



MONTHLY

April 2026

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UNITED METHODIST CHURCHUNITED METHODIST CHURCHUNITED METHODIST CHURCHUNITED METHODIST CHURCHUNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Holy Week Worship Information



Holy Thursday: April 2 at 7:00 PM

We remember the event referred to as the "last supper" where Jesus gave us the meal we call Holy Communion, the New Commandment (that we love one another as he has loved us), and his betrayal thereafter.



Good Friday: April 3 at 7:00 PM

We reflect on the crucifixion and death of Jesus. This service includes a "Service of Tenebrae" in which the story of Jesus' death is read, and candles are extinguished as we recount Jesus' journey toward the cross.

Easter Sunday Worship



Sunrise Worship and Breakfast: April 5 at 6:30 AM

As the sun rises, we celebrate the triumphant resurrection of Jesus from the dead, embracing the promise of our resurrection and eternal life through communion with the Risen Lord.



Morning Worship: April 5 at 10:30 AM

We gather in the Sanctuary and via Facebook Live to continue our celebration of the Risen Christ's victory over Death which will conclude on the 50th day, Pentecost Sunday.

Breakfast:
Please join us after Sunrise service for an Easter Breakfast!
If you would like to help with preparation
please contact Katie 843-670-4267.

From the Pastor

Dear ones,

I have always enjoyed the interaction between Jesus and Nathaniel in chapter 1 of The Gospel According to John. The comic at right depicts a portion of the story — the part that gets the most attention. And rightly so. For Jesus is, after all, the central figure.

Nathanael has been pondering a good question— one that he asks when his friend Philip suggests to him that he, Andrew, and Peter, have found the messiah. Philip says, “We have found him about whom Moses in the law and the prophets wrote...”.

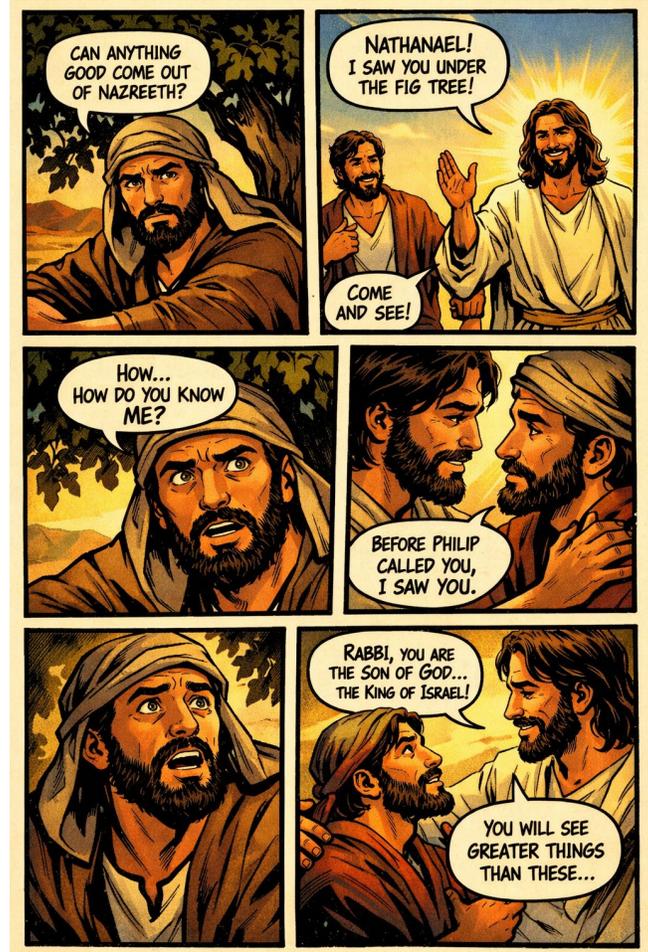
In Deuteronomy 18, Moses promises the children of Israel that God would raise a prophet from among the people. I understand that to mean one who would lead them out of bondage. For Moses, it was slavery in Egypt. For the Son of God, Jesus of Nazareth, God’s purpose was that he lead humanity, including the children of Israel, out of our bondage to Sin and Death.

Before Nathanael asked his question, Philip himself has been found by Jesus. John tells us that Jesus went to Galilee, found Philip, and said to him, “Follow me.” There is no indication that this was a suggestion. The verb is imperative. Jesus is commanding— calling.

Can you put yourself in that place? Can you imagine the Son of God finding you and saying “Follow me” with the weight of a command? Does it resonate with your heart that he has indeed called you in that same way? As I consider that question, I sense that he has called me to follow him and that I have responded. I am grateful for that. I pray that you have that same sense that you have heard his voice calling you into a life of discipleship and wonder.

One of the things I like about this story is Philip’s response to Jesus. He does not keep the experience to himself. He goes to find Nathanael. Nathaniel, we are told, is sitting under a fig tree which is often a symbol of the people of Israel, called to produce fruit for God. Philip calls him to come follow the one sent to shepherd Israel out of its bondage to Sin and Death that they may be fruitful. It is not enough that Philip personally knows the messiah, he wants others to know him as well, particularly Nathanael. In this we see a great truth, Christ has not come for individuals, but to call a people to himself. For that purpose, Christ uses individuals.

So, Philip goes to find Nathanael. Is he a friend? A family member? We are not told. But we can infer that Philip cared for him and wanted Nathanael to share in his joy. So, he says to him, “We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth.” Nathanael responds with a gritty question, “Can anything good come from Nazareth?” It is akin to our saying, “seriously?” — with a note of dismissal. But Philip is undeterred. He feels something deep about Jesus and he wants Nathanael to have the same experience.



Notice what he does not do. He does not offer a theological argument or a detailed explanation of the promised messiah. He simply extends an invitation: "Come and see." And Nathanael does.

Before Nathanael speaks, Jesus tells him that he saw him under the fig tree. Nathanael is known before he even says a word. And in that moment his cynical skepticism gives way to belief and confession: "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel." Later, in chapter 21 of John, Nathanael will be mentioned as one of Jesus' disciples. The one who questioned becomes one who follows. And it all began when Philip went to find Nathanael so that Nathanael might know the same joy he had.

This pattern echoes throughout the New Testament. In 3 John 1:4, we read: "I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the truth." Paul says something similar to the church at Thessalonica (1 Thess. 2:19-20), "For what is our hope, our joy, or the crown in which we will glory in the presence of our Lord Jesus when he comes? Is it not you? Indeed, you are our glory and joy." There is deep joy in seeing others come to know and follow Christ.

Which raises a question for us: How committed are we to telling others about Jesus?

Not arguing. Not proving. But simply telling others that Jesus has found us— that he is transforming us— that the love of God is known in this place.

If I say, "I wish we had more children," should my response not be, "Go invite some. Invite them to come and see"?

If I say, "I wish we had more young adults," should my response not be, "Go, find one. Invite them to come and see"?

If I say, "I wish we had more older adults," should we not go and say to them, "come and see"?

This is the pattern of John 1:

Jesus found Philip. Philip found Nathanael. Philip said: "Come and See."

Notice that there is no language about *attracting* people. There is no strategy developed for *attracting* people who sit under fig trees. Philip simply went.

Here is the truth, dear ones:

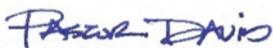
There are children, young adults, and older adults waiting for us to come find them.

There are people waiting for our invitation.

So let me ask you— plainly and simply:

When was the last time you went to find someone to invite them to "come and see"?

Remember Christ!

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Pastor David".

Please Meet: Jeff and Nancy Serzan as affiliate members. We celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Baptism for Brandy Fisher (who is received as a professing member) and also Alexa and Dominic (who are received as baptized members).

Brandy Fisher
1119 Bayview Dr. Manning, SC 29102
839-216-2690
rbfisher1120@gmail.com



Jeff and Nancy Serzan
109 Deertrail Ct.
Manning, SC 29102
Jeff.serzan@gmail.com



**Color Our World
Women's Soiree
April 30th at 6 pm
Manning United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall**

Tickets are \$60 for a table of 6 or \$80 for a table of 8. If you do not wish to purchase an entire table let Jo or Kelly know. Individual tickets can be purchased for \$10, Money is due by 4/19/25 to Jo Gamble or Katie Richardson.

The meal will be poppy seed chicken, marinated vegetables, fruit, roll and cake for desert.

You are encouraged to decorate your table including tablecloth, napkins, china and

centerpiece. Glassware will be provided. Clear plastic plates will be used to serve your meal, so your china should only get minimally dirty. You may set up

**April 28 or 29th between
9am-1pm.**

You may borrow black or white tablecloths from Kelly if desired. If you do not have china, please let us know and we can supply that for you.

Eliana Jenkinson of Well Watered Ministries will be our guest speaker

Prepare for a fun night which will include special door prizes !

For questions contact Jo Gamble, Katie Richardson or Kelly

803-435-8115

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						
5 Easter Sunday 6:30 am Sunrise Service & Breakfast 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 4:30 Youth 7:30 Young Adult	6	7 9am-2pm AARP Tax Help 6:30 pm SPRC Meeting	8 6:00 pm Trustees 6:00 Choir	9 2:00 pm Jane Craft Circle	10 9:00 am-3:00 pm Seniors Bus Trip	11
<div style="border: 2px solid blue; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> Spring Break for MUMC Day School & Others </div>						
12 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 4:30 Youth 7:30 Young Adult	13 8-12 MUMC Day School 6:30 pm United Methodist Men's Supper	14 8-12 MUMC Day School 9am-2pm AARP Tax Help	15 8-12 MUMC Day School 3:00 pm CIA 6:00 pm Finance 6:00 Choir	16 8-12 MUMC Day School	17 8-12 MUMC Day School	18
19 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 4:30 Youth 7:30 Young Adult	20 8-12 MUMC Day School	21 8-12 MUMC Day School 10:30 am Stephen Ministry Meeting	22 8-12 MUMC Day School 3:00 pm CIA 6:00 Choir	23 8-12 MUMC Day School	24 8-12 MUMC Day School	25
26 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 3:00 pm Confirmation 4:30 Youth 7:30 Young Adult	27 8-12 MUMC Day School	28 8-12 MUMC Day School Fellowship Hall Set-Up Ladies Soiree	29 8-12 MUMC Day School 3:00 pm CIA Fellowship Hall Set-Up Ladies Soiree	30 8-12 MUMC Day School 6:00 pm Ladies Soiree in Fellowship Hall		



April Anniversary's

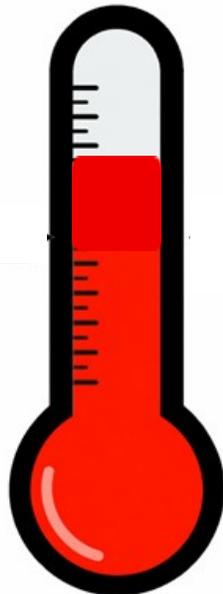
- 4/3 Cag & Kelley Brunson
Gene & Joan Barber
- 4/10 Woody & Carolyn Haynes
- 4/12 G.G. & Ann Cutter
- 4/18 Christian & Jeffrey Murphy
- 4/24 Mitch & Cathy Gardner

Happy Birthday

- 4/1 Kate Martin
- 4/3 Anne Wannamaker
- 4/8 Mary (Garson) Taylor
- 4/10 Carolyn Chilton
- 4/11 Cora Norris
- 4/14 Robert Kolb
- 4/16 Mitch Gardner, Camille Daniel
- 4/18 Kelly Gottheiner, Allyson Sprott
- 4/20 Meg Lee
- 4/21 Billy Downer
- 4/27 Josie Murphy

Amount Collected: \$27, 829.00 Percentage toward \$38,000 goal: 73.23%

GOAL: \$38,000



In addition to your regular giving, would you consider making a gift to offset the purchase of a new-to-us organ? If so, please mark your gift with the word "organ."

Date	Worship Attendance
March 1	9:30 am Sunday School— 58 Worship 10:30 am — 144
March 8	9:30 am Sunday School— 52 Worship 10:30 am — 98
March 15	9:30 am Sunday School—48 Worship 10:30 am — 93
March 22	9:30 am Sunday School— 55 Worship 10:30 am — 108

Flower Calendar for 2026!

The yellow days are available for Sign-up! Please add your name to the poster on the church bulletin board outside the church office.

April	5	12	19	26	
May	3	10	17	24	31
June	7	14	21	28	
July	5	12	19	26	
August	2	9	16	23	30
September	6	13	20	27	
October	4	11	18	25	
November	1	8	15	22	29
December	6	13	20	27	

Our Prayer List Please remember the people below in your prayers. **This list is in continuous rotation, if you do not see your loved one on this list please call the church office and update us on their health.**

Frances Barrett	Family of Jerry Coker	Ed Gamble	Family of Weston Jolly	Sherry McDonald	Adam Salisbury
Michele Bastin	Larry Cramer	Carol Gavin	Laura Kelley	Jim Moore	Earl Swinney
Jim Black	Ann Cutter	Steve Gardner	Jeffrey Kemp	Karen Myers	Family of Cliff Toner
Pauline Brewer	Lynn Daniel	Dawn Griffith	Family of Marilyn Knowland	Chris Polis	Sally Wilson
Horace Browder, Jr.	Alta Emmert	Brandon Herlong	Ken Lovorn	Tyler Roberts	Kimberly Wyatt
Jackie Chalfant	Artie Felder	Lou Holladay	Wally Maynard	Darle Rogers	Family of Terry Younts

Please remember to Pray for our members who are living away from home, in the military, or who have limited mobility:

Betty Black	Cameron Dodge	Margaret Lee
Isabelle Brown	William (Artie) Gamble	Neal Mahoney
George Clark	Woody Haynes	Joan Odom
June Davis	Bo King	Helene Patnode
Liz Denny	Wilson Lepp	Margaret Robertson

Memorial Gifts:

Cliff Toner given by: Jim Black, Annette Browder, Tommy & Jane Benton, David & Jenny Ritchie.

Rosella Daniels given by: Harry & Nancy Kirby, Tommy & Jane Benton, Rock & Vicki Ouzts, Ernest & Cathy Arnold, Lucian & Mary Jo McCutchen.

Bud Johnson given by: Tommy & Jane Benton, Rock & Vicki Ouzts, Billy & Hermene Sisson

Ben Osborne given by: Winston & Genie Hodge, Cindy McInnis

O'Neil Ward given by: Rock & Vicki Ouzts

Brenda Clark given by: Rock & Vicki Ouzts

Marilyn Knowland given by: Cindy McInnis

Ceci Eadon Mooneyham given by: Garson Taylor

Honorarium Gifts:

Kimbo Richardson given by: Cleve Dowell

Ricci Aceret Castillo Happy Birthday given by: Cona Tyson

John Taylor Duke, Jr. Baptism given by: Sandra Brewer



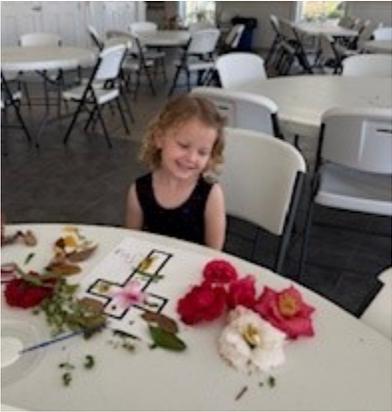
EPWORTH MOMENT: Epworth Children's Home since its establishment in 1896, has remained steadfast in its mission to serve children and families who have been abused, neglected, or abandoned. Now 130 years after Epworth began, it has expanded its services to reach more children and families than ever, with regional offices all over South

Carolina serving communities statewide. In September 2025, the FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER opened on Epworth's Trenholm Road Campus in Columbia. Epworth realized that often families on the brink of collapse can be rescued from this brink with direct hands-on assistance. A close working partner with Epworth, the South Carolina Department of Social Services will locate some of its services to families like WIC (the Women's Infants and Children Nutrition Program) and SNAP (the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.) Families can receive assistance with these programs at the same time and in the same place they receive support and help from Epworth's staff. Recent studies (2024) the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services indicate that families who received help to stabilize their lives and homes in physical, mental, and emotional capacities have a 60% greater chance of future stabilization and success than do families for whom there is no intervening, realistic, and much needed initiatives to assist families in crisis. Epworth is proud of the new Family Resource Center to assist families in crisis. Epworth's core mission is the same as it was in 1896....to provide stability, safety, a loving environment, and opportunities for enrichment and success to children and families. THANKS TO MUNC FOR YOUR ONGOING FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR EPWORTH'S WORK WITH CHILDREN AND FAMILIES.

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CIA Children in Action



Leprechaun
Punch



We made crosses for Plam Sunday and helped fill 20 Easter Baskets for other children. Thank you Pastor David Gerri, Katie, Christian, MaKayla and everyone for helping with CIA!

Resurrection Word Search — John 20

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb—and found it empty. What began in grief became the first light of resurrection hope. In John 20, we see confusion give way to belief, tears turn to recognition, and death itself undone by the voice of the risen Lord. As you search these words, remember: the story is not only something we find on a page—it is the good news in which we live. “I have seen the Lord.”

M	F	L	Y	T	M	N	P	R	D	U	U	R	F	I	D	P	D	N	K	P	L
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G	O	U	W	T	O	M	B	P	T	Q	T	S	X	Z	M	B	M	W	C	F	P
D	C	P	E	M	H	E	Y	L	R	Y	R	S	G	R	P	U	M	N	Y	M	O
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S	A	K	V	R	Q	D	F	Q	Q	D	G	W	R	I	O	E	F	N	G	T	V

Find these words:

RESURRECTION, MARY, MAGDALENE, TOMB, STONE, ROLLED, DISCIPLES, PETER, BELOVED, LINEN, CLOTHS, ANGELS, JESUS, GARDENER, RABBONI, ALIVE, EMPTY, BELIEVE, SEE, LORD, WEEPING, RUN

The Back Page April 2026

