

Hartsville United Methodist Church
224 River Street, Hartsville, TN 37074
615-374-2400 ♦ www.hartsvilleumc.org

Methodist Messenger

March 2026 Issue 3



We are in the midst of the season of Lent. Here is some information about Lent from the United Methodist Book of Worship. Lent is a season of forty days, not counting Sundays, which begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Saturday. Lent comes from the Anglo-Saxon word lencten, which means "spring." The season is a preparation for celebrating Easter. Historically, Lent began as a period of fasting and preparation for baptism by converts and then became a time for penance by all Christians. The First Sunday describes Jesus' temptation by Satan, and the Sixth Sunday (Passion/Palm Sunday), Christ's triumphal entry into Jerusalem and his subsequent passion and death. Because Sundays are always little Easters, the penitential spirit of Lent should be tempered with joyful expectation of the Resurrection. Some people give up things during Lent or take on new disciplines, which is giving more time to God. If you have questions about Lenten fasting, please speak to Pastor David.
During Lent, Pastor David is preaching a sermon series titled "Why Did Jesus Have to Die?" based on a book by Reverend Adam Hamilton of the same name. This series will help us to consider the cross's mystery and why Jesus died for us.

On March 29th, we will celebrate Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem and prepare for Holy Week, looking at Jesus' Passion. As we begin the worship on that day, during the Prelude, our children will process in with palm branches. Please make an effort to have your children present.



OPPORTUNITIES FOR PERSONS OF ALL AGES

Calling all Handbell ringers: the Handbells began practice for Palm Sunday last month. They practice on Thursday at 6 PM. They are looking for more ringers. PLEASE COME AND JOIN US. If you are thinking about it, please speak to Seth.

Summer Jobs for Young Adults!

Cedar Crest Camp is hiring exceptional young adults to work in Summer 2026! If you are looking for a faith-focused, fun, and relationship-centered job, consider applying to join our team! Summer staff work directly with children and youth of all ages to provide a safe space for spiritual exploration and growth. By facilitating camp activities (such as canoeing, zip-lining, and games) and leading devotions and sharing their faith journeys with campers, summer staff can positively impact the children and youth who attend weekly summer sessions at Cedar Crest. Positions are open to those who have completed their junior year of high school and to college graduates. Contact Audrey Jordan at audrey.jordan@twkumc.org for more information. Applications can be found at cedarcrestcamp.org.

Annual Tree Day | Reserve Your Trees by March 1

The Creation Care Ministry invites you to participate in the 12th Annual Tennessee Tree Day on March 21, organized by the Tennessee Environmental Council. This statewide initiative offers low-cost native tree seedlings to residents across all 95 Tennessee counties, with reservations open through March 1, 2026. Planting trees is a simple yet powerful way to care for God's creation, strengthen communities, and invest in a healthier future. Learn more and reserve your trees https://www.tectn.org/tennesseetreeday.html

March 2026

May we all observe a Holy Lent.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 2nd Lent CM Kathy Atwood Acolyte and Reader Hadley Boswell	2	3 Bible Study 6 PM Goose Creek Coffee	4 Choir 6 PM	5 Handbells 6 PM	6	7 Please remember to set your clocks ahead before bed.
8 3rd Lent CM Pastor David Acolytes Nate & Turner Dillehay Daylight Savings time begins	9	10 Bible Study 6 PM Goose Creek Coffee	11 Choir 6 PM	12 Handbells 6 PM	13	14
15 4th Lent CM Martha Dawson Acolyte & Reader Maddie Curtis Council Meeting	16 United Methodist Women 6 PM	17 Bible Study 6 PM Goose Creek Coffee	18 No Choir	19 No Handbells	20	21
22 5th Lent CM Beth Crabtree Acolytes Alannah & Rhett Butler Reader Alannah Butler	23	24 Bible Study 6 PM Goose Creek Coffee	25 Choir 6PM	26 Handbells 6 PM	27	28 Choir 12:30 PM Handbells 1 PM
29 Palm Sunday CM Melissa Robertson Acolytes Morgan & Mallie Robertson	30	31 Bible Study 6 PM Goose Creek Coffee				

Daylight Savings time begins on March 8th.

Notice the acolytes and the readers on the calendar. If any of these dates don't work, please let Pastor David know. The plan going forward is to have the same schedule each month, so he needs to know if that Sunday doesn't work so other arrangements can be made. We appreciate all who serve.

Help Center- Rice

Ministry of the Month- Crossroads Mission

Please provide the requested food to support the Help Center.

Your Service

Ushers-Jared Robertson Family

Prayer Team-1st Tina Heitt, 8th Kathy Dies, 15th Kathy Robertson, 22nd John Oliver, 29th Melissa Robertson.

Children's Message-1st Kathy Atwood, 8th Pastor David, 15th Martha Dawson, 22nd Beth Crabtree, 29th Melissa Robertson.

The Hartsville UMW has BBQ for sale for $10 a pound and Pecans for $15 a bag.

The Chapel Hill Chronicle



Chapel Hill United Methodist Church

92 Beasley Bend Road in Riddleton,TN
Sunday Worship at 9 AM
Sunday School at 10:15 AM

"Always remember to forget the troubles that passed away. But never forget to remember the blessings that come each day." ~St. Patrick's Day, Tuesday, March 17, 2026

"Happiness? The color of it must be Spring Green." Spring begins on Friday, March 20, 2026. Time changes: 3/8/26, Spring forward.

BIRTHDAYS:

Cathy & Leroy Smith	March 1st
Cassie Lee	March 2nd
Hunter Woodard	March 8th
Pastor David Lay	March 21st
Karry Johnson	March 30th
Diana Draper	March 30th

IN BEAUTIFUL, LOVING MEMORY:

Wilma Draper March 10th

"All art requires courage." ~Anne Tucker

Thanks so much for volunteering, donating, spending, and participating in our Annual Pancake Breakfast at Chapel Hill UMC. We appreciate and love you very much and always.

Thanks be to You, Lord. Thanks be for your good works, for the ability to be present in your special month of March, which brings forth wind and rain, green and yellow, slows a restless spirit to stay still and be in awe of Your beauty. Thank you for the wonder and the beauty of everything that March brings forth. We are thankful for your imagination, which March seemed to be designed for. Thank you for the birth of Spring and the delight it brings. Thank you for the newness of it all. Oh, God, in your wonderful name we pray. **~Amen**

"Imagination is more important than knowledge." ~Albert Einstein

BOXTY RECIPE

INGREDIENTS: 2 large potatoes (Russet or Idaho), 2 tsp kosher salt, divided, 1 cup all-purpose flour, 1 tsp baking soda, ½ tsp. freshly ground black pepper, ¾ cup buttermilk, 6 tsp unsalted butter (divided), 6 tsp. vegetable oil (divided), sliced scallions, and sour cream (for serving).

Directions: Step 1) Peel one potato and cut it into 1" cubes. Transfer to a small pot and cover with cold water; season with 1 teaspoon salt. Bring to a boil over high heat, then reduce the heat to medium and simmer until potatoes are tender (10-12 minutes). Step 2) Meanwhile, peel the remaining potato and grate it on the large holes of a box grater. Wrap in a kitchen towel and, over the sink or a large bowl, wring out as much moisture as possible. Discard liquid. Step 3) In a large bowl, combine flour, baking soda, black pepper, and remaining 1 teaspoon salt. Add mashed and grated potatoes and stir until combined, then stir in buttermilk, ¼ cup at a time, until a thick batter forms. 4) In a large skillet over medium-high heat, heat two tsps. of butter and two tsps. of oil until butter melts and begins to form foam. Using ¼ cup for each round (drop four rounds of batter) into the pan and cook until crisp on the bottom (3-4 minutes), then flip and continue to cook until cooked through 2-3 minutes. Transfer to a wire rack. Repeat with the remaining batter, butter, and oil. Top with scallions. Serve with sour cream alongside.

"When the power of love overcomes the love of power, the world will know peace." ~Jimi Hendrix

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Holy Week is March 29th through April 6th, starting with Palm Sunday and ending with Easter Sunday. On Maundy Thursday, April 2nd, we will have a time of communion and prayer. You are welcome to come anytime during that period to receive communion and to spend time in prayer. Pastor David will be available to pray with and for you if you wish.

On Good Friday, April 3rd, we will have a worship service remembering our Lord Jesus' Passion. We will recount the last day of Jesus' earthly life in scripture. This service will be a Tenebrae or service of Darkness, which is based on a 12th-century late-night/early morning service and is extended meditation on the passion of Christ. This is a participatory service in which different people will read a part of the scripture. If you are willing to read, please let Pastor David know. This very meaningful service concludes in darkness.