

# THE

# COMMUNICATOR

Volume XXXIII No. 03/04

March/April, 2024

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## KEVIN'S KORNER

Each of the four Gospels bears witness to the resurrection of Jesus from a unique vantage point. When it comes to Mark, most scholars agree that the original ending was at chapter 16, verse 8. In other words, the earliest, most reliable manuscripts of Mark don't include verses 9-20. Depending on which translation or edition of the Bible you're using, there may even be a note indicating this. Verses 9-20 were probably added later by scribes who, drawing upon various traditions, wanted to complete or round out the story. In the other three Gospels, Jesus appears to his disciples, talks to Mary Magdalene, meets a couple of followers on the road to Emmaus, shares a breakfast of fish on the beach. But in Mark, things end rather abruptly. Words fail. Panic sets in. The women at the tomb are overcome with fear. The last image we have is of them grabbing the bottom of their dresses so they don't trip over them as they run from the tomb. Then the credits roll.

I don't believe Mark's purpose is to confuse us or discourage us. Actually, his aim is to get us in motion, so that we, like those first disciples, go forward and meet Jesus. According to Mark, at the empty tomb, a young man dressed in a white robe tells the women, "Go, tell his disciples and Peter, 'He is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you'" (16:7). Jesus' purpose was to take

them, in all their weaknesses and failings, and restore them to his mission. In other words, Mark doesn't give us a nice, clean conclusion to the story because we ourselves are supposed to continue the story through our worship, our work, and our witness.

And continuing the story requires that we go forward. According to Mark, those who want to park themselves in the present and spend most of their time hanging out at the empty tomb will miss the fullness and depth of Easter. That's because Jesus is already out front, occupying the future. He isn't locked way back there in the past, hoping you'll come and meet him on the dusty roads of first century Palestine. He isn't hovering over and around us in the here and now, peeking in on us from time to time. No, if we are to meet Jesus and know Jesus, then we'll have to get up and go forward. Go forward as individuals and go forward as a church.

The Jesus we meet in Mark's story of the resurrection is Jesus ahead of us not behind us. He's calling us to keep following him, to keep attending to his words, to keep bearing the cross. Remember that he's not calling you and me to go anywhere that he hasn't already been. Jesus has already lived through the experience of this present earthly life, with all its struggles and sufferings, for you. Jesus has already bore your sins and secured your forgiveness, for you. Jesus has already gone into the grave and died your death, for you. Jesus has already been

raised from the dead, for you. So from where he is, ahead of us not behind us, Jesus calls you and me, with all our sins and failures, to receive and live into the reconciliation we have through him and with him, reconciliation with God himself.

The path Jesus summons us to follow is one that he has already covered, a route that he himself has already completed. I like the way one commentator puts it when he says, "Leaps of faith are easier when someone else tests the landing site for us." That's what Jesus, in his life, death, and resurrection, has done. As we prepare to celebrate Easter, we can count on him to stay out front. He's not only with us, but also ahead of us, calling us forward into the future.

Faithfully,

Pastor Kevin

## NEWS FROM THE COMMUNICATOR STAFF

Jenny Boswell

The Deacon of the Month for March will be Richard Gold.

On March 3, 1931 President Herbert Hoover officially designated the Star Spangled Banner as the United States' national anthem. It was written by Francis Scott Key after the War of 1812 while observing the flag still standing following a night long British attack.

March 8 is International Women's Day

On March 10, the anniversary of her death in 1913, we observe Harriet Tubman Day. She is known for her courage in helping hundreds of slaves to escape to freedom in the north via the "underground railroad." She also served in the Union Army as nurse, cook, scout, and spy.

Daylight Savings Time begins on Sunday, March 10, 2023 at 2:00 a.m. Don't forget to change your **clocks forward one hour** before you go to bed on Saturday night.



March 17 is St. Patrick's Day. St. Patrick was born in West Britain and spent his final days in Ireland preaching, teaching, and building churches. He is best known for using a three-leaf clover to explain the Trinity, (The Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit) one body, three parts.



Spring begins on March 19!!!

In 1987, Congress officially made March National Women's History Month.

### BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

Happy Birthday Pastor Kevin. May the Lord bless you and grant you many more years of health, wisdom, and His guidance for your life. And...many more years with us.



### SAY THAT AGAIN

"Make each day useful and cheerful and prove that you know the worth of time by employing it well. Then youth will be happy, old age without regret, and life a beautiful success."  
Louisa May Alcott



March 24 is Palm Sunday.

Palms lined the streets as Jesus entered into the city of Jerusalem

### Holy Week....

March 28 is Maundy Thursday-



The day of the Seder Meal and the washing of the disciples' feet by Jesus. The night before He was crucified.

March 29 is Good Friday-

The day that Jesus was nailed to the cross, suffered, and died for us.



Sunday, March 31 is Easter

The day Jesus rose from the dead.

6:30 AM Sunrise service at Mt. Aventine

8:00 AM Easter breakfast

9:30 AM Sunday School

11:00 AM Morning Easter Service at Grace



The Deacon of the Month for April is Cathy Rozar

On April 1, Pastor Kevin will Celebrate his 23<sup>rd</sup> year with us here at Grace Baptist Church. We wish you a happy anniversary and thanks for your service to our Lord and Savior. Also thank you for all you do for our church and for all of us.



April 15 is Tax Day

April 22 is Earth Day

April 24 is Administrative Professionals Day



## MAKE JESUS KNOWN

Week of Prayer for  
North American Missions  
March 3 – 10, 2024

Our Church Goal: \$2,000.00

**“And he said to them, ‘Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation.’” Mark 16:15 (ESV)**

## THE SCRIPTURES SAY...

### *About Salvation Through Jesus*

"Yet to all who received him (Jesus), to those who believed in his name, He gave the right to become the children of God..." John 1:12 (NIV)

"Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved." Acts 4:12 (NIV)

"But the Lord is faithful, and he will strengthen and protect you from the evil one."  
2 Thessalonians 3:3 (NIV)

"But when they looked up, they saw that the stone had been rolled away." Mark 16:4

"After his suffering, he showed himself to these men and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days..." Acts 1:1-3 (NIV)

"The LORD be exalted, who delights in the well-being of his servant." Psalm 35:27 (NIV)

## MINDY'S PEACE

By Mindy Adams

March is already here. Don't forget to set your clocks forward one hour on March 10. St. Patrick's Day is March 17. Don't forget to wear green or you might get pinched. The first day of spring is March 19.

Easter is in March this year. March 24 is Palm Sunday, March 29 is Good Friday, and March 31 is EASTER. Keep an eye on the bulletin board and weekly bulletins for times and places for Holy Week and Easter Services.

April showers bring May flowers. It also brings Earth day on April 22. I wrote this poem a few years ago and thought I would share it with you again.

## JUST BECAUSE

Just because He loves you, He wore a purple robe.

Just because He loves you, He wore a crown of thorns.

Just because He loves you, He carried a cross upon His back.

Just because He loves you, He died to save you.

Just because He loves you, He was raised from the dead.

Just because He loves you, He will come again.

## THE JELLY BEAN PRAYER

Author unknown

RED is for the blood He shed.

GREEN is for the grass He made.

YELLOW is for the sun so bright.

ORANGE is for the edge of night.

BLACK is for the sins we made.

WHITE is for the grace He gave.

PURPLE is for the hour of sorrow.

PINK is for our new tomorrow.

A bag full of jelly beans,

Colorful and sweet...

Is a prayer, is a promise,

Is a small child's treat.

## GRACE'S RECIPE BOX

### Pistachio Cake

1 box of Duncan Hines white cake mix

1 box pistachio instant pudding

1 cup sour cream

½ cup Crisco oil

4 eggs

Mix together with beater for about 4 minutes.

(continued)

Topping (Nut Mixture):

2/3 cup chopped walnuts 4 Tablespoons sugar

In a greased bundt pan, put ½ of the batter then ½ of the nut mixture. Add the rest of the batter. Then the rest of the nut mixture on top of the batter. Bake at 350° for 40 minutes or until done. Let cool in the pan for 5 minutes, then turn over.



## March

Beth Rogerson	03/03
William Rozar	03/18
Cathy Stouffer	03/21
Donna Toma	03/27
Kevin Holder	03/28



## April

Juanita "Nita" Elder	04/03
Don Bazzle	04/09
Steve Norbrey	04/09
Debbie McGuigan	04/18
Jessica Castellon	04/18
Amber Krivitsky	04/20
Madison Toma	04/25
Angela Rozar	04/25



## Anniversaries of the Month April

Darrell and Nan Linville	04/28
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## UPCOMING EVENTS FOR MARCH

March 1 Stampin' UP at 6:00 p.m.  
March 2 Deacons Meeting at 8:00 a.m.  
March 3 Lord's Supper  
March 8 International Women's Day  
March 9 Movie Night at 6:00 p.m.  
March 10 Daylight Savings Time Begins  
March 17 St. Patrick's Day  
March 19 Spring Begins  
March 24 Palm Sunday  
March 28 Maundy Thursday  
March 29 Good Friday  
March 31 EASTER:  
Sunrise service @ Mt .Aventine at 6:30 a.m.  
Breakfast @ Grace at 8:00 a.m.  
Sunday School at 9:30 a.m.  
Morning Service at 11:00 a.m.

## UPCOMING EVENTS FOR APRIL

April 5 Stampin' Up at 6:00 a.m.  
April 6 Deacons Meeting at 8:00 a.m.  
April 7 Lord's Supper  
April 10 Business Meeting at 7:00 p.m.  
April 13 Movie Night at 6:00 p.m.  
April 22 Earth Day  
April 24 Administrative Professional Day  
April 28 Church Council Meeting at 12:30 p.m.

***Every Sunday (unless otherwise stated):  
Sunday School 9:30 AM  
Morning Service 11:00 AM***

The next issue of the COMMUNICATOR will be for the months of May and June. The articles will be due by the first Sunday in April. These articles will be about Mother's Day, Father's Day, Memorial Day, Graduation, Flag Day, and Summer events.