



Northway Community Church

April 9, 2023

find your destiny in Christ

Pastor

Dr. Bill Blanchard

Worship Leader

Mr. Thomas Matthews

Ministers

Every Member

TODAY'S SCHEDULE

- 9:30 a.m. Church-Wide Easter Fellowship
Breakfast
- 10:30 a.m. Morning Worship
FAMILY WORSHIP -
(Last Sunday of Month)

Welcome
to
Northway
Community Church

This is the Lord's place, and all who are seeking Him are welcome! We strive to make a relationship with God as intelligent as science, as appealing as art, as vital as a good day's work, as intimate as a healthy home, as inspiring as genuine love, and as redeeming as God's grace!

Remember in Prayer

Betty Belcher, Mulligan Park, Tallahassee

Carolyn Bergquist, Carrollton Club

Dale Braswell

Evelyn Cantrell, Presbyterian Home, Quitman

Shirley Cantrell, Pruitt Health, Crestwood

Mayra Colon

Cleo Kapilla, Pruitt Health, Lakehaven

Bonnie Segerstrom, Fellowship Home

Out-of-town Senior Adults:

Sharon Morgan

Bob & Suzy Scheuring

APRIL 9, 2023

Preschool

Terrie and Tori Dinkins

CUSTODIAL MINISTRY

April 9 - 15, 2023

James Ruzich and Dianne Deeley

April 16 - 22, 2023

Bill and Lara Blanchard

**BUILDING
FUND**
\$197,000

MESSAGE NOTES

“GOOD NEWS FROM THE CEMETERY”

Matthew 28:1-15

If Jesus Christ was who He claimed to be, and if Jesus Christ was, in fact, resurrected from the grave never to die again, then this means that biblical Christianity is true and every other religion in this world is built upon a crumbling foundation!

If Jesus Christ was not raised from the grave, then:

- He is not the Son of God
- The OT prophecies are not true
- The cross of Calvary has no purpose except to tell us that a sincere martyr died there
- The followers of Jesus who claimed to have seen the resurrected Jesus were ALL liars
- The NT is a myth
- Jesus of Nazareth was an imposter
- Prayer is a mockery
- The great doctrines of the Church are just figments of someone else's imagination
- Millions of martyrs throughout Church history have died in vain
- Evangelism is a useless exercise
- Christian missionaries have no purpose in forsaking their families and going overseas
- The 2nd visible physical coming of Jesus Christ is a false hope
- There is no heaven
- The Christian has no hope
- The Christian faith is totally destroyed

Easter is “Good News from the Cemetery” in spite of two things:

- I. Easter is good news in spite of bleak prospects
These ladies were encouraged to do 3 things:
 - . . . Believe—V. 6
 - . . . Share—V. 7a
 - . . . Rejoice—V. 8
- II. Easter is good news in spite of bad propaganda—
Vv. 11-15

Giving is an Act of Worship

Northway Community Church believes giving to your local church should be a planned and willful act of worship. Normally, we do not take up an offering as part of our worship services. Instead, we have an offering box located on the desk near the front door. Gifts to Northway (a non-profit corporation) qualify as tax deductible gifts. If you would like credit for your gift in your name and receive a contribution statement at year end, simply fill out and use our contribution envelopes as a means of depositing your gift into our offering box. Gifts to Northway are an act of worship between you and the Lord. As such, only a few from our accounting department know the giving records of our families. We do not want knowledge of contributions to impact or sway our staff's effectiveness in ministering to the body.

Michael Walker, Dame, Walker, Hardeman & Co., LLC,
Certified Public Accountants

EASTER SUNDAY MORNING

I am so grateful on this Easter Sunday morning that the body of Jesus Christ is not rotting away in some Palestinian grave! Rather, his grave stands empty, unlike the grave of every other person in the history of the world, and the Christian faith rests upon this solid foundation! And because of this reality I am so glad that I can look right into the faces of fellow believers who have just lost a Christian loved one and say to them right there by the casket that “Your wife/husband/child/friend/relative is with Jesus Christ in heaven right now!”

Devotedly your pastor,

Bill Blanchard

UPCOMING DATES

April 9th - Easter

Breakfast - 9:30 AM

(In lieu of Sunday School)

Church-Wide Breakfast Fellowship

Bring your favorite breakfast food for this event!
(Church provides coffee and orange juice.)

Friday, April 28th



Ladies Fellowship

6:00 pm

Northway Church

Please join us for an evening filled with fun and fellowship and a time of sharing Gods word and prayer.

Bring your favorite finger-food.

Coffee, tea and water will be provided.

April 30th

Quarterly Church Conference

Contact Information

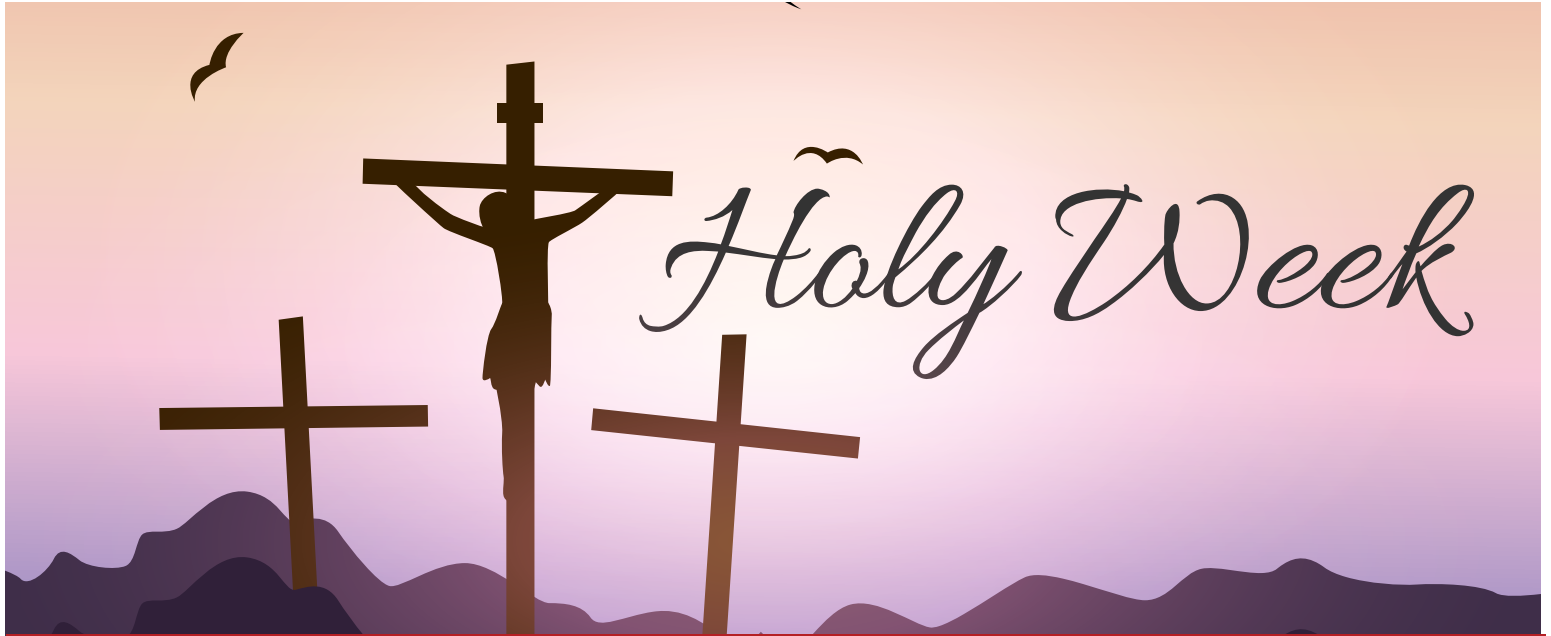
Church Location:

3740 Inner Perimeter Rd. • Valdosta, Georgia 31602

Church Website:

www.NorthwayCC.com

Phone: 229.293.0999



WHAT IS 'HOLY WEEK'?

In our culture, as you probably well know, the significance of important, highly valued, religious days and times has long been forgotten. For the most part, we live our lives on the surface of frenetic activity. We surf and skim over a body of information, but rarely dive into the depths of knowledge and wisdom, and we are lesser people as a result. But for those who care to know more about the truth of a period of time into which we are about to enter, a highly valued time deserving of our great respect, I would urge you to read on!

Palm Sunday is the traditional beginning of what has been known throughout Christian history as “Holy Week,” a week designed to focus our attention on the passion (or suffering) of Christ (‘Christ’ is a title meaning Messiah). The story of Christ is the story of God Himself coming to earth in the form of a human being, a man named Jesus of Nazareth, who lived a perfect, sinless life, and then willingly went to the cross in order to die for the sins of the world. The tradition of “Holy Week” began when Christians in the third and fourth centuries made pilgrimages to Jerusalem in order to re-enact the last scenes of the life of Christ.

There are five days in this week that are set apart. It begins with Palm Sunday, and then includes Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday, and then Easter Sunday.

Let’s talk about “Good Friday,” the day we mark the anniversary of when Jesus was crucified. At first the word “good” may seem like a misnomer, because sin and suffering are not good. But what Jesus did for us—what His death accomplished on our behalf—was good. Good because He took on our sins, and then hung on

the cross in our place, paying the price for our sins so that we could be forgiven.

“Holy Saturday,” the day before Easter Sunday, marks the time when the body of Jesus lay in the tomb. Little is associated with this day, because few know what to do with Jesus descending into the depths of hell, but it seems that that descent was a victory lap, a prelude of what was soon to follow!

And then, of course, comes Easter when we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ, a day that so altered human history that we are still talking about and celebrating it 2000 years later! And, by the way, Jesus Christ is the only person in all of human history who has ever been resurrected from the grave, never to die again. Every other person who has gone on before us, even those who have founded the major religions of the world, are dead. In fact, we know exactly where they are buried, and can visit their graves today. But the tomb where the body of Jesus was placed has been opened and is empty. And this is why the angelic message said (Matthew 28:6): “He is not here! He is risen just as He said!”

Each of these five days is rich with meaning, significance, and spiritual admonishment, but it all begins with Palm Sunday, the day of the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem (Mark 11:1-10). As you may know, however, a tragic turn of events transpired as their “Hosannas” quickly turned into “Crucify Him!” But then the resurrection of Easter quickly ensued, and today we are left with a choice: Are you going to follow a resurrected Lord or a dead, false substitute?

Devotedly your pastor,
Bill Blanchard