON

*Through Completion We Find Victory* John 19:30, Romans 5:12-21

Dr. Jason Wade

# **BE A WYNNTON WELCOMER**

WE NEED YOU! to sign-up as a Sunday morning welcomer. We are looking for volunteers to fill open slots through the end of April. Check your calendars for a few Sundays you are available to help us greet our members and guests on Sunday morning. Sign-up sheets will be available in the main hallway this Sunday.



#### **CHILDREN'S MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES**

<u>Nursery</u> 8:30 am - 12:15 pm Infants - Age 2 First Floor Grimes Building

Sunday School 9:45-10:50 am 3-year-olds - Fifth Grade First Floor Grimes Building



Children's Church

11:00 am - 12:00 pm (after Children's Sermon)
3-year-olds - Fifth Grade
First Floor Grimes Building
\*\*Parents, please make sure to check in with our registration system (hallway or Children's Center)

#### WYNNTON SAFETY SQUAD March 24, 2024

Team 7: Eddie Cawthorne; Jeff Yates; Ed Annable

# OUR DEPLOYED CHURCH MEMBERS AND FAMILY OF CHURCH MEMBERS

Bryant Giang Adam Walker

If you have a deployed family member and you would like them added to our list, please call the office.

#### **PASTOR ON-CALL**

For emergencies March 22-24 Dr. Jason Wade 770-289-4039