



April 2024



Beacon...guiding our walk

For this reason also, God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus EVERY KNEE WILL BOW, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and that every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Philippians 2:9-11

Blessed and Happy Easter Church!

The bad news: Jesus died! The good news: Jesus arose from the Tomb! The Best News: He is alive for ever more! Hallelujah!

And because He is alive for ever more, do you know what that means? If you **proclaim with your mouth and believe in your heart**... You are alive for ever more, as well! Now that is especially Good News! What does it mean to be alive in Christ? It means change and transformation. Here is my concern. After the Palm and the Passion stories of Christ; after the meaningful remembrance of Maundy Thursday and Good Friday (our Readers and Choir out did themselves...what a blessing!); after the glories Celebration of Easter Sunday and the Feast that Debbi and Bob laid for us at Fellowship Café, will we just tuck that GOOD feeling away for another year? I am concerned that the Lenten season leading up to Easter is finished on March 31st by 12:15. Ouch!

Did you know that Easter Sunday is only the first day of Easter and extends for 50 days in the Christian Church until May 19th, Pentecost Sunday! Easter has just begun! In fact, if you want to be really technical, you will agree with the ancients that every Sunday is a "Little Easter!" And celebrating Christ's Resurrection, and ours, is an every week occurrence.

So, will you join with me and the Sebastian United Methodist Church in the Great Celebration of the Eternal Life of our Lord and Savior and all who believe in Him? God has HUGE plans for us and our congregation as we live in the Resurrected Power of God.

Brothers and sisters, we spent six weeks studying, grappling, at times arguing (with God) about how we are to live in Him by sacrifice and spiritual discipline, as we transform who we are to who He desires us to be. Now, put your Transformation tools to work as you continue to Celebrate, live as servants for others, pray and confess, meditate on the Scriptures, live simply and for God and listen for the Holy Spirit. It's not easy...NOTHING GOOD IS! But Sebastian Church, I believe that we are ready. Will you continue to work on being a strong disciple? Discipleship means changing minds and hearts so that lives will change. It means Transformation! And God has placed you here!

With a growing love for you...

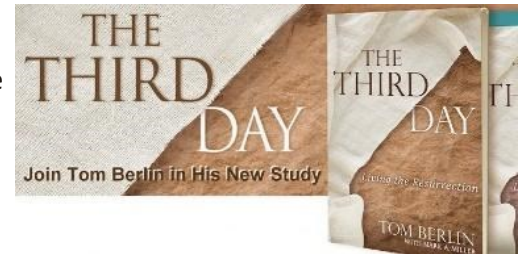
See ya' Sunday!

Pastor Alexis



PASTOR'S TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY, 10:00 am – Check us out!

During the season of Easter (Easter Day to Pentecost), Join the Tuesday Bible Study in focusing on the encounters Jesus had with His disciples following His Resurrection! As a base for studying the scriptures in The Gospels and Acts, we will use our Florida Bishop, Tom Berlin's book/video study: *The Third Day: Living the Resurrection*.



This is a HYBRID BIBLE STUDY – come in person or join us online. Can't make the Tuesday, 10 am study? Order a book anyway and do it on your own. Cost: \$13. Available in the church office or on Tuesday at Bible Study.

EASTER SEASON SCRIPTURES AND WORSHIP through April



Blessed Easter! **Join us online or in person on Sunday mornings** as we look at the accounts of Mary Magdalene, Simon Peter, the disciples on the road to Emmaus, Paul and Jesus, Himself, following Jesus' resurrection on Easter Sunday. What does the scripture tell us about their character, what they were thinking and how they responded to the Resurrection! Join us for *The Third Day: Living the Resurrection*. (Thanks to Bishop Tom Berlin for his inspiration and book title of the same name)

Want more than a sermon snapshot? Join us for Bible Study on Tuesdays beginning on April 16th.

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER, APRIL 7 - Holy Communion

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 16; Luke 8:1-6; John 20:11-16

SERMON - THE THIRD DAY: *Magdalene, Trauma to Hope*

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER, APRIL 14 – New Music Minister's First Sunday at SUMC

Shannon's Welcome and the April Birthday Sunday following the service

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 118:15-21; Luke 22:52-64; John 21:1-17

SERMON - THE THIRD DAY: *Peter, Denial to Redemption*

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER, APRIL 21

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 23; John 14:1-5; John 20:24-29

SERMON - THE THIRD DAY: *Thomas, Doubt + Curiosity = FAITH*

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER, APRIL 28

Psalm 103:8-12; Acts 9:1-11; Acts 9: 12-22

SERMON - THE THIRD DAY: *Paul, Hate to Forgiveness*

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER, MAY 5 – Holy Communion

Psalm 139:7-12; Luke 24:13-24; Luke 24:25-35

SERMON - THE THIRD DAY: *The Emmaus Road, From Disappointment to the Sacred*



Easter Joy to our Choir, Readers, many accompanists, our tech team, to Justine, our Office Manager, Teddy, who adorned our Sanctuary, Debbi and Bob who provided beautiful spreads following worship and to so many who made the Lenten Season, the Easter Egg Hunt Event, Holy Week and Easter 2024 memorable and full of joy! Thank you for partnering in ministry with our Resurrected Lord! Joy, Joy...



Volunteers Needed Now

Ushers and Greeters We are blessed to have Alta Benjamin and Tom Flanigan as co-head ushers. If you would like to be on the list or have more information about greeting or ushering, see Tom or Alta or call the church office.

Thrift Shop Do you like to sort and price things? Do you like to talk to people? Consider joining the Thrift Shop ministry. For more information see Carol Decker, Teddy Hulse, Pastor Ginger or call the office.

Tech People Do you like working with technology? We are seeking volunteers to run our Sunday PowerPoint and Livestream. If interested call the church office.

Office Volunteers Justine would love to have you assist Monday 9am—11, Tuesday 12am-2pm or Thursdays.

“The King will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’ Matthew 25:40



Meet Shannon Raines, our new Music Minister. Shannon began her ministry at SUMC on Monday, April 8th. She hit the ground running with a Children's Ministry meeting and Worship meeting her first week as well as conduct her first rehearsals with our two bell choirs and our chancel choir. She will play for worship and directed the chancel choir starting, April 14th.

Shannon shares her heart when she tells us: Loving Jesus and leading His Church in worship are my joy! *Serving others through ministry, teaching, and banking has been my life's work. Helping others thrive is my call. I am seeking a position where I may continue to love and serve God and others, while learning and growing in grace. It will be my privilege to serve where God leads.*

We are fortunate that God has led Shannon to us, here at SUMC. She comes with a wealth of knowledge and experience and desires to share with us.

She comes to us from Union City, Kentucky. She leaves to come to us from Fulton First UMC where she was the Music Minister and Director of Communications for nearly 8 years. Prior to serving at Fulton, Shannon served as Music Minister for 10 years at Harvester UMC in Land O Lakes, FL and at St. Paul's UMC in Marietta, Georgia for 6 years. She holds a Bachelor of Music degree in Piano Performance from the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Welcome Party following Worship on Sunday, April 14th. Bring a POTLUCK and join us at Fellowship Café time to welcome Shannon properly. Bring a Welcome Card and share inside what you love about being a part of the ministry at SUMC.

Day of Gleaning 2024



CHILDREN AND FAMILY NEWS

Join the Children's Ministry Team—Next meeting April 19, 6:00 pm at the Church Office

VBS June 17 - 22, 9 am to 4 pm

Join the Vacation Bible School Team - Co-Coordinator needed

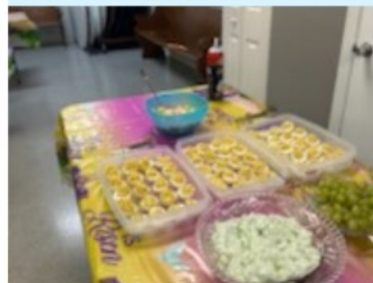
Ways you can help:

- ◆ Pray
- ◆ Bring supplies (watch for list).
- ◆ Volunteer to be a team leader, station leader or team member
- ◆ Invite Music Camp and other families.
- ◆ Pray some more!



Children are a gift from the Lord; they are a reward from him. Psalm 127:3

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NEW MINISTRY START UP TEAMS AT SUMC:

Pray: about where God is calling you in ministry. Pray, too, for those who are yet to enter our doors and reap the joy of God's blessing!

Goal Date

To be up and running by February 2025.

Why

Organized areas of ministry remind us that in the Body of Christ, we are many parts of the same body and as we strengthen on part of the Body, the whole Body is strengthened. As Christ is the Head of our Body, He will give us all we need to be fortified in all areas of ministry.

Below, are five areas of ministry that are either new at SUMC or would be stronger with additional folks working alongside those key leaders who have made a commitment to the ministry area –

Discipleship: includes small groups, training, visioning and spiritual growth

Hospitality: Let's add to the great ministry we already do: *Fellowship Café, Potluck, Sunday Greeters. Potentially, we could add: a Welcome Center table for guests; a follow-up of guests ministry; annual campus curb-appeal inventory.*

Altar/Sanctuary Guild: Cleaning the brass plates and candles; assist Cathy with straightening the pews after worship; sitting on the Worship Team (meets every 6 weeks).

Children's Ministry: Join the team to plan three events annually; teach the Child/Youth Protection Policy; Plan Sunday School; Create a strategy to reach children and their families; and more!

Anti-Racism: Two - Four representatives to work with the district and the conference in dealing with inequities, hate crimes, and misinformation. Also, to strengthen ties, promote peace and justice and communicate knowledge and wisdom.

If you sense God is calling you to join one of these ministry areas in the coming year, please connect with Pastor Alexis. Again, whether you are part of any of these ministries or not, please pray for those God is calling to rise up.

April 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 10:00 am— 2:00 pm Thrift Shop	2 10:00 am Pastor's Bible Study (LCR) 12pm UMM Woody's	3	4	5 10:00 am— 2:00 pm Thrift Shop	6 10:00 am— 2:00 pm Thrift Shop
7 8:45 am Adult Bi- ble Study (LCR) 10:00am Worship Kid's Time During Worship 11:15 am Fellowship Café (FH)	8 10:00 am— 2:00 pm Thrift Shop 7:00 pm Trustee Meeting	9 10:00 am Pastor's Bible Study (LCR) 12pm UMM Pelican Diner 6:00 pm Child Ministry Meeting	10 3:00 pm Joyful Ringers 7:00 pm Bell Choir	11 1:30 Manna-Tee Covenant 2:30 PM Bible Journaling (CO) 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	12 10:00 am— 2:00 pm Thrift Shop	13 10:00 am— 2:00 pm Thrift Shop 8:15 leave for Thrive Event
14 8:45 am Adult Bi- ble Study (LCR) 10:00 am Worship Kid's Time During Worship 11:15 am Fellowship Café (FH) Birthday and Welcome Shannon	15 10:00 am— 2:00 pm Thrift Shop	16 10:00 am Pastor's Bible Study (LCR) 12pm UMM Giuseppe's	17 3:00 pm Joyful Ringers 6:00 pm Potluck Dinner 7:00 pm Bell Choir	18 10:00 am Staff Meeting 2:30 PM Bible Journaling 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	19 10:00 am— 2:00 pm Thrift Shop 11:00 Mary's Circle Meeting	20 10:00 am— 2:00 pm Thrift Shop
21 8:45 am Adult Bi- ble Study (LCR) 10:00 Palm Sun- day Worship Kid's Time During Worship 11:15 am Fellowship Café (FH) Soup	22 10:00 am— 2:00 pm Thrift Shop	23 10:00 am Pastor's Bible Study (LCR) 12pm UMM Sebastian Roadside	24 3:00 pm Joyful Ringers 7:00 pm Bell Choir	25 1:30 Manna-Tee Covenant 2:30 PM Bible Journaling (CO) 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	26 10:00 am— 2:00 pm Thrift Shop	27 10:00 am— 2:00 pm Thrift Shop
28 8:45 am Adult Bi- ble Study (LCR) 10:00 am 11:15 am Fellowship Café	29 10:00 am— 2:00 pm Thrift Shop	30 10:00 am Pastor's Bible Study (LCR) 12pm UMM			S-Sanctuary, FH-Fellowship Hall, YR-Youth Room (north side of education wing), SG-Small Group Room (south side of education wing), CO-Church Office, LCR-Large Classroom (north side of education wing)	

Sebastian United Methodist Church
1029 Main Street
Sebastian, FL 32958

Rev. C. Alexis Talbott
pastoralexistalbott@gmail.com



Happy Birthday

Carol Decker	April 8
Alan Shepper	April 9
Jane Hino	April 15
Ron Farrington	April 16
Mary Schulze	April 17
Sue Hulsbeck	April 19
Teddy Hulse	April 21
Marlene Kalsch	April 21

Happy Anniversary

Bud & Ginger Horner	April 1
Alan & Teddy Hulse	April 6
Dave & Nancy Barry	April 10
Karen & Robert Jensen	April 17
Bob & Debbie Kier	April 26

Missing your birthday or anniversary?

Call the Church Office to help us update your records!