



The Connection

April 2025

A monthly publication of the

Millington United Methodist Church

**Our Mission: To Know Christ, and to
Make Him Known**



2 Joe Johnson
3 Linda Wolf
3 Pastor John Britt
5 Carlee Allard
6 Kevin Blackmer
6 Wayne Burns
6 Tammie Reinert
7 Braelynn Parker
9 Bonnie Moore
11 Kamryn Blackmer
12 Quinell Tanner
14 Amy Britt
14 Alice Hajek
15 Erica Burns
17 Pat Burns
17 Mark Johnson
17 Jackie Rose
17 Keyton Trato
19 Noah Patterson
19 Landen Gleason
20 Hannah Henderson
23 Robbie Bolton
24 Ninah Belle Risdon
24 Avery Hurst
26 Allie Heuchert
26 Randy Hall
28 Matalyn Burks
28 Martha Weeks
29 Diana Allard
30 Cassidi Gross
30 Ashtin Giddings

April Scripture Readings

1—John 1:1-5
2—John 1:14
3—John 3:16-17
4—John 14:6
5—John 11:25-27
6—Matthew 17: 22-23
7—John 16: 32-33
8—John 17:1-5
9—John 18:36
10—John 19:28-30
11—Matthew 18:1-7
12—Luke 24:5-7
13—1Corinthians 6:14
14—Romans 6:4-5
15—1 Peter 1:3-4
16—Isaiah 53:4-6
17—1 Thessalonians 4:14
18—Romans 8:11
19—Ephesians 1:18-21
20—Philippians 3:10
21—1 Corinthians 15:4
22—Romans 5:8-11
23—Romans 1:4
24—Romans 8:34
25—1 Corinthians 15:21-22
26—Romans 6:9
27—Colossians 2:12
28—Acts 4:33
29—Acts 3:13-15
30—Romans 10:9

April National Days

1. National Sourdough Bread Day
2. National Walking Day
3. National Find a Rainbow Day
4. National Play Outside Day
5. National Read a Roadmap Day
6. National Sorry Charlie Day
7. National No Housework Day
8. National Zoo Lovers Day
9. National Unicorn Day
10. National Encourage a Young Writer Day
11. National Living Donor Day
12. National Only Child Day
13. National Big Wind Day
14. National Look Up at the Sky Day
15. National Titanic Remembrance Day
16. National Wear Your PJs to Work Day
17. National High Five Day
18. National Exercise Day
19. National Hanging Out Day
20. National Pineapple Upside Down Cake Day
21. National Kindergarten Day
22. National Jelly Bean Day
23. National Take a Chance Day
24. National Bucket List Day
25. National Hug a Plumber Day
26. National Pool Opening Day
27. National Gummi Bear Day
28. National Poetry Reading Day
29. National Peace Rose Day
30. National Adopt a Shelter Pet Day

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Pastor David's Corner

Holy Week

PALM SUNDAY: Jesus entered Jerusalem.

HOLY MONDAY: Jesus freed the sacrificial animals and cleansed the temple.

HOLY TUESDAY: Jesus taught at the temple.

HOLY WEDNESDAY: A disciple named Judas Iscariot betrayed Jesus for pieces of silver.

MAUNDY THURSDAY: The Last Supper with the disciples Jesus washes their feet.

GOOD FRIDAY: Jesus was crucified on a cross. Darkness covered the whole earth.

HOLY SATURDAY: Jesus rested in the tomb.

RESURRECTION SUNDAY: Jesus is Risen! His death, burial and resurrection paid for our sins and gives all who believe in Him eternal life.

Luke 9:51-56 (NKJV)

⁵¹ Now it came to pass, when the time had come for Him to be received up, that He steadfastly set His face to go to Jerusalem,

⁵² and sent messengers before His face. And as they went, they entered a village of the Samaritans, to prepare for Him.

⁵³ But they did not receive Him, because His face was set for the journey to Jerusalem.

⁵⁴ And when His disciples James and John saw this, they said, "Lord, do You want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them, just as Elijah did?"

⁵⁵ But He turned and rebuked them, and said, "You do not know what manner of spirit you are of. ⁵⁶ For the Son of

Man did not come to destroy men's lives but to save them."

We have been talking about our journey with Jesus to go to Jerusalem. This passage from Luke shows us just how difficult the trip became as the enemy sought to deflect even Jesus' closest followers from the extraordinary task at hand.

Consider that Jesus had just been on the Mount of Transfiguration, and He had been told by the Father that the time had come – that all was in readiness for the world-changing event of the death and resurrection of Jesus.

The Samaritans did not welcome them because of the intense hatred between the Samaritans and the Jews. The Jews had condemned the Samaritans because they had intermarried and were therefore not pure.

And so they refused to welcome Jesus and His followers.

When James and John wanted to return hate for hate Jesus pointed out the source of the hate....when He told them "You do not know what manner of spirit you are of. For the Son of Man did not come to destroy men's lives but to save them."

As we draw near to Jerusalem with Jesus, I think that we need to examine what manner of spirit we are of. Whether we are of the spirit of God or the spirit of the world. And whether our lives reflect Christ to the world who so desperately needs Him.

Pastor David

Finance



Moment

Why Does It Matter That We Give?

- Giving changes us inside. Giving moderates our drive for acquisition. We live in a materialistic society that pressures us to pursue many things that do not lead to real happiness. Giving resets our internal compass in the right direction, helping us to draw closer to God.

Giving mirrors God's nature. We are created with God's nature imprinted on our souls; we are hard-wired to be social, compassionate, connected, loving, and generous.

Giving encourages intentionality. The practice of generosity opens us to deeper reflection about wealth and how it relates to our purpose and happiness.

- Giving deepens our relationship with God. When we give generously, our beliefs and trust in God rise to tangible form. We become doers of the word and not hearers only. Generosity feeds our love for God.

The practice of generosity stretches us to offer our utmost and highest to God rather than to give in a manner that is haphazard, unplanned, reactive, or mediocre. People who are generous make giving a first priority, and they go the second mile. They do not give from the '*what's left over*' place, but from a '*what comes first*' priority⁰⁹¹⁹. From "Five Practices of Fruitful Living, by Robert Schnase"

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We make a living by what we get;
we make a life by what we give.

Winston Churchill (1874-1965)

Mission and Outreach

Mission and Outreach will again be having a sno-cone/popcorn booth at the Millington Old Fashioned Summer Festival on August 7 through 9. We will need 2 Adult workers for each three-hour shift on those days. Youth may assist the adults who are signed up. Repeat shifts are welcome!

Also, consider "spring cleaning" and rounding up items at home to sell, and renting a spot at our M-15 yard sale on the Millington United Methodist Church lawn from 9 to 5pm on Saturday, May 3rd. You can be a part of making it a 'One Stop Shopping' event!



Things you Need to Know

Finance Meeting

Monday, April 21st

5pm

Mission and Outreach Meeting

Monday, April 21st

6pm

Fun and laughter

"Here cometh April again," said poet Charles Lamb (1775-1834). "And as far as I can see, the world hath more fools than ever."

That second observation may or may not be true, but April does indeed begin on a lighter note. April Fools' Day, which is filled with practical jokes, can also be a reminder to thank God for laughter, joy, funny stories, children's antics and other things that make us smile.

Then one week after Easter, on what's known as Holy Humor Sunday, some churches celebrate that God played the supreme joke on death. Jesus' resurrection is cause for joy, smiles and, yes, laughter. Even the Almighty joins in: "He who sits in the heavens laughs" (Psalm 2:4).

Know who (and whose) you are

Actor Kirk Douglas once picked up a hitchhiker. After the man got settled in Douglas's car, he turned to look more closely at the driver. Surprised to recognize the famous man at the wheel, the hitchhiker exclaimed, "Do you know who you are?!"

We would do well to ask ourselves and each other the same thing. Often, we seem to forget — or perhaps we never knew.

Through much of life, we behave as if our identity depends on our occupation, wealth, family line, daily accomplishments or good deeds. But none of these — not even the last one — determines the core of who we are. All that matters is our Creator's opinion, and God loves us with abundant, unconditional love.

Do you know who you are? You are God's beloved child! And so is everyone else. May we live out that knowledge, treating one another as such.

—Heidi Hyland Mann

April 2025						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 8:30am Women's 4th Day April Fool's Day	2	3	4	5
6 9am Sunday School 10am Worship 5th Sunday in Lent	7	8 8:30am Women's 4th Day	9	10	11	12
13 9am Sunday School 10am Worship Passion/Palm Sunday	14	15 8:30am Women's 4th Day Tax Day	16	17 Maundy Thursday	18 Good Friday	19
20 9am Sunday School 10am Worship Easter Sunday	21 5pm Finance mtg. 6pm Mission & Outreach mtg.	22 8:30am Women's 4th Day Earth Day	23 Admin. Asst. Day	24 Take your son/daughter to work day	25 Arbor Day	26 Audubon Day
27 9am Sunday School 10am Worship 2nd Sunday of Easter	28	29 8:30am Women's 4th Day	30  GOODBYE APRIL!	HOLY WEEK APRIL 13– 20		

A Note from Barb...

As we enter the season of Spring, let us appreciate all the signs around us of the earth waking up and moving forward to warmer and longer days. And let it remind us that there is always a chance for new beginnings, transforming us into a season of growth and vitality.

The joy and excitement of Spring makes us feel more positive and energized and shows us in stark terms, how good always triumphs over evil, light over darkness, and life over death.

May you always remember that as Christians, we are given new life and new mercies every morning. Spring provides a wonderful reminder to us that there is always hope during the coldest, darkest winters of life. Spring will come and new life will come forth! God's blessings on you all.



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Our Mission: To know Christ and to make Him known

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