



The Cross

Cross Street A.M.E Zion Church



"A Church Where Everybody is Somebody and Christ is Lord of ALL"

March / April 2018

Volume 22, Issue 02

March 25 - April 1

March 25 - Palm Sunday

March 29 - Maundy Thursday

March 30 - Good Friday

April 1 - Easter Sunday



HOLY WEEK



HOLY WEEK

The key to many customs and traditions in Lent is what down through the ages has come to be known as Holy Week, the last week in Lent. It has become a tradition to trace the activities of Jesus that led to the cross of Calvary. Holy Week begins with **Palm Sunday** as a reminder of

Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem. The people along the roadside waved palms and shouted "Hosanna" the Hebrew word for "save now." (See Matthew 21:1-11, Mark 11:1-10, Luke 19:28-40, and John 12:12-19.) Many churches today bless the palms and distribute them in the form of crosses to be worn by the worshipers.

MAUNDY THURSDAY

Maundy Thursday lifts up the event of the Lord's Last Supper that was celebrated in the Upper Room at the time of the

(Holy Week on page 8)

Mary McLeod Bethune



From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Born: Mary Jane McLeod, July 10, 1875, [Mayesville, South Carolina](#), U.S.

Died: May 18, 1955 (aged 79), [Daytona Beach, Florida](#), U.S.

Occupation: Educator, Author, and African American Civil Rights Leader

Spouse: Albertus Bethune, m. 1898, died 1918

Children: 1

(Bethune on page 11)



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From The Pastor's Desk

March 1, 2018

Dear Faithful Members,

Greetings In the Name of Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

It is my prayer that you are enjoying all that is good and holy during this Lenten Season.

He is not here; he has risen! (Luke 24:6)

Christ lives today. Because Christ lives we have life, and have it to the fullest. He satisfies all of our needs. He brings us eternal life, abundant life, full and complete. Hallelujah.

Let us approach this Resurrection Sunday with radical prayer and love. God still hears and answers prayer. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective James 5:16.

We live in a world filled with great challenges right now. In times like these we need the power of prayer and love to transform lives and give us new hope in hopeless times. I want to encourage you today to remember the power of the Resurrection, and realize that one day we will all die unless Jesus comes first. However, it is because of the Resurrection that we are filled with hope concerning the wonderful future we have with Christ!

Let us by radical prayer and with the love of Christ make these affirmations of our faith in Christ:

Let us resolve to live for Christ.

Let us resolve to allow the Risen Savior to dwell in us.

Let us resolve to worship the Lord in spirit and in truth.

Let us resolve to love and forgive others as Christ has done for us.

Let us resolve to be a better Christian.

Let us resolve to serve the Church with gladness.

Let us resolve to attend Church services and Bible Study regularly.

Let us resolve to give generously

Let us resolve to keep our commitments for Christ, His church, and Community.

Let us resolve to invite others to share in our worship experience.

Let us resolve to win at least one soul this year to join the Cross.

The Lord has promised us that he will meet our every need according to his riches in glory through His Son, Jesus Christ! Allow Christ to come anew in your life today. Christ Lives!

“Because He Lives I can face tomorrow; Because He Lives all fear is gone; Because I know He holds the future, And Life is worth the living just because He Lives.”

The Lord continued **blessing for** you and yours real good. Have a Blessed Resurrection Sunday.

Much Love to all,

Pastor Harvill & First Lady Eledia



The fruit of the Spirit abides in us and it is up to us to cultivate it so that we may experience the blessing and the fullness of the Spirit. God is the husbandman..."He prunes, nurtures, waters and protects His own. The indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit will energize and control every faculty of our nature when our will joins the will of God. Then the "beauty of the Lord will be upon us" (Psalm 90:17) and "we shall bring forth fruit unto God" (Romans 7:4)."

FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT: LONG-SUFFERING (PATIENCE) "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, LONG-SUFFERING, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance." (Galatians 5:22,23)

LONG-SUFFERING is from the Greek word "makrothumia" which speaks of steadfastness of the soul under provocation. It means forbearance and patient endurance of any ill-treatment, without anger or thought of revenge. LONG-SUFFERING, or PATIENCE ("Hupomone") is the God-given ability of a Christian to remain upright in spite of overwhelming circumstances, tests and tribulations. It is a sweet attitude toward any trial that God permits in the life of the Christian. It is what enables the Christian to "give thanks in everything".

LONG-SUFFERING is a product of faith. We must believe that God is at work in our lives and that we will not be forgotten by the God to whom we have committed the keeping of our souls. LONG-SUFFERING grows where there is a continual awareness of God. God is faithful and will not allow evil to overcome us, but our trust must be anchored only in Him. It is inward peace, as well as outward control. How is LONG-SUFFERING produced? TROUBLE!! Trouble alone will make us impatient, but trouble connected with faith produces LONG-SUFFERING.

LONG-SUFFERING is also produced by knowledge, faith and hope. When we understand what is going on we can patiently await the outcome. LONG-SUFFERING does not stand alone, it supports and is supported by the other fruit of the Spirit, for without love, faith, hope, kindness, etc., one cannot be patient. God's timing does not always coincide with our immediate plans, but LONG-SUFFERING offers opportunity for spiritual growth while waiting for God to intervene on our behalf. How do we recognize LONG-SUFFERING? Look for persons who: • - have forgiving spirits. are enduring hardships, illness, or loss patiently • - are obedient to God, even under great persecution • - have control over their tempers and attitudes • - despite great difficulty remain Christ like • continue to praise and thank God in all things, whether good or bad • face tribulations head on and do not try to escape the trial or take matters into their own hands. • WARNING Avoid the enemy of LONG-SUFFERING - impatience, which if allowed to take root leads to disobedience. Impatience is a direct stance against God.

Additional Scriptures: For a perfect example of LONG-SUFFERING, read the Gospels - Matthew, Mark, Luke and John to see how Jesus exhibited LONG-SUFFERING.; Colossians 1:11, Colossians 3:13, Luke 8:15, Luke 21:19, I Timothy 6:11, 12, The Book of Job, I Peter 2:19,20, Hebrews 6:10-15, 1 Peter 3:17, James 5.

FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT: PEACE "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, PEACE, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance:..." (Galatians 5:22,23)

PEACE = completeness, soundness, well-being, grace, righteousness. The removal of sin through the sacrifice of Christ, creates inward PEACE, unhindered by the world's strife. The PEACE of God in the heart, a tranquility of mind as a right relationship to God. That means a free and clear conscience.

True PEACE without God is impossible. "It is not a psychological adjustment, or a sorting out of disturbing pressures to keep them in equilibrium."

How Do we get this PEACE? 1. It comes first with salvation. PEACE cannot reign where sin is. If we let the PEACE of God rule in our hearts, sin will always be challenged. 2. Confession of sin to the Lord restores fellowship and retains PEACE. 3. Through constant contact with God. 4. Through prayer and thanksgiving. 5. Harmony with others. Reconciliation takes the place of conflict.

Look for the signs of PEACE in persons who: • seek unity and cooperation - works in harmony with others • is not ruled by confusion or strife • is not jealous, envious or argumentative • seeks to reconcile rather than hold grudges • has a prayerful, thankful spirit • is not anxious or worried

Warning Be aware of the enemies of PEACE - anxiety, strife, worry

Additional Scriptures: Isaiah 26:3, Colossians 3:15, John 14:27, Hebrews 12:11-15, James 3:18, 2 Peter 3:14, Matthew 5:9

LORD HEAR OUR PRAYERS

Prayer to Say Thank You

Where would you be without Jesus? Take a moment to really think about it. The words of Ephesians 2:12 sum it up well: "without God and without hope." Without Jesus, we would be hopelessly, eternally lost.

We can never thank God enough and praying the "thank you prayers" of the Bible cultivates gratitude in us and open our eyes to "the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints" (Ephesians 1:18 NIV). Praying them is like counting the treasure of everything God has ever done for you and ever will.

Jesus once met 10 lepers at the Samaritan border on the way to Jerusalem. He healed all of them, but only one came back to say thank you.

Where were the other nine? Too caught up in the gift to remember the Giver. I'd love to point a finger of blame at them, but I've joined their party more times than I'd like to admit.

The one who came back and fell at Jesus' feet, "thanking him for what he had done," was a Samaritan. Jesus told him, "Stand up and go. Your faith has healed you" (Luke 17:15-16, 19). But the word Jesus used isn't the same one Luke used to describe the physical healing. It's the same word used of the woman who wiped Jesus' feet with her tears (see Luke 7:50). Jesus wasn't just telling him, "Your faith has healed you." He was saying, "Your faith has saved you."

Real gratitude makes us come back to God. There's a choice to be made. We can go our way distracted by all God has given us, or we can come to Jesus and worship Him for what He has done.

Keep your eyes on the gift and (maybe) you'll be blessed as long as it lasts. Turn your heart to the Giver, and you'll be blessed for eternity.

PRAYERS

You are the one who is over all things.

O Lord, the God of our ancestor Israel, may you be praised forever and ever! Yours, O Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the victory, and the

majesty. Everything in the heavens and on earth is yours, O Lord, and this is your kingdom. We adore you as the one who is over all things. Wealth and honor come from you alone, for you rule over everything. Power and might are in your hand, and at your discretion people are made great and given strength. O our God, we thank you and praise your glorious name! But who am I, and who are my people, that we could give anything to you? Everything we have come from you and we give you only what you first gave us! We are here for only a moment, visitors and strangers in the land as our ancestors were before us. Our days on earth are like a passing shadow, gone so soon without a trace. -from 1 Chronicles 29:10-15.

Thank you for making me.

You made all the delicate, inner parts of my body and knit me together in my mother's womb. Thank you for making me so wonderfully complex! Your workmanship is marvelous-how well I know it. You watch me as I was being formed in utter seclusion, as I was woven together in the dark of the womb. You saw me before I was born. Every day of my life was recorded in your book. Every moment was laid out before a single day had passed. How precious are your thoughts about me, O God. They cannot be numbered! I can't even count them, they outnumber the grains of sand! And when I wake up, you are still with me! - Psalm 139:13-18

"Without Jesus, we would be hopelessly lost. Real gratitude makes us come back to God."

I trust you and praise you with all of my heart.

Praise the Lord! For he has heard my cry for mercy. The Lord is my strength and shield. I trust him with all my heart. He helps me, and my heart is filled with joy. I burst out in songs of thanksgiving. - Psalm 28:6-7

Thank you for the simple message of salvation!

O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, thank you for hiding these things from those who think themselves wise and clever, and for revealing them to the

childlike. Yes, Father, it pleased you to do it this way! -from Matthew 11:25-26

PRAYER STARTERS

Thank you for being near.

I thank you, O God! I give thanks because you are near. People everywhere tell of your wonderful deeds. - Psalm 75:1

Thank you for hearing me.

Father, thank you for hearing me. You always hear me. -from John 11:41-42

Thank you for answering my prayer.

I thank you for answering my prayer and giving me victory! -Psalm 118:21

Anyone who has tried to pray for more than five minutes can understand 16th-century English poet John Donne's personal struggle to pray:

I throw myself down in my chamber, and I call in and invite God and his angels thither, and when they are there, I neglect God and his angels for the noise of a fly, for the rattling of a coach, for the whinning of a door... I talk on, in the same posture of praying; eyes lifted up; knees bowed down; as though I prayed to God; and, if God, or his angels should ask me, when I thought last of God in that prayer, I cannot tell. Sometimes I find that I had forgot what I was about, but when I began to forget it, I cannot tell. A memory of yesterday's pleasures, a fear of tomorrow's dangers. A straw under my knee, a noise in mine ear, a light in mine eye, an anything, a nothing, a fancy...troubles me in my prayer.

Origen, one of the early church fathers, wrote that the prayers of the Bible are filled with "unutterably wonderful declarations." Praying the prayers of God's Word helps us delight in Him and discover fresh new vistas of hope and joy.

God bless you as you pray! May our loving Lord draw you ever nearer and smile upon you as you pray His Word and His promises back to Him.

From "LET'S PRAY. Talking to God with the words of the Bible. By James Banks, Our Daily Bread Ministries

Exalt the Lord our God, and worship at his holy hill; for the Lord our God is holy. Psalm 99:9



Sunday School is a Family Affair

8:45 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. We have classes for all ages – 3 to 103
New Members Class meets at the same time.
(For Transportation Needs Please call the Church 860-344-9527)

Come Grow with US!

GUESS WHO?

Devotional Reading: Luke 24:36-49

Background Scripture: Luke 24:1-35

Scripture: Luke 24:1-12, 30-35

EXALT!

Invocation: Thank you, Lord for the hope that the resurrection of Jesus brings -for now and for eternity. I put my trust in You today. Praise God from whom all blessings flow. For He is worthy to be praised. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Declaration: Luke 24:1-12, 30-35

1 But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. 2 They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, 3 but when they went in, they did not find the body. 4 While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. 5 The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. 6 Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, 7 that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again." 8 Then they remembered his words, 9 and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. 10 Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. 11 But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. 12 But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.

30 When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. 31 Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him, and he vanished from their sight. 32 They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" 33 That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. 34 They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" 35 Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

Affirmation: Listening, hearing, and seeing are not enough. We must pursue understanding. It is then that we truly witness and win.

ENGAGE

It took more than duty to bring these faithful women to this desolate place of the dead at the dawn of day. It was duty and devotion to which they were responding. Duty says, "You must be there." It is an obligation. Devotion says, "I will be there!" it is an honored opportunity. Duty is related to responsibility. Devotion is derived from and rooted in service and privilege.

Few, if any, biblical narratives are more familiar and loved as this gospel account. It is replete with surprise instances and unexpected responses. We will refer to them as "Guess-What? Moments." These surprise occasions are revealed in action, reaction, rationale, attitudes, beliefs, and conclusions of others. They often catch us off guard as we are expecting something else.

EDUCATE

Guess What? As many desired and sought to rid themselves of the events of the day we deem and define as "good," a few women (the number ranges from one to three or more depending on your text) used two days attempting to make sense of that which made no sense-the Son of God, a thief's-type death, public humiliation, an unfinished burial, and a borrowed tomb for a man in whom no fault was found.

Guess What? If thoughts of the crucifixion of Jesus found any relief in His death, it was short lived. The thoughts of these women quickly transitioned to concerns regarding a proper burial. They had to get back to the grave early Sunday morning... and they did. Stress and worry were not relieved; they were only redirected.

Guess What? These devoted women went looking for the dead and found an empty tomb. What was their motivation - duty, devotion, or both? At one point, there was a third "D" word - doubt. However, from Friday between three and six, all day Saturday - the Sabbath - and early on Sunday, the first day of the week, they had no doubt. Jesus was dead and buried.

Guess What? In the place of one dead man, they found two living men with the appearance of angels. Were they at the right grave? Yes, they had followed the funeral

(Guess Who on page 9)

Pray for all of our children, teens, young adults in this school years that God's hands will be upon them keeping them from all hurt, harm and danger. Also pray for all of our families, friends, and all of God's children.

THE ARMOR OF GOD

EPHESIANS 6:10-18
 "... Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes." v. 10, 11

The Shield of Faith (Eph. 6:16)
 Faith is being sure that God will keep His promises. Faith in God protects you when you are tempted to doubt.

The Helmet of Salvation (Eph. 6:17)
 Put on the Helmet of Salvation by believing that Jesus Christ died for your sins and rose again.

The Breastplate of Righteousness (Eph. 6:14)
 Righteousness is being honest, good, humble, and fair to others. It means standing up for weaker people.

The Belt of Truth (Eph. 6:14)
 Truth keeps us from giving in to the world's beliefs. Compare your beliefs and actions to the truth of the Word of God.

The Sword of the Spirit (Eph. 6:17)
 which is the Word of God. God's Word is our offensive weapon. When we tell others what the Bible says, the Holy Spirit helps people see their bad thoughts and actions, and makes them want to be forgiven.

Feet Prepared with the Gospel of Peace (Eph. 6:15)
 The Gospel of Peace is being right with God and being contented in troubled times. Jesus said peacemakers were blessed.

Ephesians 6:10-20 (New King James Version)

10 Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. 11 Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. 12 For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age,^[a] against spiritual *hosts* of wickedness in the heavenly *places*. 13 Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. 14 Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, 15 and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; 16 above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. 17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God; 18 praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints— 19 and for me, that utterance may be given to me, that I may open my mouth boldly to make known the mystery of the gospel, 20 for which I am an ambassador in chains; that in it I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.

Read the BIBLE in ONE Year

<p>MARCH</p> <p>1 Joshua 7-9 2 Joshua 10-12 3 Joshua 13-15 4 Joshua 16-18 5 Joshua 19-21 6 Joshua 22-24 7 Judges 1-4</p>	<p>8 Judges 5-8 9 Judges 9-12 10 Judges 13-15 11 Judges 16-18 12 Judges 19-21 13 Ruth 1-4 14 1 Sam. 1-3 15 1 Samuel 4-7</p>	<p>16 1 Samuel 8-10 17 1 Samuel 11-13 18 1 Samuel 14-16 19 1 Samuel 17-20 20 1 Samuel 21-24 21 1 Samuel 25-28 22 1 Samuel 22-24 23 2 Samuel 1-4</p>	<p>24 2 Samuel 5-8 25 2 Samuel 9-12 26 2 Samuel 13-15 27 2 Samuel 16-18 28 2 Samuel 19-21 29 Samuel 22-24 30 1 Kings 1-4 31 1 Kings 5-7</p>
<p>APRIL</p> <p>1 1 Kings 8-10 2 1 Kings 11-13 3 1 Kings 14-16 4 1 Kings 17-19 5 1 Kings 20-22 6 2 Kings 1-3 7 2 Kings 4-6</p>	<p>8 2 Kings 7-10 9 2 Kings 11-14 10 2 Kings 15-17 11 2 Kings 18-20 12 2 Kings 21-22 13 2 Kings 23-25 14 1 Chronicles 1-3 15 1 Chronicles 4-6</p>	<p>16 1 Chronicles 7-9 17 1 Chronicles 10-13 18 1 Chronicles 14-16 19 1 Chronicles 17-19 20 1 Chronicles 20-23 21 1 Chronicles 24-26 22 1 Chronicles 27-28 23 2 Chronicles 1-3</p>	<p>24 2 Chronicles 4-6 25 2 Chronicles 7-9 26 2 Chronicles 10-13 27 2 Chronicles 14-16 28 2 Chronicles 17-19 29 2 Chronicles 20-22 30 2 Chronicles 23-25</p>
<p>MAY</p> <p>1 2 Chronicles 26-29 2 2 Chronicles 30-32 3 2 Chronicles 33-36 4 Ezra 1-4 5 Ezra 5-7 6 Ezra 8-10 7 Nehemiah 1-3</p>	<p>8 Nehemiah 4-6 9 Nehemiah 7-9 10 Nehemiah 10-13 11 Esther 1-3 12 Esther 4-7 13 Esther 8-10 14 Job 1-4 15 Job 5-7</p>	<p>16 Job 8-10 17 Job 11-13 18 Job 14-17 19 Job 18-20 20 Job 21-24 21 Job 25-27 22 Job 28-31 23 Job 32-34</p>	<p>24 Job 35-37 25 Job 38-42 26 Psalms 1-4 27 Psalms 5-8 28 Psalms 9-12 29 Psalms 13-15 30 Psalms 16-18 31 Psalms 19-21</p>

Epiphany

Epiphany or The Season After Epiphany (4-9 Sunday, January 6 – February 13) is a time for remembering the various times and ways Jesus was revealed to humans, particularly to the Gentiles (non-Jews) through the Magi (Wise Men) who represented other nationalities. It is a reminder of the universality of Jesus, the Savior of persons in every land.

The first Sunday after Epiphany Day is known as Baptism of the Lord referring to Matthew 3:13-17, Mark 1:9-11, Luke 3:21-22, and John 1:29-34. This is an excellent time for baptism and

renewal of the baptismal covenant. Appropriate symbols are water, the baptismal shell or font, a descending dove, and a cross standing in water. The emphasis for the remainder of the season is on the beginning of Jesus ministry, the miracles performed, and Jesus' works and teachings.

Color: Green is the liturgical color for Kingdomtide. Green is symbolic of the freshness of nature, hope, life, and growth. It is used during The Season After Epiphany and Kingdomtide.

Lent

Lent is the period of time to reflect on the events that led Jesus to Calvary (February 13 - March 31). It begins with **Ash Wednesday** (February 14) and covers a period of forty days (excluding Sundays) culminating with **Holy Week** (March 25-31), (including **Passion/Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday**). For some persons, Lent is a time of fasting, sacrifice, and preparation.

Color: Purple is the appropriate color for Lent symbolizing royalty and penitence.

Name of God	Meaning	Application
JEHOVAH –SHALOM	The Lord is Peace	God defeats our enemies to bring us peace. Jesus is our Prince of Peace. God brings inner peace and harmony.
JEHOVAH –SHAMMAH	The Lord is There The Lord My Companion	God's presence is not limited or contained in the Tabernacle or Temple, but is accessible to all who love and obey Him.
JEHOVAH –TSIDKENU	The Lord Our Righteousness	Jesus is the King who would come from David's line, and is the one who imparts His righteousness to us.
YAH, ORJAH	"I AM" The One Who Is The Self-Existent	God never changes. His promises never fail. When we are faithless, He is faithful. God promises His continuing presence.

(Holy Week from page 1)

Maundy Thursday

Jewish Passover. It is the basis for the establishment of sacrament of Holy Communion. Historically, the Passover marked the Israelites' departure from Egypt when the final plague was cast upon the Egyptians to smite the first born dead (Exodus). The Hebrews received special instruction to kill a lamb the or goat

for each household and to sprinkle the blood on the doorpost and the life of the first born would be spared. Every Jew/ Hebrew was required to celebrate the Passover, and the Lord's Last Supper was Jesus' observance of the Passover. However, Jesus brought new meaning to this event as it commemorated Israel's deliverance from Egyptian bondage – all of humanity was delivered from sin.

The Lord's Supper was the last meal that Jesus shared with the disciples before going to Calvary. It occurred on what is called Maundy Thursday. "Maundy" is a variation of the Latin word "mandatum" meaning "commandment" (see John 13:34). The significance of God's love for humanity comes forth in this act because it was and is through Jesus' blood and body that persons are redeemed. Therefore, the new commandment requires persons to love one another just as God loves all persons. The Latin word "Mundo" means to wash, and some claim this is how Maundy Thursday came into being, since Jesus washed the disciples' feet on that day. Some denominations and congregations still carry out the practice of washing feet before Holy Communion, at least on Holy Thursday.

Yet another tradition credits the name to the word "maund" for basket and the practice of giving baskets of goodies to the poor. Whatever the source, Maundy Thursday is practiced in just about every Christian church with either a love feast or Holy Communion being participated in by all. One cannot but help call to mind the celebration of the feast of the Passover by Jews. Christians celebrate similarly, for this is in remembrance of the Lamb of God who willingly shed blood for the sins of the whole world.

GOOD FRIDAY

Most authors agree that the term "Good Friday" evolved from "God's Friday." It is one the three days that many persons make an effort to attend church, the other being Easter Sunday and Christmas Day. Services in most churches last about three hours since generally, the seven last words of



GOOD FRIDAY

Jesus are used.

The Seven Last Words are:

- ◆ "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing." Luke 23:34
- ◆ "Today, you will be with me in Paradise." Luke 23:43
- ◆ "Woman, here is your son, ... Son, Here is your Mother." John 19:26-27
- ◆ "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani? My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" Mark 15:34 and Matthew 27:46
- ◆ I am thirsty." John 19:28

- ◆ "It is finished." John 19:30
- ◆ "Father, into your hands I commend My Spirit." Luke 23:46

More and more today, however, times and length of services are being arranged to meet the working schedules of most parishioners. Good Friday represents the day of that dreadful crucifixion and is not just a day of mourning. It is a day of remembrance of the events of the day, especially the time Jesus hung on the cross. It is appropriate to leave the altar bare and use no liturgical color. However, if desired, black may be used. In many countries, the old practice was (and in some instances still is) not to cook on Good Friday. Rather, one drinks some beverage and eat hot cross buns. Like most other customs and traditions, cross buns have pagan origins. According to Rudolph Brasch, it was part of a pagan festival of bread offered to idols at spring time. Horns were stamped on the buns. This, however became the mark of the cross. It not only was a symbol, but served a practical purpose. When these buns were used in love feasts, it was easier to divide one into four pieces.



EASTER

Easter Sunday commemorates the glorious resurrection of Jesus from the dead. It is the other highest point of the Christian Year. Thus, joy and celebration engulfs the season as the Christian Church rejoices in the fact of the resurrection and its meaning to the Christian faith, hope, and life.

Many wonder why Easter occurs on various Sundays from year to year? Easter does not occur on a set day like Christmas because it is determined by the moon and the seasons in nature. Thus, for most Protestants and Roman Catholics, Easter falls on the Sunday near the beginning of Spring, which is also after the first full moon. Because of the fluctuating cycle, Easter Sunday can occur anywhere between March 22 and April 25. Therefore, Easter is a determining factor in the cycle that sets the beginning and end of some of the seasons. The number of days in the season of advent (four Sundays weeks prior to Christmas), Christmas / Christmastide (from Christmas day to the day before Epiphany-January 6, twelve days), Lent (forty days, excluding the Sundays), and Eastertide (fifty days), are constant seasons in terms of length. The Season After Epiphany, The Season After Pentecost, and Kingdome tide experience the variation from year to year.

Easter has been described as the oldest festival of the church. It truly is the key to Christianity, since it emphasizes the redemption of humans. Note that in the early Christian Church, the word used for Easter was *Pascha*. This is from the Hebrew word for Passover. The closeness and similarity between the Jewish Passover and the celebration of Lent and Easter should be recalled and remembered. The Jews observed the *Passing Over* of the houses of the Israelites who had the blood of the lamb smeared upon the posts of their houses, by the death angel during their sojourn in Egypt. This was the final plague before Pharaoh agreed to let God's people, the Israelites go. For Christians, the blood that saves persons from eternal damnation is the blood of Jesus, shed upon the cross at Calvary. Easter, like the word Lent, has nothing to do with the reason for celebrating these occasions. Rather, Easter comes

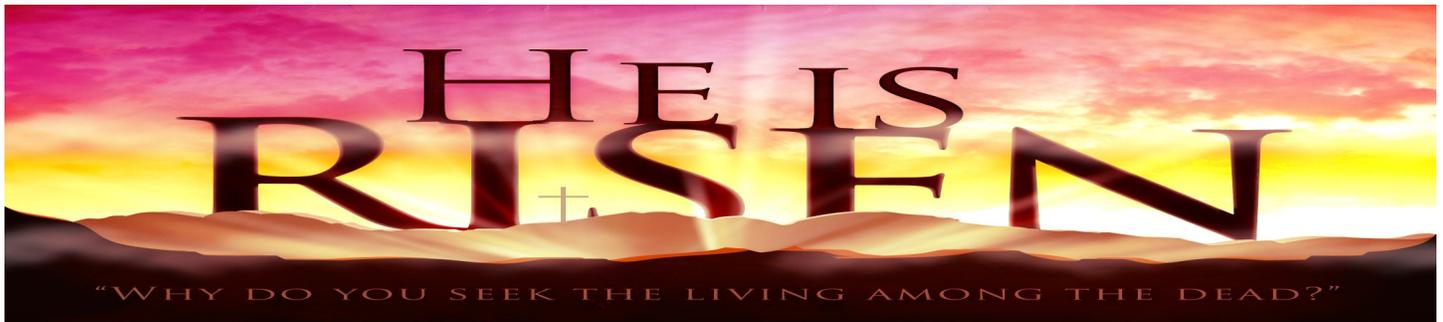
(Holy Week on page 9)

(Holy Week from page 8)

from the name of an Anglo-Saxon spring goddess, *Eostre*, whose festival was observed at the spring equinox. Easter is indeed THE DAY of the days in the church calendar. This is the day that celebrates Christ's resurrection from the grave. Without the resurrection, there would be no Christian Church. This is why many Christians moved their day of worship to Sunday. So, not only is it a day of worship, but a little Easter, when persons remember that Christ rose from the dead. (See Matthew 28:1-7, Mark 16:1-8, Luke 24:1-12, and John 20:1-10.)

The observance of Lent would have no meaning if it were not for that victorious first Easter. The crucifixion without the

resurrection would not be a victory and would destroy the essence of the Christian faith and God's redemptive act. To be resurrection signifies that something or someone who was dead has return to a living state. Christ's resurrection was a demonstration of that fact and a revelation of God's power over sin and death. Thus, the agony and tragedy of the cross was transformed into a joyous celebration and God's fulfillment of the covenantal promise was affirmed. ALLELUIA! Jesus arose as a "mighty triumph over His foes" and lives forever. The liturgical color for Easter/Eastertide is white, symbolizing purity. Along with white, gold is often used to give emphasis to this most holy day of the church year.



ALLELUIA, HE IS RISEN, ALLELUIA, HE IS RISEN!

(Guess Who from page 5)

procession on Friday. Mark 15:47 records, "Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Jesus, saw where the body was laid."

Guess What? The men asked an appropriate question. "Why do you look for the living among the dead" (24:5)? Great grief had caused the women to not remember what Jesus had said to them about the third day and the resurrection. Sorrow had overcome them and the events of Friday had devastated them. After all, they had left much to follow Jesus. He was the Promised One. Now What? Pain from the past few days had robbed them of the joy of a "great-getting-up-morning" and a new day of hope.

Guess What? Mary Magdalene did not announce, "He lives, He lives, Christ Jesus lives today. He walks with me and talks with me along life's narrow way..." These were not the words of Mary. In a state of fear, she was sounding the alarm, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb and we do not know where they have laid him" (John 20:2).

Guess What? As you knew they would, the women told the eleven and all the rest, of their extraordinary experience. Now, for the what: There is no indication

that any of those who believed in Jesus believed Him. Nothing new or different was said or done. The words of their own, "seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them" (Luke 24:11).

Guess What? Breaking of bread together at the table revealed the presence of the risen and living Lord. It was not His physical presence. It was His Spirit. The bonding and fellowship had already begun. That is why the men were at the table in the first place. The two men of Emmaus were in spiritual fellowship before His physical recognition. That is, they felt the Spirit before they saw the body.

Guess What? The two told the eleven and the remnant, and at last they were able to say, "The Lord has risen indeed, and He has risen indeed, and He has appeared to Simon" (24:34)!

ELEVATE

Are we elevating our discussion or not? Maybe we are just redirecting it. If it matters, you decide.

Our lesson reveals that many believers did not believe. Of course, the lesson focuses on the resurrection without specifying in detail the consequences of unbelief by believers. Admittedly, this

point is no more than a sidebar, it has value worth sharing. Therefore, let us lift up (elevate!) how other thoughts, other situations, prior plans were affected by the unbelief of believers.

The Bible does not reference the departure schedule of Jesus after the resurrection. But it is likely that He had some plans. His departure, however, was delayed. In fact, He remained going in and out, making appearances that all might know. Forty days was His delayed departure.

Another significant implication was their help was on hold. Jesus had said in John 16:7 that if He went away, He would send the Advocate (Comforter). The next stage of the redemption-restoration process required the making of disciples of all nations. This evangelistic crusade required power. Jesus could authorize them to go, but it was not His to empower them. Thus, the instructions were to wait until they had received power from on high.

Luke 24:49 records Jesus saying to the disciples that He would be sending them what His Father had promised them. So they were instructed to stay in the city until they were clothed with power from on

(Remember on page 10)

(Guess Who from page 9)

high. It bears repeating, their help was on hold and the departure of Jesus was delayed. Forty days would be the new departure time. So the homecoming "Party" was postponed.

Jesus would use that time going in and out among them that they might truly believe and be prepared to assume the assignments and carry on the mission. The Lord had been away a long time, generally believed to have been about thirty-three years, and He was ready to go

home!

I THINK:

1. What made it possible for the eleven disciples to forget all that Jesus has said to them about what His fate would be in Jerusalem?
2. What explanation can you give to explain how they could forget such powerful words from the very mouth of Jesus Himself? Read them as recorded in Matthew 16:21, 17:23, and 20:19.

3. Discuss your "**Guess What?**" **Moments** in light of what you expected and what happened.

VERSE OF THE WEEK:

"The Lord has risen indeed!" Luke 24:34

From The Young People-Adult Quarterly (Ages 18 and up) International Sunday School Lessons for Christian Teaching

Do You Know Him?

How well do you know the God of the Bible? It's an important question, because the better we know God the better we will know ourselves. We will also experience great joy and grow spiritually.

To see God's holiness is to see our own sinfulness. To see His goodness is to know the wonder of His grace and the depth of His love for us. To see His majesty is to give Him the honor and praise of which he is worthy.

Do you know God? Do you know Him better than you did a year ago? If you're a believer in Christ, your answer should be yes. The way to know God better is through His Word. As you read and study the Bible with a desire to obey Him, you will grow.

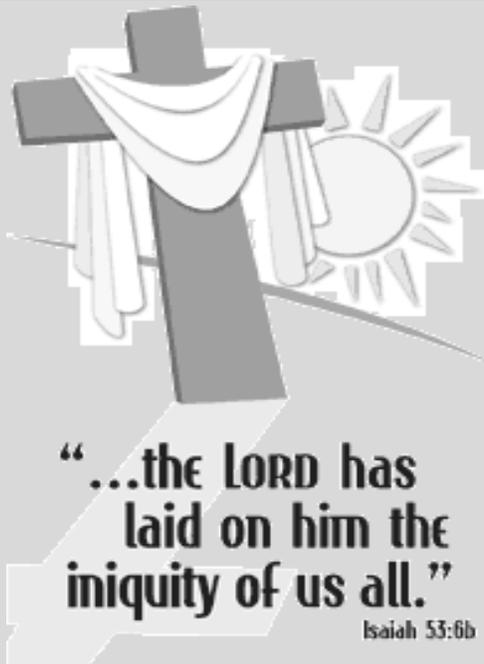
If you don't know God, the first step is to establish a right relationship with Him. You do that by turning in faith to Jesus Christ as your Savior.

The facts are clear. All of us are sinners (Romans 3:23). Our sin keeps us from a right relationship with God, and we are powerless to do anything about it (Ephesians 2:8-9). Salvation is a gift that comes to us through Christ. He came to earth to die on the cross and pay the penalty for our sins. Now our responsibility is to trust in Him. *As many as received Him, to them he gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name. —John 1:12*

Receive the Lord Jesus Christ as your Savior today. If you do, you will have taken the first and most important step in knowing God.

God love you

For God so loved the world that He gave



His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. John 3:16

All are Sinners

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. Romans 3:23

God's remedy for sin

For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 6:23

But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name. John 1:12

For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that he was buried, and that he rose

again the third day according to the scripture.

1 Corinthians 15:3-4

All may be saved now

Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with me. Revelation 3:20

For "whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved." Romans 10:13

My decision to receive Christ as my Saviour: Confessing to God that I am a sinner, and believing that the Lord Jesus Christ died for my sins on the cross and was raised for my justification, I do now receive and confess Him as my personal Saviour.

Assurance as a believer

For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. Romans 10:9

"Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life. John 5:24

These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may continue to believe in the name of the Son of God. 1 John 5:13

But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name. John 20:31

(Bethune from page 1)

Mary Jane McLeod Bethune (born **Mary Jane McLeod**; July 10, 1875 – May 18, 1955) was an American educator, stateswoman, philanthropist, humanitarian and civil rights activist best known for starting a private school for African-American students in Daytona Beach, Florida. She attracted donations of time and money, and developed the academic school as a college. It later continued to develop as Bethune-Cookman University. She also was appointed as a national adviser to President Franklin D. Roosevelt as part of what was known as his Black Cabinet. She was known as "The First Lady of The Struggle" because of her commitment to gain better lives for African Americans.^[1]

Born in Mayesville, South Carolina, to parents who had been slaves, she started working in fields with her family at age five. She took an early interest in becoming educated; with the help of benefactors, Bethune attended college hoping to become a missionary in Africa. She started a school for African-American girls in Daytona Beach, Florida. It later merged with a private institute for African-American boys, and was known as the Bethune-Cookman School. Bethune maintained high standards and promoted the school with tourists and donors, to demonstrate what educated African Americans could do. She was president of the college from 1923 to 1942, and 1946 to 1947. She was one of the few women in the world to serve as a college president at that time.

Bethune was also active in women's clubs, which were strong civic organizations supporting welfare and other needs, and became a national leader. After working on the presidential campaign for Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1932, she was invited as a member of his Black Cabinet. She advised him on concerns of black people and helped share Roosevelt's message and achievements with blacks, who had historically been Republican voters since the Civil War. At the time, blacks had been largely disenfranchised in the South since the turn of the century, so she was speaking to black voters across the North. Upon her death, columnist Louis E. Martin said, "She gave out faith and hope as if they were pills and she some sort of doctor."^[2]

Honors include designation of her home in Daytona Beach as a National Historic Landmark,^[3] her house in Washington, D.C. as a National Historic Site,^[4] and the installation of a memorial sculpture of her in Lincoln Park in Washington, D.C.^[5] The Legislature of Florida is expected to designate her in 2018 as the subject of one of Florida's two statues in the National Statuary Hall Collection.^[6]

Power of a Peacemaker

By: Xochitl E. Dixon (Our Daily Bread Ministries)

Today's Reading: Matthew 5:1–12

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God. Matthew 5:9

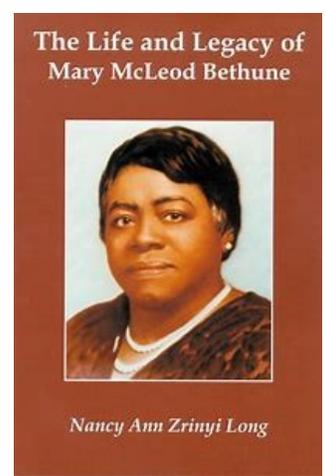
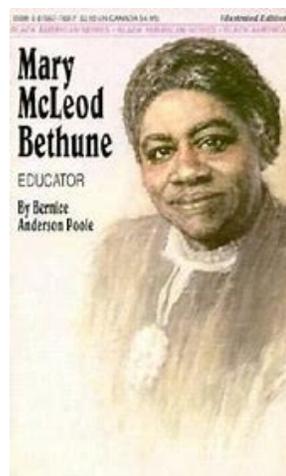
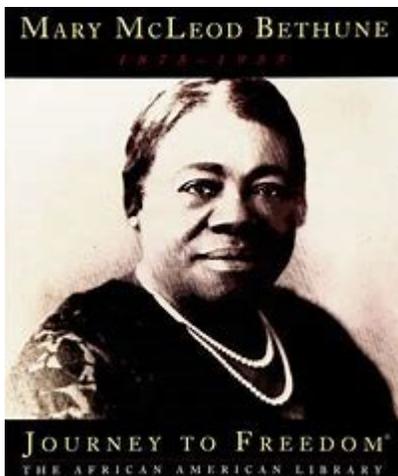
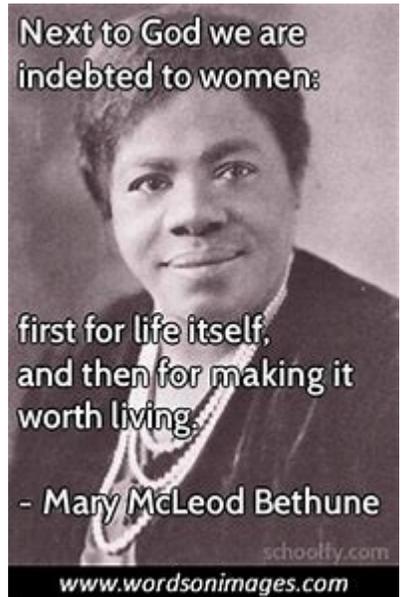
Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune founded what is now Bethune-Cookman University—one of today's top twenty historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs). An acclaimed educator, champion of racial and gender equality, and member of the N.A.A.C.P., she served alongside great leaders like President Hoover, President Coolidge, and W.E.B. DuBois. She also became a trusted advisor on minority affairs to President Franklin D. Roosevelt and developed a close friendship with Eleanor Roosevelt.

At seventy-eight, Dr. Bethune wrote "My Last Will and Testament." In this piece, she encouraged forgiveness, considered faith in God as "the greatest power," and longed for "a world of Peace, Progress, Brotherhood, and Love."

Devoted to life as a peacemaker, Dr. Bethune treated others with love and respect. "Forgiving is not about forgetting," she said, "it's letting go of the hurt." She refused to cling to bitterness or seek revenge for the pains of injustice, racial discrimination, and hatred. Instead, her life of humility, integrity, and faith exemplified the Beatitudes (Matthew 5:1–12), as she served selflessly and accomplished great things by embracing God's standard of living.

Battling hate with love, she was a peacemaker while advocating for justice and serving others. Enduring persecution and trials, she remained focused on God, embodying a righteous life lived by faith in God (vv. 3–10).

Like Dr. Bethune, we can persevere courageously, work together in love and unity, and embrace the power of life as a peacemaker by following Jesus—the Prince of Peace.



God must always have first place in our hearts. He says, "You shall have no other gods before Me" (Exodus 20:3). We must be very careful that we not allow anything or anyone to usurp His position. The better we know Him, the easier that will be. Below is a list of the names of our Lord that are good to read over frequently. Speak them out loud and declare that aspect of God as a reality in your life. They will remind you of His greatness and inspire your gratefulness.

Names and Attributes of God

He is Good (1 Chronicles 16:34)
 He is Powerful (1 Corinthians 1:24)
 He is Great (Psalm 86:10)
 He is Excellent (Psalm 8:1)
 He is Love (1 John 4:16)
 He is Wisdom (1 Corinthians 1:24)
 He is Holy (Psalm 22:3-4)
 He is Patient (Romans 15:5)
 He is Changeless (Malachi 3:6)
 He is Merciful (Psalm 116:5)
 He is Almighty (2 Corinthians 6:18)
 He is Glorious (Exodus 15:11)
 He is Righteous (Deuteronomy 32:4)
 He is just (Isaiah 45:21)
 He is Grace (John 1:14)
 He is Majestic (Isaiah 33:21)
 He is All-Knowing (John 16:30)
 He is All-Wise (Proverbs 3:19-20)
 He is True (Jeremiah 10:10)
 He is Pure (1 John 3:3)
 He is Sinless (1 Peter 2:21-22)
 He is Radiant (Hebrews 1:3 NIV)
 He is Faithful (Deuteronomy 7:9)
 He is Magnificent (Isaiah 28:29 NIV)
 He is Worthy (Psalm 18:3)
 He is the Lifter of my Head (Psalm 3:3)
 He is the All-Sufficient One (2 Corinthians 12:9)
 He is the Son of God (Luke 1:35)
 He is the Holy Spirit (Genesis 1:1-3)
 He is the Light of the World (John 8:12)
 He is the Lord of Lords (Deuteronomy 10:17)
 He is the King of Kings (Revelation 17:14)

He is the Bread of Life (John 6:35)
 He is the Author of my Faith (Hebrews 12:2)
 He is the Sovereign Lord (2 Samuel 7:28 NIV)
 He is my Creator (Psalm 139:13 TEV)
 He is my Redeemer (Isaiah 59:20)
 He is my Strength (Isaiah 12:2)
 He is my Truth (John 14:6)
 He is my Savior (Luke 1:47)
 He is my Hope (Psalm 71:5)
 He is my Resurrection (John 11:25)
 He is my Authority (Matthew 28:18)
 He is my Consuming Fire (Deuteronomy 4:24)
 He is my Restorer (Psalm 23:3)
 He is my Comforter (John 14:15 T1.B)
 He is my Stronghold in the Day of Trouble (Nahum 1:7)
 He is my Resting Place (Jeremiah 50:6)
 He is my Refiner (Malachi 3:2-3)
 He is my Deliverer (Psalm 70:5)
 He is my Refuge from the Storm (2 Samuel 22:3)
 He is my Overcomer (John 16:33)
 He is my Peace (Ephesians 2:14)
 He is my Fortress (Psalm 18:2)
 He is my Everlasting Father (Isaiah 9:6)
 He is my Shade from the Heat (Isaiah 25:4)
 He is my Healer (Malachi 4:2)
 He is my Counselor (Psalm 16:7)
 He is my Rewarder (Hebrews 11:6)
 He is my Hiding Place (Psalm 32:7)
 He is my Shield (Psalm 33:20)
 He is my Purifier (Malachi 3:3)
 He is my Sustainer (Psalm 55:22)

When You Need Healing

Key Scripture: "Bless the Lord, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits: Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases" (Psalms 103:1-3).

Key Thought: All healing comes from God.

Prayer: Heavenly Father, thank you for your Word which tells me that healing is your children's bread.(1) The Scriptures point out that you are the Lord who heals me.(2) Your Word tells me that I experience healing through the stripes of Jesus Christ.(3)

I praise you, God, that Jesus Christ has taken my infirmities and carried my diseases.(4) I praise you that He is the

same yesterday, today, and forever.(5) He was wounded for my transgressions, He was bruised for my iniquities. The chastisement of my peace was upon Him, and by His stripes I am healed.(6)

Heal me, O Lord, and I shall be healed. Save me, and I shall be saved, for your are my praise.(7)

I receive the healing you have for me.(8) Your Word tells me that you want me to walk in health, and as I hearken unto your voice and do what is right in your sight, you will keep disease from me.(9) Thank you, Father.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits.(10) You forgive me of all my iniquities, and you heal all of my diseases.(11) Thank you and bless you, Father, for redeeming my life from destruction and crowning me with your

loving-kindness and your tender mercies. (12)

Praise your name, O Lord. I love you and thank you for healing me and keeping me in good health.

References: (1) Mark 7:27, (2) Exodus 15:26; (3) Isaiah 53:5; (4) Matthew 8:17; (5) Hebrews 13:8; (6) Isaiah 53:5, (7) Jeremiah 17:14, (8) Mark 11:24; (9) Exodus 15:26, (10) Psalms 103:1; (11) Psalms 103:3; (12) Psalms 103:4.

From "BIBLE PRAYERS for all your needs"

Men's Gospel Extravaganza

Friday, March 16, 2018 @ 7:00 p.m.

at Cross Street A.M.E. Zion Church · 440 West Street · Middletown, CT 06457

(860) 344-9527

Come join us at "The Cross" in this powerful & amazing musical worship experience!!!



Cross Street Men's Choir

With musical selections from the Men's Choirs of:
Cross Street A.M.E. Zion Church of Middletown, CT
Bethel A.M.E. Church of Bloomfield, CT
Community Male Chorus of New Haven, CT
Mount Hebron Baptist Church of Meriden, CT
Mount Olive A..M.E. Zion Church of Waterbury, CT
Spottswood A.M.E. Zion Church of New Britain, CT
And many more!!!

Worship Leader



Gerry Williams from WHS

MEN'S DAY

Guest Preacher



*Dr. Nathan A. Proché
Pastor of Tree of Life Missionary Baptist Church
Detroit, Michigan*

***So be at "The Cross" on
SUNDAY, MARCH 18, 2018
@ 10:00 A.M.***

*Dinner will follow morning worship for
Men's Day Celebration!*

***See Bro. Marvin Privott, Chair
Bro. Woodrow James, Co-Chair***

PASTORAL OVERSIGHT

Rev. William D. Wilson, Rev. Gregory Winborne, & Rev. James Battle

Cross Street A.M.E. Zion Church
440 West Street · Middletown, CT 06457

Rev. Moses L. Harvill, Pastor

EASTER START

READ: John 20:24-31

Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe. John 20:27

One detail in the Easter story has always intrigued me. Why did Jesus keep the scars from His crucifixion? Presumably He could have had any resurrected body He wanted, and yet He chose one identifiable mainly by scars that could be seen and touched. Why?

I believe the story of Easter would be incomplete without those scars on the hands, feet, and the side of Jesus. (John 20:27) Human beings dream of pearly straight teeth and wrinkle-free skin and ideal body shapes. We dream of an unnatural state: the perfect body. But for Jesus, being confined in a skeleton and human skin was the unnatural state. The scars are a permanent reminder of His days of confinement and suffering on our planet.

From the perspective of heaven, those scars represent the most horrible event that has ever happened in the history of the universe. Even that event, though, turned into a memory. Because of Easter, we can hope that the tears we shed, the struggles we endure, the emotional pain, the heartache over lost friends and loved ones—all these will become memories, like Jesus' scars. Scars never completely go away, but neither do they hurt any longer. Someday we will have re-created bodies and a re-created heaven and earth (Rev.21:4). We will have a new start, an Easter start. --Philip Yancey

Thank You, Lord, for the hope that the resurrection of Jesus brings-- for now and for eternity. I put my trust in You today.

Christ's resurrection is the guarantee of our own.

Ministries, Grand Rapids, Michigan,
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Crises/Emergency: Cell phone 860-754-4606

Cross Street Recovery Ministry the "Hope Line" is in operation 24 hours per day. Please call 860-754-4606 if you, a friend and/or a family member are in need of counseling and/or are in crisis, **PLEASE** dial the "Hope Line". All information will be confidential.

CROSS STREET MINISTRY OF RECOVERY

We can't but through God, all things are possible. How might we pull on God's strength to help each other recover?

Let the spirit of God work for you in a Mighty, Mighty Way

For more information contact:
Church office 860-344-9527.or
Rev. Gregory B. Winborne: Days: 860-616-3834

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

<p>Sunday 8:30 a.m. Church School 10:00 a.m. Worship Service 2nd Sunday Senior Usher Board Meeting (following service)</p> <p>Monday 6:00 p.m. Zumba 7:00-9:00 p.m. Bible Study at Eddy Shelter 7:00 p.m. Media Ministry (1st & 3rd)</p> <p>Tuesday Special Prayer for Pastor Harvill 6:00-7:00 p.m. Prayer meeting and Bible study</p>	<p>Wednesday 6:00 p.m. Zumba 6:00 p.m. Ministerial Staff (1st of the month) 7:00 p.m. Praise & Worship Choir rehearsal</p> <p>Thursday 6:00 p.m. Steward Board (2nd of the month) 7:00 p.m. Trustee Board (2nd of the month)</p> <p>Friday Day of Fasting 6:00 p.m. Diamonds & Pearl/Leadership</p>	<p>(resting) 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm Cross Street Recovery Ministry (Room 2)</p> <p>Saturday 10:00 a.m. Pastor's Aide (2nd Saturday) 12:00 noon Missionaries (2nd Saturday)</p> <p>Choir Rehearsals Men - 7 p.m. Monday Women - Tuesday & Friday before 5th Sunday Children - 7 p.m. Friday before 1st Sunday Unity - 7 p.m. Thursday</p>
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MONTHLY ACTIVITIES

March 2018

Tuesday, March 6

6:00 pm

NO Alive in The Word

Tuesday, March 6

5:30 pm - 7:30 pm

**Community Conversations
with new Middletown Public Schools
Superintendent Dr. Michael Conner**

This meeting will be held here at
Cross Street A.M.E. Zion Church

Wednesday, March 7

12:00 pm

Senior Luncheon

in the Cross Street Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, March 7

12:00 pm - 12:45 pm

Wednesday In The Word with Prayer

Wednesday, March 7

6:00 pm

Young Adult Fellowship

Please Note: Young Adult Fellowship will
be happening
EVERY Wednesday @6:00 pm

Thursday, March 8

10:00 am

Food Pantry Truck

@ Cross Street Church

Please note: The food pantry truck comes
EVERY 2nd Thursday of the month @

10:00 am

Thursday, March 8

6:00 pm

Women's Bible Study

Friday, March 16

7:00 pm

Men's Gospel Concert

Sunday, March 18

10:00 am

MEN'S DAY

**Thursday, March 22 - Friday March 23
Hartford District Conference**

Host Church: Metropolitan A.M.E. Zion
Church

2051 Main Street, Hartford, CT 06141

Saturday, March 24

9:30 am

Missionary Mass Meeting

@ Host Church: Metropolitan A.M.E. Zion
Church

2051 Main Street, Hartford, CT 06141

April 2018

Saturday, April 7

9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Women's Prayer Breakfast

Saturday, April 7

9:30 am

Lay Council Quarterly Meeting

@St. Stephens A.M.E. Zion Church
31 Rogers Road, Branford, Ct 06405

Sunday, April 8

Following morning worship

Deaconess sponsored Bake Sale

Sunday, April 15

10:00 am

Cross Street A.M.E. Zion

195th Church Anniversary

Preaching by
Senior Bishop George E. Battle, Jr

Saturday, April 21

5:00 pm

Buds of Promise "The Cross Gala"

Doxology

Now unto Him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy. To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen.

Jude 24-25



CROSS STREET A.M.E. ZION CHURCH

Organized in 1823

440 West Street P.O. Box 223
Middletown, CT 06457

Phone: 860-344-9527 Fax: 860-344-1740

crossstreetchurch@snet.net

www.crossstreetamezion.org

Sunday School — 8:45 a.m.
Worship Service — 10:00 a.m.

Rev. Moses L. Harvill, M. Div.,
Pastor

Email: mharvill@snet.net

The Rev. Dr. Terry L. Jones
Presiding Elder

Mrs. D. Diane Proctor
Missionary Supervisor

The Right Reverend Dennis Proctor
Presiding Prelate

Ministerial Staff

- Rev. Robyn Anderson-Turner
- Rev. William D. Wilson
- Rev. Ella Frances Perry
- Rev. Karen Nesmith
- Rev. James Battle
- Rev. Myrtle Turner
- Rev. Gregory Winborne
- Rev. Joyce Johnson
- Rev. Earlene Grants
- Sister Felicia Freeman



"I am a Christian"

By Maya Angelou

When I say ... "I am a Christian"
I'm not shouting "I'm clean livin'."
I'm whispering "I was lost,
Now I'm found and forgiven."

When I say ... "I am a Christian"
I don't speak of this with pride.
I'm confessing that I stumble
And need Christ to be my guide.

When I say ... "I am a Christian"
I'm not trying to be strong.
I'm professing that I'm weak
And need His strength to carry on.

When I say ... "I am a Christian"
I'm not bragging of success.
I'm admitting I have failed
And need God to clean my mess.

When I say ... "I am a Christian"
I still feel the sting of pain.
I have my share of heartaches
So I call upon His name.

When I say ... "I am a Christian"
I'm not holier than thou.
I'm just a simple sinner
Who received God's good grace, some-
how!

The Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9-13 (KJV)

Our Father which art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom
come, Thy will be done in earth, as it is
in heaven. Give us this day our daily
bread. And forgive us our debts, as we
forgive our debtors. And lead us not
into temptation, but deliver us from evil:
For thine is the kingdom, and the
power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.



Then the Lord answered me and said:
Write the vision and make it plain on
tablets, that he may run who reads it.
Habakkuk 2:2

The Jabez Prayer

And Jabez called on the God of Israel
saying, "**Oh, that You would bless me
indeed, and enlarge my territory, that
Your hand would keep me from evil,
that I may nor cause pain!**" So God
granted him what he requested.
1 Chronicles 4:10 (NKJV)

"God's Word

*For the word of God is quick, and power-
ful, and sharper than any two-edged
sword, piercing even to the dividing asun-
der of soul and spirit, and of the joints
and marrow, and is a discerner of the
thoughts and intents of the heart"*
Hebrews 4:12

Prayer: Forever, O Lord, your Word is
settled in heaven. I bless you because
you have given me rest according to all
that you have promised to me. Not one
word of all your good promises has ever
failed. In light of this truth, I will walk in
your Word at all times.
I love your Word, Father, it is a lamp unto
my feet, and a light unto my path. All of
your words are pure, O God, and you are
a shield to me. Lord God, your way is
perfect, and your Word is tried. You are a

shield and a mighty buckler to me as I
trust in you.
With your Word you made the heavens,
O Lord. all of your promises are yes in
Christ, unto your glory, O God. You have
spoken through your Word since ancient
times, in order to give light to those who
sit in darkness, and you guide my feet in
the way of peace.
Your Word is quick, alive, and powerful,
and sharper than any two-edged sword.
It pierces even to the dividing asunder of
my soul and spirit, and of my joints and
marrow, and is a discerner of the
thoughts and intents of my heart.
Father, I am thankful for your Word, and I
will endeavor to walk in the light of your
Word all the days of my life.

If you were to die today, do you know where you will spend eternity ???

The Cross Street Journal is published Bi-monthly. If you have an article or information for current and future publications the deadline for this information is the Monday after the 2nd Sunday of each Month. **You may submit your information in the following ways:** place the information on a CD (Window format) and leave it in the Cross Street office with Verna Boyce Or, E-mail Ken Simmons (Ken46@snet.net), or give it to him **Praise God!!!**