



THE WORD



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Newsletter for the Ministry & Fellowship of Manly Memorial Baptist Church

April 2017

OUT OF MY MIND

I hope that you find this article helpful as you prepare to observe Holy Week and then celebrate Christ's Resurrection on Easter Sunday.

What Christ's Hands Tell Us by Paul Brand (with Phillip Yancey)

The most important scene in Jesus' life—the one we memorialize during Passion Week—also involved his hands. Then those hands that had done so much good were taken, one at a time, and pierced through with a thick spike. My mind balks at visualizing it.

In surgery I cut delicately, using scalpel blades that slice through one layer of tissue at a time, to expose the intricacies of nerves and blood vessels and tiny bones and tendons and muscles inside. I know well what crucifixion must have done to a human hand.

Roman executioners drove their spikes through the wrist, right through the carpal tunnel that houses finger-controlling tendons and the median nerve. It is impossible to force a spike there without maiming the hand into a claw shape. And Jesus had no anesthetic as his hands were marred and destroyed.

Later, his weight hung from them, tearing more tissue, releasing more blood. Has there ever been a more helpless image than that of the Son of God hanging paralyzed from a tree? The disciples, who had hoped he was the Messiah, cowered in the darkness or drifted away.

But that is not the last glimpse in the New Testament of Jesus' hands. He appeared again, in a closed room, just as one of his disciples was disputing the unlikely story he thought his friends had concocted. People do not rise from the dead, Thomas scoffed. They must have seen a ghost, or an illusion.

At that moment, Jesus appeared and held up those unmistakable hands. The scars gave proof that they belonged to him, the same one who had died on the cross. Although the body had changed in certain ways, the scars remained. Jesus invited Thomas to come and trace them with his own fingers.

Thomas responded simply, "My Lord and my God!" It is the first recorded time that one of Jesus' disciples directly addressed him as God. Significantly the assertion came in response to Jesus wounds. Jesus' hands.

Throughout all of history, people of faith have clung to the belief that there is a God who understands the human dilemma. That the pains we endure on Earth are not meaningless. That our prayers are heard. In Passion, we Christians focus on the supreme event when God demonstrated for all time that he knows our pain.

For a reminder of his time here, Jesus chose scars in each hand. That is why I believe God hears and understands our pain, and even absorbs it into himself—because he kept those scars as a lasting image of wounded humanity. He knows what life on earth is like, because he has been here. His hands prove it.

This article first appeared in the April 5, 1985 issue of Christianity Today. Used by permission of Christianity Today, Carol Stream, IL 60188.



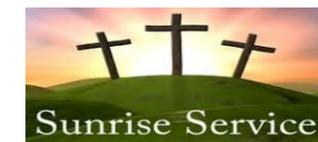
We are hosting the Community Lenten services. Each service is on Thursday, 12:10 pm, lasts 20 minutes and is followed by a soup and sandwich lunch for \$5.00.



The Annual Community Palm Sunday Parade will be held on April 9th, 9:30 am at Hopkins Green. The members of all the downtown churches are invited to gather for a prayer and Bible reading, and then walk through the streets of Lexington, "dropping off" the participants as the parade goes by the different churches. Those who participate should be back at Manly by 10:15 am.



Join us on April 13th for a Maundy Thursday service at 6:30 pm. The Lord's Supper will be served.



The Annual Community Easter Sunrise Service will be held on Sunday, April 16th, 7 am at Lexington Presbyterian Church. The speaker will be Dr. Mike Wilkins. There will be breakfast after the service.



We will have our quarterly Business Meeting on Wednesday, April 19th at 6:30 pm.

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OFFERTORY PRAYER

April 2nd - Clyde Keen
April 9th - Brenda Grose
April 16th - Sherry Miller
April 23rd - Mike Bozeman
April 30th - David Campbell

HALL WATCH

April 2nd - Bucky Joyce
April 9th - Patsy Paxton
April 16th - Joel Snow
April 23rd - David Campbell
April 30th - Justin Spears

SUNDAY SCHOOL FLOATERS

April 2nd - Barbara Heckman
April 9th - Barbara Heckman
April 16th - Loretta Ballard
April 23rd - Carole Berger
April 30th - Lee Higgins

SUNDAY SCHOOL NURSERY SCHEDULE

April 2nd - Barbara Cash & Debbie Fox
April 9th - Bobbie Canfield & Cathy Wranek
April 16th - Lee Higgins & Beverly Shotwell
April 23rd - Wanda Childers & Vickie Kave
April 30th - Bobbie Canfield & Sandy O'Connell

WORSHIP SERVICE NURSERY SCHEDULE

April 2nd - Robyn Sherman & Cathy Wranek
April 9th - Joan Joyce & Danielle Pruett
April 16th - Rosana Garcia & Sharon Martin
April 23rd - Carole Judy & Patsy Williamson
April 30th - Linda Carter & Brenda Grose



4th Tom Tait
6th Judy Dunning
7th Alysyan Raymond
13th Gordie Valentine
John Wranek
Amanda Rexrode
17th Robyn Sherman
19th Anderson Huger
Gene Paxton III
30th Charles O'Roark



8th Barbara & Fred Vaughan
17th Andrea & Randy Harris

If you have a birthday or anniversary coming up, please share it with us!



We will continue with two on-going projects. First, we will be collecting cleaning supplies for Lisa's House. A box is available for donations in the back hall. We would like to get these delivered to them by the end of April.

We are also continuing to sew fabric back packs for Standing Rock Reservation. Pattern and instructions are available from Patsy if you wish to join in this project. We will also accept donations of new shoes, socks, and underwear for all ages for Standing Rock. Please make donations by May 21st.

We will host an afternoon tea at Lexington House in late April. Details will follow.

Meetings for April:

Mission Action will meet Monday, April 10th at 7 pm
Prayer Support will meet Tuesday, April 11th at 11 am



The Missions Committee continues to plan for our trip to Nickelsville, VA the week of July 9th thru 15th. We will serve at the local food pantry, clothes closet and nursing home as well as hands on work with home repairs and construction. The need in that area is so great and a worthwhile use of our time for missions.

Please come out for the April 26th fellowship meal with baked goods auction and support this effort. Donations of baked goods are needed. Other fundraisers planned are a youth car wash on Saturday, April 8th and a yard sale in May! We have also begun collecting gently used clothing of all sizes and seasons to take with us. Bags can be dropped off M-F between 8:30 - 1:30 pm or Sundays.

Adults interested in going on the trip should contact Patsy Paxton (patsypaxton@comcast.net or 463-4618) and any youth interested in going should contact Molly Kay (youth@manlybaptist.com or 461-6074) for more information. Our next meeting will be Monday, April 17th at 6:00 pm in the backpack room.



The casserole & cake ministry will meet on Saturday, April 8th at 9:00 am. Please join us!

MMBC Endowment Fund Highlighted in State Publication.—Manly's Endowment Fund was recently highlighted in the Virginia Baptist Foundation's website, new brochure and video as a "success story." While it is pleasing to receive such recognition, it is more satisfying to know our experience in establishing the endowment fund may inspire others to consider a similar approach to help spread the Good News of Christ's love for us in their communities. You can view the VBF video online at <https://vimeo.com/203857013>.

**TRAINING OPPORTUNITY
CPR/Defibrillator/Bleeding Control First Aid**

The church will be sponsoring a training class covering three important topics during the month of May. The purpose of the training is to equip Manly church personnel/members with necessary lifesaving tools and knowledge should it be necessary while waiting for emergency personnel to respond to a call for help.

The three topics are: CPR refresher, how to use the church's automated external defibrillator (AED), and how to use the recently acquired "Stop the Bleed" bleeding control kits, including use of the tourniquet included in the kits. Our own Doug Wright and Laura Jones will be conducting this important training.

While we hope none of these skills will ever be needed at Manly, having knowledge of how to use these skills could be very helpful should the need arise. Actions taken by bystanders during the critical time between calling 9-1-1 and the arrival of professional medical personnel has often proven to be the critical difference between life and death

The training will be available to everyone; however, it is especially important that certain key people have this training. If you are in any of the positions listed below, we hope you will attend the training on one of the days it is offered:

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------|
| Pastor | Nursery volunteers |
| Youth Coordinator | WMU leaders |
| Children's Director | Sunday School teachers |
| Ministry Assistant | B&G committee members |
| Church Custodian | Kitchen "regulars" |
| VBS volunteers | Mission trip volunteers |
| Mission trip leaders | Youth program volunteers |

A signup chart will be available in April for you to sign up for training. Again, everyone is encouraged to attend the training.

**"Don't Just Stand There –
You Are the Help until Help Arrives"**

Don Heckman & Joel Snow, Program Coordinators



The Adult Choir is busy getting ready for Palm Sunday (April 9), Maunday Thursday (April 13) and Easter Sunday morning (April 16). We are endeavoring to make all of these meaningful, worshipful services. Please plan to attend each one as we remember and celebrate Jesus' sacrifice and glorious resurrection. Easter Sunday morning in addition to the Adult Choir, the Children's Choir and the Steele-Meador Handbell Choir will be a part of our worship. Plan now to celebrate the King – who was and is and is to come!



Join us on Sunday, April 9th at 4:00 pm for our annual Easter Egg Hunt, snacks and fun activities! Children of all ages are invited! Bring a friend and enjoy the fun. Contact Ms. Beverly at 460-0409 for more info.

April 5th
(Fried chicken, red skin potatoes, peas & cake)

April 12th - No Meal

April 19th
(Spaghetti, bread, salad & dessert)



April 26nd
Mission Trip Fundraiser Meal with Baked Goods Auction
(Lannie's half-baked chicken, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, cole slaw, biscuits & assorted desserts)

MOTHER'S DAY ROSES

The Youth will be selling roses for Mother's Day as a fundraiser. You may give a rose in honor or memory of a loved one. Roses will be distributed at the end of the service on Sunday, May 14th. Please place your order form and payment of \$5 in the offering plate by Sunday, April 30th. Your support is appreciated!!



The youth will hold a donation car wash on Saturday, April 8th, from 9 am till noon in the Advance Auto parking lot. Please bring your car by to be washed & if you are unable to, please consider making a donation big or small to this wonderful group of teens working so hard to raise money for the mission trip and share the love of Jesus with others!

YOUTH SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY



APRIL 2nd, 9th & 16th 9:45 am

Who are the people you enjoy hanging out with most? Your friends, right? They laugh at your jokes, reply to your Snapchats, invite you to the movies, and hang out with you, even when you smell bad or show off your terrible dance moves. And whether you have a huge group of friends or just one BFF, they can have a huge impact on who you are now and who you become later. But have you ever thought about how you got those friends in the first place? Maybe their family just happened to move in down the street from yours or you ended up in the same ballet class. Maybe you randomly sat next to each other in Chemistry or you just happened to play the same sport. While none of those are bad ways to make friends, it is strange that we leave such an important part of our lives to chance. Perhaps that is why the Bible has so much to say about how we choose and treat our friends. As we look to the Bible for advice about our friendships, we will discover that one of the best things we can do for our crew is to be their friend on purpose!



APRIL 23rd & 30th 9:45 am

Have you ever been to a concert? Maybe you had tickets for great seats. Maybe you were in the nosebleeds. Either way, you probably noticed that everyone had the same goal in mind, to get as close as possible. There's just something about being near the band or near the artist that makes a great concert ever more fun. But there's a limit, right? No matter how good your tickets are, you can only get so close. There's a hall you can't walk down, or a security guard you can't stroll right past because those areas are reserved for certain people...special people—people with an all-access pass. Maybe you've felt the same way when it comes to God. Sure, you come to church and sing songs or listen, but there's a limit to how close you can get. It's almost like there's a velvet rope around certain parts of our faith that tells us those parts are restricted to special people, to church-staff people, or to super-spiritual people. But what if that's never what God intended? In this series we will explore what the Resurrection of Jesus really meant—for real people like us. And we will discover that, because of Easter, we have an all-access pass to Him and to the life He has for us!



Wednesday, April 5th
5:45 pm - Youth Group Meeting (FCA Event at MRMS)

Wednesday, April 12th
5:45 pm - Youth Group Meeting (dinner, game & Bible study)

Wednesday, April 19th
5:45 pm - Youth Group Meeting (dinner, game & Bible study)

Wednesday, April 26th
5:45 pm - Youth Group Meeting (dinner, game & Bible study)