

MARCH 2024
RAFTING CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH NEWSLETTER
GROWING AS A CHURCH WITH A REDEMPITIVE PURPOSE

HE IS *Risen*

THE LORD IS RISEN INDEED

Luke 24:34





March

c o n t e n t

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SCRIPTURAL IMPACT

PRAYER OF THE MONTH *Entering His Gates*

Lord, thank You for Your grace and mercy, which is teaching me to trust myself and others. Thank You for life, health, and strength in all its abundance.

It was You Who gave me a desire to pray, and I am grateful for the prayer closet where we meet, and I thank You for Your Word.

Life is exciting, and I am grateful that I am alive for such a time as this. Thank You for past and present relationships; I learn from those who oppose me and from those who are for me. You taught me to recognize and understand my strengths and weaknesses. You gave me discernment and spiritual understanding. I enter Your gates with thanksgiving in my heart. This I pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Deacon Bland Wade



SCRIPTURAL IMPACT

40-DAY LENTEN SEASON

Our Time for Prayer, Fasting, and Almsgiving

A TIME OF REPENTANCE

“Between Ash Wednesday and Easter, many Christians observe a 40-day period known as Lent. . . . Lent is meant as a time of repentance. “Scholars believe Maundy Thursday was the day when Jesus celebrated His final Passover with His disciples. Jesus led His disciples in the first act of Lent of humility, love, and service. Jesus then commanded His disciples to go and serve likewise.” “Both Protestants and Catholics participate in forms of fasting and praying [and almsgiving] during the 40-day period of Lent to honor and remember the suffering of Jesus in the weeks before His death and resurrection” (crosswalk.com).

HOLY WEEK

Holy Week is March 24-30, 2024, a string of eight days that allow us an opportunity to reflect upon the shift in humanity Jesus’ sacrifice on the cross launched. It starts with Palm Sunday when Jesus enters the city of Jerusalem. The week leads us through the Last Supper, His crucifixion, and ends on Easter Sunday with His resurrection. This is the basis of Christianity. His sacrifice launched the New Covenant God promised and many had prophesied throughout the Old Testament. Each day of Holy Week allows us to peek into the heart of our Savior at intently close proximity. His love for us is reflected in every significant step toward the cross, every breath up to the last and His resurrection (cosswalk.com).

SCRIPTURAL IMPACT

PALM SUNDAY

Palm Sunday commemorates when Jesus entered Jerusalem and was greeted by people waving palm branches. "This event serves as a reminder for Christians to welcome Jesus into their hearts and be ready to follow Him" (christianity.com).

MAUNDY THURSDAY

"Scholars believe Maundy Thursday was the day when Jesus celebrated his final Passover with His disciples. Jesus led His disciples in the first act of humility, love, and service. Jesus then commanded His disciples to go and serve likewise" (crosswalk.com).

GOOD FRIDAY

Good Friday, the Friday before Easter, commemorates the Crucifixion of Jesus and His death at Calvary.

SEVEN LAST WORDS OF JESUS CHRIST

"My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" (Matthew 27:46)

"Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing." (Luke 23:34)

"I tell you the truth, today you will be with me in paradise." (Luke 23:43)

"Dear woman, here is your son!" and "Here is your mother!"

"I am thirsty." (John 19:28)

"It is finished!" (John 19:30)

"Father, into your hands I commit my spirit!" (Luke 23:46)

SCRIPTURAL IMPACT

LENTEN SEASON. CONTINUED

EASTER SUNDAY

Easter follows Good Friday, the glorious celebration of the day Jesus was raised from the dead, heralding His victory over sin and death and pointing ahead to a future resurrection for all who are united to Him by faith. Easter is the joyful conclusion to the Lenten season of devoted prayer, fasting, and penitence. “We spend Sunday praising God corporately through song, prayer, a message of Jesus, and fellowship. Our day centers on celebrating our Savior, Jesus Christ, and His victory over death. Because He lives, we live!”

-- christianity.com

SCRIPTURAL IMPACT

LENTEN SEASON, CONTINUED

SCRIPTURAL READINGS FOR YOU

Psalm 27:4

Psalm 61:8

Psalm 42:1-2

Matthew 6:1-6

Matthew 6:16-18

Philippians 3:10-11

Joel 2:12-14

Genesis 2:7

Isaiah 58:6-7

Psalm 51:10-12

Luke 9:23

2 Corinthians 5:17

Matthew 11:28-30

Romans 12:1

Psalm 34:18

Psalm 139:23

Micah 6:8

Psalm 19:12

SCRIPTURAL IMPACT

SCRIPTURAL PRESENTATION TAKEAWAYS *For Such a Time As This*

Esther 4:14

February 1, 2024-----Trustee Dianne W. Herrington



A story of deliverance



God is the only one that can turn trials into blessings.



Don't ever doubt that He is able; nothing is impossible with Him.



There is a constant thread of redemption that speaks to us today.



God is always at work in our lives.



God's blessings are always greater than our troubles.

MINISTRY IMPACT

FAITH THAT PLEASES GOD *Examining Our Faith*

Church/Home Theme: Revive US Again, O Lord!

Studies in Jude, 2 Corinthians, 1 Peter, Acts, the Gospels, Romans

Unit 1: Faith-FULL Versus Faith-LESS

Adult Sunday School Lessons

Mar. 3	<i>Sustaining Our Faith</i>	Jude 17-25
Mar. 10	<i>Testing Our Faith</i>	2 Corinthians 13:5-11
Mar. 17	<i>Defending Our Faith</i>	1 Peter 3:8-17
Mar. 24	<i>Living in Faith</i>	Acts 6:7-15
Mar. 31	<i>The Resurrection: Key to Faith</i>	Mark 16:1-8 (Easter Sunday)

HEALTH IMPACT

COLORECTAL CANCER AWARENESS MONTH *Preventable, Treatable, & Beatable*



National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month is an annual dedication to raise awareness about colorectal cancer, emphasizing its prevention, early detection, and treatment options. It's a time to highlight the significance of regular screenings, celebrate survivors, remember those we've lost, and rally for continued research and education.

Anyone can get colorectal cancer. It's most common among African Americans and people over age 50. According to WebMD, the lifetime chance of developing colorectal cancer (CRC) is 1 in 22 for men and 1 in 24 for women. In 2023, approximately 153,020 individuals were projected to be diagnosed with CRC and 52,550 to die from the disease, including 19,550 cases and 3750 deaths in individuals younger than 50 years (PubMed). More than one half of all cases and deaths are attributable to modifiable risk factors, such as smoking, an unhealthful diet, high alcohol consumption, physical inactivity, and excess body weight (Wiley's.onlinelibrary).



HEALTH IMPACT

COLORECTAL CANCER AWARENESS MONTH. CONTINUED

5 *Ways to Reduce Your Risk*



Quit smoking.

And/ or quit using other forms of tobacco, including chew.



Exercise regularly.

Physical activity can reduce your risk of colorectal cancer by as much as 50 percent.



Eat well and keep a healthy weight.

Discuss a diet and exercise plan that works for you with your provider.



Limit alcohol consumption.

Drink more water. Water has no calories; so, it can also help with managing body weight and reducing calorie intake.



Get screened.

Screenings help find problems early on when they may be easier to treat.



CONNECTIONAL IMPACT

Happy Birthday!

May the light of the Lord
shine brightly on you
today. We hope your day is
filled with love, joy, peace
and hope.



CONNECTIONAL IMPACT

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH



CONNECTIONAL IMPACT

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH. CONTINUED

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WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH *Facts About Women's History Month*



Women's History Month can trace its roots back to 1857. During this time, women from various New York City factories protested poor working conditions.

The first Women's Day celebration in the United States was in 1909. However, the catalyst for Women's History Month began as a local weeklong celebration in Santa Rosa, California. In 1978, the Education Task Force of the Sonoma County Commission on the Status of Women planned a celebration that corresponded with International Women's Day, and the movement took off across the country.

Women's groups and historians lobbied for national recognition in 1980. In February of that year, President Jimmy Carter issued the first Presidential Proclamation declaring the week of March 8 as National Women's History Week.

Congress designated the entire month of March as Women's History Month in 1987.

Dr. Gerda Lerner, who was a key figure in the fight for this national observance, said, "Women's history is women's right."

<https://www.goodgoodgood.co/articles/how-to-celebrate-womens-history-month>

CONNECTIONAL IMPACT

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH. CONTINUED

WOMEN MATHEMATICIANS *Human "Computers" at NASA*



DOROTHY VAUGHAN, KATHERINE JOHNSON,
MARY JACKSON/COURTESY OF NASA



As America stood on the brink of a Second World War, the push for aeronautical advancement grew ever greater, spurring an insatiable demand for mathematicians. Women were the solution. Ushered into the Langley Memorial Aeronautical Laboratory in 1935 to shoulder the burden of number crunching, they acted as human computers, freeing the engineers of hand calculations in the decades before the digital age.

Sharp and successful, the female population at Langley skyrocketed. Dorothy Vaughan, Katherine Johnson, and Mary Jackson were among the trailblazers at NASA. Called the West Computers, after the area to which they were relegated, they helped blaze a trail for mathematicians and engineers of all races and genders to follow.

CONNECTIONAL IMPACT MILITARY HONOR

*Monument Dedication Ceremony
of the Tuskegee Airmen*



CONNECTIONAL IMPACT

DEDICATION CEREMONY. CONTINUED

Monument Dedication Ceremony of the Tuskegee Airmen

Honorees



Keynote Speaker



The keynote speaker was General Charles Q. Brown Jr., the 21st Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the nation's highest ranking military officer and the principal military advisor to the President, Secretary of Defense, and National Security Council. The honorees were Leroy Bowman, Phillip Rembert, Emmett Rice, and Willie Ashley. The monument dedication ceremony was held on Friday, February 9, 2024, at Veterans Park, in Sumter, South Carolina.



CONNECTIONAL IMPACT

ANNUAL BLACK HISTORY PROGRAM *Rembert Rafting Creek Community Center*

The Annual Black History Program was held Friday, February 16, 2024, at the Rembert Rafting Creek Community Center.

For the Black History Moment, a few seniors shared some highlights: Mrs. Mary Sanders gave a biography on one of our own, Mrs. Martha Wright. Mr. Curtis Pollard gave highlights on Mr. James Brown, and Ms. Myra Wright gave a brief biography on her grandfather, Mr. Thomas Boston Wright.

Councilman Carlton Washington gave an update on several issues that the community needed to be aware of. He ended his presentation with a Black History Quiz, which everyone enjoyed.



CONNECTIONAL IMPACT

BLACK HISTORY PROGRAM. FEB. 16. CONTINUED



CONNECTIONAL IMPACT

BLACK HISTORY PROGRAM. FEB. 16. CONTINUED



CONNECTIONAL IMPACT

DANCE, ARTS, AND GAMES PROGRAMS *Rembert Rafting Creek Community Center*



RAFTING CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

Growing As A Church With A Redemptive Purpose

Web: www.raftingcreekbaptistchurch.org **Email:** prcommittee@raftingcreekbaptistchurch.org **Phone:** 803-432-5411

Facebook: www.facebook.com/raftingcreekbaptistchurch/

*Join us on Sunday mornings for worship service
beginning at 10AM, in person or via Facebook livestream.*

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Meetings and Rehearsals

Meetings and rehearsals will be held by Zoom or Conference Call until notified otherwise.

Deacon Ministry

Thursday, Before 1st Sunday, 6pm

Brotherhood

2nd Saturday, 9am

Children/Youth

Saturdays, Before 2nd & 4th Sunday, 12pm

Inspirational Choir

1st & 3rd Saturdays, 11am

Male Choir

1st & 3rd Saturdays, 10am

Ministers & Deacons Spouses Ministry

3rd Saturday, 12pm

Pastor's Aide Ministry

2nd Saturday, 11am

Senior Missionary Ministry

2nd Saturday, 12pm

Thursday Night Scriptural Presentations

Weekly, 6pm

Young Women's Auxiliary

1st Saturday, 10am

Trustees

2nd Wednesday, 6pm

Winter Months, 4th Sunday, After Church