April 20, 2025

find your destiny in Christ

Pastor

Dr. Bill Blanchard

Worship Leader

Mr. Thomas Matthews

Ministers

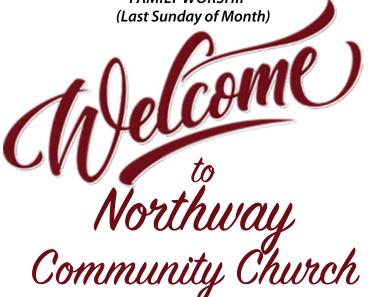
Every Member

TODAY'S SCHEDULE

9:15 a.m. Bible Study/Sunday School

10:30 a.m. **Morning Worship** 10:30 a.m. Children's Church

FAMILY WORSHIP-



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, Tallahassee, FL Carolyn Bergquist, Carrollton Club Dale Braswell Evelyn Cantrell, Presbyterian Home, Quitman Sammy Long Chris Johnson (Marc McLain's Sister)

> **Out-of-town Senior Adults:** Sharon Morgan **Bob Scheuring**

PRESCHOOL MINISTRY

TODAY

Anna Kate and Laura Walker

April 27

Debra Adams and Lara Blanchard

CUSTODIAL MINISTRY

April 13 - 19

Dianna Deeley and James Ruzich

April 20 - 26

Bill and Lara Blanchard

BUILDING FUND \$215,540



9:30 a.m. Church-Wide Breakfast Fellowship

(in lieu of Sunday School)
Bring your favorite breakfast food!
(Church will provide coffee, juices, & tableware.)

10:30 a.m.



Sophia Columna Eileen Darnell Gracelynn Eisenhower Lucy Eisenhower Scooter Hines Lily Matthews Mr. & Mrs. Grey (Lisa) Nail Coy Taylor

UPCOMING DATES

April 27

12:00/Noon Training & Orientation Newest Custodial Team Members

May 4

Quarterly Church Conference

5:00 PM - NCC Custodial Appreciation Banquet

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**. This year, Easter Sunday occurs on April 20th.

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