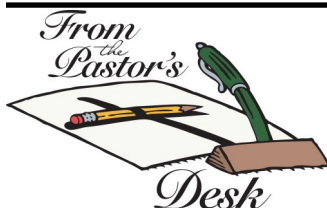


# The Fountain

MARCH 2021

## Words from Pastor Tony...



What would it be like to receive a terminal diagnosis—to realize the end of this earthly life is near? Sadly, many of you have loved ones who have experienced this most difficult time of life. You have

journeyed with someone who has passed from this life. Perhaps even a few of you have stared death in the face yourself only to be miraculously healed.

I cannot presume to know anyone's thoughts on this topic even though as a pastor I have heard many share their thinking in such devastatingly difficult times. Try as we might, unless we've been there, we cannot fully know the weight of such thoughts. As family who have lost loved ones we can journey down the road with our own thoughts and what it will mean for us and we can also try to empathize as best we can for our loved one.

I have observed through the years that when the end is near for someone of faith there is a peacefulness, a readiness and a strength demonstrated. Such is the blessing of our hope in Christ for eternal life.

I am not trying to be morbid; rather, there is a reason I bring up this topic.

The Christian season of Lent leads us to the cross. I have often wondered what went through Jesus' mind when he realized his

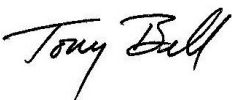
terminal diagnosis and when his time on earth was nearing completion. Theologically, we understand why Jesus came and we grasp the significance of the cross and resurrection. But short of a terminal diagnosis ourselves how can we fully know the thoughts and the weight of it all? Maybe there is a blessing in the unknown.

The Good News for Christians, however, is that we don't have to focus on death. In fact, because of Christ, we can focus on life and look forward to eternity and the hope of resurrection. That is what I have noticed about people of faith as they near the end of their life on earth—their minds are at peace and they have the hope of a life in eternity with God.

The liturgy of Ash Wednesday reminds us we have come from the dust of the earth and we will return to the dust of the earth. While most people try not to think about death we all know it's a reality we can't escape. A terminal diagnosis forces people to think long and hard about what that means for their life. Most will try to go about living as best they can for the time they have left. Priorities become clearer. Time is precious. Important messages and expressions of love are shared.

As Jesus' time on earth drew to a close he was making sure to impart words of wisdom, spend quality time and express love to his disciples and point the way to a hope in God. His purpose would become evident and his saving work continues to fill followers with hope and peace. Praise be to God that Christ's resurrection means life for us!

Lenten blessings,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tony Bull". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.



## **Easter Worship Schedule:**

**Thursday, April 1:**

6:00pm Maundy Thursday Service

**Sunday, April 4:**

7:00am Easter Sunrise Service  
*(outdoor —bring a chair)*

10:00am Easter Worship Service  
*Live Stream on YouTube Live*



**March 28  
4:00pm**

This will be held outdoors—  
meet at the shelter behind  
the office/youth building.

*Bring an Easter  
basket/bucket!*

We will be following  
the 3 W's protocol:

Wash hands  
Wear masks  
Wait/distance 6 feet

Check out our website:

[www.coldspringsumc.org](http://www.coldspringsumc.org)



Online Ministries tab has links to

 **YouTube**    Worship live @ 8:45am

**facebook**

 **PayPal**    for online tithes & offerings



M.Y. Heart's ministry is collecting supplies to make blessing bags for the homeless. These items include such things as pocket Bibles, travel shampoos, conditioners, soap, and other necessities. A green bin is located under the mailboxes in the hallway behind the sanctuary and in the narthex. A list of other items are located on the flyer at these collection bins. If you have questions about this new outreach, email Julie Love at [jaxandcb@yahoo.com](mailto:jaxandcb@yahoo.com). *Our current needs for fall/winter: cold weather items such as toboggan hats, scarfs, thick socks, thermal underwear or white undershirts for men, gloves, and "hot hands".*

# A Breath of Fresh Prayer



Norwegian theologian Ole Hallesby described prayer as simply letting God into our lives. God “knocks,” he said, “not only in the solemn hours of secret prayer” but “in the midst of your daily work, your daily struggles, your daily grind ... when you need him most.”

Prayer, added Hallesby, is as essential to life as air. “As impossible as it is for us to take a breath in the morning large enough to last us until noon, so impossible is it to pray in the morning in such a way as to last us until noon,” he said. “Let your prayers ascend to [God] constantly, audibly or silently, as circumstances throughout the day permit.”

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## The Comfort Connection

*Amid suffering, we might feel alone and wonder what good can come of it. But later we may discover ourselves equipped to serve precisely because of what we experienced.*

*Writer and civil rights activist James Baldwin stated: “You think your pain and heartbreak are unprecedented ... but then you read. [Books] taught me that the things that tormented me the most were the very things that connected me with all the people who were alive or who had ever been alive.” Whether through books or direct human interaction, we often learn that our suffering connects us to other people and that our pain gains meaning by moving us to support someone else who’s hurting.*

*Paul writes of such connection: “Praise be to ... the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God” (2 Corinthians 1:3-4, NIV). May you share the comfort you have received from God with others in pain. As a bonus, along the way you’ll realize you’re not — and never have been — alone.*

## Gifts & Memorials

### Cemetery Fund

Given by: The Estate of Pauline Hood

### Emma Fink Sunday School Class

In Memory of Frances Safrit

Given by: Chris & Susan Clay

Given by: Peg Clay & Jim Sellers

### Special Fund

In Memory of Irene Kluttz

Given by: Mike & Lynne Helms



*Our sincere sympathy is extended to the follow families upon the death of their loved ones:*

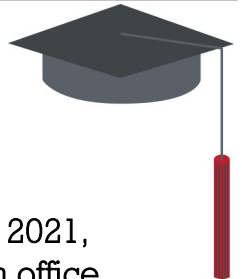
◇ Terry Bowers family upon the death of his wife, Dean Bowers, on January 23, 2021;

◇ Geri Clay & Susan Caton families upon the death of their mother, Frances Safrit on February 8, 2021;

◇ Irene Kluttz family upon her death on February 8, 2021.

*May the Spirit of the Living God continue to guide and direct these families of our church.*

## ATTENTION HIGH SCHOOL & COLLEGE SENIORS



If you will be graduating high school or college in May/June 2021, please contact Angela in the church office [adminassist@coldspringsumc.org](mailto:adminassist@coldspringsumc.org) or 704-782-1811 or Kelli Moser at [kmoser70@gmail.com](mailto:kmoser70@gmail.com) or 704-796-8700.

# FOR THE BIRDS

Display this recycled craft to care for feathered friends.

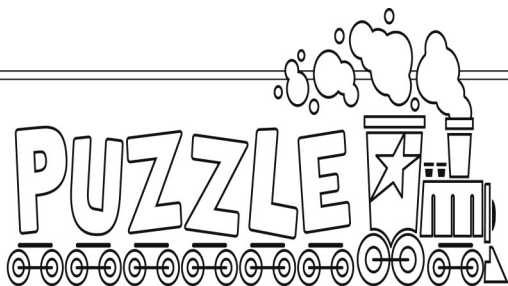


### What you need:

- Peanut butter or vegetable shortening
- Plastic knife
- Empty toilet paper tube
- Bird seed
- A plate
- String

### What you do:

1. Spread peanut butter or vegetable shortening on the tube, covering the entire outside surface.
2. Pour bird seed on a plate and roll the tube in the seeds.
3. Thread string through the tube and tie it to make a loop.
4. Hang the bird feeder outside. When seeds are eaten, coat the roll again.



# BIRDS IN THE WORD

The Bible mentions many kinds of birds. How many have you seen?

*Directions: Unscramble the bird names, using the Bible references and pictures as clues. Then insert the final unscrambled bird name to complete the passage below.*



VDEO

\_\_\_\_\_ (Genesis 8:8)



LWO

\_\_\_\_\_ (Psalm 102:6)



GEELA

\_\_\_\_\_ (Isaiah 40:31)



TOKRS

\_\_\_\_\_ (Jeremiah 8:7)



APROSWRS

\_\_\_\_\_

“Are not five \_\_\_\_\_ sold for two pennies? Yet not one of them is forgotten by God. ... Don't be afraid; you are worth more than many \_\_\_\_\_.”

LUKE 12:6-7, NIV

## Birthdays

- 3**—Grant Caldwell  
**7**—Dexter Allmon  
**9**—Larry Clay  
**11**—JoAnn Swaringen  
**13**—Phoebe Talley  
**14**—W.B. Allmon, Kathy Kolodge  
**16**—Keith Pavey  
**21**—Megan Moser  
**24**—Carol Talley, Theo Gainey  
**25**—Erin Gram  
**28**—Kay Jones  
**31**—Eli Starr

## Anniversaries

- 5**—Homer & Carolyn Allman  
**12**—Keith & Barbara Pavey  
**13**—Tony & Diane Miller  
**15**—Mark & Lynne Georgevich  
       Scott & Melissa Brantley  
**24**—Andre & Loretta Gifford

# MARCH



## BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES



## Bible Quiz



As the Israelites wandered in the wilderness, they longingly remembered some of the foods they'd had in Egypt. Which foods were not mentioned?

- A. carrots and potatoes
- B. onions and garlic
- C. fish and leeks
- D. melons and cucumbers



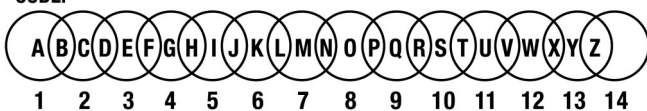
Answer: A (See Numbers 11:4-6.)



# Puzzle!

Use the code to complete the blanks — and find out how God wants us to treat people.

CODE:



1,2 3 6 5 7,8 2,3 1 7,8 2,3

2 8 7 8,9 1 10 10 5 8 7,8 1 10,11 3

10,11 8 8 7,8 3 1 7,8 8 10,11 4,5 3 9,10'

3,4 8 9,10 4 5 11,12 5 7,8 4 3 1 2 4,5

8 10,11 4,5 3 9,10' 5,6 11 10 10,11 1 10

5 7,8 2 4,5 9,10 5 10 10,11 4 8 2,3

3,4 8 9,10 4 1 11,12 3 13 8 11'

EPHESIANS 4:32, NIV

Answer: Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you. Ephesians 4:32, NIV

# College Student Addresses

Sammie Fellows  
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[jop5809@uncw.edu](mailto:jop5809@uncw.edu)

Megan Moser  
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Room 910B  
Chapel Hill, NC 27514  
[mmoser2002@gmail.com](mailto:mmoser2002@gmail.com)



## **Mt. Pleasant Food Ministry's Current needs:**

Canned Stews, Corn Beef Hash, Ravioli, Chili,  
Spaghetti, Spaghetti Sauce, Sugar, Dried Milk

**Non-food items:** Laundry Detergent, Shampoo, Face  
Soap, Toilet Tissue, Deodorant, Toothpaste, Diapers

The basket for donations to this food pantry is located in  
the hall behind the sanctuary beside the church mailboxes.

*Our body has not only been created by God and will one day be resurrected by him, but it has been bought by Christ's blood and is indwelt by his Spirit. Thus it belongs to God three times over, by creation, redemption and indwelling. How then, since it does not belong to us, can we misuse it?*

*Instead, we are to honor God with it, by obedience and self-control. Bought by Christ, we have no business to become the slaves of anybody or anything else. Once we were slaves of sin; now we are the slaves of Christ, and his service is the true freedom.*

—John Stott, The Cross of Christ



Ola Sells  
 P O Box 427  
 Mt. Pleasant, NC 28124

Vincent Hess  
 P O Box 1712  
 Concord, NC 28026

Bennie Hunsucker  
 Transitional Rehab Health Services  
 1810 Concord Lake Road  
 Kannapolis, NC 28083  
 704-305-9752

Betty Talley  
 Concord Place  
 1501 Zion Church Road  
 Concord, NC 28025

Joe Ann Griffin  
 1250 Weatherby Drive  
 Salisbury, NC 28146

# A Bountiful Life

*“Life is given to you like a flat piece of land,” said actress Jeanne Moreau. “I hope that when I’m finished, my piece of land will be a beautiful garden.”*

*God, who put the first human in a garden to care for creation, blesses us with talents and resources to wisely manage. In gardening terms, God gives us the plot of ground, the seed, the wisdom and strength to bring forth beauty and abundance. Yet we do the work, with God’s help, to make it a reality. Like Adam, we till, but God gives the increase. God’s provisions and our labor bring the garden — and our lives of stewardship — to fulfillment.*

*As stewards, we ponder: When God calls us home, what will our garden be like, and what will it have produced?*



## COMMUNITY BREAKFAST:

**Cancelled**

*When sending prayer requests via email, please send them to [prayer@coldspringsumc.org](mailto:prayer@coldspringsumc.org) or submit them via the prayer request form on the church website. This will allow requests to still be sent out even when the church office is closed.*



REQUESTS  
 FOR  
 PRAYER



**Spring  
 forward on  
 March 14**

Cold Springs United Methodist Church  
2550 Cold Springs Road  
Concord, NC 28025

Phone: 704-782-1811

Fax: 704-793-4629

Email: [adminassist@coldspringsumc.org](mailto:adminassist@coldspringsumc.org)

**We're on the web**  
**[www.coldspringsumc.org](http://www.coldspringsumc.org)**

March

