



The Grapevine

Our Mission:

To receive and share God's love through worship, education, service and outreach.

Editor's Note:

Welcome Spring! I love this time of year, I can count on good gardening and walking temperatures and a sense of renewal with the change in season. I love hearing the birds sing their happy songs and looking toward the heavens to see buds bursting on tree limbs. It is also the most important time on our Christian calendar as we journey through the Lenten season leading to Christ's Resurrection on Easter Sunday. Join us on this culmination of this journey during Holy Week activities to commemorate and en-

act the suffering of Jesus culminating in His resurrection on Easter Sunday. We celebrate with our local churches this year the final week of Lent.

With Easter Blessings,

Petra

Dear Lord, may I realize afresh today what Your death and resurrection mean for me. Forgiveness, freedom, and the ability to walk with You through this fallen world into eternity. May I always find my satisfaction in You and Your willingness to offer Yourself to me. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Monthly Scriptures :

April 3 :

John 12:1-8

April 10:

Philippians 2:5-11

April 17 :

John 20:1-18

April 24 :

John 20:19-31

thrive
COMMUNITY CHURCH

H O L Y W E E K



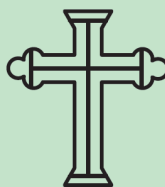
PALM SUNDAY
APRIL 14TH
EXCITEMENT



PASSOVER THURSDAY
APRIL 18TH
CONFUSION



GOOD FRIDAY
APRIL 19TH
DESPAIR



EASTER SUNDAY
APRIL 21ST
JOY

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Pastor Ken's Corner

Luke 23 ⁵⁵ *The women who had come with him from Galilee followed, and they saw the tomb and how his body was laid. ⁵⁶ Then they returned, and prepared spices and ointments. On the sabbath they rested according to the commandment.*

Luke 24 ¹ *But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. ² They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, ³ but when they went in, they did not find the body. ⁴ While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. ⁵ The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here but has risen. ⁶ Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, ⁷ that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again." ⁸ Then they remembered his words, ⁹ and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. ¹⁰ Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. ¹¹ But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. ¹² But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.*

Spring is here the trees that shed their leaves and were barren for a time are bursting forth with fresh growth and flowers which had become dormant now are blooming with colors and NEW BIRTH. Just as the new dawn on the first day of the week when the women returned to the tomb with spices for finishing the burial preparation of Jesus' body. The women went to the tomb where they had seen Jesus' dead body. They had seen him crucified, taken from the cross and laid in the tomb, **Lifeless**. Now the women returning to the tomb find the stone rolled away and did not see the Body.

The Women encounter two men in dazzling clothes and were terrified. The men speak to them ***"Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. ⁶ Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, ⁷ that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again."*** The women remember the words and return from the tomb to tell the eleven Apostles and all the rest who are there.

¹¹ But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. ¹² But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.

The Majority of those who hear the story as Luke recounts, think little of this Tale the women have told.

Peter gets up, runs to the tomb, stooped, and looked in and went home amazed at what had happened, it does not tell us what he believed or didn't believe.

Another account, (John 20:1-18) gives much more detail and includes more individual interaction, including John the Beloved disciple looking in and believing, as yet it is not specified what John believed. I use this account from Luke to emphasize the difference and set the scene for when Jesus appears to the disciples and others in the upper room. Belief or Unbelief, the unbelievable has occurred.

An innocent man, The SON of God, Our Redeemer has died for our sins on the Cross. Now He is risen from the dead, is gone from the tomb, speaks to Mary and then shows himself to others in the upper room. They see his nail marked hands and feet, see the wound in his side. They Have TANGIBLE proof/evidence, they are eyewitnesses that **Jesus has risen from the tomb as He had said He would.**

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Jesus Has Died! Jesus Is Risen! Jesus will Come Again!

As we Proceed through LENT, we keep in mind that **what Jesus said He would do He has done**. As Holy Week unfolds, we will have services of Palm Sunday, and combined services with Zoar and Philippi. Holy/Thursday service is at Clarksbury at 6:30 PM and Good Friday service is at Philippi at 6:30 PM and SONrise service Sunday morning, time TBD, will be at Stingray Point, Zoar property.

We continue the Lenten Bible Study by **Susan Robb** *"Seven Words" Listening to Christ from the Cross* with Session 5 on April 6th and Session 6 on April 13th.

Let us focus our faith, together, looking forward to the passion of Holy Week, deeply remembering Jesus' sacrifice and His Glory on Easter morning. Following His command to preach and teach the Good News of Christ.

We should be mindful of Jesus's *Teachings and Lessons and Examples*, **just as his disciples did**, and follow His lead as He is the Way, the Truth and the Life that leads to the everlasting! Use Him as a pathway for your Easter Service.

I want to remind you of our goals for the coming weeks and months

Goal number One is to maintain the **connection** with our community regardless of how difficult it might become with COVID restrictions. We do that through, bake sales, spaghetti dinners, food pantries and the Cryer Center Mobile Food Pantry. This is a great opportunity for us all to get involved in some way, if even just praying for those in need of food.

We will continue our involvement in our community.

We will continue to innovate and use new technologies to worship.

Our last Sunday of the month Gospel Sing will start again in March.

Goal Number Two is to continue be flexible and innovative when it comes to finding ways, locations, methods, and opportunities to be worshipful and to remain connected as we progress with all the COVID restrictions, and yet maintain safety.

You guys have been so resilient throughout the pandemic, and we have still worshipped together, we have continued to lift our voices in Praise together and served our community together. Terry and I are happy to be part of YOUR ministries at Clarksbury.

Our **Cryer Center Mobile Food Pantry is on Saturday April 2nd (rain or shine)** from 9 AM – 11 AM. We always have room for more help. come and see how this works. In the next few months come prepared for whatever weather we get.

COVID restrictions and protocols are relaxed but many still remain, and we must keep in mind that the threat is not eliminated, **and in some cases is elevated again with the recent variant....OMICRON**. For some, the risks of COVID are very real and very present. We continue to lift up in our prayers those who are at risk and still under many restrictions.

Our Post-COVID Re-Entry Group (PRG) came up with a Mitigation Assistance Plan and we will continue that plan. We will continue to monitor the local situation and as necessary and make adjustments when needed.

We continue to acknowledge the generosity and efforts of our **Soup Ministry/Prayer Warriors/Prayer Partners** each month. They provide meals, soup, gifts, cards, letters, and phone calls to many of our home bound members as well as those at Fishing Bay Estates and other locations.

Keep the small groups and gatherings in your prayers as we look to explore new ways to restart these meaningful and joyful worship and sharing opportunities.

Let us continue to pray for the people who may encounter COVID-19 and be exposed to or suffer from the illness. **Peace & Grace, Pastor Ken**

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LAY LEADER — WARREN WRIGHT

April Fool's Day

Unlike most of the other non-foolish holidays, the history of April Fool's Day, sometimes called All Fool's Day, is not totally clear. It is not like Halloween, where despite an interesting history, most people just put on costumes, get candy, and leave it at that. There really wasn't a "first April Fool's Day" that can be pinpointed on the calendar. Some believe it sort of evolved simultaneously in several cultures at the same time from celebrations involving the first day of spring.

The closest point in time that can be identified as the beginning of this was in 1582, in France. Prior to that year, the New Year was celebrated for eight days, beginning on March 25. The celebration culminated on April 1. With the reform of the calendar under Charles IX, the Gregorian Calendar was introduced, and New Year's Day was moved to January 1.

However, communications being what they were in the days when news traveled by foot, many people did not receive the news for several years. Others, the more obstinate crowd, refused to accept the new calendar and continued to celebrate the New Year on April 1. These backward folk were labeled as "fools" by the general populace. They were subject to some ridicule, and were often sent on "fool's errands" or were made the butt of other practical jokes.

This harassment evolved, over time, into a tradition of prank-playing on the first day of April. The tradition eventually spread to England and Scotland in the eighteenth century. It was later introduced to the American colonies of both the English and French. April Fool's Day thus developed into an international fun fest, so to speak, with different nationalities specializing in their own brand of humor at the expense of their friends and families.

Practical jokes are a common practice on April Fool's Day. Sometimes, elaborate practical jokes are played on friends or relatives that last the entire day. The news media even gets involved. April Fool's Day is a "for-fun-only" observance. Nobody is expected to buy gifts or to take their "significant other" out to eat in a fancy restaurant. Nobody gets off work or school. It's simply a fun little holiday, but a holiday on which one must remain forever vigilant, for he may be the next April Fool!

So did Jesus laugh? Jesus presents laughter as a reward, a fulfillment, that will make life more livable. Laughter is good.

In Luke Chapter 6, verse 21, Jesus says “Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled. Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh”.



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WELCOME

*Wishing a warm welcome to our newest Church member
Stephen Price!*



Many of you have asked how to Support Ukraine in this time of turmoil and War...

This is the official UMCOR Data Any questions call or text me or Suzanne or Warren

I recommend We make donations for Ukraine to the church and we will send a combined offering from the Church, which I think will be the easiest way to do that. Make your Check out to Clarksbury UMC and put Advance #982450-Ukraine in the memo line and the Church will collect and send as one gift or many as these events could be long continuing time wise.

Info and Links Below for further reading:

Second, a Good Solution:

United Methodists and others wishing to provide humanitarian assistance to the Ukrainian people in wake of the Ukrainian crisis can contribute through UMCOR International Disaster Response and Recovery. This fund will provide direct assistance to those in Ukraine as well as assistance to Ukrainians fleeing to neighboring countries.

Gifts to support the people of Ukraine can be made in the following ways:

Online at <https://umcmmission.org/advance...>

By toll-free telephone: [888-252-6174](tel:888-252-6174)

By check made out to Global Ministries/UMCOR with 'Advance #982450-Ukraine' written on the memo line, either mailed and addressed to Global Ministries/UMCOR, GPO, PO Box 9068, New York, NY, [10087-9068](tel:10087-9068), or given at or through any United Methodist church

Important Note: 100% of all advance contributions go to the designated cause.

The United Methodist community in Ukraine, though quite small, is actively engaged in assisting neighbors in need. Global Ministries is in touch with the church's leadership as well as with church leaders in countries welcoming those who are fleeing from violence in Ukraine.

Here is a link to the UMCOR site about this effort: <https://umcmmission.org/umcor/ukraine>

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Up for a challenge? Test your Bible knowledge with these trivia questions related to Easter Week.

1. What was the Jewish feast which was being celebrated the week Christ was crucified?
2. When Jesus entered Jerusalem during what is known as His Triumphal Entry, what animal was He riding on?
3. Why is the Sunday before the resurrection called Palm Sunday?
4. Which disciple cut off the ear of the high priest's servant in an attempt to protect Jesus from being taken as a prisoner?
5. What was the name of the high priest's servant who had his ear cut off by the disciple and subsequently reattached by Jesus?
6. How many times did Peter deny Christ after he abandoned the Lord?
7. How many pieces of silver did Judas trade the life of Jesus for?
8. How did Judas identify Jesus to the soldiers?
9. In repentance Judas returned the money to the priests that he was given as the price of betrayal of the Lord and then did what?
10. The priests took the money that Judas had returned to them and did what with it?
11. Who was surprisingly released before Pontius Pilate sentenced Jesus to death?
12. What did Pilate's wife counsel him to do concerning Jesus?
13. A man named Simon was compelled to carry the cross of Jesus. In Mark 15 we are told the names of Simon's two sons. What were their names?
14. What was the inscription above the cross?
15. Can you quote 4 of the 7 statements recorded in the Bible that Christ said from the cross?
16. Following the statements of Jesus on the cross, there was a statement by a Roman soldier concerning Christ. What was it?
17. What happened in the Temple as a sign that the death of Jesus had made way for the individual believer to approach God?
18. When Jesus died there was darkness in the land. How long did it last?
19. In John 19 two men helped prepare the body of Christ for burial. One is said to have been a secret disciple and another secretly came to Jesus early in His ministry to ask a question. Who were these men?
20. Who was the first person to see the risen Christ?



He is not here: for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay. (Matthew 28:6)

Read more: <https://www.whatchristianswanttoknow.com/easter-bible-quiz-20-trivia-questions/#ixzz7P7BT4XA2>

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Answers:

1. Passover (Luke 22:1)
2. A young donkey (Matthew 21:1-7; Mark 11:1-7; Luke 19:28-35; John 12:12-15). In eastern tradition it was customary for a king going to war to ride a horse. Yet when the king was at peace he would ride a donkey. The symbolism is the Prince of Peace, Jesus Christ, was coming for purposes of peace between God and man.
3. When Jesus entered into Jerusalem at the beginning of the Passion week, the people welcomed Him as king and Messiah. They covered the road with their garments and palm fronds as a symbol of their worship and acceptance of Him as king (Matthew 21:8; Mark 11:8; Luke 19:35, 36; John 12:12, 13).
4. Peter (John 18:10)
5. Malchus (John 18:10)
6. Three times (Luke 22:54-57; Mark 14:69, 70; Matthew 26:73-75; John 18:13-27)
7. 30 (Matthew 26:15)
8. By giving Him a kiss (Matthew 26:47-49).
9. Hanged himself (Matthew 27:3-5)
10. Bought the potter's field with the money which is where strangers were buried (Matthew 27:6-8).
11. Barabbas (Matthew 27:15-26; Mark 15:6-15; Luke 23:18; John 18:40)
12. To leave Jesus alone because He was a just man. She had a bad dream concerning the Lord and she probably felt it would bring bad luck on the household of Pilate (Matthew 27:19).
13. Alexander and Rufus (Mark 15:21)
14. "Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews" (Luke 19:19). It was written in three different languages according to John 19:20; Hebrew, Greek and Latin.
15. "Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do." (Luke 23:34)
- "Verily I say unto thee, Today shalt thou be with me in paradise." (Luke 23:43)
- "...he saith unto his mother, Woman, behold thy son! Then saith he to the disciple, Behold thy mother!" (John 19:26, 27)
- "Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani? that is to say, My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?" (Matthew 27:46; Mark 15:34)
- "I thirst." (John 19:28)
- "It is finished." (John 19:30)
- "Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit." (Luke 23:46)
16. "Truly this was the Son of God" (Matthew 27:54). Slightly different statements, but the same idea are found in Mark 15:39; Luke 23:47.
17. The veil in the temple was torn from top to bottom (Matthew 27:51). We call this access to God the "priesthood of the believer." This means that Christians can approach God's throne through prayer without the need of a human mediator or priest. Because the veil was torn from the top to the bottom, that is symbolic that it is God who grants us access and not that we have worked our way into God's throne room; which could be implied if the veil was torn from bottom to top.
18. Three hours (Matthew 27:45; Mark 15:33; Luke 23:44-45). From noon to 3 pm.
19. Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus (John 19:38-42). Interestingly, these two men did not follow Jesus as He traveled through the region, but they were there when all the outspoken disciples had abandoned the Lord.
20. Mary Magdalene (Mark 16:9)

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Ministries:

UMM

The UMM's next regular monthly business meeting will be on Monday April 25th at 7 PM. At this meeting, the men will be planning their Spring and Summer season activities. Remember there are no membership or dues requirements to be a part of the United Methodist Men of Clarksbury, just a willingness to serve Jesus Christ within your church and community.

Mission-To Help Men Grow In Christ, So Others May Know Christ.

RECOVERING

Betty Johnson is still in rehab at Dockside. Her cell number is: (804)684-3618 She is in room 504 and would love a visit or phone call.

You can send mail to :
Betty Johnson Rm 504
c/o Dockside Health and Rehab Ctr.
74 Mizpah Road
Locust Hill, VA 23092

Nurture & Outreach Jerry Dant

Spring has sprung, time has changed and the pandemic is gone, **we hope!** So now we can reach out to our homebound members. Let's keep the calls and cards going and maybe a visit soon. We have a few special days coming, such as Easter, Mother's Day and Father's Day. If you have any suggestions for gifts for our Fishing Bay Friends and community friends, please let the N&O committee know and will work together for something special for all of our friends. The committee would like to thank all of the church for the love we have shown during the pandemic. Looking forward to new suggestions for the special days in April, May and June.

"The very first Easter taught us this: that life never ends and love never dies."

– Kate McGahan



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P.O. Box 302
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Lewis Musick
6023 Dixon Lane
Gloucester, Va., 23061

Marion Miller 08/06
c/o Commonwealth Senior Living @ Gloucester
House 7657 Meredith Drive
Gloucester, VA 23061

Pastor Jim Salmon 5/24
26306 Mattaponi Trail
Milford, VA 22514

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Ministries and ETC:

“

Dear God,
Thank You for the
resurrection of Your Son,
Jesus. We want to celebrate
Him every day of our lives.
In a world that grows
increasingly dark, help
us hold up His light.
Give us the courage to
speak as boldly as Mary
Magdalene did, and never
be ashamed of proclaiming
Your Good News.
In Jesus' Name, Amen. ”

LIZ CURTIS HIGGS

Church Service Assistants for the month of April

Ushers:

Diane Faulkner and Betty Tate

Scripture Reader:

Suzanne Ramsburg

Counters:

Val Bradley and Fran Miller

*Open Hearts Open Minds
Open Doors*

Deadline for the May Newsletter is
Monday, April 25!

Please send your emails and
articles to pwalian2@gmail.com for
inclusion in the newsletter.

Follow us on

Facebook!

Check out our

Website

Annual Budget 2022 Operating Funds	120,298.00
Total Received for Operating Funds 03/27	26,997.00
Total Needed by end of March	3,077.50

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Clarksbury has Fun!



Sunset at the parsonage



Church Leadership:

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April Power of Prayer

A Prayer for Easter

Jesus, our Risen Savior, all glory and
praise to You, for You bring light to our
darkness, joy to our sorrow and fullness of
love to our hearts.

On this Resurrection Day, we ask You
to renew our hearts, minds and bodies with
the new joy of this Easter Season. Guide
us to keep focused on Your Holy Word
that is all encompassing and pure.
Allow us to be in a reflection of Your peace
and enlightenment to this world which so
desperately needs Your eternal presence.

He is Risen!

Alleluia! Alleluia!.

Amen

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The Grapevine

April 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4 Alan Miller Elizabeth Sibley	5	6 Paulette Topping Bible Study	7	8	9
10 Palm Sunday	11	12	13 Bible Study 2-3pm	14 Holy Thursday Clarksbury	15 Emily Farmer Good Friday	16
17 SonRise Service Stringray Point TBD Easter Worship	18 Richard Sisson	19 Richard Purcell	20	21 Jerry Crittenden	22	23
24	25	26 Betty Johnson	27	28	29	30

April *Birthdays* (If you know of any additions, deletions or corrections that should be made to the birthday calendar, please let the newsletter editor know.)