

LIFE @ FIRST

On the Journey

When I survey the wondrous cross, on which the Prince of glory died, my richest gain I count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride.” ~ Isaac Watts

Worship

Focus Statement:

The Bible tells us that on the day Jesus was crucified, He was in a group with two others who were crucified at the same time. When we speak of the cross, we usually refer to the cross of Jesus. But let's not forget that there were three crosses on Golgotha the day Jesus was crucified. From Rome's perspective, they were all the same, three crosses, three criminals, three executions. But from God's perspective, they were very, very different.



A cross was intended to bring death, and it did. A cross was intended to humiliate, and break, and kill the one who hung on it, and it did. That dreadful day, the three crosses on Golgotha did what they were designed to do, they killed. But look what God did! When Jesus went to the cross, He carried the sin of the world to the cross, and sin hung there (in His body). God used the cross to bring death to the power of sin and to the power that sin has over us. God used the cross to put sin to death. God used the cross to demonstrate His power over death.

God never ceases to amaze! He does things nobody could never could have imagined. The Romans used the cross to bring death. God used the same cross to bring life. God uses death, not to put an end to some miserable, haggard, old souls, but to bring them into paradise. That is such an irony, God uses death to bring souls into eternal life. That is the power of the cross of Jesus!

Background Statement: Matthew 27:1-66, Mark 15:1-47, Luke 22:66-23:56, John 18-28-19:37, I Corinthians 1:18

Sermon Title:

The Three Crosses

Text:

Luke 23:32-43

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MARCH 23, 2021

BIRTHDAYS

Jake Schwartz	3/23
Linda Miller	3/25
Bernie Miller	3/28
Michelle Mullet	4/1
Al Yoder	4/3
Sam Graber	4/6
Dave (Patty) Yoder	4/10
Jim Wyse	4/12
Bill Johnson	4/14
Dorothy Miller	4/15
Marge Miller	4/15
Shari Graber	4/16
Lavera Hooley	4/17

First Mennonite Church
PO Box 508
Middlebury IN 46540
574-825-5135

*Our mission is to extend grace,
build peace, and share love
within & beyond our faith
community*

*Worship Service
Sunday 9:00 am*

Office Hours

*Pastor Phil
Tuesday 9:30a—1:30p
Thursday 1:00p—6:00p*

*Business Office
Monday and Tuesday
8:00a—5:00p
and Fridays by chance*

*The church office is closed on
Wednesdays*

Outreach

FMC Sewing April Meeting will be on the 8th and we will resume our POT LUCK LUNCH, plan on joining us!

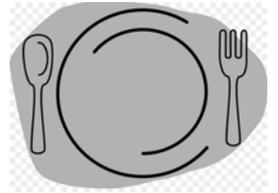
For our project of the month, we are asking you to bake cookies, place 6 in a ziplock bag and place it in the church freezer. These will be taken to our shut in's by Pastor Phil or our visiting team as things are starting to slowly open up!

Praise God!!



Community Life

If you would be willing to take a meal to Jim & Arlene Schrock, please call Jim at 574-370-5795 to arrange a time.



"Operation ♥" Project

Contemplate setting a goal for yourself to make contact with a certain number of people each day, week or month.

This week consider praying for and / or reaching out to your church family, but especially remember

A Teacher

A Special Need

There is currently a need in our church family that we wish to make known and give our church family the opportunity to respond to. Betty Lou Kline is in need of a reliable vehicle. For those of you who may not know Betty Lou very well, she is a widow, and a single mother with a special needs child. Betty Lou works 3 part-time jobs trying to make ends meet, including the Administrative Assistant job here at First Mennonite. She is the one who puts our Newsletter together every week. She is also an elder & special needs care provider with one of her clients requiring her to use her own vehicle to transport them on every visit.

Twice each year, during our Communion services, we take an offering for our Sharing Fund. CLC and Pastor Phil are suggesting that we use that offering this time to add to what Betty Lou has gotten a reliable car. If you wish to make a contribution for this project apart from the sharing fund offering, you may do so until April 15 by clearly marking your check or putting your offering in an envelope marked "Betty Lou Car Fund."

Thank you for helping with this need!

A Day in the Life at FMC... The New Sound Booth is Taking Shape!



Administration

Stewardship Report for March 21, 2021:

Money Given to Budget

\$ 5,606.47

Amount Needed Weekly for Budget

\$ 5,417.78

Year-to-date Money Given to Budget

\$ 145,147.47

Amount Needed Year-to-Date for Budget

\$ 157,055.57

The Administration Commission met in March. We heard our average attendance is 49 and we are behind budget \$15,000. We renewed our lawn care contracts for this next year, as well as seeding the ground at the Scott Street location. We tentatively approved an awning over the preschool doors that would signify the entrance and give protection from weather. An explanation of Burial Aid will soon be posted on our bulletin board, so our new members can understand it.

SUNDAY WORSHIP - 9:00 AM

(You must pre-request a printed bulletin & Please DO NOT sign the attendance sheets)

- Call to Worship
- Worship Songs
- Congregational Sharing and Prayer
- Sermon
- Song
- Sending Words
- Sending Prayer
- Dismissal

You can now join in the live stream of Sunday sermons by clicking onto You Tube, then typing in FMC INDIANA in the search box. We begin at 9:00 AM on Sunday mornings, but the livestream may not be fully available until 11 AM.