



Ashford Messenger

March 2018 | Newsletter of Ashford United Methodist Church
(Read the latest **Cross Connection** [here!](#))

Easter Weekend at Ashford

3.31

Easter Egg Hunt

4.1

Easter Services at
6:30, 8:30, & 11:00 a.m.

Coming in April

4.5

Ashford Board Meeting

4.6

Annual Dinner Gala/Auction

4.12

CPR/First Aid Class

4.15—5.6 (Sundays)

Ashford 101

4.20/21

Garage Sale

PDF Calendar

24 Hours That Changed the World featuring “The Last Supper”

By Adam Hamilton

This is a detailed journey with Jesus through the analogy of author, Adam Hamilton. Four days prior to the Passover Meal (Palm Sunday), crowds greeted Jesus as He rode into Jerusalem on a donkey. The people laid out palm leaves and clothing for Jesus to travel across. They shouted “Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.” They did not have any idea that four days later Jesus would be condemned to die.

Jesus arrived in Jerusalem after walking with the disciples about seventy-five miles from the area around the Sea of Galilee, where He spent much of His ministry. He entered the city from the Mount of Olives, which He returned to as evening approached, to spend the night. The next day, He went to the Temple. Many nations were there to pray. He watched as the people bought and sold goods in what emulated an open marketplace, and He became very angry. He said, “My house shall be called a house of prayer for all nations, but you have made it a den of robbers (Mark 11:17). He overturned the moneychangers’ tables and drove out the merchants (Matthew 21:12), infuriating the religious leaders who controlled the Temple.

Continued on page 2...

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

March 2	Keenan Avilez-James, Sharon Saunders, Matt Wines
March 3	Alex Kluesner
March 6	Toshie Tanaka
March 8	Helen Holder
March 11	Rex Iko
March 12	Joachim Nicolau
March 13	Mike Duvall, Bob Moore
March 14	Conway Reyes
March 15	Michael Garza-Allen, Micah Head
March 16	Leti Garza, Sarah Villarroel
March 17	Porshia Adade
March 19	Cindy Whitley
March 20	Marcus Auzenne
March 21	Carol Willoughby
March 22	Daniel Smith
March 24	Linda Corredor
March 29	Ola Oduola
March 31	Giok Boothe
April 2	Ed Erwin, Des Hully, Aaron Smith
April 4	Valeree Jackson
April 6	Lee Brunell, Julius Macharia
April 8	Peggy Erwin, Victor Garza, Jeff Miller
April 11	Haven Adolph, Hunter Adolph
April 14	Eva Wanjiru

Missing from the list? Let us know and we'll recognize you next month!

24 Hours *(cont'd.)*

Jesus returned to the Temple courts each day that week, and as He taught, He pushed harder on His religious reforms, challenging those same religious leaders day after day. He called the Scribes and Pharisees hypocrites and said, "For you are like white washed tombs, which on the outside look beautiful, but inside they are full of the bones of the dead and all kinds of filth." Jesus chastised them for their pride, hard hearts and their religious rules that served only to alienate further those who were lost. He told the people, "Do as the religious leaders tell you to do, however do not do as they do; for they are like the blind leading the blind."

Jesus continued to challenge the Scribes, Pharisees and Sadducees each day and by Thursday they were fed up and began to plot how they would kill Him.

Jesus sent Peter and John to find and prepare the Upper Room for the Last Supper. Jesus said to them, "Go into the City, and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you, follow him." Carrying water was typically a woman's job, so such a man would stand out on Jerusalem's busy streets. Jesus told Peter and John to enter wherever the man enters and say to the owner of the house, "The Teacher asks, where is my guest room where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?"

Many homes had large upstairs rooms, sometimes with stairways inside and outside the house, usually owned by a wealthy person with status. The owner was risking his reputation and wealth in order to host Jesus.

Everything went as Jesus had stated. The preparations for the Passover Meal would have included setting the table and buying and preparing the Passover lamb, unleavened bread, sauces, and other ceremonial food and drink. Preparation would take at least eight hours.

At 3:00 in the afternoon, Peter and John would have taken the lamb to the temple to sacrifice. They would then take the meat and return to the kitchen in the Upper Room where the lamb would be basted in oil and wine and roasted for three to four hours and be ready to serve around 7:00.

The Passover Seder was supposed to be a celebration, retelling the story of God delivering His people from slavery to Egypt, however Jesus spoke

Continued on page 3...

Not My Day (by Jim Mills)

My day, March 14th, started at 5:30 a.m. I'm not a morning person, so when my alarm went off I was NOT happy to look outside and see pitch black. I quietly thanked God that I don't have to wake up this early every day.

I am currently having some lower back pain, so my doctor prescribed Tramadol for me. I have never taken it so I was not sure what to expect. Yesterday I just took one, every 8 hours as recommended, just to check my reaction. Nothing much happened so I took two this morning, as prescribed. Wow! I thought I was going to fall asleep on my feet. This was a bad day for this as we were moving 200+ phones in the Fondren location of Methodist Hospital. However, God provided me the gumption and strength to fight through it. I kept praying, "Lord, just get me through the day," and He did.

What I didn't know was He had a few more bumps in the road planned for me on this day...

So I walk out to the Shuttle Pickup place and wait for the Hospital Shuttle to take me to my truck. I am 15 minutes early as the last shuttle leaves at 6:25 p.m. and it is now 6:10 p.m. For whatever

reason, the last shuttle has already left. A couple people try to contact the office but nobody is responding, so I call Uber. Within a few minutes my Uber driver is there and he gets me to my parking lot. Unfortunately, I leave my cell phone in the Uber car, and just to top the day off, my battery is dead in my truck. At this point I am thinking, "What did I do to deserve this?"

So, I finally get home and I fire up my computer to send Uber an email and notice that my screen saver is my three grandkids, all of them laughing and smiling. I begin cool down and remind myself—and I have said this many times—that I am more blessed than I will ever understand. I have a beautiful wife that loves me, one cat that adores me and follows me everywhere I go, a great home, two great kids, three fun loving grandkids, tons of friends and a Loving and Accepting God that did get me through the day and did get me home safe and sound so I can enjoy all them one more day.

Thank you Lord, for all the wonderful Blessings you have bestowed upon me and I ask that those Blessings continue each and every day.

24 Hours (cont'd.)

up and said that one of the disciples would betray Him. He knew which one, but did not say.

Judas was the one who would betray Him and he was at the table with Jesus and the others. He spoke kind words to Jesus and fellowshiped with Him as if he was a true follower.

Jesus took the two traditional parts of the Passover meal, the passing of the bread and the drinking of the wine and gave them new meaning as representations of His body and blood. He used the bread and wine to explain the significance of what He was about to do on the cross.

This meal, this new Passover, the Eucharist or Holy Communion, would be a perpetual reminder of God's love, His grace, and the sacrifice of His Son. It would be the meal by which we as Christians would remember our story—and it will reshape our lives.



Cenacle (Room of the Last Supper), Jerusalem

ALL-CHURCH WORK DAY

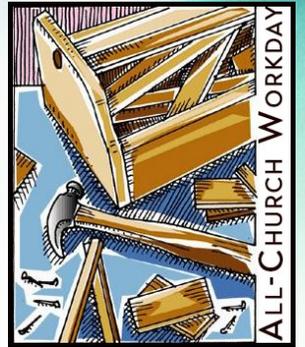
On March 10 The Ashford Building & Grounds group (AKA "The Bee Gees!") met at church with a list of items we needed to do to help spruce up the church and grounds. Our goals were:

1. Paint two doors
2. Spread Weed-Feed-Ant Killer on a large area of the grounds
3. Trim the roses around the church
4. Clean up the debris around the AC unit behind the Scout Hut
5. Level the stones leading up the monument
6. Rebuild the fencing around the AC units behind the Sanctuary

We were successful at completing items two thru five. Item one was half finished as we did not have the correct paint for the door in the Sanctuary. We will follow up on that later. The other item was the fence around the AC units behind the Sanctuary. A last minute change in plans required us to rethink our design and material requirements.

Over all we had a great and blessed day. A special thanks to Carey Rhines who showed up early Saturday and cooked eggs, bacon, and biscuits

and gravy for everyone. Another shout-out to Margaret Butch who offered her Master Gardening skills to trim and fertilize the roses. Rudy Tejera proved most helpful with painting and adding



some much needed muscle to help adjust placement of the stones. Carey, Rudy and Margaret are NOT B&G members, so the extra help is always appreciated. Another special shout-out to Gary VanSyckle and Cody Douds for their extra efforts on reconfiguring the fence around the Scout Hut AC units...an above and beyond effort!

Most of all, thanks to Bill Merrill, Stan Ackerman, Linda Corredor, Ernie Brandl, and Jeff Gobeli for your efforts on Saturday and continued efforts for our group. We are a blessed church to have all of your expertise available to us and it is very much appreciated. — May God Bless, Jim Mills

I CAN ONLY IMAGINE...



A Friendship With Jesus Now and Forever.

First a hit song, then a child's version of the book, and now a major motion picture in theaters now. Have you seen it? It is phenomenal!!!

I Can Only Imagine was inspired by Bart's personal story. The song not only topped the Christian music charts

but was a cross-over hit to Top 40 and Billboards Adult Hot Contemporary, which illustrates the popularity of it's universal theme.

ALSO IN THEATERS...

Paul, Apostle of Christ is a biblical drama about the early history of the Christian faith. The story covers Paul, and his transformation from the most infamous persecutor of Christians to Jesus' most influential apostle. Paul, portrayed by James Faulkner, is being held in prison by the Roman Emperor Nero, who wants to execute all Christians. Luke, played by Jim Caviezel, (*The Passion of the Christ*) risks his life to visit him. In order to be able to spread the gospel of Jesus, the men must overcome both the persecution of Nero as well as their own differences and inner strife.

Beautifully shot and excellently acted, it's the perfect movie to celebrate Easter!



BROOKWOOD



To our Brookwood supporters,

Well, we did it! The Reliant Energy "Rodeo Boot Art Contest" was a roaring success due to the efforts of so many. Don't ever say that one vote doesn't count because together we did it. THANK YOU and thanks again for voting and getting your friends to vote so that Brookwood could receive the fantastic prize of \$10,000. WOW!!! This contest, with the lead contestants being Brookwood and the Girl Scouts, was so close that they gave \$10,000 to each organization.

From all of us at Brookwood -----WE SALUTE YOU!

Yvonne Streit

Founder & Executive Director Emeritus
The Brookwood Community



Dear Ashford Methodist
Hi I am Michele I am a
Citizen of Brookwood
Community. Thank you
for buying our pointsettias
when you purchase a
plant from Brookwood
you help support our mission.
Our mission is to ~~support~~
get jobs for adults with
disabilities. I work in ceramics
my teacher gives me confidence
and they help develop my skills
so I can show the world
what I do and change their minds
about how they see adults w/ disabilities