



The Beacon

April 2026

The Newsletter of Duncan Memorial United Methodist Church

Our Mission: To Make Disciples of Jesus Christ and Share His Love

On behalf of the Wee Angels Executive Committee, I wanted to take this time to announce some important changes happening with our beloved learning center. After eight years of service as our program director, Lauren Hawkins stepped away from the position at the end of March. We will be forever grateful for Lauren's love and care for the students, families, and teachers at Wee Angels as well as her commitment and diligence to keeping Wee Angels a strong ministry for our community.

With that said, we are also excited to announce our new director, Colette Lambert, who began on March 30th. Colette has over thirty years of experience in the field, as well as ties to our own congregation as she joined Duncan Memorial over a year ago. We are grateful for her talents and graces and ask that you keep her, as well as the staff and families, in your prayers during this time of transition. We are excited to continue in this new chapter of this important ministry of the church.

Pastor Daniel





Maundy Thursday Service - April 2

John 13:1-17, 31b-35
Loved Them Til the End

Good Friday Service - April 3

Isaiah 52:13-53:12

Easter Sunday - April 5

Matthew 28:1-10
Meet Me At Our Spot

2nd Sunday of Easter (Holy Humor Sunday) - April 12

Isaiah 40:21-31
Do You Not Know? (Jeopardy Style Game)

3rd Sunday of Easter - April 19

1 Peter 1:17-23
At What Cost?

4th Sunday of Easter - April 26

1 Peter 2:19-25
Going Astray



Many of you can remember singing with great gusto this month's featured hymn's chorus:

***Up from the grave He arose,
With a mighty triumph o'er his foes;
He arose a victor from the dark domain,
And He lives forever with His saints to reign;
He arose! He arose!
Hallelujah! Christ arose!***

I can remember the swell of sound in Duncan's filled sanctuary each Easter as members responded to Mildred "pulling out all the stops" on the organ!

Robert Lowery was born in Pennsylvania in 1826. At age seventeen, he joined a Baptist church at the conversion moment. Shortly after, he enrolled at the University of Lewisburg and, after graduating, pastored churches in New York, New Jersey and his home state. He also taught at his alma mater and served for a period of time as its chancellor. Lowry gained a reputation for keen biblical scholarship and powerful, picturesque preaching.

When gospel song editor William Bradbury died in 1868, Lowry was chosen to replace him as publisher of Sunday School music. "Music with me has been a side issue", he once said. "I would rather preach a gospel sermon than write a hymn. I have always looked upon myself as a preacher and felt a sort of depreciation when I began to be known more as a composer of hymns."

Depreciation or not, his composing ability was nothing short of inspired. One evening during the Easter season in 1874, Lowry was engaged in his devotions. He became deeply focused on Luke 24:6-8—"Why do you seek the living among the dead? He is not here, but is risen!"

The words and music began forming in his mind. Going to the little pump organ in his home, Lowry soon completed what was to become one of our greatest resurrection hymns—CHRIST AROSE!

Need more proof of his God-given talent? He also is the composer of:

**NOTHING BUT THE BLOOD
SHALL WE GATHER AT THE RIVER
ALL THE WAY MY SAVIOR LEADS ME
MARCHING TO ZION
I NEED THEE EVERY HOUR**



- 1 Chris Shipe
- 2 Sharon Vinson
- 5 Hunter Childs
- 8 Vicki Griffith
- 10 Claire Holmes
- 12 Bonnie Echols
- Rev. Heather Wray
- 16 Linda Cook
- 18 Stephanie Moore
- 20 Valerie Brown
- Grayson Sponseller
- 23 Colleen Smith
- 28 Connor Shendow
- 30 Nancy Dowdy

?? ? **Bible Quiz** ? ?

According to Matthew's account, something remarkable happened to the earth on the day Jesus was crucified and again on the morning when Mary Magdalene and the other Mary visited the tomb. What occurred on both days?

- A. There was a flood on both days.
- B. There was an earthquake on both days.
- C. There was a huge fire on each day.
- D. There was complete darkness on both days.

Answer: B (Matthew 27:51; Matthew 28:2)



Join us Easter Morning, between services, for an Easter Egg Hunt on the front lawn of the church.



Help us decorate the cross in the narthex for Easter. Please bring in cut flowers on Easter morning to place on the cross.

The next Community Meal will be held on Thursday, April 23 from 5:00-6:30 p.m. Please come and join the fellowship.



Community Meal



Spring Rummage Sale

At Duncan Memorial United Methodist Church

on

Saturday, April 11th, 8am-3pm

Rain Date: Saturday, April 18th, 8am-3pm

Need to rid your home of extra items? The Duncan Methodist Women are now accepting registrations for a rummage sale on the front lawn. The spaces for rent are 8 x 6 for **\$5.00**. Participants must supply tables, otherwise a limited number of 8-foot tables are available for an additional **\$5.00** charge.

Vendors may set up starting at 7 a.m. with set-up completion done by 8 a.m.

Please return the bottom of the registration form below to reserve your spot. For more information contact Dayna Lawson at aurlia01@gmail.com or (703)850-7479 or Vicki Griffith (540) 955-2927.

Make checks payable to: Duncan Methodist Women

Mail form & Payment to: Duncan Methodist Women
Attn: Dayna Lawson/Vicki Griffith
210 E. Main Street
Berryville, VA 22611

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ Email _____

Make and Take Spring/Summer Grapevine Wreath Class

April 25th 10 a.m. until noon

Come and enjoy the company of others while learning and making your own grapevine wreath. Bring your own wreath. Spring and Summer floral supplies will be offered, please bring any other supplies you may wish to utilize. A \$10 class donation would be gratefully accepted and aid us in our outreach efforts.



Please return the bottom of the registration form below to reserve your spot. For more information contact Vicki Griffith (540) 955-2927 or Dayna Lawson at aurlia01@gmail.com or (703) 850-7479

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210 E. Main Street
Berryville, VA 22611

Name _____

Phone _____

Address _____

Email _____



In the Military	Our Members	Family & Friends
Richard Harris	Doris Braithwaite	John Allen
Dylan Murphy	Linda Burcham	John Wesley Allen
John Pepper	Jessica Clotzman	Katie Barsi
Triston Timbrook	Mike Clotzman	Art Beamer
Jared Tinsman	Joy Fiddler	Kenny Chamblin
Tyler Tinsman	Cheyenne Fowler	Wanda Dunn
	Jean Hinson	Dianna Fogel
Shut-ins	Jeanne Hudson	Lisa Gheen
George Dellinger	Len Lawson	Faith Kinney
*Audrey Hudson	Erin McDonald	Janet Moore
*Alice Mansfield	Robyn McGrath	Stephanie Moore
*Cindy Morin	Kaia Meyer	Toni O'Connor
	Debra Neises	Lisa Perkins
*Nursing home or Assisted-living home	Adam Owens	Drew Pinilla
	James Preston (JP) Puryear	Gina Sutherlin
	Ellen Wilcox	Easton Tavenner
	Tim Wilcox	Ann Varley
	Debbie Zimmerman	John Young
		Pat Wince
	Families Grieving	



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(540) 955-1264 office (540) 955-9055 fax

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Berryville, VA 22611

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Our Leadership & Staff

Pastor- Rev. Daniel Wray

**Administrative Assistant
Brenda Elsea**

**Directors of Programs for
Children/Youth
Frank & Stephanie Moore**

**Director of Music
John Hudson**

**Audio Visual
Claire Luzzi**

Sexton-Fiona Glynn

**Nursery Attendant
Lee Campbell**

**Administrative Council
Chairperson-Glen Hetzel**

**Lay Leader-Chris Shipe
Nurture
Sheryl Reid**

**Outreach & Missions
Shelia Stephens**

**Worship
John Hudson
Mildred Keating**

**Congregational Care Team
Cheyanne Fowler-Leader
Sheryl Reid Leader
Trudy Gheen
Beverly Goode
Ellen Wilcox**

**Wee Angels Administrator
Colette Lambert**

The Joy of the Resurrection

We Christians simply cannot get over the reality of the Resurrection. For us, the fact that God raised Christ from the dead proves that Christ's way alone is God's answer to the sins and horrors of the world. The truths Christ taught when he walked on earth stand solid and irrefutable. The light he brought is the only light that never goes out, for it is the eternal light of God's glory. Christ's life is the clearest example of how God intends for us to live. His way is the way that makes the most sense for our lives on this earth. The saints throughout history have shown that again and again.

The hope Christ offers is the only true and lasting hope. Ultimately, it is our assurance that life can be good and joy-filled for all. Consider the words St. Paul wrote to the church at Rome and apply them to your own life: "Just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his" (Romans 6:4-5, NRSV).

If that is not a tremendous cause for abiding joy, then what is?