

# the Messenger

Monthly Newsletter of Myers Memorial United Methodist Church in Gastonia, NC

## HOLY WEEK & EASTER 2022

*Holy Week is the week of Christian observances leading up to Easter Sunday. It begins with Palm Sunday and progresses through Holy or Maundy Thursday, and Good Friday. It culminates with the Easter Sunday celebration.*

Palm Sunday, April 10th is a day full of celebration! We remember **Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem** by waving palm branches and celebrate the King of Kings! We welcome Bishop Ken Carter to the pulpit at 9a and 11a. **The children's Easter Egg Hunt** will take place at 10a, Youth & Adult Sunday School classes will meet from 10a to 10:45a and we'll enjoy lemonade on the lawn between services.

Maundy Thursday is an alternative name for Holy Thursday. The English word "Maundy" comes from the Latin *mandatum*, which means "commandment". Our Maundy Thursday service on April 14 at 6:30pm in the Sanctuary will include Communion and the washing of hands as we remember

the last night before Jesus' betrayal and arrest when Jesus washed the feet of his disciple and gave them a new commandment to love one another as he loved them (John 13:34).

Good Friday Tenebrae is a service of Scripture reading and the gradual extinguishing of candles and lights until the sanctuary is in darkness on Friday, April 15 at 6:30p. This service, led by the choir, focuses on the passion and death of Jesus. While this service is open to all, younger children may not be comfortable. If you wish to have childcare for infants to preschoolers please contact Connie Elzey in advance.

On Sunday, April 17 we'll celebrate the Risen Christ at 7a gathered around the fire pit in the Gathering Garden with communion. Worship is at 9a and 11a, in the Sanctuary and live-streamed. We have a tradition of flowering the cross so bring your fresh cut flowers to worship with you! We will release butterflies at 10:30a. Come, let us Worship!

## THE MISSION OF MMUMC

*The Mission of Myers Memorial United Methodist Church is to cultivate a Christ-centered community that welcomes, loves and serves one another and the world.*

## Upcoming CHURCH EVENTS

Worship on Sundays  
9a and 11a

Onsite and Live-streamed via  
Facebook, YouTube & Church Website

- April 3: UM Men, 8a, CFC
- April 3: Communion, 9a & 11a
- April 3: SNL, 5:30p
- April 10: Palm Sunday, 9a & 11a
- April 10: **Children's Egg Hunt, 10a**
- April 10: Mitey Ladies, 12p
- April 10: SNL, 5:30p
- April 14: Joy Circle, 11:30a
- April 14: Maundy Thursday, 6:30p
- April 15: Good Friday Tenebrae, 6:30p
- April 17: Easter 7a, 9a, 11a
- April 17: Sending off the Sanes
- April 18: Church Office Closed
- April 21: 60+ Fellowship, 11:30a
- April 23: Smarr Baby Shower, 2-4p
- April 29-30: Tekoa Retreat
- May 1: Corr Wedding Shower,

### ONGOING

- Sundays: Worship at 9a & 11a, Sunday School Classes, The Bible Year (10a, 5:30p), Bible Studies, Youth & InXbetween, Children's Music & Arts
- Mondays: Boy Scouts, NA, NarAnon, The Bible Year (8p)
- Tuesdays: Grief Share & Divorce Care; The Bible Year (12:30p), AIAnon, Girl Scouts
- Wednesdays: Morning Bible Study, The Bible Year (10a, 12:15p), Hand Bells & Choir
- Thursdays: The Bible Year (11a, 6:30p)
- Fridays: Morning Prayer

## LETTER FROM STAFF PARISH

In March, Staff Parish received notice that Tony Sane would be leaving Myers as our Director of Music and has accepted a position at a church in Mount Pleasant, SC. **Tony's last day with us will be Sunday, April 17.** We have all been blessed by **Tony's gifts these last five years. We are grateful for his leadership and the relationships we have formed with him and Haley.** As sad as we are to see them go, we are also excited about this wonderful opportunity for Tony to continue to grow his gifts **and use them to build God's kingdom.** We ask that you pray for Tony & Haley during this time of transition and join us on April 17th between services to send them off with our love and blessings. We also ask that you pray for God's guidance as the Staff Parish seeks the next faithful steps for Myers Memorial UMC as we continue to build on the strong foundation in our Music Ministry. If you have any questions, please reach out to Staff Parish Chairperson, Randy Black, [randyblack102@gmail.com](mailto:randyblack102@gmail.com) or Pastor Sally Queen, [pastor@myersmemorialumc.com](mailto:pastor@myersmemorialumc.com).

### *Sending Off The Sanes*

*Sunday, April 17*

*9:45-10:15 in the CFC*

Staff Parish invites you to a coffee time reception in honor of Tony and Haley Sane as we say "Thank You" and "Good-bye". A basket will be available for you to bring notes and gifts of appreciation.

## UNITED METHODIST MEN

United Methodist Men is open to all men who wish to gather for fellowship, devotion and service. Gather at 8a on April 3rd in the CFC. If you have questions about UMM at Myers Memorial UMC, please contact Mike Rhodes, call/text: 980-329-2484 or email [rhodesmike82@gmail.com](mailto:rhodesmike82@gmail.com).

## WELCOME BISHOP CARTER

On Sunday, April 10th, Palm Sunday, we welcome Bishop Kenneth H. Carter to the pulpit at Myers Memorial UMC. Bishop Carter serves as the resident bishop of both the Western North Carolina and Florida Conferences and asked if he could preach at Myers Memorial UMC this spring to celebrate the shared ministry of making disciples for the transformation of the world! Bishop Carter has served as the president of the Council of Bishops of The UMC, moderator of The Commission on a Way Forward, and is a consulting faculty member at Duke University Divinity School. Bishop Carter is author of 18 books, most recently a memoir, "God Will Make a Way" (Abingdon, 2021). Bishop Carter served the WNC Conference for 28 years as a local church pastor before serving as a District Superintendent prior to his election as bishop. Welcome, Bishop Carter!



## HELLO! HI YA! WELCOME!

Greeters and Worship Guides are needed for a new rotation of service. If you would love to see everyone who comes to worship, then this is the place to serve! You have the opportunity to greet each person who comes into the sanctuary with the friendliness Myers is known for! Please contact Tresca McSwain ([thmcswain@gmail.com](mailto:thmcswain@gmail.com), 704-477-7447) for this service opportunity.

## PARKING LOT NEWS

Did you see the new pumpkin patch parking lot? We anticipate the paving to be completed in time for Easter! Thank you for your generosity to make this much needed upgrade to our facility! On Palm Sunday, consider parking on the new lot as the CFC Parking Lot will be blocked off between 8:30a and 10:30a for the safety of the children and families participating in the Easter Egg Hunt.

# The Bible Year

## SMALL GROUPS



### Sunday Groups

- 10am New Life Class (Wendy Wade, facilitator) In Person, New Life Classroom
- 5:30pm Sunday Night Live (Allison Evanoff, Tonda Coonce & Susan Robinson, facilitators) In Person, E-104

### Monday Groups

- 8pm via Zoom (Marty Brown, Thomas & Brinkley Rhodes, facilitators)

### Tuesday Group

- 12:30pm via Zoom (Rev. Sarah Davis, facilitator)

### Wednesday Groups

- 10am Morning Bible Study, (Debbie Brown, facilitator) In Person, Asbury Room
- 12:15pm Staff Bible Year Group, ends April 13th, In Person, E-104

### Thursday Groups

- 11am (Ann Peninger & Laurie Knight, facilitators) In Person, E-104
- 6:30pm Soul Purpose (Rev. Everett Stoddard, facilitator) In Person and Zoom, Asbury Room

# Daily Readings

## APRIL 2022

- ⇒ April 1 Leviticus 15:1-Leviticus 18:30
- ⇒ April 2 Leviticus 19:1-Leviticus 22:44
- ⇒ April 3 Leviticus 24:1-Leviticus 27:34
- ⇒ April 4 Numbers 1:1-Numbers 4:49
- ⇒ April 5 Numbers 5:1-Numbers 7:89
- ⇒ April 6 Numbers 8:1-Numbers 10:36
- ⇒ April 7 Numbers 11:1-Numbers 14:45
- ⇒ April 8 Numbers 15:1-Numbers 18:32
- ⇒ April 9 Numbers 19:1-Numbers 21:35
- ⇒ April 10 Numbers 21:1-Numbers 25:18
- ⇒ April 11 Numbers 26:1-Numbers 31:54
- ⇒ April 12 Numbers 32:1-Numbers 36:13
- ⇒ April 13 Deuteronomy 1:1-Deut. 4:49
- ⇒ April 14 Deut. 5:1-Deut. 8:20
- ⇒ April 15 Deut. 9:1-Deut. 12:32
- ⇒ April 16 Deut. 13:1-Deut. 16:22
- ⇒ April 17 Deut. 17:1-Deut. 20:20
- ⇒ April 18 Deut. 21:1-Deut. 25:19
- ⇒ April 19 Deut. 26:1-Deut. 30:20
- ⇒ April 20 Deut. 31:1-Deut. 34:12
- ⇒ April 21 Joshua 1:1-Joshua 3:17
- ⇒ April 22 Joshua 4:1-Joshua 6:27
- ⇒ April 23 Joshua 7:1-Joshua 11:23
- ⇒ April 24 Joshua 12:1-Joshua 17:18
- ⇒ April 25 Joshua 18:1-Joshua 24:33
- ⇒ April 26 Judges 1:1-Joshua 3:6
- ⇒ April 27 Judges 3:7-Joshua 5:31
- ⇒ April 28 Judges 5:1-Joshua 8:35
- ⇒ April 29 Judges 9:1-Joshua 12:15
- ⇒ April 30 Judges 13:1-Joshua 16:31

## SUPPORT GROUPS

*GriefShare* meets in the Narthex on Tuesdays at 10a.  
*DivorceCare* meets via zoom on Tuesdays at 6:30p.  
If you or someone you know would like to know more about these support groups please contact Connie Elzey at 704-864-3222 ext. 105 or [dce@myersmemorialumc.com](mailto:dce@myersmemorialumc.com)

## BABY SHOWER CELEBRATION

You're invited to a baby shower to celebrate the arrival of Baby Boy Smarr, son of Blake and Alexa McCullen Smarr on Saturday, April 23rd. Drop in the CFC between 2p and 4p to shower them with love. A gift registry for Baby Boy Smarr can be found on Amazon and Target.

## 60+ FELLOWSHIP

This monthly fellowship group is open to all who wish to participate and find them in this age range! If you've ever met the folks that gather - they're super young at heart! Each month they gather for fellowship at a location around town. This March you're invited to gather at *Pita Wheel (110 S. York St. Gastonia)* at 12:30 am on Thursday, April 21st. Invite a friend!

## HEALTH CABINET SURVEY

The Myers Health Cabinet would like you to help live out their vision *to be a reliable resource to promote, educate, and encourage growth of mind, body and spirit through Christ for our congregation, community and beyond.* What do you need, want or desire for future ministry? Visit [www.MyersMemorialUMC.org/health-cabinet](http://www.MyersMemorialUMC.org/health-cabinet) to complete a brief survey. Paper surveys are available in the Narthex and the Office.

## COMMUNION ON APRIL 3

The Sacrament of Communion will be offered on April 3 during the 9a and 11a worship services. You will be invited to come forward to receive a piece of bread and a small cup of juice. If you wish to partake in the pews, please pick up a small bag of prepared elements as you enter the sanctuary. The altar will be open for prayer. We continue to maintain safe health protocols for partaking in the bread and juice, yet we celebrate having communion together in the Sanctuary. Communion is open to all persons, regardless of age, for this is **the Lord's table, not ours.** If you are unable to participate and would like to receive the consecrated (blessed) elements, please contact the church office and we will make arrangements for you to share in the body of Christ.

## MEET THE NEWLYWEDS


You are invited to a Wedding Shower celebrating Rory & Taylor Black Corr on Sunday, May 1st in the CFC from 2p to 3:30p. A registry can be found at [www.theknot.com/taylorblackandrorycorr](http://www.theknot.com/taylorblackandrorycorr) Taylor is the daughter of Randy & Lee Black and granddaughter of Renée Justice and the late Rev. Henry A. Justice. The couple will be wed out of state on April 23.

## CHILDREN'S MUSIC & WORSHIP ARTS

*Tony Sane, Director of Music, [tony@myersmemorialumc.com](mailto:tony@myersmemorialumc.com)*  
Preschool through 4th graders are invited for an hour of music, crafts and other fun worship arts **activities each Sunday evening.** We'll move, make music and praise God with our whole selves! We will meet 5:30-6:30p on the 3rd floor of the education building. All children are invited to participate! Children will sing on April 10 at the 11a worship service. We will not meet on Easter, April 17 and April 24th will be our final rehearsal this spring.

Church Office Hours  
Mondays - Thursdays 8:30a to 4p  
*Closed on Fridays*  
Closed April 18, Easter Monday





Wherever you go, I will go;  
and where you stay, I will stay  
Ruth 1:16b (CEB)

# GOING HOME

## A JOURNEY WITH RUTH

April 29-30, 2022

Myers Memorial UMC Camp Tekoa Church Retreat

**After 2 years of a pandemic, it is time for a "Homecoming" at Camp Tekoa in Hendersonville, NC for our Annual Church-Wide Retreat!**

This Myers Memorial Church Retreat tradition at Camp Tekoa began in 1997! If you have never been to Camp Tekoa it is time to reserve your cabin and join us! If you have been on our retreat in the past, it is time to return for this "Homecoming". Camp Tekoa will prepare our breakfast and lunch on Saturday, all other meals and snacks are on your own. Want to know about this UMC Conference camp? [www.camptekoa.org](http://www.camptekoa.org)

Camp Tekoa offers us a variety of opportunities for all ages: rocking chairs on the porch, quiet places to read, foursquare, fishing, hiking, disc golf, basketball court, soccer field, ga-ga ball pit, children's playground and more. We will also have scheduled opportunities for paddleboats, canoes, a zipline and swimming.

Please note our schedule. If you are arriving on Saturday we hope you will join us in time for our devotion Saturday morning as we begin our "Journey with Ruth".. Overnight accommodations will be arranged by family units.

Off-Site offers more hiking at Dupont Falls, Flat Rock and Hendersonville. If you plan to go hiking on Saturday, Camp Tekoa will prepare you a bag lunch.

Stay over night, come for the day, retreat with us to the beautiful mountains of Hendersonville, NC where we call Camp Tekoa, "home".

Register with Connie Elzey  
[dce@myersmemorialumc.com](mailto:dce@myersmemorialumc.com), 704-864-3222.  
Pay online: [MyersMemorialUMC.org/tekoa](http://MyersMemorialUMC.org/tekoa)

### Friday, April 29:

Arrive after 1 pm  
Supper on your own  
S'mores in the Pavilion

**8:30p** Welcome &  
Tekoa Orientation

**11p** Quiet Time, Lights  
out

### Saturday, April 30

Porch Rocking All Day!

**8a** Breakfast

**8:45a** Devotion

**9:30-11a** Boating

**Noon** Lunch

**1p-2:30p** Zipline

**2:30-4p** Swimming &  
Boating

**4p** Camp Store will  
open

**5p** MMUMC Worship/  
Communion  
Supper on your own

**Fri/Sat:** \$50/person

**Saturday only:**

\$25/person

## CALLING ALL GRADUATES

Are you celebrating a graduation soon? We want to celebrate our Myers family who have graduated this past fall or winter, or will be graduating this spring! We want to celebrate High School, College and Post Graduate graduations! If you have a child, or maybe it's you, to celebrate, please contact Tresca McSwain (thmcswain@gmail.com) with all the details. We will be celebrating our Myers graduates on May 22.

## THE JOY CIRCLE MEETING

The Joy Circle will be meeting on Thursday, April 21 at 11:30a at *AmberJacks (4253 S. New Hope Rd, Gastonia)*. Contact Katrina Stroupe with any questions, kstroupe7@bellsouth.net; 704-824-9417.

## CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

We're digging into the Bible in One Year too! We're on a whirlwind journey from Genesis to Revelation! Children are discovering that they're a lot like people God has always loved and worked through! Children (preschool to 4th grades) gather each Sunday in the CFC at 10 for a brief time of music and movement before heading to their age level classes with some of the most amazing teachers! Children return to the CFC for pick up at 10:40a.

*Special Notes:* April 10th is our Easter Egg Hunt! Gather in the CFC parking lot at 10a with your Easter Baskets! We will have Sunday School on Easter Sunday, April 17, to hear the best good news there is ~ Christ has Risen!!

## PALM SUNDAY EGG HUNT

The Myers Children's Annual Egg Hunt for toddlers through 4th graders will be Sunday, April 10 at 10a. Please gather in the CFC parking lot that will be blocked off to traffic. If inclement weather, we will gather in the CFC. Don't forget to bring any coins you have collected during Lent for the Mission Offering. And don't forget your Easter Basket.

## THOSE EGGS HAVE MONEY!

The Myers Outreach & Witness Committee has hidden \$300 in Myers Mission Money in the Children's Easter Eggs this year! When the children find this money in their eggs, they are encouraged to spend it in one of the 3 collection containers to benefit the Myers Sandwich Brigade, The Loray Girls Home, or Holy Angels. Once the children have spoken with their Mission Money, the Outreach Committee will write the checks! Any money collected from the Lenten Coin Collection will also go to one of these designated ministries.

## HOLY CHARACTER SERMON SERIES

We're deep getting into the Old Testament and beginning April 24, we'll begin a new sermon series: Holy Character. We'll explore various 'characters' and what they teach us about God and ourselves as we are introduced to Joshua, Ruth, Samuel, David, Solomon, Josiah, Jehosephat, Ezra, Nehemiah and Esther. Join us and don't forget your Bible!

[WWW.MYERSMEMORIALUMC.ORG/GIVE](http://WWW.MYERSMEMORIALUMC.ORG/GIVE)

## Myers by the Numbers

as of 3/28/22	Feb. 27		Ash Wed.	March 6		March 13		March 20	
Offering	\$12,938		-	\$23,147		\$7,147		\$11,404	
In-Person Attendance	9am 40	11am 86	125	9am 33	11am 96	9am 57	11am 67	9am 46	11am 106
Facebook Engagements <small>(comments, likes, shares)</small>	30	7	27	17	15	5	15	19	9
Estimated People Reached <small>via Facebook</small>	330	184	291	393	147	413	374	319	164
YouTube Views	21	35	17	38	36	55	-	17	30
Views via Website/Email Link	28	42	1	19	62	33	63	26	38

## MYERS YOUTH & INXBETWEEN SUNDAY MORNINGS

Meet Downstairs each Sunday morning at 10am for Sunday School! InXbetweens (5th & 6th graders) meet in the classroom while the Youth (7th-12th graders, meet in the Lounge. If you have questions about any of the ministries with the 5th-12th graders at Myers Memorial UMC, please contact Tresca McSwain, director of Youth & Young Adults (thmcswain@gmail.com, 704-477-7447)

## MYERS YOUTH & INXBETWEEN SUNDAY EVENINGS

April 3: Body, Mind & Soul concludes this week with separate programming as we continue to find ways to care for ourselves and our friends.

April 10: EGGstravaganza! It's going to be an EGGcelent EGGventure! The fun starts in the Youth Lounge.

April 17: It's Easter! Celebrate at 7a, 9a or 11a in worship. No evening activities.

April 24: Family Night at the Honey Hunters Baseball Game! Game is at 4:15p. Claim your \$9 tickets soon by contacting Tresca. All Everyone is welcome to attend. Youth & IXBs can attend with or with out their families under the supervision of our awesome volunteers. Tickets are limited!

## COINS CHANGING THE WORLD

Since Ash Wednesday we've been counting our blessings then counting our coins and now it's time combine our coins to change the world. On Palm Sunday, April 10th, please stop by the Outreach Table located in the Narthex to deposit your coins in one of three containers (or divide it up as you wish) to benefit the Myers Sandwich Brigade, The Loray Girls Home, and children's choice: Holy Angels.

# 2022 LENTEN CALENDAR

*a challenge to change the world one coin at a time*

<p><b>Myers Memorial</b> United Methodist Church</p> <p>3 Pray today, thanking God for the food you enjoy. Pray for those who have no food this day.</p> <p>10 Palm Sunday Time to spend your coins to change the world! Stop by the <b>Egg Hunt Table between services to 'spend' your coins!</b> Select a jar to add your coins and let them multiply to change the world!</p>	<p>4 A coin for every room in your home.</p>	<p>5 A coin for every electrical outlet in your home.</p>	<p>6 A coin for every chair in your home.</p>	<p>7 A coin for every desk/workspace in your home.</p>	<p>8 A coin for every table in your home.</p>	<p>9 A coin for every bed in your home.</p>
<p>Each day you are encouraged to count your blessings. For each day you may associate a coin value (penny, nickel, dime, quarter) and do the math. For example: April 4th. 8 rooms x \$0.25 = \$2.00. Add it all up and bring your donation to the Easter Egg Hunt on April 10th</p>						
<p>April 1 A coin for every bag of chips or box of snack food.</p>						
<p>2 A coin for every jar of peanut butter.</p>						
<p><b>This Lent you are challenged to change the world with your coins. On April 10th, you are invited to add your coins to the baskets provided and together, we can change the world one coin at a time! This Outreach project will benefit the Myers Sandwich Brigade, the Loray Girls Home and Holy Angels.</b></p>						

# Myers Memorial United Methodist Church

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704-864-3222

[www.MyersMemorialUMC.org](http://www.MyersMemorialUMC.org)  
[ChurchOffice@MyersMemorialUMC.com](mailto:ChurchOffice@MyersMemorialUMC.com)

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Organization  
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Gastonia, NC  
Permit #185

# Holy Week

at Myers Memorial  
United Methodist Church

<b>Palm Sunday</b> April 10	<b>Maundy Thursday</b> April 14	<b>Good Friday</b> Tenebrae April 15	<b>Easter Sunday</b> April 17
<b>9a</b> Worship <b>10a</b> Sunday School <b>10a</b> Egg Hunt Lemonade on the Lawn <b>11a</b> Worship	<b>6:30p</b>  A Service of Communion & Hand Washing	<b>6:30p</b>  A Service of Darkness with Scripture & Music	<b>7a</b> Sunrise Service & Communion <b>9a</b> Worship <b>10a</b> Sunday School <b>11a</b> Worship

Welcome  
Bishop Carter!

[www.MyersMemorialUMC.org](http://www.MyersMemorialUMC.org)