



The Acmar Soul Miner

Searching for wisdom
As for hidden treasures...
For the Lord gives wisdom



Acmar United Methodist Church March 2019 Vol. 20 Issue 3 Acmar Post Office

One More Time

Spring is God's way of saying, 'One more time!' Those are the words of Robert Orben, an American entertainer and author of quotes.

Nola Taylor Redd, contributor for *Live Science* wrote, "Spring: Season of New Beginnings."

Spring is the season of new beginnings. Fresh buds bloom, animals awaken and the earth seems to come to life again. Farmers and gardeners plant their seeds and temperatures slowly rise. The timing of these changes varies depending upon location.

What most people call spring relies on the astronomical definition of the word. Spring is generally considered the period between the spring equinox and the summer solstice.

Equinoxes are special days during the year when day and night are almost equal. The Earth's axis is not pointed toward or away from the sun. There are two equinoxes, one in the spring and one in the fall.¹

In the Northern Hemisphere the spring or vernal equinox occurs around March 20. It is on March 20, 2019. The fall or autumn vernal equinox occurs on September 23, 2019.

Solstice is an event occurring when the Earth's axis is pointed toward or away from the sun. The sun's path appears to reach its most highest or lowest point in the sky. This is marked by the longest or shortest day.

The longest day or summer solstice is around June 21. The shortest or winter solstice is around December 21. The first day of summer is on June 21, 2019. The first day of winter is on December 22, 2019.

Spring is a season of new beginnings in the Christian faith. It is a time of repentance, renewal, rejuvenation and resurrection.

As a gardener prepares the soil and plants seeds anticipating a harvest, a Christian plants seeds of faith anticipating spiritual fruits. It begins with a season of Lent.

The word "lent" comes from the Anglo-Saxon word "lencten," which mean "spring." The season is a preparation for celebrating Easter.

Historically, Lent began as a period of fasting and preparation for baptism by converts and then became a time for penance by all Christians. The forty days of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Saturday.

On Ash Wednesday, Christians contemplate their own mortality "remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return," confess their sins, and consider the encouragement to "repent, and believe the gospel."

Ash Wednesday is on March 6, 2019 and Easter Sunday is on April 21, 2019.

The spiritual journey is not a solo march but a walk with Jesus. Jesus, who knew of His impending death, lived His life with self-giving obedience and absolute trust in God. We move with confidence because we are headed toward Resurrection, the ultimate new beginning. God says, "One more time!"

Jesus said, "The kingdom of God is as if a man should scatter seed on the ground, and should sleep by night and rise by day, and the seed should sprout and grow, he himself does not know how. For the earth yields crops by itself: first the blade, then the head, after that the full grain in the head. When the grain ripens ... the harvest has come." (Mark 4:26-29)

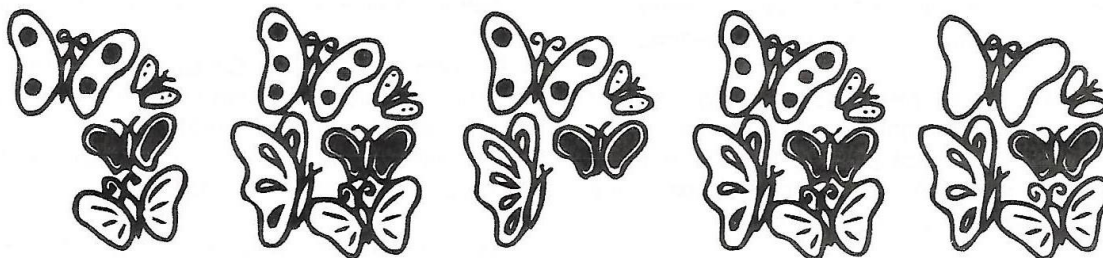
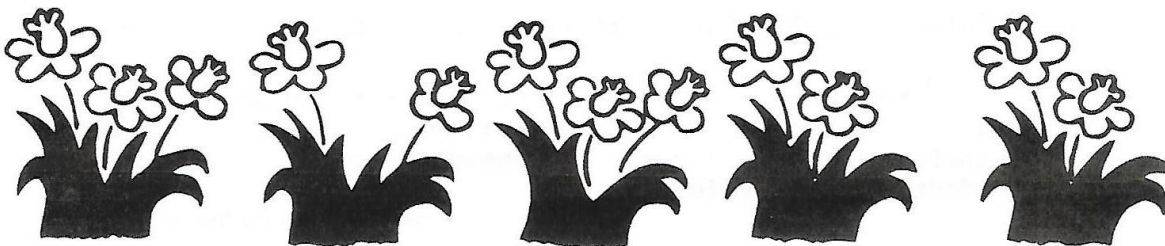
¹ Nola Taylor Redd, contributor for *Live Science*. March 17, 2016.

Children's Camp

Gospel Light's Big Book of Kindergarten Puzzles.

Puzzle 35

In each row, draw a O around the pictures that are the same.



The wisdom of God.
We see it in verses but sometimes we have to dig to uncover the meaning.

Look Here:

Jesus said, "Do not worry. Look at the birds or the flowers."
(Matthew 6:26)



Digging In:

We do not need to worry.
The birds do not plant seeds but they eat.
Flowers make no clothes but are beautiful.

God takes care of birds and flowers.
God will take care of us.

The Acmar Community Quilt

March is Women's History Month. Have you ever stopped and tried to imagine what it must have been like to be the wife of an Acmar coal miner? To even come close to getting an accurate picture, one would probably need to hear some of the memories from a variety of women, as each person's experiences may vary in some ways from others. It's fairly easy to think of the general chores of that time in history, of housekeeping, laundry, and cooking for the family. But there were also unusual challenges that presented themselves requiring hard work and often good imaginations. For instance, one woman struggled to keep her husband's work pants mended. The fact that his job in the mines required a lot of crawling on his knees meant there were often holes in the knees of his pants. She would try different fabric patches in an effort to find something that would hold up in his situation, but nothing worked. Her solution was to create patches from old car tire inner tubes! In modern times, we consider "recycling and up-cycling" as new trends. But the miners' wives had to be pretty creative and inventive, often repurposing a broken item into something useful in another way they called "make dos."

Meal times were worked around the miner's shift in the mines, and there had to be food that would stay good in his dinner bucket for him to have during his work shift. It wasn't just the men who learned to plow and create gardens for their families, or helped with any livestock the family might have. The wife often dealt with the main issues of raising the children since the miners' long shifts sometimes meant they were working before the children were awake in the morning and not arriving back home before the children went to bed for the night.

Coal miners tended to move around often, but in the case of Alabama Fuel and Iron Company, many miners stayed and were recognized for having worked for over twenty-five years for the company. This meant the wives were able to develop close friendships that helped them through good times and bad. Some of those wives raised their children here and probably had some misgivings about their sons going to work in the mines like their fathers, or that their daughters would marry a miner. The wives knew that fear that was always not far from their mind of the dangers their loved ones faced each time they went down into the mines.

Several years ago, we saw the pictures below and wondered if they were something 'set up' for fun or serious pictures of some Acmar women doing many of the chores usually considered to be done only by the men. We've learned that they are actually photographs of the women working!


























The one thing these women could not do was go down into the mines.



(If you recognize any of these ladies please let us know.)



March 2019

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|---|--|--|--------|---|
| Daylight Saving Time (DST) is "springing" clocks forward 1 hour for better use of daylight. Spring forward March 10, 2019. | | | | | 1 | 2  Emily Turner Sims |
| 3  CHURCH 9 am | 4  Dava Walker | 5 | 6  MCA 3-5 pm White's Chapel Ash Wed. Worship 7 p  | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 10  CHURCH 9 am DST Move clock ahead 1 hr.  | 11 | 12 | 13  Church Supper 6:30 pm  | 14  Ron Smith | 15 | 16 |
| 17  CHURCH 9 am ST. PATRICK'S  | 18 | 19  BINGO Moody 10:30 am | 20 MCA 3-5 Carpenetti's 6 pm FIRST DAY OF SPRING  | 21  Chloe Byrd | 22 | 23  Melody June Lamphear |
| 24  CHURCH 9 am | 25 | 26 | 27  28 BINGO Leeds 10am  Steven Lamphear | 29  Debbie Bosworth Michael Wilson  | 30 | 31  CHURCH MCA Off. Barbara Shrum  |
| Receive "The Soul Miner" by e-mail. Contact Donna Turner at msdturner@aol.com . It is on the website at www.acmarumc.org | | | | | | |

Soul Food for March

Mon., February 25 **Exodus 3:19-35**
 Tue., February 26 **Psalms 99**
 Wed., February 27 **2 Corinthians 3:12 - 4:2**
 Thur., February 28 **Luke 9:28-37, 37-43**
 Fri., March 1 **1 Corinthians 12:12-27**
 Sat., March 2 **Ephesians 3:14-19**

Mon., March 4 **Deuteronomy 26:1-11**
 Tue., March 5 **Psalms 91:1-2, 9-16**
 Wed., March 6 **Romans 10:8b-13**
 Thur., March 7 **Luke 4:1-13**
 Fri., March 8 **Psalms 18:1-6**
 Sat., March 9 **Psalms 42:5-8**



Mon., March 11 **Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18**
 Tue., March 12 **Psalms 27**
 Wed., March 13 **Philippians 3:17 - 4:1**
 Thur., March 14 **Luke 13:31-35**
 Fri., March 15 **Exodus 3:1-11**
 Sat., March 16 **Philippians 4:10-13**

Acmar United Methodist Church

P.O. Box 85 / 4107 Old Acton Road
Moody, AL 35004 Phone: 640-4325
 Moody Crossroads / Intersection Hwy. 411/Cty. 10
 Take Cty. 10 W. (Park Ave.) toward Trussville;
 Travel 1 mile; Right on Acmar Rd; travel 2 miles;
 Left onto Old Acton Rd.; Church is on the left

Mon., March 18 **Isaiah 55:1-9**
 Tue., March 19 **Psalms 63:1-8**
 Wed., March 20 **1 Corinthians 10:1-13**
 Thur., March 21 **Luke 13:1-9**
 Fri., March 22 **Psalms 148:1-14**
 Sat., March 23 **Philippians 4:4-9**

Mon., March 25 **Joshua 5:9-12**
 Tue., March 26 **Psalms 32**
 Wed., March 27 **2 Corinthians 5:16-21**
 Thur., March 28 **Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32**
 Fri., March 29 **Psalms 56:8-13**
 Sat., March 29 **Hebrews 4:13-16**