COMMUNITY NEWS

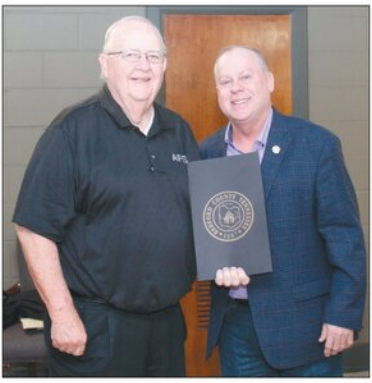
SHELBYVILLE
TIMES-GAZETTE

$1.00 | Thursday, March 21, 2024 | www.t-g.com



Photo by Yvonne Moore Moon

AHH, THE BC SUNSETS
This magnificent view was taking last weekend from Highway 64, south from Wartrace, heading toward Shelbyville. Little wonder why folks are moving here. The sunsets alone are worth the investment.



Al Simmons, left, president of Bedford County Historical Society, accepts a copy of the 50th anniversary proclamation from Bedford County Mayor Chad Graham.

Handle With Care assists local children
SPD/schools team up with safeguards

SPD and T-G Staff Reports

Shelbyville Police Chief Jan Phillips said recently, "At the Shelbyville Police Department, our commitment to serving and protecting extends beyond enforcing the law; it's about safeguarding the well-being of every community member, especially our children."

He added that SPD is excited to announce its partnership with the Bedford County School System and the Tennessee Handle With Care program. This initiative aims to provide crucial support to children whom traumatic events may have impacted.

"Handle With Care" is a simple yet powerful system, according to SPD. When officers identify a child at the scene of a traumatic event, they discreetly obtain their school information and send a confidential email notification to the respective school. The message is clear and concise: "Handle [Child's Name] With Care." No other details are included.

This discreet notification gives school staff a gentle heads-up that the child may need additional support and understanding. It's a way for us to ensure that local children receive the care they need at school during difficult times.

Phillips has stated that officers undergo specialized training to recognize signs of trauma in children and to execute the Handle With Care protocol effectively. By being trauma-informed, SPD believes it's better equipped to serve the needs of our community's most vulnerable members.



SPD Photo

Shelbyville Police Department notes it is proud to be involved in the Handle With Care program-a confidential program handled by police officers when children suffer trauma. SPD is working in conjunction with Bedford County School System. Left to right, SPD Officer Jon Evans, TBI State Co-Ordinator Evangeline Watanabe, SPD Sgt. Ronnie Blankenship, SPD Detective Brandi Merlo, SPD Officer James Sharp.

Phillips said the SPD is immensely proud to be part of a program that prioritizes the well-being of Bedford County children. "Through collaboration and compassion, we can make a meaningful difference in their lives," SPD informed the public on Facebook recently.

"Thanks to the Bedford County School System and Tennessee's Handle With Care program for partnering in this crucial effort," Phillips advised.

Dr. Tammy Garrett, superintendent of local schools, said this week, "At Bedford County Schools, we believe it is our responsibility to nurture not just academic growth but also social and emotional well-being. The implementation of the Handle With Care program, in partnership with the Shelbyville Police Department, is helping to ensure that BCS is aware whenever a student has faced a traumatic event and allows us to provide the support and understanding needed to succeed both in the classroom and in his or her personal life.»

THE GOAL

To provide schools with notice of children experiencing ACEs so the school may handle them with care and mitigate the negative impact of trauma on them. This simple notice can help ensure a child's well-being and academic success.

> 'The message is clear and concise: Handle [Child's Name] With Care. No other details are included.' **- Shelbyville Police Department**

Historical Society turns 50!

Bedford County Mayor Graham recently presented a proclamation to Bedford County Historical Society President Al Simmons in honor of the group's 50 years of service to this community.

The society publishes the Bedford County Historical Quarterly as well as a variety of special publications about county history.

The group also annually presents the Richard Poplin Memorial History Award to local students. Over $50,000 has been given to Poplin Award recipients through the years.

The society also supports the history room of Shelbyville-Bedford County Public Library.

The society meets quarterly in the fellowship hall of First United Methodist Church on the Shelbyville square.

On March 25 and 26, members of the society will tour the historic Bedford County Courthouse on the Shelbyville square. Signup sheets for the tours were circulated at Monday's meeting.

The tours will be led by County Archivist Carol Roberts, who – like Mayor Graham – is a member of the Society. Assisting Roberts will be deputy archivist Kathryn Hopkins.



Bedford County Mayor Chad Graham chats with Bedford County Historical Society members prior to the start of the 50th year celebration program/meeting.

Bedford County Animal Control report
Helping hand received from "Friends" network

By Dawn Hankins

The people population is not the only thing growing larger in Bedford County. The dog and cat population continues to also increase.

Josie Lowery, director of Bedford County Animal Control gave a quite informative report during Tuesday's County Law Enforcement Committee meeting.

She began with the fact that there were 44 animals in the shelter in February. In March, animal control has already taken in 46, she says. And the month's not over.

"We are at max capacity," Lowery said. "I did have to shut intakes down again, except for bites . . . . ," It's spring time."

She said animal control is about to get hit hard this spring. "We're working through it the best we can."

Lowery said some great news is that she's communicated with the Best Friends Network in Atlanta, Ga. Bedford County is



See ANIMAL CONTROL, 2A

LOCAL CHURCH SPOTLIGHT
Celebrating Easter, weekly
Jeff Curtis: Eastside CC preacher

By DAWN HANKINS

Jeff Curtis, preacher at Eastside Church of Christ, realizes his church may have a slightly different belief from some when it comes to celebrating Easter.

For many, modern Easter celebrations would not be complete without bonnets, bunnies and colored eggs.

Christians typically celebrate Christ being risen from the dead on the third day-Resurrection Sunday.

Curtis says holidays like Easter, Halloween and Christmas have become very secular money-makers. So, his church has a slightly different take on celebrating Easter.

The Bible speaks for itself, he says. When researching the history, there's no doubt that Easter Sunday marks the culmination of events that shaped the beliefs and teachings of an entire faith.

Eastside more greatly observes the crucifixion and how Jesus shed his blood on the cross for the world's sins. (Matthew 27.) This biblical truth is a year-long, continuous, study, not just an annual celebration, Curtis notes.



JEFF CURTIS

Though he said certainly the Gospel account that Jesus arose

See EASTSIDE CC, 4A

ON THE INSIDE

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Violet Jelly

Have you ever tried Violet Jelly? It apparently has a berry taste.

Read all about edible flowers and get this great recipe.

See Page 12A



MTSU - NCAA Tournament

The Middle Tennessee Lady Raiders clinched their second straight Conference - USA tournament title on Saturday.

See Page 10A

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THE ISSUE

City receives corridor study

By DAWN HANKINS

Shelbyville City Council announced "good news" Thursday during its regular monthly meeting and that was that the Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) has approved a transportation planning grant (corridor study.)

This is a study which the City hopes will benefit its long-term growth in major traffic areas.

Waleed Albakry, director of planning and community development, recommended Council apply for this grant a few months ago. Albakry was notified of the TDOT approval this week, Shelbyville Mayor Randy Carroll announced.

The study will include Highways 231 North and 41A and the SR 437 bypass. The grant is $200,000 with a 10% match required by the City of Shelbyville.

According to the State of Tennessee, a corridor study examines the relationship between a roadway and its adjacent land. Corridor studies are often used to: define levels of access and mobility, determine appropriate land uses, consolidate and control access points, identify operational breakdowns and promote efficiency, and encourage redevelopment of an underperforming corridor.

Corridor studies are a tool for assessing existing conditions and developing preferred future condition, while offering interim fixes for corridors as they chance. Specific benefits may include: maximizing existing infrastructure, improving safety, and coordinating land uses.

These grants are used primarily to provide local governments with planning resources to achieve community visions related to transportation and land use that promote future economic growth.



Photo by Dawn Hankins

CITY CEMETERY WORK

Willow Mount Cemetery staff, in conjunction with Shelbyville Parks and Shelbyville Public Works, have teamed up to install landscaping around the City's new columbarium. The presentation was made at Council meeting last Thursday.

'More than Soup' Fundraiser this weekend

By DAWN HANKINS

It's countdown time! Shelbyville Community Soup Kitchen, located at 336 South Cannon Blvd., will have its annual Palm Sunday, "More than Soup," lunch from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. this Sunday, March 24.

No reservations required. Overflow parking is located behind Magnolia Motel off Pickle Street.

Since this is a fundraiser, SCSK does suggest that everyone make a donation-one about the price you'd pay, plus tip, at a regular restaurant on Sunday.

SCSK does accept debit or credit card with a 4% service upcharge. Cash preferred but they do accept checks.

On the menu from Robert's kitchen will be a choice of baked ham, seasoned pork loin and Tuscan chicken. There will also be a variety of sides and delicious desserts.

Here's a hint of items that will be available during this fundraiser-three $20 gift cards from Earth Bar, a $99 valued FoodSaver with extra bags, a Coleman 4 Quad cooler chair with a value of $41 and an insulated bag with a value of $15.

Keeping with the season, there's also to be available a hand-designed Jack Rabbit hat with a $40 value. What's that? Well,



SCSK folks say come on out and check that hat out!

Proceeds from this event will be shared with Community Clinic of Shelbyville, which serves many people without insurance and dental care and the Haven of Hope, which is a shelter for battered families.



T-G Photo by Dawn Hankins

A POSSIBLE LETTER TO TDOT

During Bedford County Rules and Legislative Committee meeting on Tuesday, members discussed a resolution to Bedford County Commission that will request the commission members as a whole send a letter to Tennessee Department of Transportation for potential extension of the 437 Bypass, which currently ends over Highway 231 North. The discussion was having the bypass stretch out to Highway 41A at the El Bethel community. Plans were for the Bypass to also stretch from Highway 64 West to Lewisburg.

ANIMAL CONTROL

From page 1

teaming up with the nonprofit group. Some local fur friends are heading to Georgia.

She told the law enforcement committee members that the Friends network can take a total of 30 cats at a time. They do not have to be spayed and neutered, though health certificates will be required as the group travels over state lines.

This Friday, animal control will conduct a full spay and neuter day. Lowery said she will speak to the vet about doing the health certificates.

Lowery said the plan is to begin transports Monday or Tuesday. The animals will need rabies if old enough, she added. "I think that's going to be good for the county. It will help move animals out during kitten season and hopefully will take a little bit of pressure off the cat situation we have."

She asks that the community bear with animal control during this busy season. Lowery notes that rescue groups have really helped animal control too.

"We have been slammed with multiple, multiple dogs," she notes. "A lot of that is being investigated so hopefully we will find an end there."

She added again that she's really excited to be working with the Best Friends Network. She told committee members this is an on-going pet sharing relationship.

"Even if we don't have 30 cats, say we have 10, they come down from Atlanta and bring their own transport van," advised Lowery. "They bring their own pet carriers. They take care of everything. We literally sign a paper stating we're sending 10 cats, or 30 cats, with them . . . send all the paperwork and they leave and head back to Atlanta."

With a sigh, she said she just wanted to share that news with the committee. Lowery smiled as she left the podium.

She was thanked by committee members.



Spring is in the air!

Shelbyville Police Department urges all motorists to please slow down! The Tennessee Highway Safety Office reports that speed is a contributing factor in 26% of all traffic fatalities in America. And according to a traffic analysis (TITAN) there were nearly 23,000 speeding-related crashes in Tennessee between 2017-19. And the report shows that 36% of those accidents involved drivers between the ages of 18 and 24.

County confirms solid waste policies

The County sent out a statement earlier this week in an effort to clarify some misinformation that's been circulating lately.

Bedford County Convenience Centers are open for use by all county residents, whether they live inside or outside city/town limits. This has always been the case. However, the City of Shelbyville's policy is that its blue garbage containers – which are individually-numbered, assigned to a given address, but owned by the city – are not to be taken away from their assigned addresses, even for the purpose of dumping. That's the city's policy, not ours, and can easily be confirmed on the city's website (https://shelbyvilletn.org/departments/public_works/solid_waste2/residential_collection.php.)

For this reason, and this reason only, convenience centers won't accept any garbage that is brought in using those blue cans. City residents bringing in their bagged trash any other way – such as in the trunk or in a pickup truck -- are always welcome and always have been.

The same applies to the county's tire collection center on State Route 82 south of Shelbyville. All county residents, regardless of whether they live inside or outside the city, are welcome to bring their tires. There's a $2 charge for each tire brought in for disposal; that charge applies equally to urban and rural residents.

The county's solid waste program belongs to all county residents and its policy is to treat all county residents equally, no matter whether they live inside or outside city limits.



System	Base ADM	Total State TISA 2024 Contribution	2022-2023 MOE*	TISA with MOE	2024 Per Student
Tullahoma	3508	$ 23,407,139.94	$ 17,704,265	$ 41,111,404.94	$ 11,719.92
Coffee	4215	$ 31,620,148.38	$ 15,948,923	$ 47,569,071.38	$ 11,285.88
Manchester	1487	$ 10,435,303.17	$ 6,097,827	$ 16,533,130.17	$ 11,116.54
Franklin	4723	$ 32,718,146.67	$ 17,749,264	$ 50,467,410.67	$ 10,686.00
Perry	1009	$ 8,251,772.21	$ 2,432,765	$ 10,684,537.21	$ 10,590.30
Moore	853	$ 5,192,570.00	$ 3,841,300	$ 9,033,870.00	$ 10,589.99
Fayetteville	1084	$ 7,804,090.00	$ 3,557,546	$ 11,361,636.00	$ 10,476.90
Giles	3491	$ 24,541,313.33	$ 10,846,136	$ 35,387,449.33	$ 10,135.85
Maury	12707	$ 82,999,455.63	$ 43,359,969	$ 126,359,424.63	$ 9,944.09
Hickman	3016	$ 24,077,532.89	$ 5,481,739	$ 29,559,271.89	$ 9,801.02
Lawrence	6726	$ 53,654,313.25	$ 11,939,874	$ 65,594,187.25	$ 9,752.66
Lincoln	3830	$ 29,456,256.23	$ 7,893,281	$ 37,349,537.23	$ 9,750.63
Lewis	1575	$ 11,512,692.45	$ 3,539,339	$ 15,052,031.45	$ 9,554.89
Wayne	2016	$ 16,097,708.47	$ 2,796,865	$ 18,894,573.47	$ 9,374.40
Marshall	5326	$ 37,980,186.15	$ 11,836,249	$ 49,816,435.15	$ 9,353.22
Bedford	9000	$ 69,026,310.35	$ 13,008,529	$ 82,034,839	$ 9,114.98

Per Pupil Spending Chart

Bedford County Board of Education Meeting

Bedford County Board of Education will meet 6 p.m. Thursday, March 21, at the Central Office board room. Below is the agenda for the evening.
The public may attend this meeting. The public comment time is provided within the agenda.

PROCEDURAL ITEMS
I.A. Call to Order
I.B. Moment of Silence
I.C. Pledge of Allegiance - Led by Liberty School students, KainaKoa, Jayden and Noah Tomaselli
I.D. Opening Remarks
II. CONSENT AGENDA
II.A. Approval of Agenda
II.B. Minutes from February Monthly Meeting
II.C. Cascade HS FFA Trip Request
II.D. Cascade HS Student Council Trip Request
II.E. SCHS FCCLA Trip Request
II.F. SCHS CTE HOSA Trip Request
II.G. SCHS Soccer Trip Request
II.H. Community HS FBLA Trip Request
II.I. Community HS Softball Trip Request
II.J. Community HS Key Club Trip Request
II.K. Policy for Deletion
II.K.1. 5.604 Overtime Pay of Support Personnel (covered in policy 5.602 Time Schedules and Extra Duty)
II.L. Policies for Revision
II.L.1. 5.605 Staff Gifts and Solicitations
II.L.2. 5.610 Staff-Student Relations
II.L.3. 5.401 Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS)
II.M. Policies for Review
II.M.1. 6.202 Home Schools
II.N. FY 2024 - ESSER 3.0 - Rev 5
II.O. FY 2024 - LEAPS - Rev 1
II.P. CTE USDA Grant
II.Q. FY 2024 - Consolidated - Rev 5 - Title I, Part A
III. PUBLIC COMMENT
IV. COMMUNICATIONS
IV.A. Good News Report
V. PRESENTATIONS
V.A. SCHS Wrestling
V.B. SCOPE delegates
VI. ACTION ITEMS
VI.A. Liberty School Fieldhouse Proposal
VI.B. Budget Amendment Request
VI.C. Bid 24-30 Thomas Magnet and Liberty School Additions
VI.D. Capital Projects
VI.E. Budget Amendment No. 4
VI.F. February Monthly Financial Report
VII. REPORT ITEMS
VII.A. Monthly Tax Analysis
VII.B. Executive Committee Report
VII.B.1. Surplus - Maintenance
VII.B.2. Cartwright School Projections
VII.C. Superintendent's Report
VIII. OTHER BUSINESS
VIII.A. Additional Acknowledgements
VIII.B. FYI - Expenditures
VIII.C. FYI - Personnel
IX. ADJOURNMENT

March 18 Liberty FCE Report

By ANN SPENCER

Judy Smith presided over the March Liberty Family and Community Education Club (FCE) meeting. Dorris Turrentine read during the call to order, "I wondered Lonely as a Cloud" by William Wordsworth.

First paragraph:

I wandered lonely as a cloud
That floats on high o'er vales and hills,
When all at once I saw a crowd,
A host, of golden daffodils;
Beside the lake, beneath the trees,
Fluttering and dancing in the breeze.

Betty Reregar gave the devotion. She had the 1991 Inspirational Program for the Tennessee Extension Home makers and used the devotion for that booklet.

Dorris Turrentine had a birthday in March.

Plans were made to feed the Farm Bureau.

It was announced that Achievement Night was March 19 at the Extension Office. Chase Clanton would present the program. Refreshments would be served at 6, with the program beginning at 6:30.

Share Fair is June 25, at the extension office. The theme is "Red, White, and Blue! It will begin at 6:00. Leader training is April 24 at the extension office. Betty Reneger will be the new Vice- President.

Club demonstrations: Bonnye Catron-tulips and Ann Spencer-a baby romper.

Judy Smith read the adjournment.

The next meeting is April 22.

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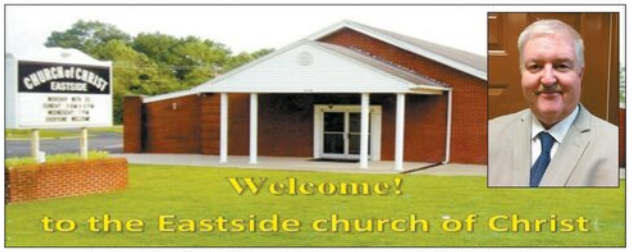
Shelbyville Times-Gazette
USPS PE 492660
Apex Media, LLC
409 Elm St. • Shelbyville, Tenn. 37162
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Periodical postage paid at Shelbyville, TN 37162. POSTMASTER: Send Address Changes to Apex Media, LLC, 9721 Sherrill Blvd. Knoxville, TN 37932.

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EASTSIDE CC

From page 1



JEFF CURTIS, EVANGELIST, EAST SIDE CHURCH CHRIST, 1803 MADISON ST.

on the third day should give the world hope. (Mark 16:9.)

"We're commanded to observe His death and the shedding of His blood upon the cross. We do that weekly," advises Curtis.

"We are a spiritual family of brothers and sisters, in Christ. Saved from our sins by grace (Eph. 2:8.) We are grateful to Christ as our Savior (Matt. 26:28). And submit to Him as our Lord (Rom. 6.)

We recognize that submission to Christ cannot be separated from submission to His word (Luke 6:46; John 14:15). Therefore, we accept His word as authoritative and turn to Scripture as our guide and creed (Acts 17:11). We simply aim to work and worship as an assembly (church) of Jesus Christ in our area."

Not a calling

As well, Curtis notes that in his church, a minister's work is not considered a calling. His opportunity to work in the church, he says, came from just that, opportunity, he advises.

"The Church of Christ doesn't look at it like God is calling you. It is the opportunity mixed with ability. I've had some opportunities. God has opened doors for me to speak at places and lectureships."

Curtis has spoken at lectures sponsored by "Truth" magazine-a monthly periodical focused on teaching Bible principles.

Curtis notes how religious studies and Christian worship are in his background. He began in his 30s as a fill-in preacher and says the rest is history.

"It's what I want to do," says Curtis, now age 60. "They say 'if you don't enjoy your work, then you're going to be miserable at it.' I enjoy what I do. I enjoy the preaching of The Word and the Study of the Word. I enjoy helping the members of the congregation."

Curtis has worked for congregations in the middle Tennessee area for several years. His first experience was to preach by appointment while serving as a deacon for the El Bethel Church in Shelbyville.

He then preached briefly for the Main St. Church in Chapel Hill and in 2004, he served the Bluff Springs Church in Lewisburg. In 2008, he moved to the Shelbyville Mills CC in Shelbyville.

And in January of 2020, Curtis began his full-time ministry with Eastside in Shelbyville. He has held Gospel meetings in Tennessee and Georgia.

When he first started preaching part-time, Curtis says he had to maintain a full-time job to support his family. He worked for Cook's Pest Control, in a factory and preached. He did that until Eastside hired him full-time.

Curtis says he's now more available to visit nursing homes, hospitals and help take members to their doctor appointments. In addition to preparing his messages, this preacher publishes the church bulletin and prints it out every Wednesday night.

Why does he preach?

This life-long Bedford Countian, who grew up in Unionville, says he's still enjoying his profession. "You have to have a desire to do it and invest the time . . . study and everything that goes a long with it."

The church's three elders and six deacons, he notes, have their own tasks. Eastside had about 80 in attendance at worship last Sunday, he notes. So, there is much for them to do.

For the last 10 years, Curtis has also prepared his Sunday morning radio message for WLIJ 1580 AM and 98.7 FM, which he believes has been well-received. The 15-minute program starts at 7:45 a.m. and the same message is repeated at 11:40 a.m. The sermon is also live streamed on the church website (churchateastside.com.)

The music

When it comes to making a joyful noise, Curtis notes that at Eastside, worship music is sung by the congregation a capella. For those who might not be familiar with musical terms, that means no accompaniment instruments like piano or guitar.

There's something unique about singing a cappella, according to this preacher. For the Church of Christ, it's all about how worship should be based on the principles of simplicity and humility.

"I've been to some singings and they tell you to sing loud enough so you can still hear people beside you."

No dinner on the grounds

Another difference, compared to other churches, is that potluck meals are not served at Eastside. There's no kitchen. There's no food pantry.

Curtis says if there is a special event, like the church's Gospel meeting this week, members will offer their home for fellowship time.

"What we practice and what we believe is that it is not the business of the church to feed the physical stomach but to feed them spiritually."

For Easter Sunday, Curtis' congregation will have a "regular" worship service. Those worshiping with Eastside are considered "honored guests." Services are 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. Sundays and 7 p.m. Wednesdays.

The minister notes he's not against family-based Easter egg hunts; he has one at his Shelbyville home for his grandchildren. Curtis and wife, Marilyn, have three grown children and 10 grandchildren. (One just born in January.)

The Community High graduate says he really does have a blessed life. Whether it is preaching a funeral, taking comfort to a shut-in or delivering a message themed, "The Messiah's Work Begins," he's hopeful to continue to serve along with his congregation, for many more years.

Some CC demographics

In 2022, the total membership of Churches of Christ was estimated to be between 1,700,000 and 2,000,000, with over 40,000 individual congregations worldwide. In the United States, there are approximately 1,087,559 members and 11,776 congregations.

Overall U.S. membership was approximately 1.3 million in 1990 and 1.3 million in 2008. Estimates of the proportion of the US adult population associated with the Churches of Christ vary from 0.8% to 1.5%.

Over 20 years ago, the Churches of Christ were the 12th largest religious group in the U.S. based on the number of members, but the 4th largest in number of congregations.

At the foot of the cross

By DAWN HANKINS

The presence of the those at Jesus' crucifixion is significant. Their presence demonstrates their unwavering commitment to their faith and their willingness to stand by Jesus during his most agonizing hour on earth.

As well, it shows their love for Christ. They were obedient.

As we know from the Bible, John was the only disciple present at the foot of the cross. He was given the gracious task of carrying for Jesus' earthly mother, Mary.

When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to his mother, "Woman, behold, your son!" Then he said to John, "Behold, your mother!" And from that hour the beloved disciple took her to his home.

This John had an unwavering loyalty and deep affection for Jesus that's certainly evident in the Gospel accounts, where he is described as standing alongside Mary, the mother of Jesus, as Jesus entrusted her to his care. This poignant moment underscores John's profound connection to Jesus and his willingness to fulfill the responsibility bestowed upon him.

Also at the foot of the cross was the blessed Mary, the Mother of Jesus. Not just as a follower but as the woman who had great faith to bring the Messiah into the world under scrutiny from those around her. She was indeed a woman of great faith. Imagine her pain that day.

Others had a presence at the crucifixion-obedience that underscores the profound impact of Jesus' life and teachings on those closest to him. Their unwavering commitment and willingness to stand by Jesus on that hill serve as a testimony to their faith.

They were the witnesses to Jesus' death. Yet, they knew he was about to save the people from their sins. Blood, vinegar, a crown of thorns . . . A sword that pierced his side . . . Nails in his hands and feet.

And at three in the afternoon, Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?" (which means "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?") Jesus knew he was fulfilling God's plan for humanity. But he experienced the earthly pain.

But eventually, the pain was finished. Soldiers slammed down his broken body into the arms of those he loved-John, Mary. He would now be buried.

You can still stand with Jesus this Easter, in church, at home or even overseas and proclaim him as the true King, the Messiah.

Next week we will discuss putting on our Easter clothes. If you have already purchased your little ones' Easter outfits, we'd love to have pictures of them to run in next week's edition. Snap, attach and send to dawn@richardsonmediagroup.net. We can't wait to see them.



Palm Sunday Services at FUMC

Join us at Shelbyville First United Methodist Church for a spiritually enriching Palm Sunday service. This service will conclude our series, "Lent: The Power of the Gospel," with a sermon by Pastor Abe Zimmerman; drawing from Matthew 21:1-11. Come see a defining moment in Jesus' ministry and its profound implications for our contemporary lives. Sunday School commences at 9 am, followed by the Worship service at 10 am. For those unable to attend, we offer a livestream on Facebook and a broadcast on WLIJ 1580 AM.



Easter: He is Risen!

Easter marks the Resurrection of Jesus Christ, which Christians believe occurred within days of his crucifixion and burial.

The New Testament of the Bible indicates that the Resurrection of Jesus is one of the chief tenets of the Christian faith and established Jesus as the Son of God. Easter is an example that God will righteously judge the world by sacrificing His son for the sins of others. And any person who chooses to follow Jesus receives everlasting life thanks to Christ's Resurrection.

Easter is linked to the Jewish celebration of Passover due to its proximity on the calendar and the fact that Jesus was Jewish. The Bible states that Jesus participated in the Passover meal during The Last Supper.

At The Last Supper, Jesus identified the matzo (bread) and wine as his body and blood, soon to be sacrificed and shed. Christians believe The Last Supper marked the first transubstantiation, or the turning of bread and wine into the actual substance of Christ's body and blood. This also was the first celebration of the Eucharist and Holy Mass that would become another core component of the Christian faith.

Easter is a time that is preceded by Lent, a weeklong period of reflection, prayer and repentance. The days immediately prior to Easter are commonly referred to as Holy Week.

This encompasses Palm Sunday and lasts through Holy Thursday (the day of The Last Supper), Good Friday



(when Jesus was crucified and placed in the tomb), and Holy Saturday (the 40-hour-long vigil that the followers of Jesus Christ held after his death and burial.)

On Easter Sunday, four women, including Mary Magdalene, went to Christ's tomb to anoint his body with spices and oils. They found the tomb was empty and were met with an angel who told them that Jesus had been raised from the dead.

A biblical account in John 20:14-16 indicates that Mary Magdalene was the first to speak with the risen Jesus. She mistakes Jesus for a gardener and says to him, Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away. Jesus said to her, Mary! She turned and said to him, Rabboni!

WEED MANAGEMENT UNDERWAY ON RURAL ROADS

Bedford County Highway Department will have a contractor doing roadside weed management on over 200 miles of county roads for the next few weeks.

This contractor will be spraying an environmental approved vegetative solution on the roadsides. This solution will limit the growth of grass and Johnson grass to help maintain the roadside mowing that the County does for its residents. This will be done three times this year, once each during spring, summer and fall.

"This project will save money and time for our tractor mowing crews," said Highway Superintendent Mark Clanton. Crews mow the 685 miles of county roads a total of seven or eight times each year.

"This will also help with the roadside appearance of our county roads," said Clanton. "This process has been used by other counties with huge success in their roadside mowing operations."

Major reasons for Highway right-of-way vegetation management practices include:

1. To maintain the integrity of the paved surface
2. To prevent or reduce erosion
3. To provide for the safety of the traveling public
4. To provide for efficient maintenance practices
5. To maintain drainage
6. To provide beauty to roadsides

Vegetation management, along with the transportation system, consist of promoting and control of vegetation. Control of vegetation growth may be accomplished by a combination of physical and chemical methods.

Physical methods include the tractor mowing on the roadside and weed trimming around guardrail areas. Chemical methods include the application of governmental approved herbicides to control specific vegetation problems such as johnson grass and other grass that grows to impede the safety of motorist.

Bedford County's herbicide program is based upon extensive research for chemicals which will provide the desired control of the target grass species. The use of herbicides is a key element to be used in combination with physical vegetation control methods to manage right of way vegetation.

If the public maintains their property to the road we will not spray in those areas. If you wish for the area in front of your residence to not be sprayed, please mow and weedeat your property to the existing road.

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