

The Journey....

**DRAWING OTHERS TO GOD THROUGH FAITH,
HOPE, LOVE AND SERVICE**

March 2024



**Bushnell Methodist Church
Bushnell, Florida
Joyce Dunne, Pastor**



GLOBAL
METHODIST CHURCH

As Methodist we observe 40 days during Lent as a season of preparation, leading up to Resurrection Sunday. In ancient times, Lent was a time when new converts to the faith would prepare themselves for their baptism, which took place on Easter Sunday. For us it's a time to reflect, repent, and draw nearer to God through self-examination. To seek renewal, as we turn our hearts towards Christ, acknowledging that the cost of our redemption was paid in full through Jesus' suffering and death.

Lent symbolically represents the forty days Jesus spent fasting in the desert, while rebuking Satan's temptation with scripture. Lent invites us to embark on a spiritual journey of self-discipline, sacrifice, and prayer in order to renew our minds and prepare ourselves for unhindered devotion to our Lord. It's an opportunity to seek forgiveness, and make amends for our sin with God and others.

Some find the spiritual discipline of fasting during Lent meaningful, by giving up something enjoyed as an act of self-denial from worldly distractions. In giving up some comfort or pleasure, we create a space for a deeper connection to our spiritual side. Fasting can also foster discipline, humility, and a heightened awareness of the needs of others. John Wesley fasted at least once a week and encouraged his leadership to do the same and to give the money saved from fasting to the poor.

Lent encourages us to engage in acts of charity by volunteering our time, donating resources, and helping those in need. We engage in these acts of kindness as a reflection of Christ's example of love, service and compassion.

Lent is not only about sacrifice; it's also a time to cultivate a sense of spiritual discipline that extends beyond the forty days. The lessons learned, the new habits formed can lead us to a deeper understanding of ourselves and our relationship with God.

It's a time to remember the fragility and brevity of life and the importance of using our time and resources for Jesus with passion and purpose. It's a time to pause, reflect, and rekindle our faith and passion for the work of God in our midst.

Lent reminds us that the tomb is temporary, that Christ has overcome the grave and because he lives, we too will live beyond any earthly tomb. This world is not our permanent home, and we are called to make a difference in the world with the life we have been given in the name of Jesus. The grave couldn't hold Jesus and the grave will not be our permanent resting place either. While we wait for Christ's return, we have divine and purposeful work to do, to Love Extravagantly, Worship Passionately and Witness Boldly pointing others towards Christ.

The Bible declares, ashes to ashes and dust to dust, our bodies were created from dust and to dust we shall return. But our souls were created for eternity, to be in relationship with God Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. Our true and proper destiny is to be renewed, restored and spiritually healed through faith.

King David penned a beautiful prayer with just 14 words, "Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me." Let this be the prayer of our heart this season, as we seek repentance and renewal while drawing closer to God, knowing that his unwavering love, his endless compassion, and his abundant grace abounds to those who love him.

Pastor Joyce



FREE BREAKFAST

Come join us the first Saturday of each month for a free breakfast and fellowship. The new hours are 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

Hope to see you there on March 2nd!!



Winter Family Appreciation Dinner

March 17th, Sunday

Please join us in the Fellowship Hall after the morning service.



March 15th, Friday, 1:00 p.m. - Easter Cantata Practice at Floral City Methodist Church

March 22nd, Friday, 1:00 p.m. - Easter Cantata Practice at Bushnell Methodist Church

Choir practice every Sunday at 9:30 a.m.

The last choir practice for the season will be Sunday, March 31st.

Meeting

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Wednesday, March 27th

Trustees - 5:00 p.m.

Finance - 5:30 p.m.

Leadership - 6:00 p.m.



**MAUNDY
THURSDAY**

March 28th, Thursday, 5:00 p.m.

**Service will be held at Bushnell Methodist Church
with Communion.**



March 29th, Friday, 12:00 p.m.

**Service will be held at Floral City Methodist
Church.**

NEW LENTEN BIBLE STUDY

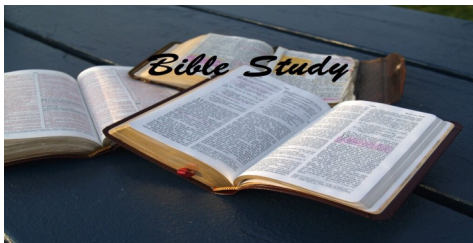
**Wednesday, February 21st through March 20th,
5:00 p.m. dinner, 5:30 p.m.-6:30p.m.
(no Bible study March 6th)**

**“He Chose The Nails”
by author Max Lucado**

Every gift from God reveals His love, but no gift reveals His love more than the gifts of the cross.

Study books can be picked up in the office.

(the Bible study, “Isaiah” will resume April 3rd)



Bible Study “Isaiah”

**Author, Sandra L. Richter
February 7th, Wednesday
5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.**

(The “Isaiah” Bible study will be continued April 3rd after the new Lenten Bible study)



Last day to order Easter lilies to be placed in the sanctuary for Easter service will be MARCH 24th.



Happy Birthday to:

03/01 Sandra Bryan
Theresa Vokey

03/04 Patty Jordan
03/07 Josephine Simons
03/16 Gordon Pulver
03/31 Robert Matthew



Happy Anniversary to:

None

Angie Bartel
116 Shawnee Trail
Ringgold, GA 30736

Marie Massey
3610 NE 16th Place
Ocala, FL 34470
352- 223-3766 (Cell)
352-620-9991 (Home)

Bert Park
110 Creekside Dr. Apt 204
Painted Post, NY 14870
607-689-6019



Please call or send a card



www.facebook.com/bushnellmethodist

11:15 a.m. Sunday, March 3

Scripture: Exodus 3:1-20 (NIV)

Sermon: "I Am Who I Am"

Holy Communion: Please participate by having bread and drink in your home as we worship by live stream on Facebook.

11:15 a.m. Sunday, March 10

Scripture: Exodus 4:1-17 (NIV)

Sermon: "Please Lord, Send Someone Else"

11:15 a.m. Sunday, March 17

Scripture: Exodus 12:3-14 (NIV)

Sermon: "Passover"

11:15 a.m. Sunday, March 24 Palm Sunday

Scripture:

Sermon: Easter Cantata (Floral City and Bushnell)

11:15 a.m. Sunday, March 28 Maundy Thursday

Scripture: John 13:1-17, 31b-35

Sermon: "Wash All of Me"

**Praying with you and for you,
Pastor Joyce**



Find us on:
facebook®

NEWS!!

Facebook.com/bushnellmethodist

Website: www.bushnellmethodistchurch.org



NEW NAME TAGS AVAILABLE

Order your new name tag! Above is a sample of our new name tag, as well as, in the narthex. The cost is \$ 6.00 each.

The number of tags, name and amount should be written on the envelope provided.

Place money in the envelope and drop in the box provided.
Thank You!



EVENTS COMING YOUR WAY APRIL 2024

04/03 - Isaiah Bible study

04/06 - Free Breakfast



NEW CALENDAR

There will be a new calendar on the side table in the church office.

This calendar is for anyone to use to set up parties, luncheons, decorating time, events, meetings, etc.

We hope this will help with eliminating any cross-over time with other events. Also, this should help with information that should go into the bulletin or newsletter, unless otherwise, requested. The calendar will be checked weekly.

We hope you find this helpful and useful! Let us know, please.



SUNDAY, MARCH 10th

MARCH 2024

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|-----|-----|--|--|--|--|
| | | | | | 1 | 2 Free Breakfast 8-10 a.m. |
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 No Bible study Food Pantry 11 am -1 pm | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 10 Daylight Savings Time | 11 | 12 | 13 Food pantry 11 am - 1 pm Lenten B/S, dinner 5pm, B/S | 14 | 15 Cantata practice 1 pm Floral City | 16 10:00 a.m. setup for luncheon |
| 17 Winter family spaghetti dinner | 18 | 19 | 20 Food Pantry 11am-1pm Lenten B/S 5:30- 6:30 dinner 5:00p | 21 | 22 Cantata practice 1 pm Bushnell | 23 |
| 24 Palm Sunday Easter Cantata | 25 | 26 | 27 Committee meetings 5:00p | 28 Maundy Thurs- day 5:00p w/ Communion | 29 Good Friday, 12:00p-Floral City | 30 |
| 31 Easter | | | | | | |

Bushnell Methodist Church

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bushnellumc@yahoo.com

You're INVITED!

Sun. Worship at 11:15 AM

See you then!