

### Jesus Journey of Love

Every Day in March 2024 is filled with Lent and ends on Easter Sunday. March, and that is exactly what Jesus is doing. He is marching, and His destination is the Cross. Each year we take part and walk along with Jesus. Most of us know this story by heart. Sometimes the journey brings something new to us, and it should. There is a lot going on before Jesus even gets to the cross. A few things along this journey I like to relive a little are the meeting with my favorite woman in the Bible, the Samaritan Woman at the well, Jesus' Triumphant ride into Jerusalem, and the Last Supper.

#### **At The Well**

This is a story of a woman presented who encounters the Light of the World at the brightest time of day, noon. We the readers are supposed to do exactly as she does. What does that entail? Engage in continued, vital theological conversation with Jesus, gain a deeper, layered understanding of who He is and the life He brings, then testify to others and invite them to have their own primary encounter with Jesus.

#### The Ride

Jesus' purpose in riding into Jerusalem was to make public His claim to be their Messiah and King of Israel in fulfillment of Old Testament prophecy. Matthew says that the King coming on the foal of a donkey was an exact fulfillment of Zechariah 9:9, "Rejoice greatly, O Daughter of Zion! Shout, Daughter of Jerusalem! See, your King comes to you, righteous and having salvation, gentle and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey." Jesus rides into His capital city as a conquering King and is hailed by the people as such, in the manner of the day.

#### Fellowship Meal

The Last Supper is an important event in the history of Christianity because it immediately precedes Jesus' betrayal and subsequent arrest. It is also of significance because of Jesus' identification of the bread and wine as symbolic of His own body and blood. They have been eaten and drunk in memory of Him and His sacrifice ever since.

As we know, after the fellowship meal, Jesus was arrested and then beaten and nailed to a cruel cross. He died on that cross on what we call Good Friday. That is the Journey of Love that Jesus took to the cross. He did not have to do it, but He did. Why, because He loves everyone. and He knows that He, being nailed to that cross, was our only hope.

The resurrection narratives in the Gospels portray Jesus as raised to life on the third day in His crucified body, leaving behind Him an empty tomb. Jesus said on the cross, "It is Finished." What He came to earth for, he accomplished, but that does not mean the Journey of Love is over. His love is always here, and it will never leave us.

From the empty Tomb all Jesus asks of us are three things:

- Believe in Him
- Spread the Gospel
- Love everyone

For all He has done for us, that is not to much to ask, is it?

Keep the Love Journey going.

God Bless, Pastor Stephen

# March Scripture Writing Plan

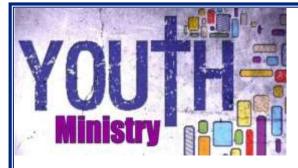


## My Identity in Christ

- Day 1: Ecc. 2:10-11
- Day 2: Heb. 4:14-16
- Day 3: Col. 2:9-10
- Day 4: Gen. 1:27
- Day 5: Jer. 1:5
- Day 6: 1 Pet. 2:4-5
- Day 7: 1 Pet. 2:6-8
- Day 8: 1 Pet. 2:9-10
- Day 9: Gal. 3:26-29
- Day 10: 1 Cor. 6:19-20
- Day 11: 1 John 3:1-2
- Day 12: Col. 3:1-13
- Day 13: John 1:9-11
- Day 14: John 1:12-14
- Day 15: Rom. 6:1-2

- · Day 16: Rom. 6:3-4
- Day 17: Rom. 6:5-7
- Day 18: Rom. 6:8-10
- Day 19: Rom. 6:11-12
- Day 20: Rom 6:13-14
- Day 21: John 15:16
- Day 22: Jer. 1:5
- Day 23: Gal, 2:20
- Day 24: John 15:15
- Day 25: Eph. 2:1-2
- Day 26: Eph. 2:3-5
- Day 27: Eph. 2:6-7
- Day 28: Eph. 2:8-9
- Day 29: Eph. 2:10
- Day 30: Isaiah 64:8
- Day 31: 2 Cor. 5:17

Commit 10 minutes each day to read each verse, write it out in your journal, meditate on it, and reflect on what it means to you.



#### **Youth Group Help Needed**

There comes a time when we need to stop talking about doing things like growing our youth/children groups and actually putting it into action. If not now, when???

I and the Church need your help, and I am looking for someone or a group of people to work together to coordinate monthly activities for the youth/children.

Back a few years, Stephanie Watkoski would do monthly activities for the youth. She coordinated movie night out on the lawn. The movie title was "Cars". She had them build their own cars out of cardboard boxes and sit in them as they watched the movie. These are the activities that we need to get back to. Maybe even a bowling party, knockerball run, roller skating, trip to the park, wiffle ball game, or any number of other ideas.

I know this is a tough task for any one person, and that is why we need a group of helpers. I am willing to help out, but I need to get people to coordinate and get things started. Please pray for this situation, and if you are willing to coordinate an activity, please let me know.

God Bless, Pastor Stephen

#### Meet Our Special Members of the Month - Pastor Harrison and Virginia Smith

Pastor Harrison was born in Alabama and was a Southern Baptist. He was serving in the Navy when he became a pen pal with his wife, and they were married in the Greensburg Church of the Brethren, because she and her family were members. They had three children - two sons and a daughter.

Pastor Harrison held several jobs before he was called to the ministry. At an early age, his grandmother Smith would call him her "little preacher boy." He was baptized by Pastor Brocker, and his ministry led him from Pennsylvania to Kansas to North Dakota and back to Pennsylvania to finish his education.

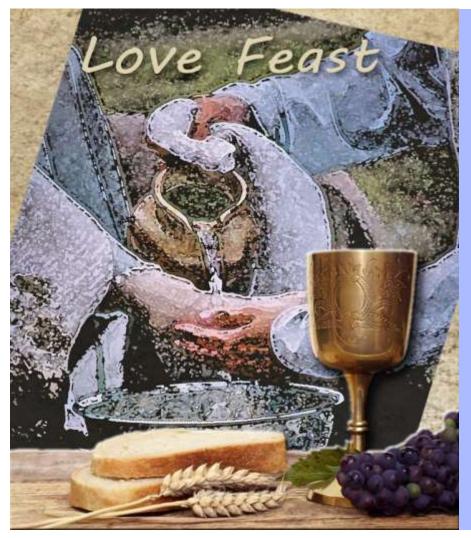
He has many favorite Bible scriptures, especially from the book of John. His favorite song is "Just As I Am".

Virginia was born in Mt. Pleasant and was a member of the United Methodist Church before becoming a Brethren when she and Pastor Harrison married. She has a son and a daughter. She worked at Bell Telephone Company in Greensburg.

After their spouses passed, Virginia and Pastor Harrison became friends and have been married for ten years. They come to church as often as possible, but when they can't, they enjoy spending all Sunday morning listening to several pastors on TV.

We are very fortunate to have them in our congregation to guide and inspire us.





Thursday
March 28
7 PM

FOR CHURCH TO GET CREDIT, TAKE THIS PAGE WITH YOU OR TAKE A PICTURE ON YOUR PHONE AND SHOW TO YOUR SERVER/TOGO HOST.



## FUNDRAISING

»> Support <=

GREENSBURG CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

TUESDAY, APRIL 9 3PM-10PM



for Greensburg Church of the Brethren .

Present this flyer at the Greensburg location and Texas Roadhouse will donate 10% of your total food purchases to Greensburg Church of the Brethren!

724-850-2500 6228 US-30 E GREENSBURG, PA



## Easter Crossword Puzzle

Read the clues and fill in the corresponding squares on the puzzle.

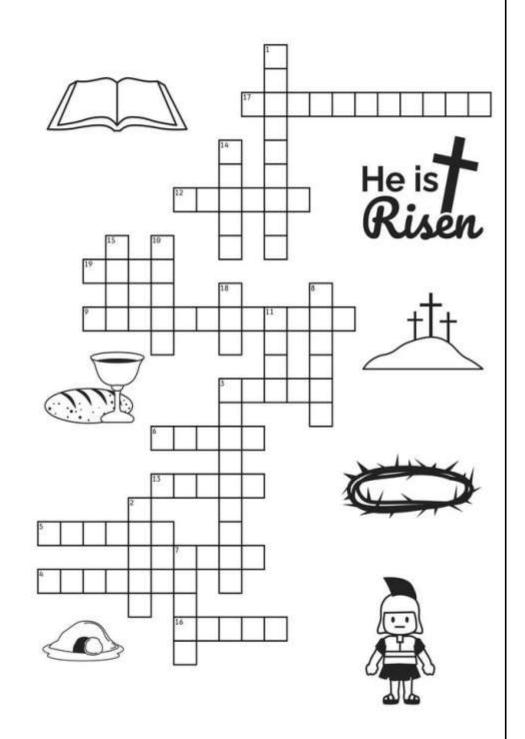


#### DOWN

- 1. Reparation for a wrong or injury
- 2. An act of compassion or forgioeness
- 3. Eats nector from flowers
- 7. Harmony between people or groups
- 8. A long-eared mammal used as a beast of burden
- The one who died for the sins of humanity
- A large stone structure, often used to store the remains of a deceased person
- 14. Final stage of life
- A strong feeling of deep attachment
- 18. Not existing before

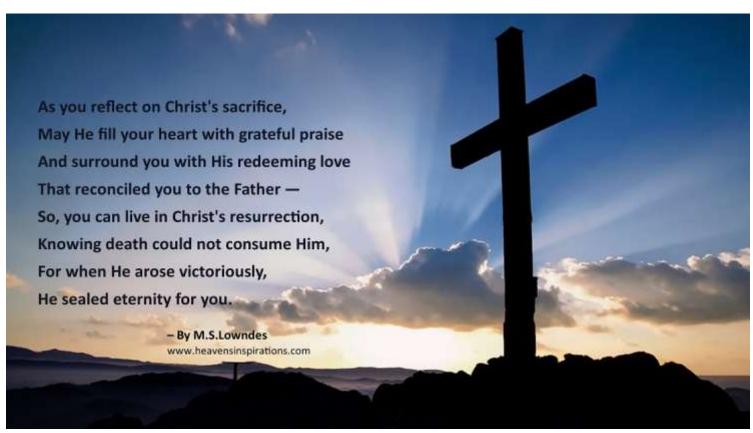
#### **ACROSS**

- 3. Text containing the history of the early Christian church
- An event that defier the laws of nature
- A plant that grows in a garden or field
- Belief in the truth of something unseen
- 7. A type of tree with a single trunk and feathery leaves
- Rebirth of something that had died
- 12. A solemn request for help or expression of thanks to a higher power
- Heavenly being with wings and a halo
- A structure made of two pieces of wood or metal placed at right angles
- 17. The act of pardoning romeone for a mistake
- 19. A desire for something to be



Greensburg Church of the Brethren 554 Stanton Street Greensburg, PA 15601-4074

Address Service Requested



What does the blue heart mean spiritually? Blue heart represents tender and long-lasting love. Blue color symbolizes clarity and purity. Also means sadness, peace, loyalty, mystery, and hope.

(from 1000logos.net)