

MUNHOLLAND

MARCH 2024 MUNHOLLAND METHODIST PUBLICATION

‘WHO IS JESUS?’

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SUNDAY SERVICES

8:30 AM & 11:00 AM

Sunday School: 9:30 AM (All ages)

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www.munhollandchurch.org

'WHO IS JESUS?'

Dr. Jonathan Beck



The question of the century is, "Who do you think Jesus is?" During Jesus' ministry, many people heard about Him, heard His teaching, were literally fed by Him, and/or were healed by Him. People experienced Jesus in a multitude of ways yet the question remains: Who is Jesus? Jesus asked His disciples what other people were saying about Him. The crowd had a number of different answers. Some thought Jesus was John the Baptist, others Elijah, some Jeremiah, and still others, one of the prophets. The Spirit of God had moved in powerful ways through those great men of God. Yet, Jesus' wisdom, personality, understanding, and power were decidedly different than the prophets who had come before. That was when Jesus turned to His disciples and asked them directly, "What about you? Who do you say that I am?" Peter's answer was clear and distinct, "You are God's Messiah" (Luke 9:20).

The main way that people around Jesus thought of Him as the Messiah was as a new king, a conquering hero who would overthrow the Romans, restore the people to God, and restore the faith of the Israelites. In fact, that was what the disciples and crowds were expecting when Jesus entered Jerusalem on the donkey. On Palm Sunday, Jesus had a large, loyal following which might have taken up arms to overthrow Rome if Jesus had played His cards right. Instead of facing off with the political tyrants, Jesus went against the worst tyrants of all, sin and death. Thus, Jesus redefined messiahship as the Son of Man from Daniel and the Suffering Servant in Isaiah. In the end at the Passover Meal, Jesus defines himself as the sacrificial lamb who would save Israel from death, granting them freedom to follow God to the promised land. Jesus agrees with John the Baptist's declaration, "Look! The lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world." (John 1:29). At His last meal, a Passover Meal, Jesus defined the bread and wine of the meal as himself initiating a new covenant through His own sacrifice for the forgiveness of sin. Jesus went head-to-head with the tyrants of sin and death. It was a victory that no other could have accomplished. He went to the cross as the Lamb of God to bear our sin and was raised in triumph over death. Jesus was the Messiah bringing people out of exile in sin and death into the Promised Land of God's very presence.

As we approach Holy Week and the resurrection, the same question hangs in the air. Jesus asks you, "Who do you say that I am?" Have you asked for His forgiveness of sins? Are you being led by Him into the Promised Land of God's presence? Jesus is the Messiah who sacrificed Himself for you and was raised from the dead for you. It is no exaggeration to say that life and death depend upon how you answer the question, "Who Is Jesus?"

Proclaiming, "Messiah Jesus is the King of the Covenant."

Jonathan

'RISE AND SHINE ALL YE CAVEMEN! ...'

by Jeff Pellegrin

I have watched a lot of television in my time, and I've seen a lot of commercials. I can remember some ads going back to the days when I was just a kid. Who can forget Al Scramuaza's Seafood City, or Ricardo Montalban's rich Corinthian leather? Hands down one of my favorites has to be GEICO's caveman promotion. In case you don't remember (I'm tempted to say "in case you've been living in a cave all these years" but I won't because I'm a nice guy and this is a church publication) the campaign promoted GEICO's website as "So easy a caveman can do it." Apparently, I was not the only one who enjoyed them. GEICO's hairy heroes proved so popular with American audiences that they earned their own spinoff in the short-lived ABC sitcom *Cavemen*.

What has this got to do with Easter? Well, I'm glad you asked. You see, I've been thinking about Easter and what it means. When we look back on great moments in history, and Easter is surely the greatest moment in history, it's easy for us to want to gloss over the small things to get to the big things, or at least the things we think are the big things. For instance, all four Gospels describe the morning of the Resurrection. Though they differ in perspective and particulars, they all have one thing in common: Jesus, who had been buried in a cave, he was no longer there. Somehow, and for some reason he had left.

Amid midst of the glory of the resurrection, we take for granted that Jesus actually left the tomb. We just assume that anyone in that situation would do the same. I mean, if you're going to be raised from the dead, called, as it were, to new life, who in their right mind would stay in the crypt. Yet that's what many of us do even though Christ died so we might live the resurrected life. Rather than step forthrightly into our blessed inheritance, we return to our old familiar tomb of sin just like the proverbial dog to its vomit. If we want to live as Easter people, we must first leave the grave behind. It's really not that hard ... even a caveman can do it.



MUNHOLLAND METHODIST MEN

*Helping Men Grow in Christ, so
Others May know Christ.*

MEETING

March 7th 7 PM - Zoom only
(note -- first Thursday of the mo.)

MEN'S BREAKFAST GROUP

Men's Coffee Crew Study Group
meets at Munholland on
Wednesdays at 7:00 AM in the FH.

If you have any questions or would like more information about the Munholland Methodist Men, contact Steve Zansler, President, at phylzans@hotmail.com.



MUNHOLLAND'S ANNUAL WOMEN'S DINNER

BE STILL AND KNOW

Saturday, April 27th 6:00 pm
(Doors open at 5:30 pm) Register your seat today... www.munhollandchurch.org.

An evening of revealing God's Faithfulness
Worship * Photo booth * Chocolates * Roses * Gift bag * Fellowship and Fun...

Guest Speaker: Mary Rooney Armand - Author, Speaker and Creator, ButterflyLiving --

Dinner Menu: Chicken Cordon Bleu, Salad, Green beans, Garlic bread, Almond cake...



Mary Rooney Armand

Mary Rooney Armand is an Author, Speaker, and Creator of the faith-based blog ButterflyLiving.org. Mary's writing is featured on websites including Women of Noble Character, Pray with Confidence, and The Brave Women Series. Mary is the author of the Bible Study, "Identity, Understanding, and Accepting Who I Am in Christ" and the devotional "Life Changing Stories", a collaboration with 34 authors sharing stories of God's faithfulness.

Besides writing, Mary leads small groups and speaks at retreats and events. She directed Kids Hope USA, a mentoring program for children, worked in marketing and sales and has led mission trips to Honduras. Mary is a life coach with a Bachelor's degree in Marketing and an MBA. She and her wonderful husband Cory live in New Orleans and are the parents of four children, a new daughter-in-law, and two dogs!

BETTER TOGETHER WOMEN'S STUDY

Every Wednesday in March at 10 am
Room 210 with Ann Birdsong



Jesus Incognito! An Easter Experience!

Reflect upon an event that is not only the most important event in our Christian faith, but in the history of the world. Spend 4 days over 4 sessions as we investigate what happened on Resurrection Sunday, as it is recorded in the 24th chapter of the gospel of Luke.

'8 BLESSINGS WE EXPERIENCE BY SERVING OTHERS'

By Veronica Sexton, shared by Betsy White

You were created to do good works, and there are blessings we receive when we do just that!

1. Serving allows us to discover and develop our spiritual gifts. Just like our bodies are made of many parts serving specific functions, the church is made up of people with different skills and abilities. These pieces alone aren't very useful, but together we create something beautiful.
2. Serving allows us to experience miracles. In John 2, Jesus was at a wedding and the wine ran out. He tells the servants to fill several big jars to the brim. When they served the water to the guests, it was wine! The guests never knew what happened; the servants were the ones who witnessed the miracle. The same is true for us when we serve.
3. Serving allows us to experience the joy and peace that comes from obedience. 1 Peter 4:10-11 says, "Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms... so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ."
4. Serving helps us to be more like Jesus. We shift our focus off ourselves onto others through serving. We begin to see others as Jesus sees them. And we see Jesus IN others (Matthew 25:40).
5. Serving surrounds us with other Christians who can help us follow Jesus. When we're working side by side with other people, a bond inevitably forms. This was part of God's plan for how the church is supposed to work.
6. Serving increases our faith. As we move out of our comfort zones, God increases our faith by revealing new potential – in ourselves and in His Church. When we see what He can do when His power is at work within us, we begin looking for the doors He's opening. (Ephesians 3:20).
7. Serving allows us to experience God's presence in new ways. Encouragement and healing go hand in hand. As we encourage others and they find healing, we're encouraged. It's the reason so many people who go on mission trips say they came home feeling like they got more than they gave.
8. Serving is good for your soul. Studies have shown that volunteering is so good for the mind and body that it can ease symptoms of stress, depression, and anxiety. Tapping into our gifts and passions builds self-confidence, energy, and strength.

Ann Birdsong and Ronda Knox will be traveling to Ethiopia, Africa from April 4th-14th with Great Concern Ethiopia to conduct medical missions work and connecting folks to the local church.

You can be a part of this mission trip as well:

- Collect supplies needed from the list below.
- Financial contributions to help off-set the cost of trip - this will go towards travel, supplies, and lodging. You can give online (Ethiopia Mission Trip), monetary, or check (write Ethiopia on memo line). May God richly bless you for your generosity.
- Diligent Prayer for our entire team.

They are in need of the following supplies. You can help support them by obtaining the following items for us to bring. Place items in box labeled AFRICA in the Collections room by March 27th.

Children and Women's Chewable (NO GUMMIES) Vitamins . Antibacterial Ointment . Steroid Cream . Ear Wax Removal Kits . Band-Aids all sizes, medium, and large needed. Gauze sterile and non-sterile . Thermometers. Children Liquid Tylenol . Tylenol and Advil . Hand Sanitizer purse size and larger no larger than 12oz . Wet Wipes . School Supplies . Individually Wrapped Candy . Q-Tips . Eye Drops (No Visine) . Toothbrushes and Toothpaste...



“THE DAY WITH NO NAME”

by Phyllis Zansler

As you read this we are still very deep into the season of Lent; a time of repentance, reflection, brokenness, forgiveness and fasting, surrounded by feelings of doubt. Doubt is a part of our faith journey, especially in the midst of struggles.

Jesus showed signs of doubt when He asked whether the cup of suffering could be passed from Him (Matt 26:29) and again when He cried out, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” (Matt 27:46)

Also, His disciples, who hid behind locked doors after Jesus’ resurrection, (John 20:24-29) and who could forget Thomas, who needed proof to believe. (John 20:24-29)

Hope arises out of doubt... What struggles we perceive as a cross to bare, does not compare to the cross Jesus carried and died on.

Jesus said to His disciples, “If any of you want to be my followers, you must turn away from your childish ways, deny yourself, take up your cross daily, and follow me.” (Matt 16:24)

Taking up one’s cross is a habit, practiced in the routine of everyday life and relationships. During Lent, but especially during Holy Week, I encourage you to take up your cross. Make a loving, sacrificial choice.

Saturday of Holy Week is often called “the day with no name”. Being raised Catholic, I know it as Holy Saturday - a day of pain and silence. Jesus lays dead in a silent tomb.

Make Holy Saturday the day you carry a sacrificial cross.

On Easter Sunday all doubt is washed away. The Risen Christ gives us a new kind of Hope. Hope for eternal life.

Christ is Risen. Hallelujah!

MUNHOLLAND METHODIST WOMEN

Calendar

We believe love in action
can change the world.
Please join us.

03/03/24

Munholland Methodist Women’s
Sunday

3/05/24

General Meeting 10:00 AM FH

03/12/24

Lenten Labyrinth Walk
10:00 AM
Lafreniere Park
Lunch - N.O. Hamburger
& Seafood, 6920 Veterans Mem. Blvd
Metairie LA 70003

3/19/24

General Meeting 6:00 PM FH

If you have any questions,
please contact our Phyllis Zansler,
Communication Coordinator,
at phylzans@hotmail.com.

DONATE YOUR JELLY JARS

Please return your clean
jelly jars to the shelves in
the Fellowship Hall where
jellies are sold. Thank you!

WE SERVE WEEKEND

Saturday, March 16 and Sunday, March 17th

Join us on Saturday or Sunday for a time to SERVE!! Beginning at 8:30 am on Saturday... Coffee, Cleaning and Community!! You may select an assignment from the "Job List" or come with your own project to do to "Clean Up God's House"; complete it and leave or stay. At 10:00 am we will assemble "Blessing Bags" to have handy in your car to give to unhoused community. Sunday will require MANY hands as we provide food and "services" during the St. Paddy's Parade (see below).

St. Paddy's Parade Mission Fundraiser from 10:30 am until 4:30 pm (indicate times you are available). Duties do not require standing. You will be able to sit.

Inserts will be placed in the Church bulletins, you can also use this page as well and drop off in the basket located in the Welcome Center.

Saturday, March 16th

- _____ Sanctuary/Church-wide clean up beginning at 8:30 am
- _____ Make Blessing Bags for the homeless 10 am - 12:00 pm Fellowship Hall

Sunday, March 17th

Saint Patty Day mission fundraiser 10:30 am - 4:30 pm (list times you can help)

- _____ Sell Potty Passes - from _____
 - _____ Monitor The Door/ Hallways - from _____
 - _____ Re-stock / Refresh Restrooms - from _____
 - _____ Clean restrooms, Help is especially needed at the end of the day!
 - _____ Help cook or serve food - from _____
- Contact Jonathan Beck at 318-219-6512



Calling all JOY (Just Older Youth) Friends!! We are restarting our fun-filled time together with an exciting program led by Tulane Professor of History, Derek Wood who will provide a wonderful and entertaining talk on the history of JAZZ in New Orleans. Join us for a catered lunch and fellowship (\$15).

If you would like to attend, please fill out your information found in your church bulletin or contact the church office at 504-834-9910.

Easter Sunday
MARCH 31, 2024

HE IS RISEN!
Come and Celebrate with us

Community Easter Sunrise Service
6:00 am Location: tba
 Music . Worship . Casual Dress . Bring a Chair


Munholland Sanctuary Services
8:30 am 11:00 am

PALM SUNDAY
March 24, 2024
8:30 and 11 AM Services Sanctuary

Children's Easter Egg Hunt	Fellowship Time Cake and Punch
During Sunday School hour	10:30 AM Fellowship Hall



**Maundy
Thursday Service**
March 28, 2024
6:30 pm
Sanctuary



**Good Friday
Service**
March 29, 2024
6:30 pm
Sanctuary



EASTER LILIES
\$15

Honor or remember
a loved one...

Envelopes in the church
pews or call the church office
by 03/20/24...

**MUNHOLLAND'S LIVING
EASTER CROSS**



**Bring flowers
Easter morning to
place on the cross**

Family Photos in front of the Easter Cross
 Ken Redler will take a (5x7 photo/free) after the
8:30 and 11:00 AM services.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL (VBS)

June 3 - June 7, 2024 8:45 am - 12:00 pm

Ages 3 - 11 (3 & 4 yrs old must be potty-trained)

March early signup \$20 April \$25 May/June \$30

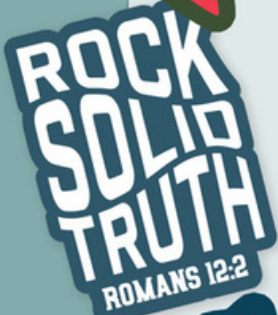
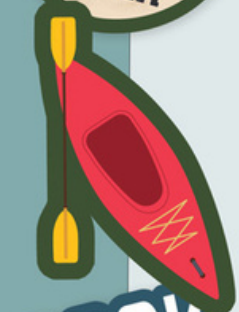


The church will be transformed into our VBS theme, where campers discover life with God is a surprising adventure.

Music, missions, crafts, recreation, and memorable Bible stories help kids know they can trust God to be with them through anything. Even snack time reinforces the theme each day.

Register now and come join us for this week of fun! Click on the QR code below to register or sign up on our website.

If you have any questions, email Owen Trotter at owent@munhollandchurch.org or 504.834.9910.



VBS
SIGN UP



VOLUNTEER
SIGN UP



Spring - A Time for Planting

Spring is a wonderful time of the year. As our earth tilts more toward the sun, the ground warms, seeds sprout, plants and trees awaken as do many animals. It’s a time when new plant growth “springs forth” and we tend our yards and gardens to see the beauty of the Lord’s work in the form of blooms, flowers and fruits.

It’s a time for us to remember how important it is to plant our seeds for God’s work through Munholland by us, our pledges, and contributions.

There are numerous ways you can meet your pledge or make contributions to support God’s ministries through Munholland:

- Cash or Check
- On-line giving by setting up an account in REALM
- Text Munholland to 73256
- ACH recurring payment from your bank to Munholland
- Stock transfers
- IRA distribution
- Charitable Trusts

(20) Then Jacob made a vow, saying, “If God will be with me and will watch over me on this journey I am taking and will give me food to eat and clothes to wear (21) so that I return safely to my father’s household, then the LORD will be my God (22) and this stone that I have set up as a pillar will be God’s house, and of all that you give me I will give you a tenth.” Genesis 28:20-22

By Warren Hoppmeyer
Finance Chair

Munholland’s Statistics

2023 EOY

2023 Gifts Received	2023 Total Expenses	Variance
\$813,803.92	\$880,290.36	\$(66,486.44)

2024 YTD

YTD - 2024 Gifts Received	YTD - 2024 Total Expenses	Variance
\$117,933.94	\$93,326.73	\$24,607.21

Munholland In a Week

CHURCH CALENDAR

SUNDAY

- 8:30 AM Worship Service
- 9:30 AM Sunday School Classes
- 11:00 AM Worship Service
- 12:00 PM Prayer Meeting * (1st and 3rd Sunday)
- 5:00 PM AA Group Officers Mtg
- 6:00 PM Sunday Night AA Group

MONDAY

- 9:30 - 1:30 PM
Kids Day Out (M, W, Th, Fr)

TUESDAY

- 9:00 AM Staff Meeting
- 10:00 AM Munholland Methodist Women meets the 1st Tuesday of the month
- 6:00 PM Munholland Methodist Women meets the 3rd Tuesday of the month
- 1:30 PM Program Staff Meeting
- 2:30 PM Mt. Zion Good Samaritan (3rd Tuesday)*^

WEDNESDAY

- 7:00 AM Men's Coffee Crew Study Group
- 10:00 AM Women Better Together Sm Group Study
The Easter Experience
- 5:00 PM Midweek Meal
- 6:00 PM Cursillo
- 6:15 PM *The Spirit Filled Life (1/31 - 3/13)* Rm 209
- 6:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY

- 10:00 AM Ladies weekly ongoing study
- 7:00 PM Munholland Methodist Men * (usually on the second Thursday) Zoom only. MMM will meet March 7th this month
- 7:30 PM Al Anon
- 8:00 PM NA
- 8:00 PM AA

*Note: Not a weekly event
^ Contact Betsy White at betsysw@aol.com
FH: FELLOWSHIP HALL

For more information... Visit our website... munhollandchurch.org

UPCOMING MARCH EVENTS

2 DISCIPLES' GARAGE SALE

8:00 AM - 12:00 PM

14 JOY LUNCHEON

11:30 AM FELLOWSHIP HALL

16 WE SERVE WEEKEND

Church-wide clean up, Put together Blessing Bags, St. Patrick's Day Parade see pg 7

17

21 CHURCH COUNCIL MTG

5:30 PM RM 209

24 PALM SUNDAY AND CHILDREN'S EASTER EGG HUNT

8:30 & 11:00 AM SERVICE TIMES
9:30 AM FOR EASTER EGG HUNT

28 MAUNDY THURSDAY SVC

6:30 PM SANCTUARY

29 GOOD FRIDAY SVC

6:30 PM SANCTUARY

31 EASTER SUNRISE SVC

6:30 PM LOCATION TBA

31 EASTER SANCTUARY SERVICES

8:30 & 11:00 AM

MESSENGER

MUNHOLLAND METHODIST CHURCH
1201 METAIRIE RD METAIRIE, LA 70005

Youth (Grades 6th - 12th) Sunday Small Group 9:30 AM

We are kicking off Youth Sunday Small Group at PJ's (800 Metairie Rd.)
at 9:45 AM.

If you need a ride from the church, email Owen Trotter

THINK ABOUT IT

Psalm 84 was once described by the famous preacher Charles Spurgeon, as "The Pearl of Psalms". Verses 5,7:"Blessed is the man whose strength is in You, whose heart is set on pilgrimage..... they go from strength to strength". Verse 10: "For a day in Thy courts is better than a thousand outside the gate. "I would rather stand at the threshold of the house of my God, than dwell in the tents of wickedness.No good thing does He withhold from those who walk uprightly.....How blessed is the man who trusts in Thee." You can see that this is a Psalm, full of rich truths for humanity. Meditate on every verse of this "Pearl" for it will truly bless you in what you are called to accomplish.

When our hearts are truly set on the pilgrimage of following the Lord Jesus, we can count on Him to provide all the resources we need. If we rely on our own resources for the trip, we will find them totally inadequate. If we set our hearts on making our lives as comfortable and predictable as possible, we will miss out. Only in periods of trial and challenges can we be assured that we will go from strength to strength. Our true strength is in the Lord Himself. In a world where most people long to be self-sufficient, we should always come to the reality that we **have to** depend on His all-sufficient grace for our own journey. The evangelist George Whitefield once prayed, "Lord Jesus, I am weary in thy work, but not weary of it."

When the Galatians were falling away from their faith, Paul wrote his powerful letter of exhortation to them. He said "Do not lose heart in well-doing, for in due season you shall reap if you do not grow weary". (v9) In our earthly bodies, we will get tired and weary in the trials of life. But praise God, we aren't supposed to finish the race and keep the faith in and of ourselves. Those are the days we are to throw ourselves on His mercy to sustain, refresh, revive, and restore us to our supernatural selves and bring glory to His Name. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brethren. Amen". (Gal 6:18)