



# **RAFTING CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH NEWSLETTER**

***GROWING AS A CHURCH WITH A REDEMPTIVE PURPOSE***

## **MARCH 2026**



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# A B O U T T H E C O V E R

## PALM SUNDAY

*PALM SUNDAY, the beginning of Holy Week, signifies the triumphant entry of Jesus into Jerusalem. Crowds hailed Him King by laying palm branches (symbols of victory) and cloaks on His path, fulfilling prophecy and foreshadowing His Passion, crucifixion, and eventual resurrection. Palm Sunday reminds Christians of hope, redemption, and the welcoming of Jesus as their Savior.*



# HOLY WEEK

March 29 - April 5, 2026

# PRAYER OF THE MONTH

## BEING CALLED ACCORDING TO GOD'S PURPOSE

*"I have set the LORD always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken" (Psalm 16:8 ESV). I will exalt your name always. Give me a spirit of humility where I will say more of you, Lord. Give me a spirit that is obedient to Your word alone.*

Our Father, I pray that Your presence will always be with me. Watch over me and order my steps. And while I do not know what lies ahead, I pray that You will go before me and give me the grace to conquer whatever comes my way.

I thank You for hearing this prayer. We, thank You for Your word, which stands true in the midst of our problems and Your ways that are not our ways. Your Word says You are close to the brokenhearted, and You

save those who are crushed in spirit. You are our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Lord, in all things, You work for the good of those who love You and have been called according to Your purpose.

Thank You, Lord, that You are in control and are bringing about Your divine plan. In Jesus' name, Amen.

*Sis. Bonnett Nash*

# MONDAY'S PRAYER

## THE LORD'S GRACE IS SUFFICIENT

Lord, it's another day's journey, and as I look today to the hills from whence cometh my help, I look only to You, the Provide of all mankind.

Lord, You are our Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the One that provides salvation through Your Son, Jesus Christ, so that we can live again. You are our all and all.

Lord, I humble myself and praise Your glorifying and everlasting presence in my life. For there is no other help that I know.

Lord, I give You the praise for the fellowship this morning. Lord, it's a blessing to be among Your people: a people with a kindred spirit.

Thank You for the love that You have shown this morning, that gentle touch that raised us from our sleeping cots

and the protection that was provide as we slumbered.

Now, Lord, as we move about today, I ask that You strengthen us on every leaning side. Strengthen our weaknesses, cause us to keep You first in all that we endeavor to do today, to step out in faith in You and not on our own, no matter how small the task.

Give us the understanding that all things come from You: that it is Your will that we have our being.

Thank You, Lord, for Your Grace (our daily bread) and the Mercy that will lead us home. Amen.

*Deacon Wallace E. Dinkins*

# SPIRITUAL GIFTS

## *The Ministry Gifts*

The ministry gifts are found in Ephesians 4:11 (NIV): "And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers." This verse highlights Christ's gift to the Church of specific, ordained leadership roles designed to equip believers for ministry and build up the body of Christ.

### **The apostle**

Individuals sent with a special commission, often foundational for the church, carrying authority for leadership and church planting.

### **The evangelist**

Gifted in spreading the good news of the Gospel effectively, leading others to believe in Jesus Christ.

### **The prophet**

People gifted to receive and proclaim messages from God, often for edification, correction, and encouragement of the church.

### **The teacher**

The person who is gifted in explaining and making clear the Word of God for understanding and application.

### **The pastor**

Individuals who shepherd and teach the congregation, guiding and nurturing them through the understanding of Scripture.

"These 'gifts' are offices, or callings, or vocations that Jesus Christ has established in the church. Their purpose is to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up."



# HEALTH

## TOP MARCH HEALTH AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS

- ***National Nutrition Month®:*** Sponsored by the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, this focuses on making informed food choices, with 2024 focusing on "Beyond the Table".
- ***National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month:*** Highlights the importance of regular screenings starting at age 45 to prevent or detect cancer early.
- ***Brain Injury Awareness Month:*** Educates on traumatic brain injuries (TBI).
- ***Multiple Sclerosis (MS) Education/Awareness Month:*** Raises awareness about this neurological disease.
- ***National Endometriosis Awareness Month:*** Focuses on the often-misdiagnosed condition.
- ***National Kidney Month:*** Promotes awareness of chronic kidney disease, which affects 14% of American adults.



# COMMUNITY EVENTS & OBSERVANCES

## “Leading the Change: Women Shaping a Sustainable Future”

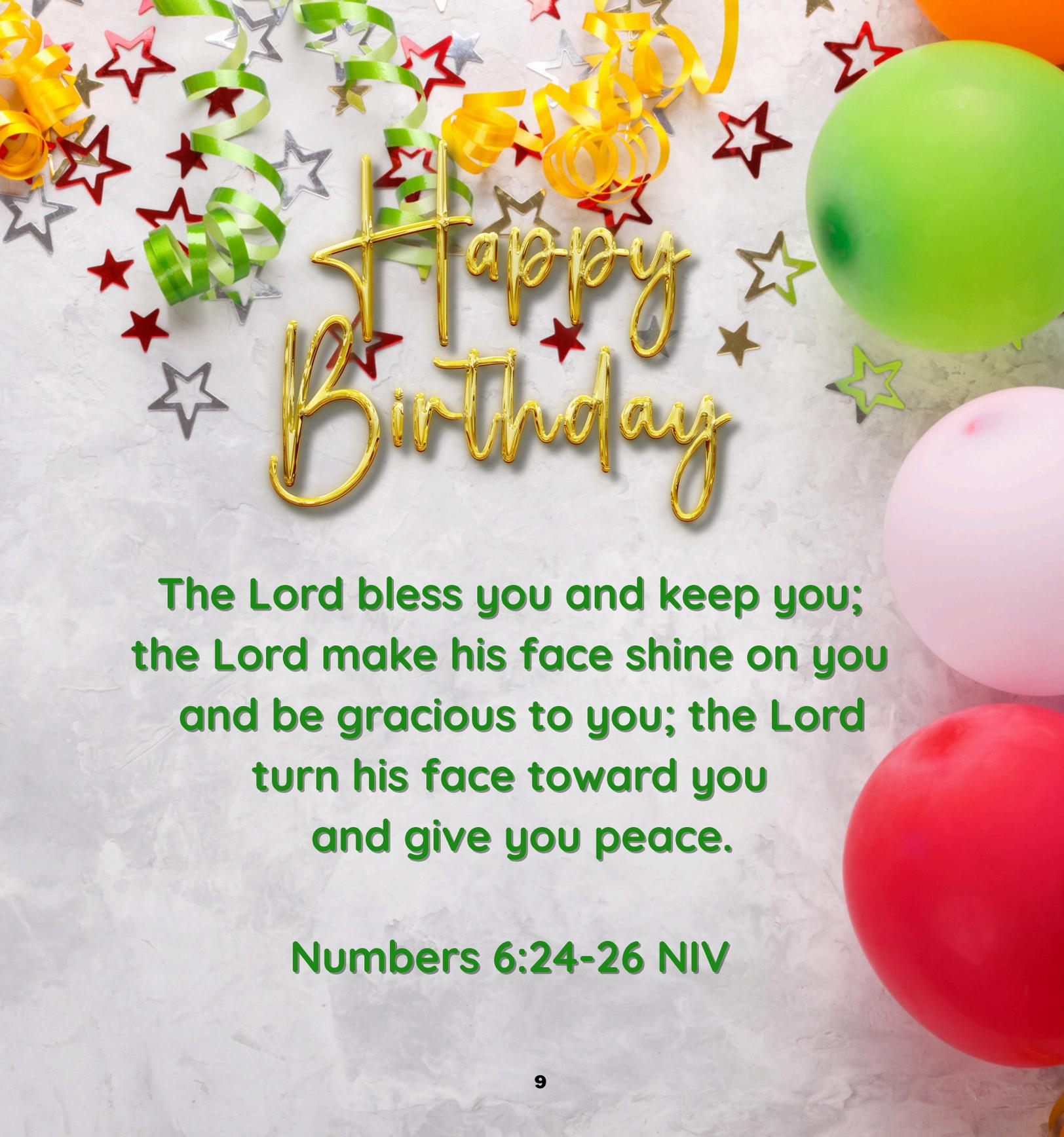
March is Women's History Month, and it is a time to recognize and celebrate the lives and contributions of American women.

Throughout history, women have faced challenges and intimidation that many today may not know.

With strength and courage, they fought for important changes like the right to vote, reproductive freedom, and equal pay. Many of today's women show tremendous courage in their everyday



lives. They have forged change, socially and personally, as well as in their local communities.



# Happy Birthday

**The Lord bless you and keep you;  
the Lord make his face shine on you  
and be gracious to you; the Lord  
turn his face toward you  
and give you peace.**

**Numbers 6:24-26 NIV**

# MEETINGS AND REHEARSALS

*Meetings and rehearsals will be held as scheduled, Monday through Saturday.*

## **Morning Prayer**

Monday–Friday, 6:30am

## **Deacon Ministry**

Thursday, Before 1st Sunday, 6pm

## **Brotherhood**

2nd Saturday, 9am

## **Inspirational Choir**

Wednesday, 6pm

## **Tuesday Bible Study**

6pm, via Zoom & Conference Call

## **Ministers & Deacons Spouses Ministry**

3rd Saturday, 12pm

## **Pastor's Aide Ministry**

2nd Saturday, 11am

## **Senior Missionary Ministry**

2nd Saturday, 12pm

## **Scriptural Presentations**

Thursday, 6pm

## **Young Women's Auxiliary**

1st Saturday, 10am

## **Trustee Ministry**

2nd Wednesday, 6pm

Winter Months, TBA

## **Public Relations Ministry**

1st Tuesday, 7pm, Zoom

## **Public Relations Committee**

**Wallace Dinkins**

*President and Editor*

**Alvenia Drakeford Dinkins**

*Web Editor/Content Manager*

**Myra C. Wright**

*Connectional Contributor/Secretary*

**Nancy Dinkins**

*YouTube Video Specialist*

**Emma Dinkins-Jackson**

*Health & Wellness Specialist*

**Bonnett Nash**

*Researcher/Chaplain*

**Nylasia Alston**

*Video Specialist*

**Julia Dinkins**

*Graphic Designer/Content Creator*

**Molasia Singleton**

*Graphic Designer/Content Creator*



# **RAFTING CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH**

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**Join us on Sunday for Sunday Church School at 9AM (in person) and  
worship service at 10AM (in person or via Facebook livestream).**

**Web: [www.raftingcreekbaptistchurch.org](http://www.raftingcreekbaptistchurch.org)**

**Email: [prcommittee@raftingcreekbaptistchurch.org](mailto:prcommittee@raftingcreekbaptistchurch.org)**

**Telephone: 803-432-5411**

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**The Rev. Melvin Mack, Pastor**