



## VERANITA'S VARIETIES

### MARCH ATTENDANCE

#### March 2, 2025

- 8:30 Worship: 27
- 8:45 Worship: 72
- 11:00 Worship: 128
- Total in Person: 227

#### March 9, 2025

- 8:30 Worship: 20
- 8:45 Worship : 63
- 11:00 Worship: 139
- Total in Person: 222

#### March 16, 2025 (no power)

- 8:30 Worship: 0
- 8:45 Worship : 49
- 11:00 Worship: 78
- Total in Person: 127

#### March 23, 2025

- 8:30 Worship: 20
- 8:45 Worship: 81
- 11:00 Worship: 142
- Total in Person: 243

**Average for March 2025  
(first four weeks)  
Worship Services : 204.75**

**PLEASE INVITE SOMEONE TO HOLY  
WEEK AND EASTER WORSHIP!**

### OFFICE CLOSED

**Friday, April 18**

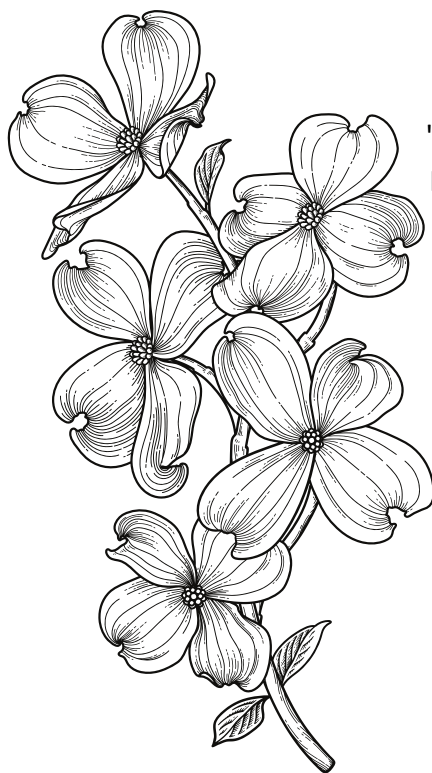
Recognizing Good Friday

**Monday, April 21**

Recognizing Easter Monday

*Veranita and Joe will be away*

**April 22 through April 25.**



### “The Legend of the Dogwood Tree”

In Jesus’ time, the dogwood grew

To a stately size and a lovely hue.

'Twas strong and firm, its branches interwoven.

For the cross of Christ its timbers were chosen.

Seeing the distress at this use of their wood

Christ made a promise which still holds good:

"Never again shall the dogwood grow

Large enough to be used so.

Slender and twisted, it shall be

With blossoms like the cross for all to see.

As blood stains the petals marked in brown,

The blossom’s center wears a thorny crown.

All who see it will remember Me

Crucified on a cross from the dogwood tree.

Cherished and protected, this tree shall be

A reminder to all of My agony.

*Author Unknown*

I do not subscribe to the “Legend of the Dogwood Tree” mainly because dogwood trees are primarily found in regions across North America and Asia. Their native habitats span from the eastern United States to the Pacific Coast and parts of East Asia. Dogwood trees are NOT native to Israel/Palestine, where Jesus was born, lived and died.

However, as I watch the dogwoods in our yard and in our neighborhood, both white and pink, blossom, I think of this legend. Especially the way that nature can sometimes reflect things we hold faith in. The four petals on their blossoms in the shape of a cross, the tinged rust on the edges representing Jesus’ real blood, shed. The crown of thorns in the center of the blossom...these things “spring” automatically to mind when I see dogwoods in bloom. When we are observant of the natural world, we often see God’s hand, God’s wonder-working power, God’s creative force. Though I don’t take stock in the dogwood legend, the story of Christ can definitely be “read” in the petals of that tree!

*Grace and Peace, Veranita*

*Please note that a “Day By Day” outline of Veranita and Brittany’s commitments & activities can be found posted outside of the Office Door.*



# WHAT'S HAPPENING IN *April*

6

8:30, 8:45  
& 11:00AM

## COMMUNION SUNDAY & MISSION MOMENT : YOUTH SERVICE LEARNING TRIP

Join us at all 3 Sunday Worship services for Communion and our Youth Service Mission Moment! Hear from our youth about how the Annual Service Learning Trip helps them grow in faith!

CROSTOWN

YOUTH

BREVARD, NC



7

6:00PM

## SENIOR GAMES & SILVER ARTS OPENING CEREMONY

We are excited to host the Senior Games Opening Ceremony! Come out and enjoy an evening of fun and talent! There will be a reception following the event.

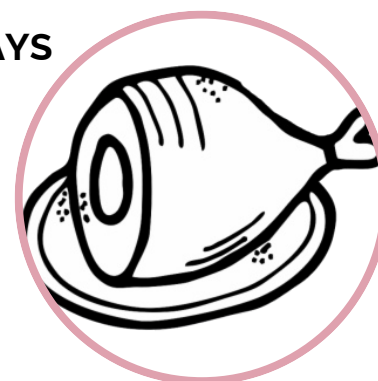


9

5:30-  
7:30PM

## CHOW - CHURCH HAPPENS ON WEDNESDAYS

Feeding our genuine, joy-filled, loving bodies & spirits! We are having an Easter meal with Ham and Sides! Sign up on REALM or on the Clipboard in the Narthex! Bring your families and invite friends!



24

6:30-  
8:30PM

## BREVARD MIDDLE SCHOOL SPRING CONCERT

Join us along with BMS for another lovely night of singing & fun! Don't forget to please donate cookies for this event! Leave your cookies in the kitchen freezer labeled "Church Cookies."





# Holy Week Events

**JESUS IS ALIVE**

## **PASSION/PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 13TH**

All Worship Services begin in the Narthex &  
Welcome Center with a Palm Parade!

## **MAUNDY THURSDAY, APRIL 17TH**

starting at 5:30PM in the Fellowship Hall  
A Simplified Early Christian Meal featuring  
Roasted Chicken, Mediterranean Charcuterie  
Music and Worship - Please RSVP

## **GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 18TH**

starting at 6:30PM in the Sanctuary Choir Loft  
A Service of Tenebrae or "Darkness"

## **RESURRECTION SUNDAY, APRIL 20TH**

### **SUNRISE SERVICE**


starting at 6:30AM, on Brevard College Campus  
near the Baseball Field

### **EASTER RESURRECTION WORSHIP**

starting at 10:30AM, at the Brevard College Porter Center  
(childcare and snack lunch provided)

### **EASTER EGG HUNT**

After Worship, join us on the Brevard College Quad  
(near the flag pole), for the annual hunt!





# Upcoming Events & Announcements

## MONTHLY MEETINGS

**TUESDAY, APRIL 8**

6:30PM - Board of Stewards Meeting

**MONDAY, APRIL 14**

9:45AM - Prayer Shawl Group

11:00AM - Creation Care

11:00AM - Singing Saints

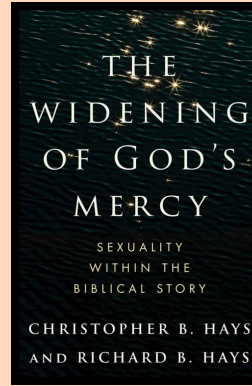
**ALL ARE WELCOME**

## COLLEGE WALK COMMUNION

This month's College Walk Communion will be held on **Thursday, April 10 at 1:00PM.**

Rev. Veranita Alvord will be serving Communion this month and looks forward to worshipping with you!

## APRIL CHURCH READ



"The Widening of God's Mercy" by Christopher B. Hays and Richard B. Hays

**Book Cost : \$10.00**

Read the book in April then Attend Lunch & Conversation: *Sunday, April 27th, @ 12PM* at Brevard College Cafeteria.

**Grab a copy in the Narthex near the sign up table!**

## AMPLIFY MEDIA - WHAT IS IT?

Amplify Media is a streaming service that delivers high quality videos with an emphasis on Wesleyan perspectives.

Our church has access to this program on any device at any time. Log in & discover the countless resources you can use for personal or group studies/devotionals!

[http://](http://www.amplifymedia.com)

**SEARCH :**      **Username :** info@brevardfumc.org  
**www.amplifymedia.com**      **Password :** aaabbbccc1

## CREATION CARE CORNER

Spring has arrived! The beauty of God's handiwork is revealing itself little by little each day.

Spring and upcoming Earth Day turn our attention to how we can be good stewards of our planet. Guided by our Conference's Creation Care Ministry, Creation Care promotes appropriate landscaping, reducing the use of natural resources, and reducing the volume of waste that is landfilled, by providing educational programs and hands-on activities. We welcome submissions for a devotional pamphlet. Short essays, poetry, prayers, and/or art about ways God has been revealed to you in nature, what you have learned,

how you have been inspired or challenged **will be accepted until April 15.**

Turn your submission into the Copy Room (in the labeled box) or email a word document to Steve Arnaudin: [searnaudin@gmail.com](mailto:searnaudin@gmail.com). Send any questions to Mary Arnaudin: [mwarnaudin@gmail.com](mailto:mwarnaudin@gmail.com).

*\*All artwork should be a line drawing or something that can be produced in black and white copies.*

**Come join the cool kids in orange vests!**

**Clean up FUMC's Adopt-a-Highway section on Greenville Highway**

**SATURDAY, MARCH 29!**

Meet at 8:00am at Hap Simpson Park on US 276 South, beyond Brevard Elementary School.

Orange vests, heavy-duty gloves and trash bags will be available!

Let us know if you'll be joining in to insure we have enough supplies.

Email Carol Dodson at [carwiledodson@gmail.com](mailto:carwiledodson@gmail.com). We'll divide and conquer the unsightly litter along the roadway and maybe enjoy a little food afterwards!

The Creation Care Team, coordinating this activity, *extends mountains of gratitude to Jim Alderman*, who initiated and coordinated the adopt-a-highway program for 15 years!





# Upcoming Events & Announcements

## THE RAIL PROJECT

“The Railroad and Incarcerated Laborer Memorial Project” a Two-Part Educational Event Financed and Supported by Skyland UMC, Central UMC and The Justice and Reconciliation Team of the Blue Ridge District. **Session Two is Sunday, March 30, 2025 3:00 - 4:30 pm** Site Visit to Ridgecrest / Old Fort. Dr. Pierce will meet the group in Old Fort to allow us to visit the site of the work that was performed here in Western North Carolina, and see the memorial, as well as history panels. We will carpool from the Old Fort UMC parking lot at 3:00 pm. We will caravan from there to the three sites as we wind our way up the mountain to Ridgecrest. Contact **Joe Tarpley** for more information: **336-613-3085**

## CROSSTOWN UPDATES

**Middle Schoolers: Lock-In is this Friday, March 28!** Meet at FUMC at 6:30pm to drop off your things then take the bus to the community square dance at Grace Brevard. We will then head back to FUMC for the evening. *Pick up is 8:00am on Saturday morning, March 29.*

**High Schoolers: Community Square Dance!** 7:00pm this Friday, March 28 and is \$5 at Grace Brevard.

**6th - 12th Graders :** if you are looking for a fun Spring Break activity, you are invited to a **free three day camp April 14th, 16th & 17th at the Jenkins Center.** This camp is open to all ages. Please check our website for more information and registration link. **Save the date for our Parents Night Out CrossTown fundraiser on Friday, May 9th.** This event is open to children from all of our CrossTown churches and we will need lots of youth volunteers to make it successful.

## CHILDREN AND YOUTH UPDATES

### SUMMER IS COMING

**Camp Tekoa!** We will provide transportation to and from Camp Tekoa for day camp the week of July 14-18, 2025! Be sure to register for Camp directly with Camp Tekoa ([camptekoa.org](http://camptekoa.org)) If you'd like a spot on the bus OR need financial assistance attending camp, please contact Sarah Grace ([sarahgrace@brevardfumc.org](mailto:sarahgrace@brevardfumc.org)).

**Intergenerational VBS - Grow in Grace 2.0.** Vacation Bible School for all ages - including children, youth, adults, and families - will be offered in the evenings on Sunday, July 20, 21, 22. A simple Supper will be offered, followed by programming and an opportunity to serve. Please let Sarah Grace know if you're interested in helping to PLAN this event.

**CREATE!** Day Camp for children in Rising Kindergarten through 5th Grade will be August 11-15 from 9am-3pm. Do you have a special creative talent? We are looking for folks to help teach our children about God's Great CREATION through hands-on fun. If you're interested in helping, please let Sarah Grace know! Registration for this Camp will open May 1st!



## CROSSTOWN MEETING SCHEDULE

**April 6**

Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd

**April 13, Palm Sunday**  
(No Meeting)

**April 20, Easter Sunday**  
(No Meeting)

**April 27**

St. Philips Episcopal

## MUSIC NOTES

### SINGING SAINTS

**Monday, April 14 at 11:00AM.** It will be Holy Week and we will sing all of our favorite hymns of Calvary and passion. And perhaps we will preview and rehearse some favorite tunes from the upcoming Easter season. After we sing, join us for lunch at an **April Mystery location!** This is a wonderful fellowship of singing, praying, and fun. All are Welcome!

### HALLELUJAH EASTER CHOIR

The Chancel Choir invites interested singers to join us for Easter this season. We will be singing from Handel's "Messiah" and will be leading a **MASSIVE, inclusive, rousing** rendition of the Hallelujah Chorus. We will work on Easter music on April 2, 9, and 16. Please plan to attend at least 2 of these 3 rehearsals if you would like to sing. **There will be a practice in the Porter Center on Saturday April 19 at 10:00AM.** Contact Tim if you hear the voice of God calling and want to offer your voice this Easter.

## APRIL CHOIR SCHEDULES

**Wednesday, April 16**  
NO Children's Choir Practice

**Wednesday, April 23**  
NO Choir Rehearsals  
AT ALL this week



# Upcoming Events & Announcements

## APRIL PREACHING SCHEDULE

April 6

### Communion & Mission Moment

Lent 5, Everything [in] Between:  
righteousness & mercy

*Rev. Veranita Alvord, Preaching*

April 13

### Palm/Passion Sunday

Lent 6, Everything [in] Between:  
shouting & silence

*Rev. Veranita Alvord, Preaching*

April 20

### Easter Resurrection Sunday

Lent 7, Everything [in] Between:  
grief and hope

*Rev. Veranita Alvord, Preaching*

April 27

### 2nd Sunday of Easter

"Inbetween Doubt and Belief"

*Rev. Veranita Alvord, Preaching*

## April BIRTHDAYS

1	Janna Laughridge	14	Lilly Cade
	Heather Scott	15	Maggie VonCanon
2	Bud Holland		Becky Alderman
	Keith Lee		Joey Laughridge
3	Zelda White	16	Elliot Smith
4	Wendy Behrhorst	17	Marcus Dodson
5	Nora Coan		Ann Commarota
7	Nora Coan		Mick Harden
	Edwin Brackeny	18	Veranita Alvord
	Dawn Brookshire	20	Beecher Allison
	Amy Fisher	21	Hank Welter
8	Phyllis Beeson	22	Vicky Pratt
	Jessica Compton		Kay Schmollinger
	Maze Guilmette		John Witherspoon
9	Everett Reeves	23	Ruth Butler
10	Evie Alley	24	Flossie Baker
11	Townsend Bland		Lucia Gates
	Jane Fuller		Anna Harris
	Caleb Hoyt		Glenn King
	Jamie Lancaster	25	Riley Burton
	Cherie McGaha		Claire Coan
12	Maple Suttles	26	Phil Ham
13	Lily Bland		Talia Sotrakopulos
	Jean Brendle	28	Beth Ann Chiles
	Timothy Shepard		Deborah DeBord
	Laura Sullivan		Sarah Pooser
	Jackie Witherspoon	30	Kristine Candler
			Jeremy Dodson
			Liz Lewis

*Don't see your birthday on this list?  
Email Brittany to correct this  
oversight: [admin@brevardfumc.org](mailto:admin@brevardfumc.org)*

## WEEKLY & MONTHLY TIES : UPDATE

Starting in APRIL, each **Monthly TIE** will be sent on the *last Wednesday* of the month. *The Monthly Tie replaces the Weekly Tie at the last of each month.* This suggestion comes from the Ad-Hoc Communications Team!

We want to include YOUR ideas in our weekly emails, too!! Reach out to Brittany at [admin@brevardfumc.org](mailto:admin@brevardfumc.org) and let her know what you'd like to be featured next month!



## BOARD OF STEWARDS MARCH 2025 MEETING UPDATES

1. Each meeting begins with prayer, followed by a testimony from one or two Board members. This is a wonderful & insightful addition to the monthly meetings that our Chair (Harold Barnette) has introduced to help us understand each other's relationships with God on a deeper level.
2. We received good ideas and goals for 2025. Some included a clearer pathway for prospective members, organizing new small groups that including more age groups and making decisions as a team that will transform the church for years to come!
3. The leaders of the Cultivate, Grow, Nurture and Serve Teams shared plans to strengthen these groups and involve more congregation members. *We look forward to being involved in and seeing these goals come to life!*
4. We dug deeper on how to best develop more open & clear communication across the congregation.
5. Review of Facilities Update, learning about what the Grounds & Facilities (Trustees) Team has already done, what projects they are currently completing and the exciting upgrades in store for 2025!