

Love God, Love People and Serve Together

“Easter is the End Game”

March 31, 2024

So here we are... we are walking down this road heading toward the place where Jesus is soon to be arrested, judged, and eventually tortured on His way to the cross. I cannot even imagine the conspiracy theories, rumors, or even the plots that had to be going around throughout the city. Just a few days before, Jesus entered into the city being hailed as the Messiah, and now the chants of, “Crucify Him” continue to echo throughout the city. Jesus continues to look for those He had walked with for three years as disciples only to be let down and left alone.

The stage is continuing to be set for the spectacle of the year, and the Pharisees and Sadducees are expectant that their lives would soon get back to normal. They would be the ones that the people would soon return to as they could meet the needs of the people and restore the ancient practices of weekly sacrifices. Their thoughts continue to be on themselves and not on the tragedy that is about to unfold with the Messiah that they have been praying for throughout many generations to come and deliver them. It is truly sad that their lives have become so inwardly focused that they are truly missing the ONE who came to deliver them from their routines that continuously led them to separation from God.

Every step of those final days seemed to take years, and the disciples who had sworn to be by His side had deserted Jesus and fled to hide in a room and await what was to happen next. Some even fled and went back home with a mindset that all was over and it was time to get back to the only way they knew how to survive...to fish. However, everyone was truly missing the moment that was about to turn the world upside down. After each step, Jesus would continue to gasp for life, and once He reached His final destination on Golgotha, He was placed on a cross to be a spectacle for all the world to see what would happen if you messed with the government and authorities of that day. Little did they know that they were playing right into the fullness of God’s plan.

For six hours, Jesus was on the cross, gasping to hold on to each breath, but from His miserable state, He continued to teach and prepare the world for what was to come next. Jesus on the cross was God’s final move to get us into the End Game for eternity. Never would the people understand that God had already planned for this day from the first day that sin entered into the world. God knew this would all have to take place in order for His creation to be restored to its original masterpiece. God knew that a price would have to be paid, and Jesus was the Lamb that was willing to lay down His life as the sacrifice, one for all.

I know that every Easter we come to this place of excitement and remembrance of what God was able to do through the life, death, and resurrection of Christ. I know that we know the story because we have heard it so many times, and we have experienced families who will disrupt their schedules for one week to come and encounter the beauty of Christ’s sacrifice on the cross. My hope is that we finally realize that this was God’s greatest move to prepare the world, both then and now, for the end game of where they will spend eternity. Easter was God’s greatest victory that is meant to be the pinnacle of our testimony as Christians that we are not going to go back to the regular way we live, but that we are preparing our lives to encounter people where they are in preparation for where they too will spend eternity.

Easter allows me to see the greater opportunity that we have to change the world by telling the full story of Jesus to every person we encounter. I fully believe that we can make a change in each person’s life that we meet by allowing them to understand that God’s end game is for us to spend eternity with Him. God provided the Way! We just have to be willing to follow His Way and apply it into our life journey. Recognize that we ALL have a final destination - one that will lead us to eternity with God in Heaven, or one that will lead us to an eternity separated from God, which is Hell. There is no other choice in the end. Through Christ’s offering on the cross, God made His end game plans evident to the world. He chooses to love us and forgive us through the blood of the Lamb. We have to recognize where we are and accept God’s terms if we truly want to receive the free gift of grace that was offered on a tree and redeemed when Jesus walked out of the grave.

In His grip, Jason

GIFTS OF LOVE

In honor of **Betty Woodruff on her 90th birthday** by Lynda & Bennett Massey; Doris Rowe; Pam & Bob Gilstrap; Lynn & Bill White

MEMORIAL GIFTS

In memory of **Bill Cawthorne** by Lynda & Bennett Massey

EASTER CANTATA

Risen This Day
by Benjamin Harlan



Thursday, March 28th
6:30 p.m.
Sanctuary

FLOWERING CROSS

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

EASTER OFFERING

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

JOYFUL NOTES FROM THE CHOIR!



Christ Is risen! Alleluia! In the words of Saint Paul II, "We are Easter people and Hallelujah! is our song!" Come, celebrate God's redeeming love for us! Sunday, we will proclaim the Resurrected Christ in word and song. Our celebration in song includes favorite Easter hymns with jubilant trumpets, and anthems based on the "resurrection" text of the familiar hymn "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee." This text is a creation of composer and lyricist John Parker, a prolific lyricist who has collaborated with more than 40 artists on more than 600 choral projects.

"He Is Risen" (with "Ode to Joy") arranged by Benjamin Harlan words by John Parker

He is risen! He's alive! Pow'rs of darkness, hate and evil, mocked Him with a crown of thorns. Now with radiant shining jewels praise His glorious head adorns. Robed in splendor now before us risen Savior, Light of Days. All creation shouts this chorus: Crown Him with a crown of praise!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Hearts to heav'n and voices raise; sing to God a hymn of gladness, sing to God a hymn of praise. He, who on the cross as Savior for the world's salvation, bled. Jesus Christ, the King of Glory, now is risen from the dead. Christ is risen! He is risen! Jesus is alive!

1Peter 1:3
Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

God's Great Peace to You!
Diana B.

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 22nd

More information can be found at www.sgaumc.org
If you have any questions, contact Bob Gilstrap.

***ATTENTION ALL YOUTH PARENTS!!!**

- Sunday School 10 a.m. in the Basement
- No 211 Faith Connection this week in lieu of Easter
- No Youth Bible Study this week for Holy Week
- 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 7th
- Summer Camp Dates June 2nd-8th
- School Lunch Visits will begin AFTER Spring Break



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

The Beginning is Not Where We Ended

Scripture: Mark 11

11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Soup and Salad Lunch

Maundy Thursday, March 28

Lunch & Devotion

The Beginning of the End

Scripture: Mark 14

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

Into Thy Hands I Commit My Spirit

Scripture: Luke 23:44-47

Matthew 21:51-56

THANK YOU

Thank you for all your prayers. We appreciate your support and kind words. We are happy to report that Rachael is doing very well with her new heart and it will be a long road to recovery. We are asking that you will continue to pray for the Donor's family as they go through this difficult time.

With love,

Andy and Ramona Andresen

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.



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 toys/balls.

Items collected:

Toothbrushes: 36

Washcloths: 45

Spreading God's love to children everywhere.

Pam Gilstrap

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!

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.

READING THROUGH THE BIBLE

Week 12



As we walk through the week post Easter, we watch and see all that transpired as a reminder of why we celebrate Easter. So many times we forget the story and go along with our lives post Easter. I hope that we can dig in and once again relive the story with a different lens this week. God is so good and is continuing to provide for us a deeper understanding of His master plan. Sometimes it takes me multiple times reading the Scriptures to fully see some things I have missed. So take this week and remember the joy of a Savior who came to provide us a reconnection with God.

In His grip, Jason

March 31 John 18:1-114

April 1 John 18:15-27

April 2 John 18:28-40

April 3 John 19:1-16

April 4 John 19:17-27

April 5 John 19:28-42

April 6 John 20:1-9

WYNNTON SAFETY SQUAD

March 31, 2024

Team 1: Dom Edwards, Dan Draughton,
Brett Hubbard



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.

PRAYER TIME IN THE CHAPEL
Every Wednesday
(Drop in)

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



Our Known Prayer Concerns:

- | | |
|---|--------------------|
| Sue Rogers | Jennefer Spell |
| Aubrey Walker | Frank Feagle |
| David Woolbright | Richard Holmes |
| Pam Feagle | Shelley Montgomery |
| Betty Garrett | Robert Garrard |
| Jeanine Cotton | Sabrina Hart |
| Michelle Foote | Beverly McDaniel |
| Kaye Hill | Abraham Cook |
| 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

BE A WYNNNTON 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.



OUR STEWARDSHIP

3-24-24

General Fund	6,701.00
Backpacks of Grace	227.00
Easter Offering	350.00
Loose Offering.....	127.00
Missions.....	50.00
Other Income	50.00
Sunday School	29.00
Freezer	150.00
College Fund	75.00
Wynnnton Neighborhood Network	175.00
Youth Fund.....	50.00

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

31 Billy Ragan, Linda Twigg



OUR ATTENDANCE

3-24-24

8:30 a.m.	43
9:00 a.m.	13
11:00 a.m.	129
Sunday School.....	76

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday, March 31

- 7:30 a.m. Sunrise Service - In front of the church (in case of inclement weather - Chapel)
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

Monday, April 1

OFFICE CLOSED

- 5:30 p.m. Bible Study - Home of Beth Hendrickson

Tuesday, April 2

- 10:00 a.m. Quilting Group - Alpha Building
5:00 p.m. Wynnton Neighborhood Housing - Library

Wednesday, April 3

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

Thursday, April 4

- 7:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study - Alpha Building
7:30-9:00 p.m. The Bridge College Bible Study - Basement

Friday, April 5

- 5:00-8:00 p.m. Modern Worship Practice - Ministry Center

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

Nursery

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)

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.

SUNDAY'S SERMON

Easter is God's End Game
Luke 24:1-49

Dr. Jason Wade

PASTOR ON-CALL

For emergencies March 29-31
Dr. Jason Wade 770-289-4039