



NOTES FROM THE FIELD

Last month I wrote about the journey we make toward Easter Day. In Lent, we travel from ashes to an empty tomb and along the way we attend to our spiritual lives.

Holy Week is the final stretch of that journey. This year it's in April and the signs of spring are all around us. Creation itself seems to be cheering us on. *Keep going on this Lenten way. You're almost there!*

As a reminder of this Lenten journey we make, during Holy Week we will physically move from one place to the next as we draw closer to Easter day. Here's what is mean...

On Palm Sunday, we will be in the sanctuary for worship and begin the service with a procession of palms. Children will lead this procession (as usual), and everyone will be invited to leave their seat and join in the joyful journey of waiving palm branches and singing, "Hosanna!" We'll travel around the sanctuary together.

On Maundy Thursday, we will gather downstairs in the fellowship hall. Our communion service will be around a large table and we will remember the meal

Jesus shared with his disciples. There's a surprise waiting for you in that service – the twelve disciples will be there with us! Please journey to the fellowship hall that night and help the church remember the one who provides us all we need.

On Good Friday, we will gather upstairs in the sanctuary for a shared service with Glade Spring Presbyterian Church. Their choir and ours have been



working on some profound music for that service, which center around the darkness of Jesus' suffering and death.

With this Good Friday service, our Lenten journey carries us up a hill to the cross and we are confronted with both our complete brokenness – far beyond anything we can fix on our own – and God's deep commitment to rescue us from our human condition.

Lent has reached its apex. Heaven and earth are separated in that moment by one cross and one man. The

connection is at once most strong and most tenuous.

Some women and a few disciples watch from a distance in silence. The third planet from the sun is also silent in its orbit – indeed all creation waits for what will happen next. For three days there will be stillness, a holding-your-breath kind of stillness.

On Easter morning we will gather three times in three different places. See what I mean about how much we will be moving?

First, at sunrise, we will assemble in the cemetery at 7:00am and announce the joyful news that Christ is Risen! We will watch the sun rise over the Holston Mountains and rejoice that the Son of God shines in the light of triumphant, resurrection life.

After the service, we will move inside for an amazing breakfast prepared by the deacons. This breakfast will be a feast of joyful victory!

Our third and final gathering for Easter day will be in the sanctuary for worship at 11:00am to announce again the news of that triumphant day. All of this traveling leads me to a question: where is God calling us to go from here?

Traveling together, Jon

Nursery Helpers for April
 April 1-JoAnn Kilbourne and
 Jennifer Puckett
 April 8-Sylvia Keller and
 Sue Gibson
 April 15-Linda Hall and
 Angie Cooper
 April 22-Retha Robinette and
 Sandra Wimmer
 April 29-Phyllis Briscoe and
 Lea Combs

Flower Calendar Openings!

Sign up for a Sunday in the church office.

Prayer List

Holly Briscoe, Ann Lowry, Jack Briscoe, Richard Briscoe, John Briscoe, Sam Evans, Jr., Donna Abel, Norma Lou Bourne, Kimberly Getto, Lois Gillespie, Sally Brown, Hale triplets, Kitty Pelfrey, Tim Nichols, Leroy Jones, Bob Wright, Helen Garland, Elizabeth Ponder, Barbara Adams, Michelle Sisson, Doris Poe, David King, Bob Lowe, Lynn McConnell, Nancy Thompson, Jim Groseclose, Sara Lawson, Carolyn Deaton, Virginia Thompson, Connie & Tom Counts, Emma Barton, Roberta Hale, Edna McConnell, Bill & Marge Margerum, Sandra Wimmer, Monica Hayden, Lena McVey, Dottie McGrady, Janet McCauley, Erma Combs, Rhonda Moore, Marshall Jones, Barbara Blevins, Edith Ratliff, Brenda Sprinkle, Karen Combs, Dr. Jim Gardner, Eva Bailey, Bo Miller, Phyllis Garner, Nancy Greary, Rickey White, Terry White, Roberta Richey, Jackie Cantrell and Helen Carter.

Thanks to all who ordered an Easter lily. They will adorn the sanctuary on Easter day.



HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Palm Sunday-April 1st-Sunday School at 9:45am and
 Worship Service with Communion at 11:00am

Maundy Thursday Service-April 5th at 7:00pm in the Fellowship Hall

Good Friday-April 6th at 7:00pm-Tenebrae Service with Glade
 Spring Presbyterian here at Green Spring Church

Easter Sunrise Service-April 8th at 7:00am in the Church Cemetery

Easter Breakfast-After the Sunrise Service in the Fellowship Hall

Easter Morning-Worship Service at 11:00am in the Sanctuary

From the Choir Director:

Holy Week Events

April 1- The children will be presenting two special anthems in celebration of Palm Sunday.

April 5- As part of our Maundy Thursday service which will be held in the Fellowship Hall at 7pm, Barbara Boyd will be providing special music for the service. This year's Maundy Thursday service is going to be very unique and you do not want to miss it!

April 6- The congregations of Green Spring and Old Glade Presbyterian from Glade Spring will be combining for a Good Friday service to be held at Green Spring at 7pm. The service will feature music from a combined choir of the two churches along with scripture readings telling of Christ's final hours on earth. The service will end in total darkness and you will leave in silence. This service is quite powerful and you will want to make an effort to attend and remember Christ's final hours.

April 8- For the Easter Sunrise Service, the Green Spring Men will be offering music that will touch our hearts. For the 11am service, the children will be again be singing and the Adult Choir will be also be offering beautiful music. The service will conclude with the singing of Handel's Hallelujah Chorus.

I also want to thank Susanne Martin, Barbara Boyd, Mary Lynn Ekstrom, Celina Wade, Elizabeth Wade, Deb Weddington, Tom Deaton, Bob Gillespie and Jon Martin who assisted in the musical leadership of the Taize Service which was held at our last Lenten supper on March 25.

I also want to thank Patti Quarles who on a weekly basis puts in many hours of practice to prepare meaningful music for worship.

To God Be the Glory,
 Kevin Flannagan

Birthdays--April/May

- April 1-*Ellen McConnell*
- April 4-*Lee Garrett*
- April 4-*Aubrey Brown, Jr.*
- April 5-*Kelly Collins*
- April 9-*Larry Mullins*
- April 12-*Judy Mullins*
- April 13-*Troy Gillespie*
- April 20-*David King*
- April 22-*Deborah Weddington*
- April 23-*Ginger Harris*
- April 23-*Austin Bailey*
- April 24-*Eric Collins*
- April 29-*Norma Smith*
- May 5-*Wayne Wimmer*
- May 9-*Linda Sweet*
- May 12-*Grace Garrett*
- May 14-*Tyler Jackson*
- May 16-*Mary Anne Thomas*
- May 20-*Barbara Presley*
- May 23-*Tom Counts*
- May 23-*Malcolm Sprinkle*
- May 27-*Phyllis Briscoe*
- May 27-*Pauline McClanahan*

Anniversaries--April/May

- April 9-*Mark & Carol White*
- April 23-*James & Connie Hope*
- May 6-*Jack & Nancy Abel*

(If you would like your name included on the birthdays/anniversaries list please contact Barbara at the church office with the dates)

Responding to the Good News

Date	Attendance	Offering
3-04-12	121	\$3,803.01
3-11-12	117	\$4,266.00
3-18-12	127	\$2,787.00
3-25-12	125	\$3,992.00



The deadline to put anything in the next issue of *Gleanings* is April 23rd. Send to gspchurch@comcast.net or call the church office at 628-6288.



Congratulations to Jeff & Mary Payne at the birth of their daughter, Natalie Ann Payne. She was born March 18, 2012, weighing 6lbs.15oz. and 19" long. Natalie's grandparents are Wayne & Beth Payne, her great grandparents are Leighton & Kathi Lowe and her great great grandparents are Bill & Marge Margerum.

Sunday School SCHEDULE

9:45-10:40am

Pre-school	<i>We Learn to Grow Strong</i>
Primary	<i>Following Jesus, God's Son</i>
Middle School	<i>The Divided Kingdom</i>
Adult Bible Study	<i>The Word is Here and Now</i>
Warner Room	<i>Heaven!</i>



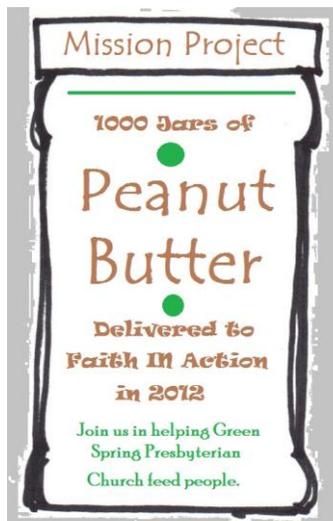
Find us on Facebook:
Green Spring Presbyterian Church,
Abingdon, Virginia



www.greenspringchurch.org

Peanut Butter Offering

March 4	49
March 11	31
March 18	31
March 25	23
March total	134
Overall total	375



The *Chuck Wagon Gang* will be singing at Green Spring Presbyterian Church on Sunday, April 29 at 6:00pm. You will not want to miss this! Spread the word to all your friends.

