

ESSENGER

Volume 61



We, the family of Fredericksburg Baptist Church, are on mission together



AT FREDERICKSBURG BAPTSIT CHURCH

We hope this schedule helps you plan to observe these important days, both on your own and with others.

Maundy Thursday, 28 March, 2024

4:45 p.m. Community Meal - Special Easter Meal

Good Friday, 29 March, 2024

2:00 p.m. Micah Stations of the Cross

7:00 p.m. Stations of Peter Worship Service

Holy Saturday, 30 March, 2024

10:30 a.m. Holy Saturday Walk at Alum Spring Park

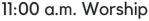
Easter Sunday, 31 March, 2024

6:30 a.m. Sunrise Service - Fredericksburg United Methodist

Church Lawn

8:30 a.m. Worship

9:45 a.m. Sunday School





Among Our Family

-In the Hospital-

<u>Tanzania Hospital:</u> Tuyishime Emmanuel (grandson of Barawiha Ezekiel and Hakizimana Rose)

At Home Under Hospice Care: Annie Mae Jones

-Sympathy To-

Cindy Dojcak in the death of her mother, Suetta Franklin

-Congratulations To-

Jimmy & Abby Bowles on the birth of their daughter, Charlotte Ruth, on March 15th. Proud grandmother is Jennifer Bowles, and proud grandfather is Jamie Bowles. Proud great grandparents are Wes & Laura Pryce.

Morgan & Carley Caldwell in the birth of their daughter, Isa Gray, on March 16th. Proud grandparents are Darrell & Terri Caldwell.

Stewardship Summary

Ministry Budget	
Weekly Needs	\$28,667
Sunday, March 17	\$18,706
Y-T-D Total	\$247,187
Ahead/Behind Budget	-\$68,150
Undesignated BUOH in Missions	
Sunday, March 17	\$200
Y-T-D Total	\$16,542
Watering the Roots Capital Fund	
Sunday, March 17	\$1,325
Y-T-D Total	\$7,872

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FXBG Baptist Church team raised \$5,800 with a total of 53 sponsors. We ranked 5th in fundraising for the area.

Some gave... Some walked... Some gave and walked.

The walk happens every year in February, and it's not to early to consider how you'll participate in 2025. In 2024, Micah Ecumenical Ministries counted 772 walkers, 89 teams, and 57 volunteers who came out on a 50 degree night with rain.

Micah's goal was \$150,000. As of March 14, they had raised \$172, 394; that's 14% above their goal!



March **28** 5 p.m.

Help provide or serve the Thursday Community Meal at FXBG Baptist, 5pm, March 28

April

3 12 p.m. Lunch and a discussion of dreams for the Jeremiah Community with Meghann Cotter of Micah, noon, Wed., April 3, in the fellowship hall.

April

7 5 p.m.

Bring a dish to share at a potluck dinner with our Burundian community, 5 pm, Sunday, April 7 in the fellowship hall.

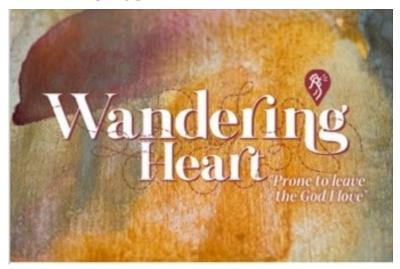


MAUNDY THURSDAY

Wandering Heaft: "Streams of mercy"

JOHN 13:1-20

During the Last Supper, Jesus kneels to wash his disciples' feet. When he comes to Peter, we see a similar pattern unfold yet again: reluctance then exuberance. Peter initially resits, but then he wholeheartedly submits. We see this duality in Peter often, but do we also see these patterns in ourselves? Peter is named "Cephas," which means "the rock." In this story, we imagine that God's grace reshapes him in the way that water softens the rough edges of stone. When we, like Peter, are reluctant and resistant to receiving love, can we remember that streams of mercy are never ceasing? Will we be reshaped by grace?



GOOD FRIDAY

Wandering Heart: "Prone to leave the God I love"

JOHN 13:31-38 | JOHN 18:1-11 |

JOHN 18:12-18 | JOHN 18:19-27 | JOHN 19:1-30

On this Holy day, we are paying close attention to how Peter acts in Jesus' final hours. So much happens in a short amount of time: Jesus predicts Peter's denial, soldiers come and Peter draws his sword, Jesus is arrested and Peter denies him, Peter denies Jesus again and again and the cock crows, then Jesus is crucified and dies. Peter is prone to mess up, to fight, to deny, to leave, to seek safety for himself. But aren't we all? May we lament all the ways we are prone to leave the God we love.



On Maundy Thursday of Holy Week, we remember how Jesus served and ate with his disciples and then gave them a surprising lesson of humbly servant leadership when he washed their feet.

On this year's Maundy Thursday, March 28th (4:45-6:15 pm) you are invited to sign up your family or group of friends to serve a special pre-Easter meal at our usual Community Dinner. Your group will be responsible for hospitality and service to diners at an assigned table. You'll be getting their food and drinks and refills as requested, and then, you'll also be clearing the table, too.

We set up 15 tables each Thursday so we really need your help. Sign up!



PALM / PASSION SUNDAY

Wandering Heart: "Songs of loudest praise"

JOHN 12:12-16

As Holy week begins, Peter is no longer front and center, and so we imagine he is with the rest of the disciples when Jesus enters Jerusalem on a colt. The disciples are confused as they witness crowds shouting hosannas. When they look back on this experience, they will remember the songs. The singing is surely etched in their memories. As we imagine ourselves in the crowd on this day, may we remember that they are supposed to be praising Caesar, but instead they are shouting for the one entering the city on a donkey. Their singing is subversive, courageous, and contagious. Their praise shows the ripple effect of public displays of praise.

