



MIDWAY MESSENGER

3238 Midway Road, Anderson, SC 29621



Friends in Christ,

April 1st is April Fool's Day, a day for pulling pranks and executing practical jokes. This year, April 1st is the day after Easter and all the leftover candy will be on sale since culturally, Easter is over. For the church, April 1st marks the second day of the season of Easter. The season is fifty-day long season that moves from Easter Sunday to Pentecost. This is a joyful season as we remember the great gift God has given us in Christ's resurrection.

Historically, Easter Sunday was when, following a period of study, people were baptized and welcomed into the community of the faith. This time following Easter was then used to learn more about what it means to live a Christian life. This is an appropriate season for us to focus on those same things. The Apostle Paul reminds us that, "All of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ." (Galatians 3:27)

Pastor and author Eugene Peterson wrote a book, *Practice Resurrection*, in it he writes, "The practice of resurrection is an intentional, deliberate decision to believe and participate in resurrection life, life out of death, life that trumps death, life that is the last word, Jesus' life." Just as it was for the early church, this season is a good time for us all to look at how we 'practice resurrection' and to be intentional in thinking about what it means to live this new life we have been given and how we show that to the world through the various communities we belong to and interact with. Peterson also wrote, "Church is not what we do, it is what God does, although we participate in it." Midway Presbyterian Church is involved in many ministries in this community, and it is joyous work because it is what we have been called to do as part of Christ's church.

Lent/Easter Reminders

Maundy Thursday and Tenebrae service – Thursday, March 28th at 5:30

Good Friday – the sanctuary will be open between 1:30 and 3:30 p.m. if you would like to stop by for a time of prayer and contemplation

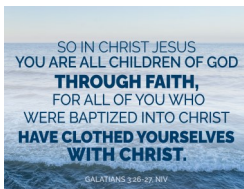
Easter Sunrise service at 7:30 a.m. in the cemetery

Easter breakfast following the sunrise service in the fellowship hall

Easter worship service at 10:30 a.m. in the sanctuary

Please remember to bring blooms from your yard to help flower the cross.

The One Great Hour of Sharing Offering will also be received on Easter Sunday.



Grace and Peace
Peggy





Lunch Bunch

Our next Lunch Bunch will be on Thursday, April 4th, meeting at 1:00 p.m. at Smokin' Pig BBQ, just off Route 81 behind Boondocks. Our first Lunch Bunch brought a dozen of us together for good food and great fellowship; hopefully even more members can join us this time. Linda will call to reserve their private side room if possible. If you intend to go and can let her know, that will give the restaurant a better idea of how many to plan on. Don't hesitate to let us know if you need a ride; carpooling is the economical and ecologically-friendly thing to do!

Second Sunday Dinner

Our Second Sunday Dinner will be held on April 14. This will be covered dish, so please plan to come and bring your favorite dishes.



Evening of Fun at a Calvary Home Fundraiser

We're hoping to put a table together for this year's "Luminary Gala" fundraiser on Friday evening, April 19th, at Bleckley Station. Dinner is being provided by Sullivan's, and the cost for a seat at the Midway table of eight is \$35. We're halfway there, so if you'd like to help us fill the table, please text or email Linda. There will be a Silent Auction and an interesting program presented, which will shine a light on the darkness of childhood trauma and how Calvary Home has helped illuminate the lives of some youngsters in our community. Many of us attended last year and know that this will be an enjoyable way to fellowship together and support one of our greatly valued local charities.

Bingo

Bingo Day will be Wednesday, April 24, at 1:00 p.m. Join us for fun and fellowship, and bring your friends and family members. Below are some of the prizes at our last bingo.



What Stewardship Means to Me

by Kent Saunders

Recently our church sign reminded us that the "earth is the Lord's, and everything in it" (Psalm 24:1). We are just stewards of the time, talent, and resources under our care. Here at Midway we have a beautiful church, manse, playground, and cemetery. It can be hard for a small congregation like ours to maintain such beautiful grounds. We have been given much and we know that from "everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded" (Luke 12:48). When we celebrate the life of our members who have gone to heaven there is a void created to continue God's work here on earth. Since we know that our good stewardship will be rewarded with treasure in heaven (Matthew 6:19-24), let us prayerfully consider an increase in our giving as an expression of our gratitude, love for God, and our want to further God's kingdom here at Midway.



Save the Date: "2024 Spring Festival"

The Worship & Fellowship Committee and the Vision Committee are in the process of planning a mini-fundraiser community event for Saturday, May 4. Details TBA but there will definitely be T-shirt tie-dye opportunities for the youngsters (led by Chrissie Saunders, with a modest charge), plus some other games (we're very much still in the brainstorming stage!) But we'll have a hot dog cook-out and sell plates, plus have our Spring Bake Sale since we're not going to have a yard sale.



Financial Report as of March 28, 2024

Budget Needs to Date	\$36,180.00
Budget Receipts to Date	\$31,795.88
Spent to Date	\$38,886.08
Special Offerings	\$ 1,218.78
Heat & A/C Offerings	\$15,679.00

"Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously."

~2 Corinthians 9:6

Community Outreach and Mission

April Jar Offering



Our Jar Offering for April will go to the Anderson Pregnancy Center. This local non-profit supports all women who are facing untimely pregnancies but are willing to give life to these precious babies. We can support their efforts by our donation of money and supplies that will be provided to the mothers. Baby clothes, newborn diapers and wipes, baby lotion and diaper rash cream are always needed. If you can help, donations should be left in the boxes in the vestibule. All of us are able to help by keeping these struggling women and the organization that works to support them in our prayers.

Gratitude Corner:

Notes we received from:

Zeke Stephenson, Anderson Free Clinic
Thank you so much for your continual support of our clinic.



Norene Smith, Clean Start Director

Just a note to say thank you for your continuing support at the Clean Start Hygiene Center for the homeless. All donations greatly appreciated for the mission to our clients. Remember us in prayer—clients and volunteers.

SCHEDULE FOR APRIL

Pulpit

Apr. 7 Bob Bone
14 Kent Saunders
21 Tom Waddell
28 Dee Ashworth

Head Usher

Apr. 7 Amy Morris
14 Tom Waddell
21 Keith Wentzky
28 Marilyn Martin

Sunday School Secretaries

Apr. 7 Sammy Stevenson
14 Bob Bone
21 Amy Morris
28 Sammy Stevenson

APRIL



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Apr. 3 Ray Keiper
14 Gail Wentzky
16 Jonathan Croft
Dickie King
21 Sam Harrell
Frank Wentzky
27 Brenda Masters

WORTH A THOUSAND WORDS



Hand rail plaque in gratitude to Jacky Ray Stamps for dedicated service & abiding care of Midway Church 1979-2024



Lenten FACE-UP at Lickville Church



Daffodils and Irises in Bloom