



# Mossy Creek United Methodist Church

March 16, 2023

## MOSSY CREEK MESSENGER

### *Food for thought from J*

Lent is a special time for preparing our hearts to learn from the life of Jesus, to remember the passion of Christ, to celebrate the reality of the empty tomb, to be amazed by the miracle of the resurrection, and to embrace the joy of Easter. Key ways we typically accomplish this preparation include seeking to adopt attitudes of repentance and self-sacrifice as we contemplate what it truly means that Christ is risen. Of course, there is no better resource for engaging in the season and spirit of Lent than by taking advantage of opportunities for worship and fellowship within our church. To this end, we have a busy calendar of events for the remainder of Lent and through Easter. I hope you will take the time to look over the following list of activities and commit to participating in as many as possible.

- |                                       |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Sunday, March 26<sup>th</sup></b>  | Churchwide cookout and Easter egg hunt – <b>Immediately following our 10:00 worship</b>                             |
| <b>Sunday, April 2<sup>nd</sup></b>   | Traditional Palm Sunday worship – <b>10:00 A.M.</b>   |
| <b>Thursday, April 6<sup>th</sup></b> | Maundy Thursday family dinner and Communion service - <b>Dinner at 6:00 P.M. Worship and Communion at 7:00 P.M.</b> |
| <b>Friday, April 7<sup>th</sup></b>   | Good Friday Tenebrae service – <b>6:00 P.M.</b>   |
| <b>Sunday, April 9<sup>th</sup></b>   | Easter Sunrise Service – <b>7:00 A.M.</b>   |
| <b>Sunday, April 9<sup>th</sup></b>   | Traditional Easter Service - <b>10:00 A.M.</b>  |

*But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain...And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. If in Christ we have hope in this life only, we are of all people most to be pitied.*

*1 Corinthians 15:13-19*

## WORSHIP NEWS

### **Living in the Kingdom**

What is this kingdom of Heaven Jesus came to proclaim, and why is it so important? Well, Jesus gives some clear answers to these questions in his classic parable of the Sower. If you would like to know more about God's kingdom and how to live in it, I hope you will come worship with us on Sunday.

## Never Miss a Sunday

If you can't worship in person, you can watch our worship services on the Mossy Creek UMC Facebook page. Simply click on the link below to worship live or watch later at your convenience. **Be sure to introduce your Facebook friends to our church and the gospel message by sharing our online worship with them.**

<https://www.facebook.com/mossycreekumc>

## CHURCH BUSINESS

### Check out our Updated Website

Our Mossycreekumc.org website is being upgraded, complete with a fresh, new look and important updated information about our church. We hope you will take a minute to look over the website and then utilize it as an important resource for keeping up with church activities and events or referring friends and neighbors who might want to know more about our church. You can click on the link below to view:

<http://www.mossycreekumc.org>

## DISCIPLESHIP/FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

### Read the Bible in a Year

#### Week 33

Day 1	-	2 Kings 15-16, Matthew 21
Day 2	-	Isaiah 1-3, Psalm 9, Matthew 22
Day 3	-	Isaiah 4-6, Matthew 23
Day 4	-	Micah 1-4, Psalm 10, Matthew 24
Day 5	-	Micah 5-7, Matthew 25

### Gifts

Supporting the church with our tithes and offerings is necessary for the life of the church and as an important spiritual practice for growing as a disciple and exercising our faith in God's providence. Fortunately, there are several ways for you to give at Mossy Creek. In addition to weekly offering during worship, contributions can be placed in the box outside the office marked "Sally," they can be mailed to the church at PO Box 557, Cleveland, GA 30528, and they may be made electronically by clicking the "**donate here**" button of the church web site. Thank you for your continuing financial support of our church.

### Volunteers Need

We need volunteers to help with our churchwide cookout and Easter egg hunt after worship on March 26<sup>th</sup>. If you are available to help with these activities, please contact Carly Adam at [carlysadam@gmail.com](mailto:carlysadam@gmail.com).

## Christian Education Opportunities

### Sunday School – 9:00 AM every Sunday

We have classes for children of all ages that focus on providing age appropriate and foundational lessons about the Bible, its main characters, and the fundamental life lessons they hold for us today.

Our Choir Room class is currently reading C. S. Lewis's *Mere Christianity*. We would love to have you join us Sunday mornings at 9:00 A.M in the choir room.

The Fellowship Hall class offers an opportunity for group prayer, fellowship, and spiritual devotion using such resources as the Upper Room. The class welcomes anyone wishing to engage in these important spiritual practices.

The Young at Heart class meets in the room adjacent to the church office and follows the traditional Cokesbury Sunday School curriculum.

### Bible Studies and Small Groups

The Tuesday Bible study group is continuing an in-depth study of John's gospel. We meet every Tuesday at noon in the Fellowship Hall. Next week we will be discussing chapter 18. It's never too late to get involved in serious Bible study, and we hope you will consider joining us in studying God's word from John's gospel.

Our United Methodist Women are currently studying Shannon Bream's book, *The Mothers and Daughters of the Bible Speak*. Their next meeting will be on Monday night, April 10th at 6:00 P.M. in the Fellowship Hall.

The United Methodist Men meet for breakfast on the second Sunday of each month to share food, fellowship, and a time of spiritual devotion.

Our Ladies Fellowship Group meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month.

## Children are our Future...

...but we need volunteers to work with our children on Sunday mornings and throughout the year, as we seek to grow disciples for the future of the church and God's kingdom. If you have a gift for working with and teaching children, don't wait to be asked to use your talent for God's kingdom. Call the office or talk to J to volunteer.

## FACTS AND FIGURES

### Financial Report

#### General Fund – Through February 2023

- 2023 YTD Receipts	\$39,631.00
- 2023 YTD Expenses	\$39,919.00
- Net income/(loss)	(\$ 288.00)

#### Building Fund – Through February 2023

- 2023 YTD Receipts	\$ 27,339.00
- YTD Balance	\$ 46,118.00

### Recent Attendance

	<u>In-person</u>	<u>Facebook views</u>
Mar. 12, 2023	74	130
Mar. 5, 2023	92	46
Feb. 26, 2023	109	254
Feb. 19, 2023	86	33

### March Birthdays

3/2 - Sally Crowe  
3/3 - Doug Head  
3/6 - Mike Rogers  
3/7 - Lora Everette  
3/8 - Randall Campbell  
3/9 - Lily Kostulakos  
3/10 - Ella Blair  
3/11 - Jon Kostulakos  
3/13 - Laurene Sosebee  
3/14 - Hazel Fain  
3/15 - Connie Campbell  
3/20 - Mike Dorsey, David Hollingsworth  
3/21 - Grant Keene  
3/29 - Allen Head

### March Anniversaries

3/27 - Brad and Vicky Hunt

### NEW PRAYER NEEDS AND CONCERNS

- Jerdy Raban
- Donald Hunt
- Kelly Jones
- Terri Crumley
- Family of Dr. Peter Gray
- Family of Tony Edge

### BUILDING UPDATE

#### New Building Available for Limited Use

While we await the last steps in completing our new building and receiving our final Certificate of Occupancy, the building is now available for limited use by our members. If you would like to reserve the building for an event or activity, please contact the church office to inquire about availability.

