

Mount Hermon Baptist Church

Enewsletter –April 1, 2021

<http://www.mt-hermon.org/>



Holy Week/ Easter

Maundy Thursday service - 7 p.m.

- In person at our Worship Center.
- Streaming at our Facebook Page @MHBCmoseleyVA

Easter Sunday service – 10:30 a.m.

- In person at our Worship Center.
- Streaming at our Facebook Page @MHBCmoseleyVA

Church Office Closed Monday April, 5.

MAUNDY THURSDAY

"VERY TRULY I TELL YOU, NO SERVANT IS GREATER THAN HIS MASTER, NOR IS A MESSENGER GREATER THAN THE ONE WHO SENT HIM. NOW THAT YOU KNOW THESE THINGS, YOU WILL BE BLESSED IF YOU DO THEM."

JOHN 13:16-17 (NIV 2011)

SERVICE 7 PM

18100 Genito Rd. Moseley, VA.

@MHBCmoseleyVA

livestream

He is Risen!

"Don't be alarmed," he said. "You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid him...."

MARK 16:6 (NIV 2011)

Easter Service @10:30 am

18100 Genito Rd. Moseley, VA.

@MHBCmoseleyVA

livestream

Prayer Concerns

Lakynn Willis, scheduled for colon surgery on April 2. Layknn is the daughter of Kit and Calli Willis, grandparents Joey and Tammy Capps, and great-granddaughter of Leland and Georgie Capps.

Sandra Hauser, scheduled for uterine cancer surgery on April 1.

Tanya Lawrence, a friend of Danielle Heath, is scheduled for surgery on April 2 to remove a portion of her tongue & lymph nodes due to cancer.

Monnie Kesler is continuing care with an oncologist at Duke University on April 12.

In Gratitude

Mount Hermon is grateful for the gift in memory of **John Meyerhoeffer** by Jim and Ann Bernard.

The Mount Hermon Memorial Association greatly appreciates the generous gifts given in memory of **Marguerite “BarBar” Bailey Bendall** by Waverly and Joann Winn, Larry and Karla Rowland, Wayne and Rachel Boothe, Mary Ann Mann, Bitty Hill, Lucille Dodrill, and Myrtle Campbell.

The altar flowers this week are given by **Barbara Hollister**.

**Good News: Now or Later
In case you missed it**



https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PL5-2lx16_mAjLpDJtTefUE5gLSHVz-aYR

The playlist for previous messages is above. The QR code leads to the same place. The titles of the videos include the date.

Pastor Balmer’s Bulletin: Easter Is Not for Springtime, but All Time

For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised either. And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins. Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ are lost. If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

-1 Corinthians 15:16-19 (NIV 2011)

When I was studying abroad in Brazil, one of the strangest things to me was Christmas. We sang carols (in Portuguese) at the church I attended. The mall even had Santa Claus. But everything seemed *out of place*. After all, it was Summer! And very, very hot. So many of the metaphors and cultural things I associated with celebrating Jesus’ birth (the cold, hot chocolate, one horse-sleighs the snow, the darkness into which the light came) did not make sense in the southern hemisphere.

The same might be true for Easter. New life is like Spring, isn’t it? Resurrection, empty tombs, we pair with easter egg hunts on new green lawns, and bright pastel clothes that could easily double as an outfit worn to the Kentucky Derby at Churchill Downs! But if we mix up our cultural symbols with the story of the resurrection, we might miss the point.

I can tell you, hot Christmases and the celebrating Resurrection in the Autumn time does not mean Christmas and Easter mean anything less to the Christians in Brazil.

If we take all the symbols and cultural celebrations away, does Easter retain its power for us? If Easter is all fanfare, then when we cannot quite have the same Easter celebration, we will end up disappointed. But if Easter is about God undoing death in Jesus Christ, then nothing can take that away.

Tish Harrison Warren wrote this a year ago:

Believers and skeptics alike often approach the Christian story as if its chief value is personal, subjective, and self-expressive. We come to faith primarily for how it comforts us or helps us cope or lends a sense of belonging. However subtly, we reduce the Resurrection to a symbol or a metaphor. Easter is merely an inspirational tradition, a celebration of rebirth and new life that calls us to the best version of ourselves and helps give meaning to our lives."

But that sentimentality cannot be what Easter is about! It's no mere metaphor. It is not some inspiring story to motivate us. It is the undoing of death. Warren continues:

"The Resurrection is the only evidence that love triumphs over death, weakness prevails over strength, and beauty outlives ashes. If Jesus is risen in actual history, with all the palpability of flesh, fingers, bone, and blood, there is hope that our mourning will be comforted and that death will not have the final word."

We are in a transition period. Things are looking up. Perhaps we can return soon to a more normal time. But this Easter is no less Easter because things are not quite what we hope they will be. Easter is more than the fanfare and symbols and celebrations, more than pastel colors and plastic easter eggs for sure. It is our great hope. It is our only hope.

Christ is Risen! He is Risen Indeed!

March 28, attendance: 72
Contributed: \$ 5,995.00
Average weekly need: 4,420.00
Average needs to date: \$ 46,185.00
Given to date: \$ 46,684.00

To contribute electronically:

Go to www.mt-hermon.org and click the **Online Giving bar**. Register for an account, select method of payment, enter an amount, time frame, and click submit.

Happy Birthday!
April

4 Penny Godsey	9 Lindsey Beekman
5 Lee Thompson	9 RJ Witt
6 James Weight	10 Sharon Garber
6 James Whatley	10 Hyla George
7 Clyde Goode	10 Margaret Tarkenton
8 Terri Matthews	10 Amanda Witt

Worship Order-April 4, 2021 @ 10:30 am
Easter

Prelude "Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks"

Barbara Gray

*†Call to Worship #159 "Christ the Lord is Risen Today," vs. 1,2,& 4

Responsive Reading

Isaiah 25: 6-9

Pastor Jonathan Balmer

Leader: On this mountain the Lord Almighty will prepare a feast of rich food for all peoples,

A banquet of aged wine—the best of meats and the finest of wines.

People: On this mountain he will destroy the shroud that enfolds all peoples, the sheet that covers all nations; he will swallow up death forever.

Leader: The Sovereign Lord will wipe away the tears from all faces;

People: he will remove his people's disgrace from all the earth.

Leader: The Lord has spoken. In that day they will say,

People: Surely this is our God; we trust in him, and he saved us.

Leader: This is the Lord, we trusted in him; let us rejoice

People: And be glad in his salvation.

Song "Alive"

Danielle Heath, soloist

*†Song "In Christ Alone"

Praise Team

Scripture Reading and Prayer Acts 10: 34-43

Larry Rowland

*†Praise Song #160 "Low in the Grave He Lay," vs. 1-3

Welcome & Church Highlights

Rev. Susan Prather

God's Word Mark 16: 1-8

Rev. Susan Prather

Pastoral Prayer

Pastor Jonathan Balmer

*†Offering Song # 161 "Crown Him with Many Crowns," 1,2,& 4

*Offering Statement and Prayer

Larry Rowland

Special Music "New Again"

Jake & Heather Dix

Message **"The Greatest Story Left Untold"**

Pastor Jonathan Balmer

*†Sending Song "Christ is Risen"

Praise Team

*Parting Blessing

Pastor Jonathan Balmer

Postlude "He is Risen! He is Risen"

Barbara Gray

*Indicates to stand as you are able, in body or spirit.

† The whole congregation sings.