

A note from Pastor Brian

Happy Easter! Yes, in just two short weeks we will be celebrating Easter once again. I have always loved Easter and thankfully, it has remained for the most part, truly a Christian holiday that has not been nearly as compromised by the world as Christmas has (I know, give them time!). It is the day we celebrate life - eternal life that began with the resurrection of Jesus. Yet, there is no resurrection without the cross. In order to be resurrected Jesus had to die. We learn many things when we consider the cross. It teaches us how cruel and unjust human beings can be. We might say the cross represents humanity at its worse. A known innocent man was subject to cruel torture, disrespect, and execution. Yet, at the same time the cross let's us see God in a different light. It let's us know that God is just yet also loving. God's love is witnessed by the great sacrifice he endured to buy our freedom. Over these next couple of weeks, I hope you will journey with Jesus through Holy Week to the Resurrection. I hope you look forward to Easter Sunday as I do, but I hope you will not forget that the way to resurrection is through the cross.

Bring A Friend this Easter Sunday!



The Easter season is a great time to invite unchurched friends and relatives to come to church with you! Easter may be the season when those on the outside of the church are willing to find out what this thing the church celebrates is all about. On Easter Sunday, April 16, we will hold our Easter Service at 10:50 in our chapel. It will be a celebratory service with special music and hymns you love to sing. Begin thinking now about who you may want to invite to these services and then do it! You never know who will come unless you ask them!

During the remainder of the Lenten season, perhaps you'll consider reading the Scripture narratives of events from Christ's entry into Jerusalem, through the week, his death, burial, and resurrection as found in:

**Matthew 21 – 28:15
Mark 11 – 16:8
Luke 19:38 – 24:12
John 12:12 – 20:18**

MAUNDY THURSDAY / GOOD FRIDAY

We are doing something a little different this year in that we are combining our Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services into one which we will hold on Thursday, April 13 at 5:30. Mark your calendar and plan to attend!

Did you know that Mary Magdalene was the first to see the risen Jesus and the first to announce that he had indeed risen.

Easter, the spring festival celebrating the resurrection of Christ, is the oldest Christian holiday and the most important day of the church year.

Start It: Simplicity - Silence and Solitude - Submission – Study - Service

Our “Start It” sermon series ends on April 2 with a message on service which asks how can we serve others who God has placed in our life and in our community. One way is to serve those who are having trouble providing food to their families. In order to help you help others, we are conducting a mini food drive on Sunday, April 9 by collecting peanut butter and jelly for families who are in need of a little help. So please plan to bring peanut butter and jelly on Sunday, April 9 to church. The collection will be taken to St. Anthony’s food pantry which serves our community on Fridays. Service to others doesn’t have to be a major event, helping a neighbor with smallest of things is a great place to begin.

Elementary Sunday School Class Continues to Meet and Learn

Since we will be coming up on the Easter season, the Sunday School class will be studying the last days of Christ life. We will see how Peter denied Christ and will learn of Peter’s emotions of anger and sadness for what he had done. Then we’ll study how Jesus’ entry into Jerusalem while everyone waved palm branches and threw their cloaks on the road upset the local authorities because they felt the political power of Rome was being challenged. Our last two chapters for April will be the execution and resurrection of Christ. *Sandy Rougeou*

Building Update – Moving Forward

We held a called Charge Conference on March 29th and I am happy to report that it was a unanimous decision to move forward with a building project at David Haas UMC. It is still to be determined whether that building project will mean demolishing the fire-damaged Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall or if parts of that existing structure can be utilized. We also approved the Building Committee that was nominated by our Nominations Team. Those Building Team members are Kristin Hukins, Caliste Rougeou, Leodocia Pope, Helen Eves, Oliver LaPrairie, and Bill Tebow. The chairman of team will be selected by its members. The team will begin interviewing architects and will be looking to the congregation for what you would like to see in our new facilities. Please pray for this team and for our church as we move forward with this building project!

25 Years Because of Those Who Served Where They Could

DHUMC’s Nancy Mikell Carruth was very passionate about service to others through the Louisiana Conference of the UMC; God allowed her the means to act on that passion. One of the projects that caught her eye and heart was the forming of the UMC’s Africa University in Zimbabwe. Last month the university celebrated 25 years! Praise God!

Brown Bag Discussion Group

We had a very nice time at our first discussion and learned about the major issue that our denomination is trying to work through. Many of us learned and were encouraged by the fellowship. ***OUR NEXT BROWN BAG DISCUSSION*** will be on Tuesday, April 25 at 11:30am at David Haas Pavillion. Our topic will be **How Well Do You Know the Bible?** Perhaps you have some questions about passages you’ve read, perhaps you wonder if you have misunderstood portions, or have difficulty knowing how a passage relates to living in 2017. Bring your questions to the table, or if you want a more thought-out answer submit them in writing to Pastor Brian the week before. Come, let’s discuss, learn, and be encouraged.