

# Nolensville First United Methodist Church



Our Mission:

*a neighborhood church where people experience  
a life-changing relationship with Jesus in a welcoming church family*

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## April 2022 Newsletter

### *a note from Pastor Jeremy*

#### **What Is Holy Week?**

We will soon enter Holy Week. In one sense, there is nothing special about "Holy Week." For most people in the world, it is just another eight days each spring. But not for the faithful who are followers of Christ.

We have no mandate from Jesus or His apostles to mark these days for any particular observance. Celebrating Holy Week is not an obligation, but it is an opportunity. It is a chance to walk with Jesus down the Via Dolorosa (the way of sorrow and suffering) through the most important week in the history of the world. It is a chance to focus our minds on what gift was given to us and what was the price of that gift that we celebrate on Easter.

Holy Week and those events that happened in the life of our Savior are a major part of the New Testament. In fact, the final eight of Matthew's 28 chapters are given to this one week, along with the last six of Mark's and the final six of Luke's. And in John's Gospel, the essential half, ten of 21 chapters, focus on the final week of our Lord's life, His betrayal, His trials, His crucifixion, and His triumphant resurrection.

So I would invite you to seize the possibilities of these last days of Lent. I ask you to consider how you might make the most of this week? These are some of the darkest and brightest days in the history of the world. In the chaos of our increasingly fast-paced and hectic society, Holy Week is a reminder to pause and ponder, to carefully mark each day, and not let this greatest of all weeks get lost like every other.

Perhaps pick a time each day — alone or with your family or small group — to slow down and savor what was happening during what we call the Passion week. Consider reading through a Holy Week devotional (there are many online and right at your fingertips on your phone) — or read one (or a couple) of the Passion narratives from the Gospels: Matthew 21–28, Mark 11–16, Luke 19–24, and John 12–21.

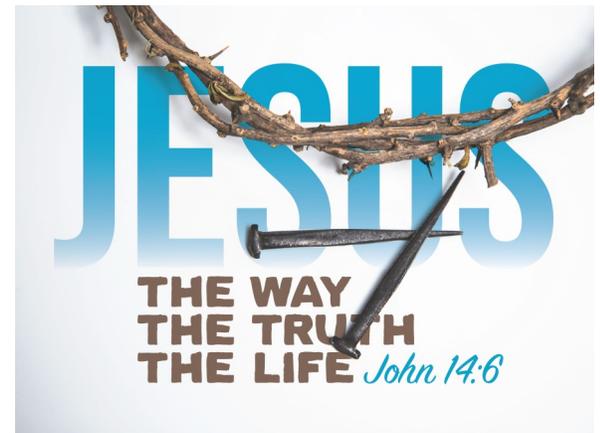
Block out several minutes. Find a comfortable place to sit. Seek to quiet your soul, and pray that God would meet you in the events and significance of this week. And spend a few moments in prayer after you read each one of these accounts.

Then come out and join us for the start of Holy Week on **April 10** with Palm/Passion Sunday when we begin the greatest story ever told once again. And later that week on **April 14** for Maundy Thursday where we remember the Last Supper and the new commandment that Jesus gave to His disciples. And then on **April 15** for one of the most powerful nights of the year: Good Friday and Tenebrae (a Service of Shadows).

One author suggests if you would like a specific biblical text to serve as a prayer focus for this week, try that God would make this prayer of Ephesians 3:16-9 increasingly true of us this Holy Week:

*...that according to the riches of His glory He may grant you to  
be strengthened with power through His Spirit in your inner being,*

*continued* →



*loving God and neighbor where we live*

so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith — that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have the strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

Jesus's step-by-step journey to Golgotha is a glowing revelation of the extent of His love. And in going all the way to the cross with Him, with every bruise, every puncture, and throb and stab of pain it is that we see most profoundly how deep the Father's love for us. Romans 5:8 reminds us "God shows His love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

May God use this week and beyond as an opportunity for you to be newly grounded in the love of Christ, remembering from the resolve of Palm Sunday to the goodbye and greatest commandment of Maundy Thursday, to the ultimate sacrifice of Good Friday, and finally to the triumph of Easter Sunday. And may you, as we are praying and focusing on Easter with Love Never Fails, know the love of Christ, in all its breadth and length and height and depth — and wonder upon wonder, be filled with all the fullness of God.

Blessings in Christ,



Rev. Jeremy Squires

[pastorjeremy@nolensvilleumc.org](mailto:pastorjeremy@nolensvilleumc.org)

Our mission is to be a neighborhood church where people experience a life-changing relationship with Jesus in a welcoming church family empowered to go and serve the world. See us on Facebook or [www.WeLoveWhereWeLive.org](http://www.WeLoveWhereWeLive.org)

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## *being a neighborhood church*

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### Red Cross Blood Drive

ALERT: Right now, the American Red Cross is facing a national blood crisis – its worst blood shortage in over a decade, posing a concerning risk to patient care. On Thursday, **April 21**, 1:15-7:15pm in the Fellowship Hall, we will host a Red Cross blood drive. Please make an appointment at [www.RedCrossBlood.org](http://www.RedCrossBlood.org) using the sponsor code "Nolensville." Streamline your donation experience and save up to fifteen minutes by visiting [www.RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass](http://www.RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass) to complete your pre-donation reading and health history questions on the day of your appointment.



### Red Cross Blood Drive Results

Nolensville First UMC hosted a Red Cross blood drive in March and we collected 45 pints of blood to help save the lives of up to 135 patients! Thank you so much!



American Red Cross

*Thank you!*

### Boy Scout Troop 298

The Boy Scouts of Troop 298 have been enjoying the access to the meeting room the church has granted us. We just got back from an enjoyable campout at Shiloh battlefield in February. The scouts enjoyed exploring the battlefield. In March, we went to Boxwell Reservation and worked on our fishing merit badge. We are also getting excited for Summer Camp, which will be held at Woodruff Reservation in the aptly named town of Woodruff, Georgia in July. We thank the church for taking an interest in our activities and supporting us by providing us with a meeting place!



Griffin Lane, Troop 298 Scribe

## UMW and GraceWorks Ministries

Our United Methodist Women are serving through giving to GraceWorks Ministries. Each month they are concentrating on a particular need of GraceWorks, and they encourage the entire congregation to help. In April, they are collecting **laundry detergent**. Every month they are collecting the following items for the Fuel Bag program: peanut butter crackers, fruit snacks, cereal bars, granola bars, fruit cups, and pudding cups. You may drop the donations in the baskets in the breezeway or foyer. Thank you!



*experiencing a life-changing relationship with Jesus*

### Lay Servant Training

Lay servants are active, supportive members of the United Methodist Church that are committed to witnessing through church and community leadership, care-giving ministries, listening, written and spoken communications, and are willing to use their gifts and talents and improve their skills for service involved in leadership roles within their church and community. The Caney Fork District is offering virtual lay servant training on **April 23 & 30**. For additional information, contact Barbara Zimmerman at 931-526-1343 or [Barbara.zimmerman@twkumc.org](mailto:Barbara.zimmerman@twkumc.org). The deadline for registering is April 7.



### Music Ministry News

*"I will extol you, my God and King, and bless your name forever and ever. Every day I will bless you and praise your name forever and ever." (Psalm 145: 1-2)*

We look forward to worshipping together in this new month of April. As we enter Holy Week, remembering the events that led up to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus, our desire is to bring glory to God the Father through music. We are thankful for the Praise Team and Choir for their willingness to serve God and our church with their gifts. There will be a YouTube playlist up on our channel starting next week containing some of the music that will be included in worship through Holy Week and beyond. Check it out if you are interested!

Thankful to continue into the Spring, proclaiming the goodness of God in song!

Regan Love

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Regan Love".

Music Ministry Director  
[music@nolensvilleumc.org](mailto:music@nolensvilleumc.org)



### Children's Ministry News

There are many ways for the children pre-K through fifth grade to be involved in church activities in the month of April. Sunday School classes are available in-person and virtually each Sunday at 9:45am with the exception of April 10. We also offer a Children's Lenten study time during both services (dismissed after the children's message). And as always, children are invited to wave the palms on Palm Sunday.

On **April 10**, we will have an Easter Egg Hunt for children during the Second Sunday Breakfast time, 9:45-10:30am. All children are welcome to attend. Invite someone! Breakfast-in-a-Bag will be provided.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mr. B.". Below the signature, the name "David Belden" is printed.

David Belden  
Children's Director  
[children@nolensvilleumc.org](mailto:children@nolensvilleumc.org)



## Youth Ministry News

In March, a group of youth and adults went to serve at One Generation Away Mobile Pantry located in Murfreesboro. It was a God sighting to see the many families who received much needed food.

Youth April Calendar:

**April 3** - Youth meeting 2-3:30pm for snacks, games and hang out time.

**April 6, 13, 20 & 27** - ReCharge Wednesdays, 6-7:30pm. We gather for hang time, dinner and Lent study

**April 10**- Youth will help hide Easter Eggs between worship services

**April 17** - He is Risen!! NO Youth meeting

**April 24** - NO Youth meeting. Come with your family to the Family Fun Night at 6pm for games and snacks!



Volunteers are needed for Wednesdays and Sundays: NFUMC's Safe Sanctuary Policy recommends that two adults are with youth and children during their activities and meetings. Adult volunteers are a key ingredient to having a successful Youth ministry! You do not have to be a Youth parent to volunteer, but you do need to have a background check to help. Please take the time to sign up for an opportunity to get to be with our FABULOUS Youth at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F094AADA72EA7F49-Sunday>.

Blessings,

Tonia Bush

Youth Director

youth@nolensvilleumc.org



## Bread Ministry

We are resuming our tradition of welcoming first time visitors with a small loaf of homemade bread. We encourage all members of the church to acknowledge and greet our visitors and to invite them to take a loaf of bread from the one of the baskets located at either entrance to the sanctuary. (If the basket is empty, please let Barbara Belden know and she will see that the gift of bread is delivered.) If you would like to be one of the bread ministry bakers, please tell Barb and she will tell you all you "knead" to know.



### April 10, **Palm Sunday**

- 8:30am Worship
- 9:45am Easter Egg Hunt  
during Second Sunday Breakfast
- 10:45am Worship

### April 14, **Maundy Thursday**

- 6:30pm Worship

### April 15, **Good Friday**

- 6:30pm Worship

### April 17, **Easter Sunday**

- 8:30am Contemporary Worship
- 9:45am Blended Worship
- 11am Traditional Worship



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**In Loving Memory**

**William "Porter" Walker**

December 19, 1949 - March 22, 2022

Eternal God, we praise You for the great company of all those who have finished their course in faith and now rest from their labor. We praise You for those dear to us whom we name in our hearts before You. Especially we praise You for Porter, whom You have graciously received into Your presence. To all of these, grant your peace. Let light perpetual shine upon them; and help us so to believe where we have not seen, and that Your presence may lead us through our years, and bring us at last with them into the joy of Your home not made with hands but eternal in the heavens; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



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**Family Night: Share Your Story**

The April Family Night will be on Sunday, **April 24**, 6-7:30pm in the Fellowship Hall. The evening will begin with a provided sandwich supper.



"Share Your Story!" is a unique way for all ages of the congregation to not only meet and greet each other, but to leave saying "I didn't know that!" Please bring a picture that has a special meaning to you. It might be a picture of a hobby you love, a special place you have visited, a special talent you have, or even a picture of your family ... anything that shows something meaningful to YOU. The Fellowship Hall be arranged so that individuals rotate around the room every few minutes to share their picture and the story that goes with it to one other person at a time (and that person will share their story). By the time you leave you will have made connections with congregation members of all ages. We guarantee the ride home will be filled with "I didn't know that!" excitement!

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- 4/5 Jackie McGhee; 4/7 John Easley; 4/8 Scott Lindsey; 4/9 Ken Cunningham;  
4/10 Archie Zazworsky; 4/11 Hannah Maynard;  
4/12 Morris Skinner, Beckett Eller, Thorin Vander Mey; 4/13 Kim Jones; 4/15 Abby Hagan;  
4/16 Karen Hoffmeister, Carol Matlock; 4/17 Zannie Martin; 4/19 Steve Milne;  
4/20 Jimmy Murphy; 4/21 Kevin Gavin, Laura Shelton; 4/24 Lauren Burch, Lucy Scobey;  
4/26 Nancy Douglas; 4/27 Jan Jones, Jamie Stitt, Dawson Murphy;  
4/28 Melissa Thomas, Jeremy Wang; 4/29 Betty Reaves; 4/30 Carol Milne
- 4/10 Carolyn & Morris Skinner (63); 4/16 Mary Beth & Kenneth Moore (39)



## Church Work Day

All are invited to a work day to help finish the new basement area and other maintenance projects on Saturday, **April 9**, 8am-noon. Breakfast will be provided!



## Latest Developments in the Church Basement

The REFRESH project is coming to the last couple weeks of internal construction details.

On our work day, we will include some cleaning, moving, yard work, painting, and other items on our punch list on April 9, 8am to noon or so. NOTE: The men's group has promised breakfast to be ready at 8am! We will also have other projects to work on inside and outside of the buildings. Look for an email the week before with a prioritized list of projects and tools/supplies needed.

If you are not available on April 9, but would still like to help, contact Kevin ([totalcare@comcast.net](mailto:totalcare@comcast.net)) and he will be glad to share details of projects that may be completed on your schedule.

Looking forward to fellowship, fun work, and making more good memories!

## From the Staff Pastor Parish Relations Committee

One of our offerings for young families before covid was nursery care for our young families. We are looking for someone to fill that position on Sunday mornings and during church activities as we expand our on site offerings.

This person or persons would be an 18-year or older individual that you may know that would share their gifts. Please reach out to anybody and introduce the potential opportunity with them. Please have them contact the SPPRC Committee ([spprc@nolensvilleumc.org](mailto:spprc@nolensvilleumc.org)) or Pastor Jeremy ([pastorjeremy@nolensvilleumc.org](mailto:pastorjeremy@nolensvilleumc.org)) for a job description to see if the opportunity is a good fit.

Thank you,

*Kevin Gavin*

Kevin Gavin  
SPPRC Chair



## The Board of Trustees Meets in April

The Board of Trustees will have rescheduled their monthly meeting to Tuesday, **April 5**, at 7pm in the Fellowship Hall and by Zoom.



## The Church Council of Stewards Meets in February

The work of the Church Council of Stewards is to envision, plan, implement, and annually evaluate Nolensville First UMC's ministry and mission. Please join us on Tuesday, **April 26**, at 7pm in the Fellowship Hall with a Zoom option. Watch for details on how to join in your email!



# APRIL 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 11am Lunch Bunch	2 1pm UMW District Meeting
3 8:30am Worship 9:45am Sunday School 10:45am Worship 2pm Girl Scout Troop 1318 2pm Youth SoLeS	4 4:30pm Girl Scout Troop 2992 7pm Lions Club	5 1pm Staff meeting 1pm Tai Chi for Arthritis 7pm Trustees  Trustees Meeting 7pm Boy Scout Troop 298	6 6pm Youth reCharge 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm Praise Band Rehearsal	7 10:30am Friendly Neighbors 6pm Cub Scout Pack 297	8 11am Lunch Bunch	9 8am Church Work Day  Work Day 10am Nolensville Green Team
10  Palm SUNDAY 8:30am Worship 9:30am Second Sunday Breakfast & Easter Egg Hunt 10:45am Worship 12pm Buttercup Festival	11	12 1pm Staff meeting 1pm Tai Chi for Arthritis	13 10:30am United Methodist Women  6pm Youth reCharge 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm Praise Band Rehearsal	14  Maundy THURSDAY 6:30pm Worship	15  Good FRIDAY 11am Lunch Bunch 6:30pm Worship	16
17  Easter SUNDAY 8:30am Contemporary Worship 9:45am Blended Worship 11am Traditional Worship	18 Easter holiday  7pm Lions Club	19 1pm Staff meeting 1pm Tai Chi for Arthritis 7pm Boy Scout Troop 298	20 6pm Youth reCharge 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm Praise Band Rehearsal	21 1:15pm Red Cross Blood Drive  6pm Cub Scout Pack 297	22 10:30am Young Hearts 	23
24 8:30am Worship 9:45am Sunday School 10:45am Worship 12pm Parent Information meeting 6pm Family Night: Share Your Story 	25 7pm Venturing Crew 299	26 1pm Staff meeting 1pm Tai Chi for Arthritis 7pm Boy Scout Troop 298 7pm Church Council of Stewards 	27 6pm Youth reCharge 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm Praise Band Rehearsal	28 1pm Prayer Shawls  6pm Cub Scout Pack 297	29 11am Lunch Bunch	30 11am Recital