

## A Word From Pastor Scott

### No Foolin'

There are very few things in this world we can fully trust. People who manage money, politicians (many of them), large corporate CEO's, Hollywood elites, Hollywood marriages, and yes, even Pastors, are on a growing list of those who have often proven to be untrustworthy. The media seems to have lost its ability to report the news without bias. Many people don't believe in "absolutes"; TRUTH holds different meanings for different age groups. People don't know who to believe or what is the best protection from the COVID virus strains. It often may feel like we are losing our grip on what is real and what is fake.

It is interesting we celebrate the first day of April and actually ENCOURAGE pranks and fakes throughout this day. I am beginning to see that there is very little difference from April Fool's Day and every other day! My, how things have continued to change.

Which is why I think as Christians we are truly poised to offer an untrustworthy, "April Fool's" culture something that is of immense value. The TRUTH of Jesus Christ. Let me be sure you understand me...your faith in Christ has NEVER been more scrutinized and marginalized in culture than today. It is no longer considered a cultural given that you belong to a church and attend weekly worship. It is no longer acceptable to discuss your religious beliefs in the workplace, school and other common places. We no longer can assume people have faith in Jesus Christ by attrition; thinking, "well, everyone else is doing it!" The day is coming where our faith will be challenged to the point of persecution. Scripture tells us, "Dear friends, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that has come on you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice inasmuch as you participate in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may be overjoyed when His glory is revealed. If you are insulted because of the name of Christ, you are blessed, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you." 1 Peter 4:12-14 NIV

These words are as trustworthy as they have ever been, regardless of a culture who is desperately trying to do away with the authority that Scripture has had for many centuries. Don't be weary in your understanding of the faith you have, the faith that has saved you, the faith that is absolutely dependable. God is with us and for us. Never be fooled into thinking otherwise.

See you in church!

*Pastor Scott*

## *Holy Week Schedule*

Palm Sunday begins Holy Week on April 10th. This marks the beginning of the last week of our Lord's life before He conquered Hell, Death and the Grave for us! Be sure you don't miss church this Sunday! All services are at their normal times.

Then on Good Friday, April 15th there will be a Tenebrae Service at 8pm in the Sanctuary. Tenebrae is observed during the final part of Holy Week commemorating the sufferings and death of Christ. It is characterized by gradual extinguishing of candles or light and by a boisterous or loud noise taking place in total darkness near the end. If you have never been to a Tenebrae Service, it is a very symbolic and memorable service. Make this year the year you attend your first Tenebrae. I guarantee you, Easter Sunday morning will be more meaningful if you do!

Easter Sunday Services at SUMC will follow normal Sunday times of 9am Contemporary Service in the Fellowship Hall, 10am Sunday School Small Groups and 11am Traditional Service in the Sanctuary. Invite someone with you that has never attended. It is a well documented fact that people are more likely to accept an invitation to church on Christmas and Easter. Who are you going to invite with you? Bring someone to celebrate the RISEN SAVIOR!



# Overview continued...

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO...

Nicholas Parker	04-02	Arlene Dundore	04-09	Julie Miller	04-17	Larry Shackelford	04-24
Mel Granger	04-02	Tony Lefler	04-10	Terry Austin	04-20	Adam Paxton	04-24
Mac Powell	04-02	Matthew McLelland	04-10	Michele Forwerck	04-22	Greg Shore	04-26
James Ferguson	04-03	Randi James	04-11	Kay Kobel	04-22	Ricky Inman	04-28
Taylor Lauzon	04-03	Andy McKinney	04-11	Judy McKechnie	04-22	Lynne Cheplen	04-28
Madison Marcus	04-03	Sara Czagas	04-12	Donna Smith	04-22	Katy Broadway	04-29
Kamby Creel	04-04	Sara R. Graham	04-12	Ashley Little	04-23	Glen Kobel	04-30
Allie James	04-04	Kristen Menichelli	04-13	Ike Paxon	04-23		
C.T. Lefler	04-06	Alan Gray	04-15	Dustin Paysour	04-23		
Helen Phillips	04-06	Linda Inman	04-17	Laura Boles	04-24		

Sunday, April 17, 2022



## Giving

Date	Budget/Tithe	Building Fund
Mar 06	\$ 6,535.68	\$ 405.00
Mar 13	\$ 3,780.27	\$ 405.00
Mar 20	\$ 6,247.36	\$ 405.00
Mar 27	\$ 6,383.87	\$ 565.00

\*Please do not forget your church when you go out of town or on vacation. God loves a cheerful giver!

## Concert at The Gazebo...Bonterra Village

Our own 9am SUMC Praise Band is hosting "Concert at The Gazebo" at the Bonterra Village Neighborhood Gazebo on **Saturday, April 9th** from **5pm - 7pm**. In addition to live music, there will also be food vendors (Plumpies Hot Dogs, SoGood Snow Cones and the Neighborhood Cookie Lady) there so everyone can enjoy dinner while listening to fantastic music. Bring a comfy chair to sit in, invite your friends and family, and come enjoy a night of great music, good food and amazing fellowship. Now take it one step further and look at this opportunity through "spiritual glasses" if you will. You are in a fun, laid back atmosphere the weekend before Easter. You will be around lots of new people. Your very own Praise Band will be providing the music for the evening. Why not take this opportunity to invite someone to church! There will be flyers on hand for you to hand people and invite them to Easter or any Sunday. Let's be THE CHURCH at every opportunity!



## UMM Golf Tournament

The Stallings United Methodist Men are thrilled to announce that after two long years off, their annual Golf Tournament is resuming at Monroe Country Club. This year's tournament will be held on Monday, June 20th and is a 4-Person Captain's Choice. We need Golfers, and we need sponsors! Registration is open NOW! Pick up a registration form from any of our United Methodist Men or from the Welcome Center Desk. There is a minimum qualification of 15 teams. So who are you going to ask to be on your team? We also need volunteers to help with registration, signs and other things the day of the event! See Gil Rushing to Volunteer! Last but certainly not least, Kia of Union County is donating a new car as a Hole in 1 Prize. Make sure you are present for our next UMM Breakfast on Saturday, April 9th at 8am in the Fellowship Hall to find out more details. Begin assembling your team now!



*In Loving Memory*  
-of-

*In Memory of Jerry Keene:*

- ◆ Tim & Marie Garris
- ◆ Nancy Cathcart



*In Honor of*

*In Honor of Tommy Stilwell:*

- ◆ Tim & Marie Garris

*In Honor of Pat Saine:*

- ◆ Ginny Bernstorf

*In Honor of Mic & Stanna Treadwell:*

- ◆ Katherine Tice
- ◆ SUMC Choir
- ◆ Minta Summey
- ◆ David & Susan Floyd
- ◆ Donna Smith

*Easter Holiday Office Hours*

The Church Office be closed on Easter Monday. Normal office hours will resume on Tuesday, April 19th.