

M a r c h 2 0 1 9

The

Connection

Morton Baptist Church

Pastor Jim's Phone: 585-880-6433
Church Telephone: 585-659-8459
mortonbaptistchurch@yahoo.com

Sunday Service: 10:30 AM
Bible Study: Wednesday at 12:00
www.facebook.com/273938523674

Lent?

That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death; if by any means I might attain unto the resurrection of the dead. Philippians 3:10-11 (KJV)

We were enjoying cheeseburgers, fries, and onion rings at one of our favorite places at the lake when a man at a neighboring table spoke up saying, "I'm enjoying my Friday burgers, but pretty soon I'll have to give these up for Lent." When I told him that he had nearly a month to go because Lent didn't start until March 6th this year, he was happy to hear that. I pass no judgment on this man, but part of his Christianity was being careful to observe a proper Lent. I found it interesting that it was a Baptist minister informing this man about when Lent begins; it is also interesting that people practice or observe Lent in different ways or may not observe it at all.

Lent is defined as the forty days (excluding Sundays) between Ash Wednesday and Easter Sunday. Sundays are excluded because the church always gathers in resurrection hope. The word Lent most likely has something to do with the lengthening of days that comes with Spring. During Lent, some folks give up certain foods, activities, or behaviors. For some it feels like another New Year's when folks diet or quit smoking. Growing up as an evangelical Protestant, we generally didn't do much about Lent and perhaps even shied away from what looked to us like works rather than grace. While friends of mine talked about what they gave up for Lent, I never felt any compulsion to do so. We did, however, eat fish on Fridays (everyone did) because it was fresh and inexpensive.

A look at any Christian bookseller tells me that a lot more folks of different traditions are into or trying to observe Lent in some ways. The idea of forty days is itself a good biblical idea, for Jesus spent forty days in the desert fasting and overcoming Satan's temptations; we also remember that it rained for forty days and nights when Noah, his family and the animals, were on the Ark. The idea of forty is also a good amount of time for developing a good habit or breaking a bad one. If you are more intentional in your spiritual life during Lent, your faith will increase. As a pastor, I've enjoyed and encouraged Lenten lunches, special worship services, Bible studies and devotions that blessed and encouraged others.

Of course, the big idea of observing Lent is not about giving up something to just give it up or to somehow please God, rather to be freed up for, or to give more attention to, our faith, prayer life and Christ's presence in our lives as believers. We know that we can do this at any time or any season. We also know that in the season of Lent, as we journey to the cross, our faith can be renewed and strengthened.

Pastor Walter



March Birthdays:

12th Robert Kundrata
 15th Maxine Wahl
 16th Caleb Villalobos
 18th James Henry
 19th Charity Villalobos
 27th Belinda Henry
 28th Marilynn Kundrata
 Ethan Richardson
 31st Jessica Kundrata



March Anniversaries:

3rd Dennis & Carol Duerr
 22nd Lank & Audrey Dobbins

Kitchen Item:

Paper Towels



ATTENTION!

Recorded Messages

The church services are recorded every Sunday and are now can be accessed through the church Facebook page and can be downloaded from Soundcloud (<https://soundcloud.com/ortonaptisthurchermoms>).



Care Net Center of Greater Orleans

Care Net is seeking an Executive Director. The Executive Director would be responsible for, but not limited to, overseeing the operation of the center, the staff (including training), volunteer programs, budgeting, and strategic plan of organization. Other key duties include fundraising, marketing, media relations, and community outreach. For more information and application: <http://www.carenetorleans.net/job-openings2.html>

Niagara Chocolate Sale

Jason and Lauren Miller are selling Niagara Chocolates for the senior and sophomore classes at Kendall High School. If you're interested, see Jason or Lauren.



Monthly Greeters

We will now have volunteers sign up to be greeters/offertory ushers on a monthly basis instead of weekly. If you'd like to sign up for a month, please contact Carolyn House.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Kendall High School Musical

This year, Kendall Junior/Senior High School will be performing "The Addams Family," the musical comedy based on the characters created by Charles Addams for his cartoon series. Meet Morticia and Gomez Addams and their gothic family. The performances will be Friday, March 8th at 7:00 PM and Saturday, March 9th at 2:00 PM and 7:00 PM.



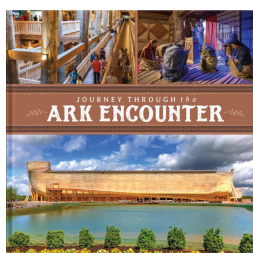


Beef-on-Weck Dinner

Our annual Beef on Weck dinner will be held on **Saturday, March 23rd**. Each dinner will be served with German potato salad, applesauce, and a chocolate chip cookie. We will be serving take-outs only from 4:00-6:00 PM. Tickets are \$10.00. There will also be a 50/50 raffle. For tickets, see Dave or Sandy Strassenburgh (585-659-2527).

Care Net Annual Banquet

The Care Net Center of Greater Orleans is holding its annual fundraising banquet, "The Dad Difference," on Thursday, April 4th from 6:30-9:00 pm (seating at 6:45) at Hickory Ridge Golf and Country Club. The keynote speaker will be singer and author Matt Hammitt. John and Tammy Cook and Tony and Mary Callari are hosting tables. See them for more information.



Ark Encounter & Creation Museum

Barbara Siebert is scheduling a bus trip from August 5-9 to Cincinnati to see the Ark Encounter & Creation Museum. The Ark is built to the specifications of Noah's Ark. The trip also includes going to the Newport Aquarium and a Riverboat cruise. The cost is \$535/person based on double occupancy. If you would like to go, please call Barb at 659-8732 to reserve a spot. She will need a \$75 deposit by March 15th with a check written to Diamond Tours. Final payment is due May 29th.

Lent – Bible Verses

Joel 2:12-14

"Even now," declares the LORD, "return to me with all your heart, with fasting and weeping and mourning." Rend your heart and not your garments. Return to the LORD your God, for He is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love, and He relents from sending calamity. Who knows? He may turn and relent and leave behind a blessing – grain offerings and drink offerings for the LORD your God.

Matthew 6:16-18

When you fast, do not look somber as the hypocrites do, for they disfigure their faces to show others they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, so that it will not be obvious to others that you are fasting, but only to your Father, who is unseen; and your Father, who see that it is done in secret, will reward you.

Philippians 3:10-11

I want to know Christ – yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead.

1 Peter 5:6

Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time.

Mark 1: 12-15

At once the Spirit sent him out into the wilderness, and he was in the wilderness forty days, being tempted by Satan. He was with the wild animals, and angels attended him. After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. "The time has come," he said. "The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!"

Isaiah 58:6-7

Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen: to loose the chains of injustice and untie the cords of the yoke, to set the oppressed free and break every yoke? Is it not to share your food with the hungry and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter – when you see the naked, to clothe them, and not to turn away from your own flesh and blood?

Luke 13:3

I tell you, no! But unless you repent, you too will all perish.

In and Around the Community

Ralph Olney began his 80th round of chemotherapy (55th round of the experimental treatment) in early February. This was the first time they cut back his dosage. That is wonderful news!

Please keep Dale Rowley's sister, Brenda, in your thoughts. She was hospitalized in early February with abdominal pain. They're unsure what the issue is.

We're thrilled to hear that Natalie Cook's grandmother, Noreen, has moved back into her own bed from the hospital bed in the living room. This is great progress.

Ethan Richardson is in the hoping to purchase his first home, and it has been a difficult process. We hope you're able to close soon!

Liz Pearson has been collecting cans and bottles for years. She donated \$65 raised from the can and bottle returns to the Youth Group for their Winter Jam concert. Thanks, Liz!

Five of our talented youth participated in Kendall High School's annual Talent Show. Tyana Burroughs sang, while Katarina Wlosinski, Lauren Miller, MacKenzie Jenks, and Abigail Jenks danced. Congrats, girls!

Natalie Cook's grandfather, Joe, cancelled his scheduled eye surgery. We pray he is able to continue with the surgery.

Ann Bartel is opening her home up to a family that is homeless. Thank you for your kind heart!

Carol Duerr returned our church's bottles for the Care Net Baby Bottle drive. We raised \$429.50! Great job to all who participated!

Vern Pearson, Liz Pearson's father, is suffering from a detached tendon in his elbow, which is extremely painful. He's hoping physical therapy will be successful or else he'll need surgery.

Pam Dutton found out that her numbers continue to decrease, which means she is very near remission! We're so happy to hear the news!

Please keep the Smith family in your prayers. Susan Lopa-Smith, mother of Donald Smith (senior at Kendall High School and friend of Jason Miller), lost her battle with cancer on Friday, February 15th. <https://obits.democratandchronicle.com/obituaries/democratandchronicle/obituary.aspx?n=susan-grace-lopa-smith&pid=191575596&fhid=13394>

Please keep the Kaplin family in your thoughts and prayers. Nicholas (Nick) Kaplin (34) was killed in a snowmobile accident on February 9th. His brother, Evan, is Pastor Walter and Lori's neighbor. <https://bartolomeo.com/tribute/details/12253/Nicholas-Kalpin/obituary.html?fbclid=IwAR12AmwoXAY1xbq9mu5dRo-KQzPHvnWEeh5rkPJbrtoLR3sYC3wonWL4B1Y>

Brad Miller and the Youth Group went on their annual trip to the Winter Jam concert in mid-February. There were 20 attendees in all including adults and teens. Brad reported on how well behaved the teens were throughout the entire trip. The teens remarked on a few of their favorite moments: a skateboarder giving a sermon while on a skateboard (connecting skateboarding with faith) and messages about dealing with anxiety and that "anyone can be saved". We're glad you had such a fun and safe trip! Thank you to all who drove and allowed more teens to attend.

Kendall High School's nurse, Bethanie Mason, is asking for prayers for her cousin, Paul Tuttle, who was in an accident involving a van and a manure spreader. The accident happened on Friday, February 15th.

<https://www.democratandchronicle.com/story/local/2019/02/16/paul-tuttle-seriously-injured-in-manure-spreader-crash-north-bergen-road-byron-genesee-county/2890405002/>

Please keep the Zittle family in your prayers as they lost their grandmother.

We continue to remember in prayer: Fred Conradt, John & Cindy Curtis, Pam Dutton, Chap & Jan Fabry, Kevin & Joyce Foley, Helen Mattern, RoseMary Mintz, Ralph & Bev Olney, Joan Purvee, Pastor Jim & Alice, and the youth group. Cards, notes, and visits are always welcome.

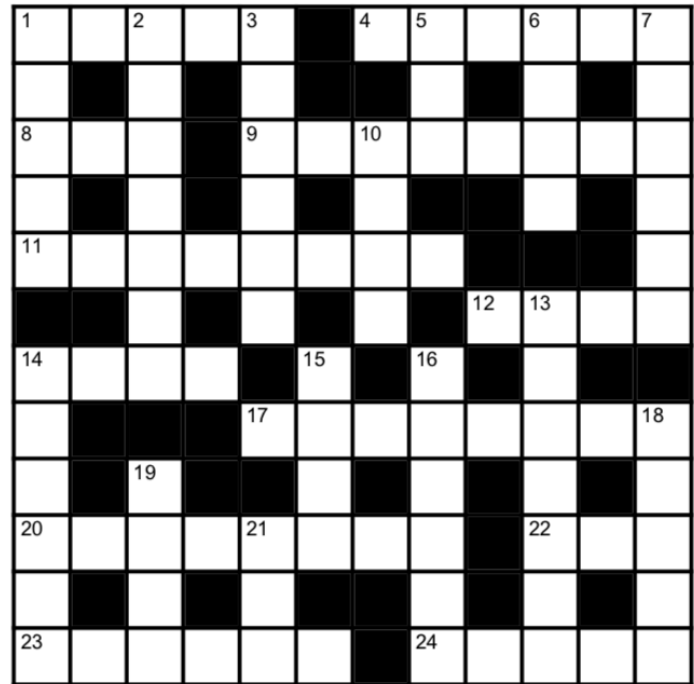
March Bible Puzzles

Across

- 1 Calm (5)
4 Purim heroine (6)
8 Where there was no room (3)
9 Pharaoh and Nebuchadnezzar for example (8)
11 Mistaken identity of Jesus after resurrection (8)
12 Material used to make Solomon's cups (4)
14 Not narrow (4)
17 Jubilated (8)
20 Teaching (8)
22 Reverence (3)
23 Rabbi (6)
24 Place of the dead (5)

Down

- 1 Scorpion attack (5)
2 Didn't heed (7)
3 Object of Jacob's dream (6)
5 Red, for example (3)
6 To be bruised by the serpent (4)
7 Observed the Sabbath (6)
10 Where Adam spared a rib? (4)
13 Fruit farm (7)
14 Solomon's strength (6)
15 Son of Leah (4)
16 Brother of 15 down (6)
18 Works (5)
19 Follower of the Gospels (4)
21 Repent (3)



by Philologus

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S U M N S A T H Y I K T S N A I S E H P E O W Y K
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C U U C I K R A M D V B H G R F M R H N C N J H A
S A K U K K A B A H U T P E C U S F T K I S P G L
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Books of the Bible

ACTS	KINGS
AMOS	LAMENTATIONS
CHRONICLES	LEVITICUS
COLOSSIANS	LUKE
CORINTHIANS	MALACHI
DANIEL	MARK
DEUTERONOMY	MATTHEW
ECCLESIASTES	MICAH
EPHESIANS	NAHUM
ESTHER	NEHEMIAH
EXODUS	NUMBERS
EZEKIEL	OBADIAH
EZRA	PETER
GALATIANS	PHILEMON
GENESIS	PHILIPPIANS
HABAKKUK	PROVERBS
HAGGAI	PSALM
HEBREWS	REVELATION
HOSEA	ROMANS
ISAIAH	RUTH
JAMES	SAMUEL
JEREMIAH	SONG OF SOLOMON
JOB	THESSALONIANS
JOEL	TIMOTHY
JOHN	TITUS
JONAH	ZECHARIAH
JOSHUA	ZEPHANIAH
JUDE	
JUDGES	

One at a Time

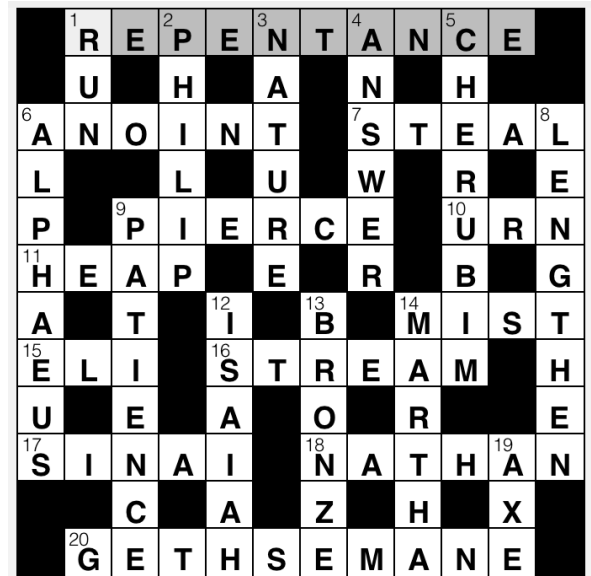
by Wade L. Webster

The story is told of a businessman who was overworked and decided to take some time off. While vacationing on the coast, a terrible storm hit. When it died down, he decided to take a walk down the coast to see what damage had been done. As he walked along the shore, he noticed thousands of starfish, which had washed along the shore. He knew that in a few hours the sun would come out and the starfish would dry out and die. As he thought about the starfish, he noticed a young boy who was throwing the starfish back one by one. The man was amazed by the youth's diligence and

shocked by his feeble attempts to make a difference. As he looked up the long beach, he saw thousands of starfish. When he caught up with the young man, he informed the boy that he could not possibly save them all and said to the little boy, "You'll never be able to make a difference to the starfish population." The boy bent down, picked up a starfish, looked at it, and then threw it back into the safety of the ocean. Then he said, "I sure made a difference to that one."

We cannot personally make a difference in the lives of everyone that fills this world, but we can make a difference to a few of them. It is interesting that when Jesus spoke of those on His right hand on the Day of Judgment, he described them as having made a difference in the life of one person. He said, "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me" (Matthew 25:40). I sincerely believe that each of us can make a difference in the life of someone. This is how Jesus worked – one at a time. Sure, He preached to thousands, but He visited families, and helped individuals.

Answers from February



Created by BiblePuzzles.com

Teamwork

by Bill Whiteman

Being a Christian is much like playing a team sport. When we work together, we are strong. But if we try to do it alone, we quickly get into trouble. We train together as we study God's Word (Acts 17:11; 2 Timothy 2:15). We live together as a team, loving each other (1 John 2:9-11), praying for each other (James 5:16), and encouraging each other (Hebrews 10:24-25). But if we try to live life alone, our chances of defeating Satan are greatly diminished. That is the purpose of the Church – so that we can live our lives as a team, supporting each other, and not have to do it alone (Romans 12:1-8).

March

2019

"You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart." - Jeremiah 29:13

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 Communion Sunday	4	5	6 Ash Wednesday Bible Study @ 12:00 Choir Rehearsal @ 6:00	7	8 Kendall JSHS musical @ 7 PM	9 Kendall JSHS musical @ 2 PM and 7 PM
10 Daylight Savings Begins	11	12	13 Bible Study @ 12:00 Choir Rehearsal @ 6:00	14	15	16
17 St. Patrick's Day	18	19	20 First Day of Spring Bible Study @ 12:00 Choir Rehearsal @ 6:00	21	22	23 Beef-on-Weck dinner from 4-6
24	25	26	27 Bible Study @ 12:00 Choir Rehearsal @ 6:00	28	29	30
31						

Morton Baptist Church
1152 County Line Road
Hamlin, NY 14464

March 2019

