

MCKENDREE MATTERS

McKendree-Simms-Brookland United Methodist Church

Rev. Alexis F. Brown, Pastor

**24th & Lawrence Streets, NE
pastor@alexisfbrown.com**

**Washington, DC. 20018
202-529-3075**

March/April 2025

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WORSHIP with us



McKendree-Simms-Brookland UMC
invites you to worship with us
each **Sunday at 10:00 AM.**

Register here to join us for services on
Zoom

<https://tinyurl.com/SUNDAY-MSB>

or

Worship with us in the Sanctuary at
24th & South Dakota Avenue, NE
Washington, DC. 20018



McKendree-Simms-Brookland UMC
Rev. Alexis F. Brown, Pastor
Church Office: 2421 Lawrence Street, NE
Sanctuary: 3321 – 24th Street, NE
Washington, DC. 20018
202-529-3075
pastor@alexisfbrown.com

Rev. Johnsie Cogman
District Superintendent

Rev. LaTrelle Easterling
Resident Bishop

Open Hearts

Open Minds

Open Doors

The people of the United Methodist Church



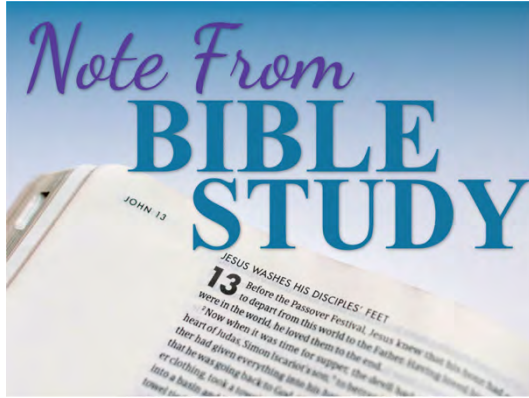
10:00am

Saturday, March 15, 2025

Saturday, June 21, 2025

Saturday, September 20, 2025

Saturday, November 15, 2025



During our 4-week Bible study, using scripture from the Lectionary, we embarked on themes centered on “Rejoicing in God’s Law, “Living Out Our Calling,” “Love Is ...,” and “Choosing Life.” Each week, as our closing, we included thoughts to ponder. Below are 5 thoughts/prayers to consider including in your daily devotions.

- Lord, help me to identify specific steps that I can take to find joy and hope amidst the challenges that are before me
- Lord, show me the gifts that I can use in ways that will help build the body of Christ
- Lord, help me to discern Your call to me and use my voice to share Your message to a hurting world
- Lord, help me to love others as You love us
- Lord, help me to choose life and put my trust in You

Submitted by Sis Belva Martin

God’s Powerful Word

The Bible contains about 800,000 words, depending on the translation. This is about four times as many words as are found in a book of average length.

Although the Bible is so long and deals with the greatest themes that can engage the human mind, its vocabulary is singularly limited. It uses only 6,000 different words, a very small number compared to the 20,000 words that Shakespeare employed while writing his plays.

Not only is the Bible’s vocabulary limited, but the average word in it contains only five letters. However, many of these short words are full of the deepest meanings and are worthy of earnest study. For example, consider these five-letter words: grace, peace, faith, saved, serve, glory and Jesus.

Celebrating the Men of MSB During Black History Month

During February, we celebrated the men of MSB. We began the month recognizing our oldest male—**Bro Eldon Hayman**—and ended the month celebrating our **First Gentleman, Bro Christopher Brown**. Bro Chris Brown is the owner and operator of Firm Foundation to Thrive, LLC, a behavioral healthcare company located in Columbia, MD. At Firm



Photo by Eric Davis

Foundation, with his staff of 15 professionals, he oversees a Psychiatric Rehabilitation Program for both children and adults providing housing resources, self-esteem building, employment assistance, and addressing everyday concerns to help individuals thrive. He is the proud father to Sydney, Jordyn, Kamryn and Symone and even prouder to be the husband of **Rev. Alexis F. Brown**.

The men we honored are listed below. As February is also Heart Health Month, we urge you to take care of yourself and especially your heart. YOU ROCK! We love you, we celebrate you, and we appreciate each of you! May God continue blessing you!

Bro Gus Gaskins
Bro David Ratliff
Bro Abner McCorkle

Bro Bruce Moaney
Bro James Martin
Bro John Martin

Bro George Davis
Bro Robert Young
Bro Corey Francis

Bro Mason Clark	Bro Dannie Young	Bro Maynard King
Bro Clifford Reese	Bro Charles Phillips	Bro Karl Shepherd
Bro Tom Bellamy	Bro Eric Davis	Bro Reggie Shepherd
Bro Lawrence Yates	Bro Jackie Robinson	Bro Lott Jones
Bro Leon Anderson	Bro Hunter Alexander	Bro Karl Ore
Bro Mark Faison	Bro Kevin Scott	Bro Jon Wells
Bro Ernest Davis	Bro Joe Holliday	Bro Bill Reddick
Bro Frank Lane	Bro Ben Alexander	Bro Michael Davis
Bro George Parrish	Bro Curtis Jones	Bro Calvin McLean
Bro Ray Dean	Bro Antonio Meekins	Bro Antonio Burkett
Bro Gregory Tyson	Bro Robert Franklin	Bro Michael Johnson
Bro Frank Broadnax	Bro Moses Joachim	Bro Kevin Pope
Bro Barry Gale-Williamson		

Submitted by Sis Belva Martin and Judy Jones

Christ Still Calls Us

The rugged hills of Galilee drop down to meet the sea
Where burly men still mend their nets, still fish there eagerly.

The sea's the same place where Christ said, "Lay down your nets and heed
My call to love all people, and serve them in their need."

"I'll help you fish for humankind," he told them long ago.
His call's still heard, His help's still real today, as we well know.

Yes, people still are leaving "nets" wherever
they might be,
And as disciples still go forth to serve Christ
willingly.

by Peggy Ferrell



Jadyn Hackley

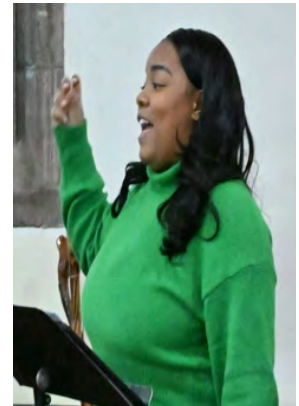
Joins MSB Music Ministry



McKendree Matters introduces Jadyn Hackley to the MSB Church family.

What is your musical background and/or experience?

I have been involved in music for as long as I can remember. Growing up in Prince George’s County, Maryland, I began playing piano and singing at the age of five, and my passion for music has only deepened over the years. I am currently pursuing a degree in Choral Music Education at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC), where I serve as the student director of the Gospel and Jubilee Choirs. Additionally, I teach private piano lessons, work as a music instructor at Pee Wee Piano School of the Arts and have previously served as the Music Director at NMBC. My love for both music and ministry has shaped my journey, and I continually seek opportunities to grow as a leader, musician, and educator.



What brought you to McKendree?

I came to McKendree because I felt led to use my gifts in a place that values both tradition and growth in worship. I believe music is one of the most powerful ways to bring people together and strengthen our faith. When the opportunity came to be part of the Music Ministry here, I knew it was a space where I could serve, grow, and help lead others into a meaningful worship experience.

Do you have a favorite song and/or scripture?

One of my favorite scriptures is Colossians 3:16: *“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.”* I love this verse because it reminds me that music is more than just sound—it’s a way to teach, encourage, and bring us closer to God. As for a favorite song, there are too many to choose from, but *“Total Praise”* by Richard Smallwood will always be special to me.

What goals do you have for the Music Ministry at McKendree?

I want to help create a worship experience that feels genuine, uplifting, and spiritually fulfilling. My goal is to encourage more people to get involved, no matter their background or skill level, and to bring in a variety of worship styles that speak to different generations. I also want to help strengthen the choir and musicianship in the church by providing training and making sure that everything we do is rooted in God’s word. More than anything, I want the music ministry to be a space where people feel connected to God and each other through worship.

Happy Birthday to....



Latese Lyles	March 1
Kathryn Russell	March 2
Dannie Young	March 4
Thaddeus Griffin	March 6
Margaret Franklin	March 9
Dale Ore	March 10
Michael McCorkle	March 10
Robin Collins	March 12
Kevin Pope	March 14
Dimitria Hubbard	March 17
Deborah Isaac	March 19
George Davis, III	March 20
Kevin Pryor	March 21
Saundra McNair	March 21
Ella Studevent	March 22
Khalia Sims	March 24
Brenda Mosley	March 26
Abner McCorkle	March 27
Millicent Pecku	March 27
Lucy McCorkle	March 28
Carolyn Alexander	March 30



Stanisha Johnson	April 2
Joy Bowman	April 6
Kelsey Dobyys	April 11
Michelene Coulbury	April 11
Charvion Shorts	April 12
Lenora McRae	April 12
Hope Taylor	April 12
Jalin Justin	April 12
Arabelle Finney	April 15
Iris Hurdle	April 21
Samoya Onibuje	April 23
Yvonne Whitmore	April 28
Mary J. Harris	April 30



"Aging is not 'lost youth' but a new stage of opportunity and strength."

Betty Friedan



Sick & Shut-in Members

Linda Alexander
Leon Anderson & Vicki Anderson
Charlene Cooper
Matilda Corley
Lynn Davenport
Rosalie Guerra
Eldon Hayman
Sallie Henderson
Mary Hubbard
Michael Johnson & Genevieve Johnson
Karlene Klimpacher
Anita Lambert
James Martin
Abner McCorkle & Lucy McCorkle
Bertha McNair
Lenora McRae
Rev. Millie Pecku
David Ratliff
William Reddick
Christine Thomas
Lucy Wade
Dannie Young

Sick and Recovering Ministry

Mary J. Harris & Judy Jones, Co-Chairs



McKendree-Simms-Brookland UMC
mourns with their families on the
passing of our MSB members:

- **Sister Bertha Cobb**
on January 14, 2025
- **Brother Alvon Lewis**
on February 9, 2025



The family of **Nosaj McFarlin** (*great nephew of John and Belva Martin*)

Where Is Thy Sting?

Death's power is limited. It cannot eradicate memories or slay love. It cannot destroy even a threadbare faith or permanently hobble the smallest hope in God. It cannot permeate the soul, and it cannot cripple the spirit. It merely separates us for a while. That is the only power death can claim — no more.

by Donna VanLiere

In Memory of Bertha Cobb

It is often said that “You don’t know a person until you have travel with them.” Well, Bert and I logged many miles by bus and by car. Bert knew that she was truly blessed. She let the world know she had married a good man. Imagine your own bedroom in a brand-new house where you were loved and cared for. What a blessing!

Her favorite past time was playing cards. She had a competitive nature as her grandchildren found out when they played Spades. (Remember, she taught them how to play Spades.)

We knew that she loved Maryland blue crabs. Could eat them daily. She became a familiar face at Ruff N Ready Crab House. Dear friend, Elaine, welcomed us on several occasions for crabs and all the trimmings.



Bert had a gift for keeping us together and focused. There is a group of us who are now wondering what we will do every third Friday of each month.

She had a giving heart. You missed it if you did not get any of her shrimp and grits. If she heard that you were not feeling well, you could expect a container of her homemade soup. My last gift package from her was a delicious sweet potato pie and fruit cake made by Herman’s sister.

Bert was willing and able to help raise money for a worthy cause. She did not mind asking you for money and convincing you to give.

During our many chats about MSB UMC, she mentioned that even though she paid her tithes, she did not feel good when the plate was passed on Sundays, and she did not put anything in it. She said she began putting money in the offering plate. I never told her how that had made a positive impression on me. You see, I pay my tithes also. However, I began putting money in the offering plate on Sundays also.

To “Blessed Bert’s” Aunt Lula, her brother, her children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, in-laws, other family and friends,

My prayer is that God will grant you peace.

Love to all.

from Ellen S. Davis

January 2025

“LET THE WORK I DO SPEAK FOR ME”

In Honor of Brother Alvon Lewis

By Karl L. Ore



A man of God, a husband, a father, a master brick mason, a handy man, a musician and our genuine friend.

Brother Alvon was a member of the Methodist Men, Sick and Recovering Ministry and the Male Chorus. From the beginning, he was never shy about becoming a contributing participant of those organizations by volunteering to do whatever was necessary to get the job done.

As a member of the Methodist Men, he saw the need and proposed building the handicapped bathroom in the Fellowship Hall. For Annual Men’s Day Prayer Breakfasts, he played and invited his “God’s Choice” group to provide the music.

As a member of the Male Chorus, he traveled and never missed a rehearsal or an engagement. Over many years he was called upon to play The Lord’s Prayer on his trumpet on the first Sundays during Communion.

As a member of the Sick and Recovering Ministry, he teamed up with his late wife Margaret, and faithfully carried out the duties of an esteemed communion team. For our annual Walk-A-Thon, he provided hot chocolate, hot tea and coffee. In addition, he gathered several youths, including Myles McManus, to accompany him and the “God’s Choice” group to various nursing homes to sing and provide inspiring instrumental music to the residents. Sis Jackie Hayman was also very instrumental in providing leadership for those outgoing ventures.

As a master brick mason, one only needs to see the front steps and walkway in front of church to witness his craft. Other areas include the Outreach House steps and other church properties. After a heavy snow, we would meet at the church with our snow blowers and assist with clearing the sidewalks on Lawrence Street and South Dakota and Rhode Island Avenues.

Finally, he was indeed our genuine friend. We visited each other’s homes, ate at fine restaurants, attended shows at the Kennedy Center and movies over the DMV. He attended our celebrations, and we attended his professional brick mason annual awards celebration.

Finally, i have never heard anyone say a negative word about him.

Now to Sister Kimberly, you have always been an intricate part of this equation. That will not end. We stand ready at a moment’s notice to step up and assist you wherever you should need us. Over the past several years, we have seen you become the guardian angel for your father. You have graciously and faithfully done thus saith the Lord, “You have truly honored both your mother and father.” You are indeed forever in our thoughts and prayers.

Brother Lewis, May God rest your soul in eternal peace.



**NORTH CAROLINA
AGRICULTURAL AND TECHNICAL
STATE UNIVERSITY**



Dr. Kendra Alexander

Dear Dr. Alexander:

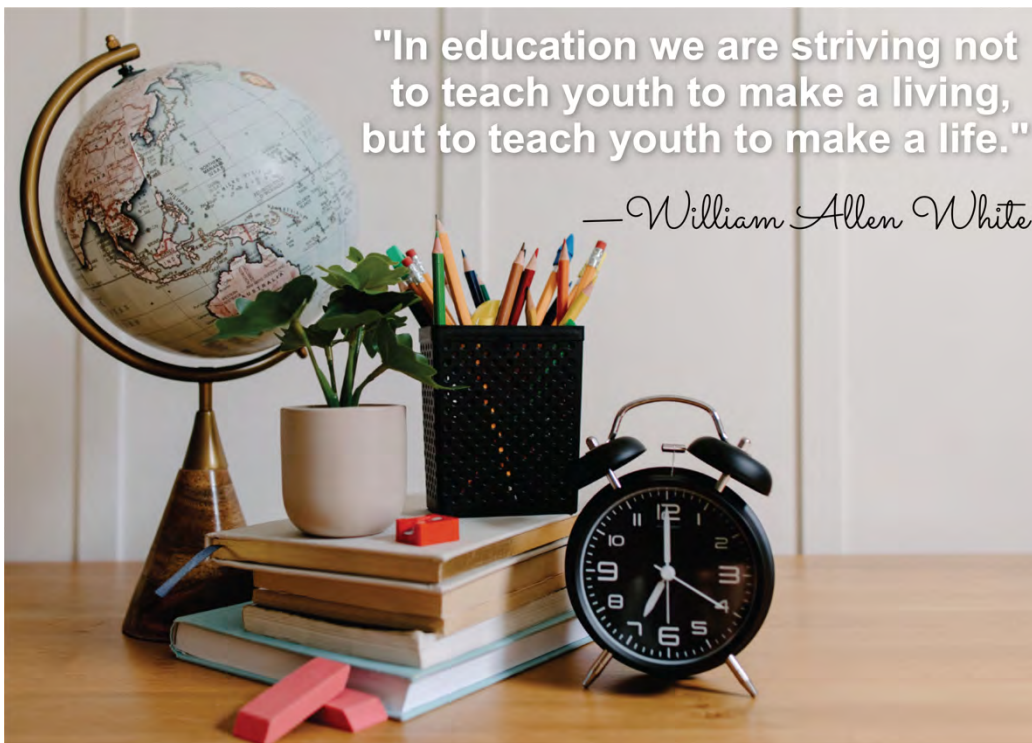
I am pleased to inform you that the Board of Trustees approved my recommendation to grant you Promotion and Tenure to the rank of Associate Professor, effective July 1, 2025. Congratulations on this major career achievement.

I look forward to your continued service and commitment to the success of North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'James R. Martin II'.

James R. Martin II, Ph.D.
Chancellor



"In education we are striving not to teach youth to make a living, but to teach youth to make a life."

—William Allen White

MSB Scholarship Qualifications

MSB High School Seniors and college students, MSB Scholarship is now open! Please read below for important criteria: Meeting all criteria is important to qualify, however it is important to highlight the following significant criteria for all applicants. **To qualify, all applicants must:**

1. Be a High School Senior or college student
2. Be an *ACTIVE member or **ACTIVE affiliate member of MSBUMC
3. Plan to attend a 2 or 4 year college/university in the Fall
4. Provide 3 Letters of Recommendation (LOR)- (LOR from Pastor, LOR from Guidance Counselor, LOR from family friend).
5. Meet any additional requirements named in the application.
6. Meet all requirements and turn in completed application by scholarship deadline.

*An ACTIVE member is a current MSBUMC member that regularly attends worship service and participates in MSB Activities for at least a year prior to applying. **An ACTIVE Affiliate member is a current MSBUMC member that regularly attends worship service and participates in MSB Activities for at least two years prior to applying. Involvement in MSBUMC activities includes participation in any of the following, but is not limited to: Active Involvement in Children's and Youth Ministry, Young Adult Ministry, serve during worship service, participate in choir(s), acolyte, usher, liturgist, receipt processor, Sunday School, Vacation Bible School, etc.

Submitted by the MSB Higher-Education and Scholarship Committee

Deaf History Month Fact-2025

Did you know?...Long before American Sign Language, there was indigenous “Hand Talk,” known today as [Plains Indian Sign Language \(PISL\)](#). Spanish settlers first noticed and documented its use as far back as the 1500s, but it’s likely that the language existed for much longer, given the 30,000-year history of Native people in North America. PISL was a language developed across tribes, particularly among the nomadic or semi-nomadic tribes in the Great Plains, so that people could communicate between tribes and across long distances. It contains about 1700 signs.

PISL was also the first language of many Native Deaf people. While it is still used today by a small number of “d/Deaf” and hearing people, ASL has overtaken PISL in Deaf education settings. PISL is now considered an endangered language. (See below how PISL and ASL vary).

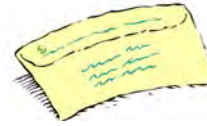
Likewise, Native Hawai’ins also have their own distinct sign language (Hawaii Sign Language-HSL) that is becoming endangered. The language has been in use since 1800s, but there are only a few native HSL speakers left.

Story taken from Communication Service for the Deaf (CSD) Website



Submitted by Nikki Dobyms, HICS Ministry

I Am Your Church Envelope



I would like to talk with you, for
I am part of your church.
I may be a complete stranger to you, but
I can help you be a better Christian
I like to go worship on Sunday, for
I help you to be Christ's partner
I am very small, but
I am the keystone of your church program
I am a weekly reminder of your daily
Blessings.

I dare you to be as good to
God as he has been to you.
I am only paper, but
I carry the full gift of a generous heart.
I am the only pocketbook you need on
Sunday, and
I promise not to be a burden.
I am your chance to preach, for
I am a silent sermon of your devotion.

If no envelopes are in the Narthex, and you are in need of church envelope, please contact me at 202-544-3159.

Finance Committee
Mary J. Harris

A Bountiful Life



"Life is given to you like a flat piece of land," said actress Jeanne Moreau. "I hope that when I'm finished, my piece of land will be a beautiful garden."

God, who put the first human in a garden to care for creation, blesses us with talents and resources to wisely manage. In gardening terms, God gives us the plot of ground, the seed, the wisdom and strength to bring forth beauty and abundance. Yet we do the work, with God's help, to make it a reality. Like Adam, we till, but God gives

the increase. God's provisions and our labor bring the garden — and our lives of stewardship — to fulfillment.

As stewards, we ponder: When God calls us home, what will our garden be like, and what will it have produced?

About Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD)

Your kidneys do many important jobs. Some of the ways they keep your whole body in balance include:

- Removing natural waste products and extra water from your body
- Helping make red blood cells
- Balancing important minerals in your body
- Helping maintain your blood pressure
- Keeping your bones healthy

Chronic kidney disease (CKD) is when the kidneys have become damaged over time (for at least three months) and have a hard time doing all their important jobs. CKD also increases the risk of other health problems like heart disease and stroke. Developing CKD is usually a very slow process with very few symptoms at first. So, CKD is divided into five stages to help guide treatment decisions.

Signs and symptoms

Many people living with CKD do not have any symptoms until the more advanced stages and/or complications develop. If symptoms do happen, they may include:

- Foamy urine
- Urinating (peeing) more often or less often than usual
- Itchy and/or dry skin
- Feeling tired
- Nausea
- Loss of appetite
- Weight loss without trying to lose weight

People who have more advanced stages of CKD may also notice:

- Trouble concentrating
- Numbness or swelling in your arms, legs, ankles, or feet
- Achy muscles or cramping
- Shortness of breath
- Vomiting
- Trouble sleeping
- Breath smells like ammonia (also describes as urine-like or “fishy”)

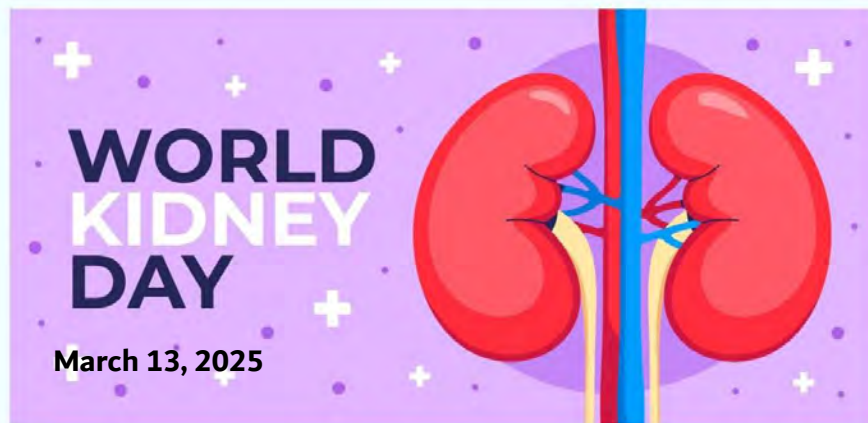
Risk Factors

Anyone can develop CKD – at any age.

The most common CKD risks are:

- Diabetes
- High blood pressure (hypertension)
- Heart disease and/or heart failure
- Obesity
- Over the age of 60
- Family history of CKD or kidney failure
- Personal history of acute kidney injury (AKI)
- Smoking and/or use of tobacco products

For many people, CKD is not caused by just one reason. Instead, it is a result of many physical, environmental, and social factors. Early detection is important -CKD often begins without causing any noticeable symptoms. Knowing the risk factors can help you know your level of risk and if you should get checked for CKD.



Source: National Kidney Foundation

Submitted by: Health and Welfare Committee

Mary J. Harris

Transfiguration Sunday

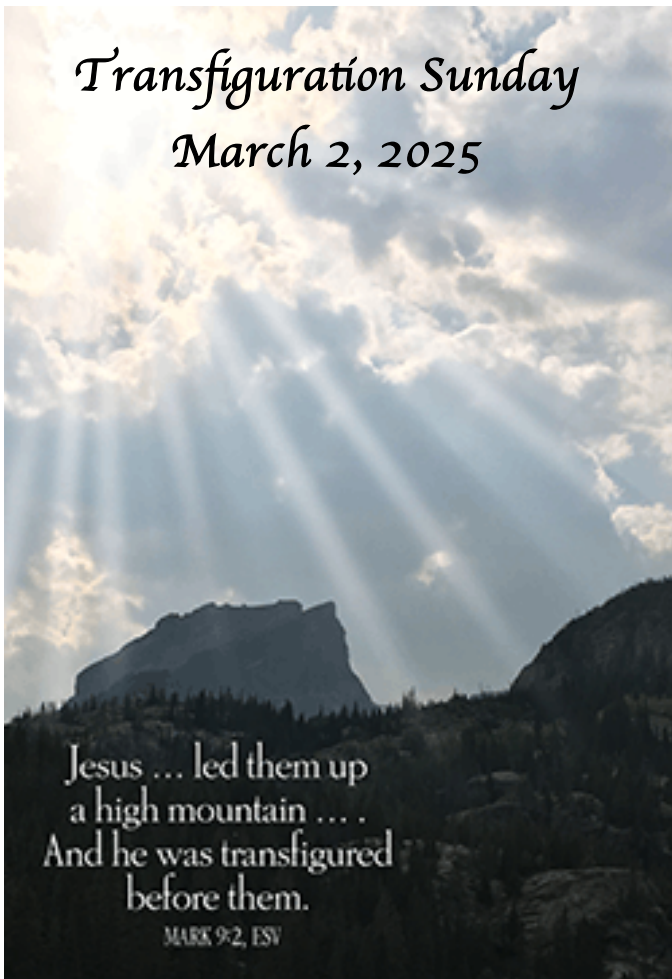
March 2, 2025

In All His Glory

On the Sunday before Ash Wednesday, many Christian churches celebrate the Transfiguration of Our Lord. After telling his shocked, uncomprehending disciples that he would die and rise again, Jesus took Peter, James and John up a mountain. Suddenly Jesus appeared to be glowing! "He was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became white as light" (Matthew 17:2, ESV).

Moses and Elijah appeared, and a voice said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him" (verse 5). Jesus' disciples fell to the ground, overcome by fear. But Jesus touched them, told them not to be afraid and led them down the mountain.

The disciples witnessed firsthand the glory and Godhood of Jesus, who would soon die for the sins of the world and rise again to give us life.



Beyond our busyness,
Above the cold winter floor
there is a glory rising born of heaven
and reaching out to each one of us

a light that shines through the clouds
an invitation seeking all of who we are
that transfigures the world

that transforms darkness into hope
that brings life from a cross
where old life ends and new life is born

In glory Jesus meets us here
raising us from depths of valley to the height of the mountain
carrying the weight of our humanity
to the heights of heavens glory.

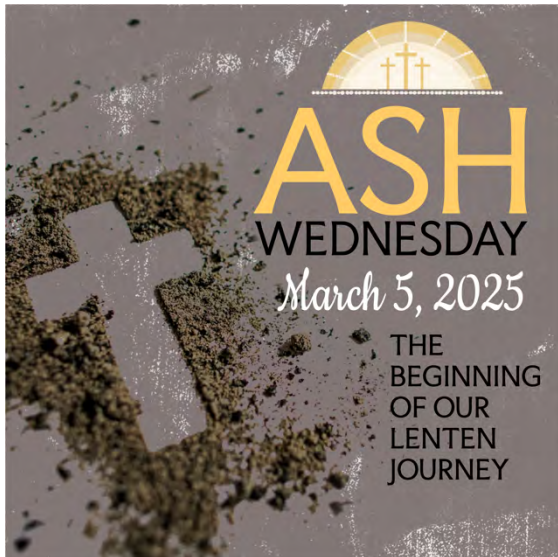
Let us worship from the mountain and hear again
"This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!"

Written by Rev. Rob Smith, Spirit of Life Presbyterian Church, Apple Valley, MN
<https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2017/02/call-to-worship-for-transfiguration.html>

Inspired by:

- *Matthew 17:1-8,*
- *Mark 9:2-9*
- *Luke 9:28-36*
- *2 Peter 1:16-18)*

What Do Methodists Believe About Ash Wednesday?



Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the season of Lent. Lent is a time when many Christians prepare for Easter by observing a period of fasting, repentance, moderation and spiritual discipline.

Ash Wednesday emphasizes two themes: our sinfulness before God and our human mortality. The service focuses on both themes, helping us to realize that both have been triumphed through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

During some Ash Wednesday services, the minister will lightly rub the sign of the cross with ashes onto the foreheads of worshipers. The use of ashes as a sign of mortality and repentance has a long history

in Jewish and Christian worship. Historically, ashes signified purification and sorrow for sins.

It is traditional to save the palm branches from the previous Palm Sunday service to burn to produce ashes for this service. Sometimes a small card or piece of paper is distributed on which each person writes a sin or hurtful or unjust characteristic. The cards are then brought to the altar to be burned with the palm branches. The ash cross on the forehead is an outward sign of our sorrow and repentance for sins.

— Adapted from *The United Methodist Book of Worship*

<https://www.arapahoumc.org/blog/what-do-methodists-believe-about-ash-wednesday>

Fasting and Feasting

During Lent, consider this practical — and biblical — advice from Arthur Lichtenberger, a former presiding bishop of the Episcopal Church:

- Fast from criticism, and feast on praise.
- Fast from self-pity, and feast on joy.
- Fast from ill-temper, and feast on peace.
- Fast from resentment, and feast on contentment.
- Fast from jealousy, and feast on love.
- Fast from pride, and feast on humility.
- Fast from selfishness, and feast on service.
- Fast from fear, and feast on faith.

Lenten Bible Reading Plan



During Lent, Christians observe 40 days of confession, prayer and renewal. Just as our Savior fasted and faced temptation in the desert for 40 days, we use this season to grow our faith and prepare to minister.

Use this Bible Reading Plan to follow Jesus to the cross and then rejoice at his empty tomb on Easter. Travel through Scripture to reflect on who Jesus is and what he lovingly endured to give us life.



The Dry Desert

- Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 [*Ash Wednesday- March 5, 2025*]
- Genesis 3
- Psalm 63:1-8
- Matthew 4:1-11

Sunday- March 9, 2025: Hebrews 4:14-16



Hope on the Horizon

- Numbers 21:4-9
- 2 Samuel 7:1-16
- Job 19:23-27
- Isaiah 42:1-9
- Daniel 7:13-14
- Zechariah 9:9-17

Sunday-March 16, 2025: Romans 8:22-30



Our Sacrificial Lamb

- Genesis 22:1-18
- Exodus 12:1-17
- Psalm 23
- John 1:1-34
- John 10:1-18
- 1 Peter 1:18-23

Sunday-March 23, 2025: Revelation 5



Hatred & Persecution

- Psalm 22
- Jeremiah 20:7-13
- Matthew 24:1-31
- John 11:45-57
- John 15:18-25
- 2 Timothy 3:10-17

Sunday-March 30, 2025: 2 Corinthians 4



Hosannas for a King

- Psalm 24:7-10
- Jeremiah 23:5-6
- Matthew 21:1-11
- John 18:33-40
- John 19:1-16
- Hebrews 1:1-12

Sunday-April 6, 2025: Revelation 7:9-17



Journey to the Cross

- John 2:13-22
- Mark 14:1-11
- John 13:1-17
- Matthew 26:26-30
- Luke 22:39-46
- Mark 14:27-31, 66-72

Palm Sunday-April 13, 2025:
Ephesians 1:18-23



Victory Through Christ

- Isaiah 53
- Matthew 26:47-56
- Mark 15:16-20
- John 6:47-58 [*Maundy Thursday*]
- Matthew 27:32-54 [*Good Friday*]
- Psalm 16:5-11 [*Holy Saturday*]

Easter Sunday-April 20, 2025:

Luke 24:1-8; 1 Corinthians 15:47-57

Note: Sundays, known as "mini-Easters," are excluded from Lent's 40 days. But this reading plan includes verses for each day from Ash Wednesday through Easter Sunday.

Easter Blessings

Jesus came into the world
A precious baby boy
God gave us His only son
This wonderous gift of joy.

A great sacrifice was made
So we'd gain eternal life
Jesus suffered upon the cross
In anguish, grief and strife!

But Jesus conquered the power of death
And all its painful woes...

The tomb was empty, the stone rolled away

From the grave our Savior arose

When we believe in Jesus Christ
And accept him in our heart
All things are made new again
We have a brand-new start

As we celebrate this Easter
In praise with joy and song
We have a blessed assurance
To the Savior we belong.

Submitted by Mary Hayman

Take care OF GOD'S WORLD



CREATION CARE

April 22, 2025, marks the 55th anniversary of Earth Day. The annual celebration of the wonders and miracles of nature also draws attention to important environmental issues and causes such as climate change, energy conservation and sustainability efforts.

The United Methodist Church acknowledges the importance of environmental protection as a part of Christians' call to be good stewards of God's creation while ensuring sustainability for future generations. Climate justice is also vital to social and racial reconciliation as too often the poor and minority communities are affected by pollution and environmental disasters disproportionately.

"All creation is the Lord's, and we are responsible for the ways in which we use and abuse it. Water, air, soil, minerals, energy resources, plants, animal life, and space are to be valued and conserved because they are God's creation and not solely because they are useful to human beings." United Methodist Social Principles, ¶160

<https://www.resourceumc.org/en/content/celebrating-earth-day-at-50>

PUZZLE

FROM WORD TO WORLD

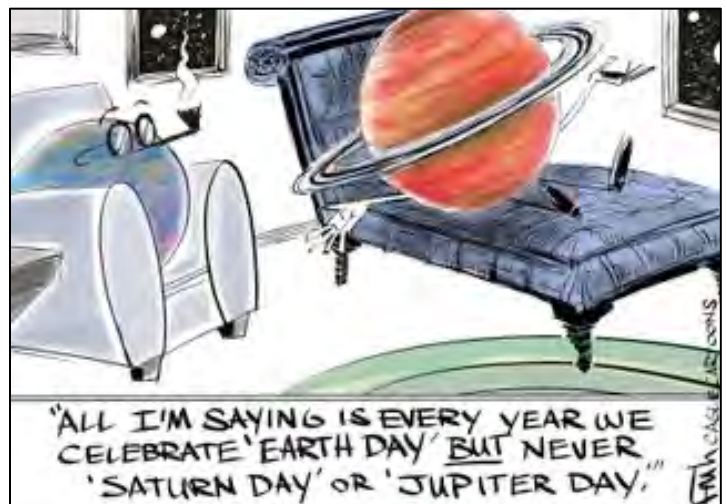
Words are important! God spoke and created all things.
What does the psalmist declare about creation?

Directions: Using the word clues, unscramble the letters to complete Psalm 102:25, NIV.

A preposition	NI	---
An article	HTE	---
Genesis means this	NINBGEIGN	-----
A second-person pronoun	OUY	---
Past tense of <i>to lay</i>	IDAL	---
An article	HET	---
A plural noun meaning <i>base</i>	SODTAINFONU	-----
A preposition showing possession	FO	---
An article	TEH	---
A concrete noun meaning <i>world</i>	HRTEA	-----

Psalm 102:25, NIV

Answer: In the beginning you laid the foundations of the earth. (Psalm 102:25, NIV)



A graphic for the United Methodist Federal Legislative Advocacy Day 2025. It features a background image of the U.S. Capitol building with an American flag in the foreground. The text is overlaid in white and black.

**UNITED METHODIST
FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE
ADVOCACY DAY 2025**

MARCH 26 | 10 AM | CAPITOL HILL UMC

The Baltimore-Washington Conference UMC and United Women in Faith invite you to join us on **March 26, 2025**, in Washington D.C., for our annual **Federal Legislative Advocacy Day!** This is an exciting opportunity for United Methodists to faithfully advocate for transforming systems that disenfranchise, marginalize, and oppress.

<https://na.eventscloud.com/ereg/index.php?eventid=826408&>

A graphic for the United Methodist D.C. Legislative Advocacy Day 2025. It features a background image of the U.S. Capitol building with an American flag in the foreground. The text is overlaid in white and black.

**UNITED METHODIST
D.C. LEGISLATIVE
ADVOCACY DAY 2025**

APRIL 30 | 10 AM | ASBURY UMC(D.C.)

Join United Methodist leaders, laity, and clergy as we advocate for just policies and laws for our District of Columbia community. On **April 30, 2025**, we will set up different visits with District Councilmember's offices so we can share our concerns for our community and support laws that will make the District a more equitable place. We'll start our day learning about our United Methodist call

to public advocacy, and learning about legislation from advocates, then we'll share lunch before heading to the District Council to speak with our Council members.

<https://na.eventscloud.com/ereg/index.php?eventid=830372&>



"Rejoice in the Lord: Dwell in Joy!" Is the theme of the 2025 Baltimore-Washington Conference session, which will be held **Tuesday-Thursday, May 13-15**, at the Hilton Hotel in Baltimore. An online PreConference Session will be held May 3 at 9 a.m.



OUR EASTER GIFT

Thanks to Easter, what wonderful gift does God give us?

Directions: Start at the given letter, move one space in the direction each arrow points. Write the last letter in each sequence in the spaces provided. Then write those answers in order on the blanks below to complete 1 Peter 1:3, NIV.

A	B	C	D	E
F	G	H	I	J
K	L	M	N	O
P	Q	R	S	T
U	V	W	X	Y

1. C → ↓ ↓ _____
2. H → ↑ → _____
3. V ↑ → ↓ _____
4. I ← ← ↑ _____
5. T ↑ ← ↑ _____
6. P ↑ → → ↓ _____
7. D ↓ → ↓ ↓ _____
8. T ↑ ← ↑ ← _____



Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!

In his great mercy he has given us

_____ into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

1 Peter 1:3, NIV

Answer: new birth

Bible Quiz

From the cross, Jesus prayed words from the book of Psalms. What were they?

- A. "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"
- B. "I thirst!"
- C. "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do."
- D. "It is finished!"



Answer: A (See Matthew 27:46; Mark 15:34; and Psalm 22:1.)

JESUS IS RISEN!

When Jesus' disciples saw that the stone was rolled away from his tomb, they knew he had risen. Make a moveable tomb to celebrate Easter.

What you need:

- 4 pieces of paper (brown, blue, black, yellow)
- Scissors
- Pencil
- Glue stick
- Brad fastener
- Marker



What you do:

1. Fold the brown paper in half, short side to short side. Cut along the fold. On one half, draw and cut out a large half-circle (the tomb). On the other, draw and cut out a palm-sized circle (the stone).
2. Glue the brown tomb onto the blue paper.
3. Cut a black circle (the inside of the tomb) the same size as the brown stone and glue it onto the brown tomb.
4. Place the brown stone over the black half-circle; this is the entrance. Push the brad through one edge so the stone can move from side to side.
5. Cut out a cross from the yellow paper and glue it by the tomb.
6. Write "Jesus is risen!" atop the blue paper.



MCKENDREE MATTERS

McKendree-Simms-Brookland
United Methodist Church
(Church Office) 2421 Lawrence Street, NE
(Church Sanctuary) 3321 - 24th Street, NE
Washington, DC. 20018



This newsletter was prepared especially for

