

New Beginnings

Kresge Methodist Church Newsletter & more

February, 2024

As Ash Wednesday approaches, ushering in the solemn 40 days of the Lenten Season, we embark on a profound journey of self-reflection and spiritual refinement. This sacred period calls for fasting, repentance, moderation, self-denial, and a rigorous examination of our spiritual discipline. In these 40 days, we immerse ourselves in contemplation, meditating on the profound themes of suffering, sacrifice, death, burial, and resurrection epitomized by the life of Jesus Christ.

As we stand at the threshold of Lent, Christians traditionally make commitments to relinquish certain comforts or habits. Will you partake in this tradition, and if so, will your resolve endure the full 40 days? Or will it succumb, akin to the many New Year's resolutions we ardently formulate only to falter after a week or two?

Before deciding whether to forgo your daily coffee, soda, or that tempting afternoon chocolate bar, ponder this: Jesus, in emulation of His dedication, spent 40 days fasting and resisting the temptations of the devil in the wilderness (Matthew 4:1-11; Mark 1:12-13; Luke 4:1-13). Moses, too, engaged in a 40-day fast atop the mountain before receiving the divine gift of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 24:18; 34:28; Deuteronomy 9). The spies explored the land of Canaan for 40 days (Numbers 13:25; 14:34), while the prophet Elijah undertook a 40-day journey to reach the mountain of God in Sinai (1 Kings 19:8).

Perhaps, instead of merely abstaining from certain indulgences, our commitment should extend to cultivating a deeper connection with God. Consider dedicating more time to reading the Bible and engaging in fervent prayer, allowing these practices to draw you nearer to the divine. In doing so, the 40 days may pass swiftly, leaving behind a transformative spiritual journey.

Remember to send me any idea's you have about what you would like to see in your newsletter, prayers, family happenings or anything else to: caw.newbeginnings@gmail.com, call be at 678-988-2881 or talk to me at church. Please remember to keep our team searching for a new Pastor in your prayers. Till next time, I hope you have a blessed month.



Please Keep These People in Your Prayers



- * Clara Jean's Son Clay David, was admitted to the hospital, please keep this family in you prayers.
- * Jeff Masi - Took a bad fall while helping with the church clean-up after the pipes for sprinkler system burst, please keep Jeff and Maria in your prayers.
- * Prayers needed for Olin Gammage, who is battling cancer.
- * Tammy Atkins - Going through cancer treatments, prayers for her and her family
- * Sandra Simpson - Has a back procedure scheduled for the first week in February, prayers that it helps with her back pain.

If you have a prayer request you would like put in the newsletter, please call or text it to 678-988-2881 or email to caw.newbeginnings@gmail.com.



Sunday Worship

Pastor.....

Sunday School.....10:00am

Sunday Service.....10:55am

INVITE SOMEONE TO CHURCH

The Blood

Bill Brinkworth

"But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin." I John 1:7

One word that is mentioned, or alluded to, over 378 times in the Bible is the word "blood". Its usage indicates:

- it is essential for life (Lev. 17:11, 14),
- that man's blood should not unnecessarily be shed (Ex. 20:13, Gen. 9:6),
- "innocent" blood should especially not be spilt, and those that do so will be accountable (Prov. 6:17, Lev. 20:27, II Sam. 4:11),
- that some in the Old Testament were given the responsibility to revenge the blood of those murdered (Num. 35:19, 21, Jos. 20:5),
- and another very important usage. That important usage of "blood" was its application toward man's sins.

When Adam and Eve first sinned, innocent animals had to have their blood shed; so that the two original sinners would have their sins "covered." God killed animals that had done nothing wrong, so that the first man and woman's nakedness would be covered. Innocent blood was shed to cover their sins.

"Unto Adam also and to his wife did the LORD God make coats of skins, and clothed them." Gen. 3:21

Shortly afterwards, frequent sacrifices to the Lord included other animals being killed, usually cattle and sheep for the "covering" of sin. When on the mountain receiving the Ten Commandments, Moses received God's instructions on sacrificing the lives of animals to be in-

corporated in worshipping God (Ex. 29:12, 16). It was always innocent blood that was necessary to "cover" the iniquities of men. That was God's plan after sin was first committed.

These "payments" for man's sins, however, were not permanent. They had to be repeated over and over again. The blood of the sacrificed animal was not sufficient to cover any man's sins indefinitely, and it was not long until man completely stopped offering the proper sacrifices God required.

Man's treatment of sacrifices was no surprise to God. He knew from the beginning that there was no work man could ever do to pay for His sins: *"For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins." Hebrews 10:4*

God then allowed the one sacrifice that would redeem (Col 1:14) all man's sins. This perfect, innocent sacrifice was not guilty of doing anything wrong. Like the earlier Old Testament sacrifice, this Sacrifice's blood was also spilt. This offering, however, was not sacrificed by ordained men of God, as was done in the Old Testament, and the blood was not put on a stone altar. This blood offering dripped down the arms of a "Man" that was nailed to a cruel, Roman's wooden cross over 2,000 years ago. The blood of this sacrifice was willingly offered by God's only son, Jesus, and it was sufficient to be given only once. Jesus' blood never had to be repeated as it covered all man's sins. Jesus is the only worthy Lamb of God, whose blood can pay for all man's sins.

One of the main purposes of the Bible is to show the importance of the Saviour's blood. The Old Testament continually pointed to it. Then it was time for God to make a new covenant (testament) with man. Jesus became this new agreement God had made with man:

"And he [Jesus] said unto them, This is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many." Mark 14:24 Also: Mt 26:28 & Luke 22:20.

Man's sinful nature very clearly shows that he cannot stop sinning. He has continued to demonstrate this from his first appearance on this earth. Being "good" is not possible, because all people are sinners (Rom. 3:23, 5:12); and any good behavior or good deed he does will not eliminate his past sins. This also includes "religious" activities, good intentions, and anything else man may think will pay for his sins which are against God Himself. God has made it very clear that there is nothing man can do to pay for his sins. That is why He had to give the only sacrifice that was sufficient — His Son's own blood.

Has there ever been a time in your life that you have admitted your sinnership to the Father, believed that Jesus' sacrifice was payment for all your sins, and asked Jesus to be your Saviour? If not, please do so today!

"That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved." Romans 10:9

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Announcements

The Worship Team will meet on Tuesday, February 6th at 4:00 pm in the church library.

The Worship Team will be decorating the church for the Lenten Season February 12-13 at 10:00, all help is greatly appreciated.

Kresge Clothing Ministry is in need of boys and girls clothes sizes 2T-5T if you have or know someone with children who have things they have out grown or can help in any way, See Maria Masi.

February Birthdays

Don't forget to wish these people a Happy Birthday



- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------|
| 1st - Shannon McGee | 24th - Lynn Self |
| 4th - Elsie Moore | 28th - Brenda Cobb |
| 16th - Clara Jean David | |



February Anniversaries

- 7th - Brian & Shannon McGee
- 8th - Terry & Sandra Simpson
- 17th - John & Ann Roberts



Cleaning Schedule

February -March 2024

- February 1 - Linda Moody & Maria Masi
- February 15 - Linda Stanton & Lynn Self
- February 29 - Iris Petersmarck & Clara Jean David
- March 7 - Owen - ?
- March 21 - Judy Cook & Deborah Edge

If you are unable to clean when scheduled, please find a substitute to take your place.

If you would like to help with cleaning your church see Gaynell Owens. All help is greatly appreciate

**Prayer is the key to Heaven,
but Faith unlocks the door.**



Terry Simpson

Terry is an incredibly talented and giving individual who plays a pivotal role at Kresge. Without him, Sunday mornings would lack the vibrant energy he brings. He meticulously prepares all the music and crafts visually engaging PowerPoint presentations, ensuring that the lyrics of the hymns and scriptures are accessible to everyone. In addition to his musical contributions, Terry selflessly serves in various leadership roles; he is the dedicated chairperson of the One Board, the diligent

Treasurer of the Men's Club, and he goes above and beyond by collecting and delivering food from United Way to aid those in need. Notably, he spearheads the committee responsible for finding a new Minister for Kresge.

Despite his numerous commitments, Terry seamlessly manages to allocate time for farming and cherishing moments with his children, grandchildren, and his beloved wife, Sandra. Kresge and the community at large owe a debt of gratitude to Terry for his unwavering dedication. Thank you, Terry, for the invaluable contributions you make—we are truly blessed to have you among us.

Give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you." Luke 6:38



Church Family Happenings

The family of Debbie Blanton who passed away in April of 2023, was in Cedartown to sign the closing documents on the sale of her home.

A little bird told me that Russ and Deborah Edge will winging their way to New Zealand next week for a two week vacation. Safe travels guys, I look forward to seeing lots of pictures on your return.

Lamar & Gaynell Owens attended a birthday celebration for their great grandson Lucian Eder who turned one-year old.

John & Ann Robert welcomed a new great granddaughter, she weighed 5 lbs 41/2 oz. Congratulations!

Lynn & Charlie Self enjoyed a wonderful visit recently with Sharon Yancy, the lady who was instrumental in starting Kresge Kids, the first of it's kind. the program later became The Matthew Initiative and is now it around 28 churches.

Charlotte Wippler and her friend Carole Campbell took a mini vacation to Mississippi to visit her granddaughter Destiny Wippler. While there Charlotte also went to get her military ID renewed, to her surprize she found out she has no fingerprints, or at least none the Navy could detect, Hahahah. Strange but true.

If your family has hosted out of town visitors, you have a new grand or great grand child, took a trip, celebrated a birthday or anniversary, let your church family know right here. Send it to me at caw.newbeginnings@gmail.com, you can also text it or call 678-988-2881.

All The Stories Of The Bible

as crafted by John Walsh

Transfiguration Matthew 17:1-13; Mark 9:9-10, 14-29 & Luke 9:30-32

Jesus took Peter, James, and John and went up on a mountain to pray. As the Lord prayed, the three disciples fell asleep. Suddenly they woke up and saw the face of Jesus becoming brighter and brighter. His clothes were a brilliant white and shone like light.

Then they realized that two men were with him, and they knew it was Moses and Elijah. They also shone like the sun. Moses and Elijah talked with Jesus about his death.

Peter spoke up when the two men started to leave. He said, "Lord, it's good that we are here. Please allow us to build three shelters – one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah."

As he was talking, a bright cloud covered them. This made the disciples afraid. A voice said, "This is my Son. Listen to him!"

The disciples fell down in terror. Jesus walked over and touched them. "Don't be afraid. Get up." They looked around and everything was back to normal. The only person with them was Jesus.

As they went down the mountain, Jesus said, "Don't tell anyone about what you saw today, until after I've risen from the dead." They wondered what he meant by 'risen from the dead,' but no one said anything about it.

Instead, they said, "Lord, why do the scribes tell us that Elijah must come first?"

He said, "It's true. Elijah will come in the last days before everything is made right. But listen carefully. Elijah did come, and people did not recognize him. They caused him to suffer in the same way I'll also suffer at their hands." The disciples then understood that Jesus was talking about John the Baptist.

A large crowd was waiting for them at the bottom of the mountain. A man ran up and knelt before Jesus. "Lord, have mercy on my son, my only child. A spirit takes him and throws him down, sometimes in the fire, sometimes in the water. He can't talk. He foams at the mouth and goes into convulsions.

I came to your disciples, but they weren't able to help him. If you can do anything for him, please help us."

Jesus noticed that the father had said, "If you can do anything" so he said, "Everything is possible to a person who believes."

The father started to panic. "Lord, I believe. Oh, Lord, help my unbelief!"

Jesus said, "Bring the child to me."

When the spirit saw Jesus, he threw the boy to the ground. He rolled around, foaming at the mouth.

Jesus said to the spirit, "Come out of this boy, and never enter him again."

The spirit came out of the boy violently. The child screamed, and fell down to the ground. People gasped and said, "He's dead." Jesus walked over and took the boy by the hand and helped him up.

Later the disciples asked the Lord, "Why couldn't we drive the spirit out of him?"

Jesus said, "This kind can come out only by prayer and fasting."



The Transfiguration Word Search

Find these words

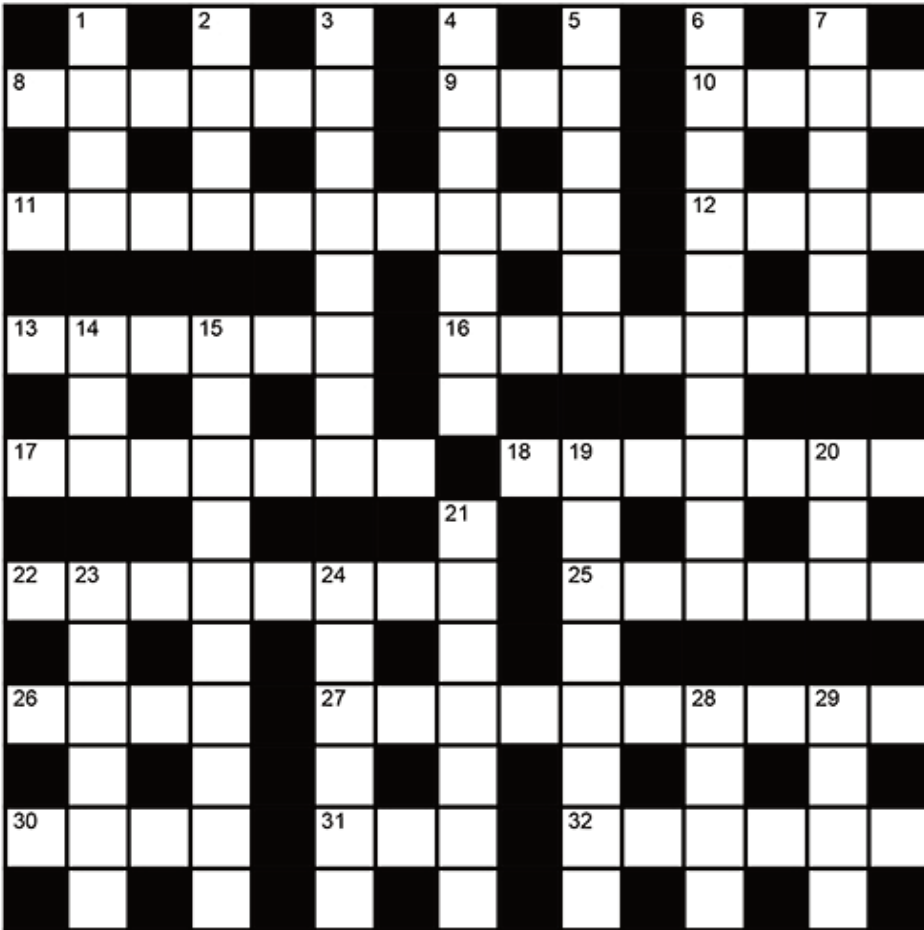
- | | |
|-----------|-----------------|
| AWESTRUCK | MOUNTAIN |
| BRIGHT | PETER |
| CLOUD | PROPHETS |
| DIVINE | RADIANT |
| ELIJAH | REVELATION |
| GLORY | SHINING |
| JAMES | TABERNACLE |
| JOHN | TRANSFIGURATION |
| LISTEN | VISION |
| MESSENGER | VOICE |
| MOSES | |

Answers in March Issue

The LORD bless thee, and keep thee: The LORD make his face shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee: The LORD lift up his countenance upon thee, and give thee peace. Numbers 6: 24-26

Faith is.....
(F) Forwarding
(A) All
(I) Issues
(T) To
(H) Heaven

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



Across

- 8 Religious Service (6)
- 9 Vessel (3)
- 10 Drive forcibly (4)
- 11 Christ does this for us (10)
- 12 Bethesda was the name of this (4)
- 13 Servant of the prophet (6)
- 16 One who leaves the straight and narrow path (8)
- 17 Check the money (7)
- 18 Fragrant offering; making angry (7)
- 22 Come out from among them (8)
- 25 Works with clay (6)
- 26 Main part of text (4)
- 27 Chucked it to far (10)
- 30 Treachery sealed with this (4)
- 31 Simon washed his (3)
- 32 Migratory grasshopper (6)

Down

- Standard for the tribe of Judah (4)
- 2 Brother of James; Hardy book (4)
- 3 Choice by vote (8)
- 4 Evening glow (7)
- 5 All sing the tune (6)
- 6 To reduce deficiency (10)
- 7 Take no notice (6)
- 14 Look at (3)
- 15 Alternative Revelation (10)
- 19 Son of Jacob (8)
- 20 The blind will (3)
- 21 Regrets; Serpent (anag) (7)
- 23 Angels by another name (6)
- 24 Decorates (6)
- 28 Say it and you will be in danger of the council (4)
- 29 Cleanse (4)

Answers in March Issue

Just Joking



The airline had a policy that required the first officer to stand at the door while the passengers exited, smile, and give them a 'Thanks for flying XYZ airline'. An airline pilot on this particular flight hammered his plane into the runway really hard. In light of his bad landing, he had difficulty looking the passengers in the eye, all the time he thought that a passenger would have a smart comment. However, it seemed that all the passengers were too shell shocked to say anything. Finally, everyone had gotten off except for this little old lady walking with a cane. She said, 'Sonny, mind if I ask you a question?' Why no Ma'am,' said the pilot, 'What is it,' the little old lady said, 'Did we land or were we shot down?'



“Didn’t expect to be here today, eh? Hey, life’s full of surprises. I mean, I didn’t expect to wake up this morning with an overwhelming craving for sausage and mushroom, but there you go.”