

# J.J. White Memorial Presbyterian Church

April 2018



*Thank you, choir, Deanna, Roger, and Jennifer for the beauty of your music during Holy Week and Easter.*

*Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. ~Colossians 3:16*

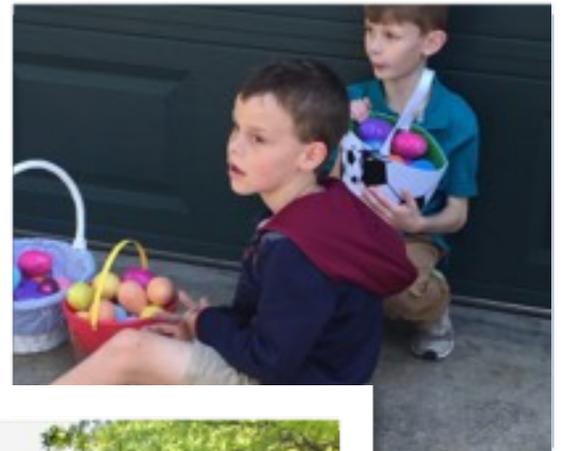
# Easter 2018



Palm Sunday



Egg Hunting



Sunrise Worship



Easter Joy!





# a word from our pastor...

The Reverend Bob Phelps

## What Now?

After most of the big events in our lives, we face the same question: What now?

We'll be celebrating graduations with some soon. Whether it's high school, college, or advanced degrees, once those graduates walk across that stage and receive their diploma and degrees, we all wonder, what now? Jobs are harder and harder to get. More school is more and more expensive. Futures hang in the balance, so it is good to stop and think about what comes next.

We have one couple planning a wedding later this year. They have found things in each other that they want to share for the rest of their lives. They're busy planning for how they'll celebrate their union this winter. And then we'll join them in asking what comes next for them.

We've had enough funerals to do us for a while, but the same question comes up then. Whether it's the matriarch of the clan or a sibling, or someone else, when we walk away from those services, we can't help but wonder what we'll do now that those people are gone.

Easter certainly qualifies as a big event for Christians. We ground everything we believe in the assertion that the Lord is risen; he is risen indeed! Easter is such a big deal for us that we spend weeks getting ready for us. For most of us that means Bible study, prayer, service ministry. For the choir it means grueling rehearsal schedules to prepare for all the extra worship services the season brings. However we observe those weeks of Lent

before Easter, our goal is to prepare for the Good News that comes on Easter.

Now that it has come we can't help but ask, "What now?"

For Deanna and me, as for many others who work for the Church, the immediate answer to that question is some time away. We're bushed after all the activity of Easter, so we run away to recharge and will hopefully come back refreshed and renewed for ministry.

It is that ministry that answers the "What's Next?" question for all of us. Easter brings us Good News, and that Good News comes with a command to share it. We'll be working with this year's Confirmation Class between now and the end of the school year. We'll begin a new study for adults on Wednesdays after supper, and we'll continue others in Sunday School and at other times we gather. We'll continue to serve in a variety of ways. Our Mission Committee is preparing for a different kind of approach to our mission and outreach activity this year, and you'll be hearing more about that very soon. And, of course, the choir will resume rehearsals as soon as Deanna and I get back. We'll be a bit more relaxed than we were before Easter, but there is still much music to learn and share with you.

What's next? Faithful ministry in the name and by the power of the Risen Christ, that's what. I look forward to being part of it with you.

Grace and Peace,

Bob



# *Music Notes*

*from Deanna Phelps, Music Director*

## *Seeing Results...*

*One of the frustrating things about almost anything we do happens when we can't see immediate results.*

*I started taking piano lessons when I was in the third grade in Paducah, Kentucky. I took lessons from a nun named Sister Mary Charlesetta. I was not an overnight prodigy. I wasn't playing Chopin sonatas by the end of that first year. I may have played "Ten Little Indians" for my recital piece that year. I continued to take lessons from Sister and then became a piano major in college. In time, of course, I played the Chopin sonatas and lots of other challenging works, but learning to play was a process. It didn't happen overnight.*

*The choir, like any choir, experiences the same thing. Every new season, I unload a ton of new music on them and lay out a schedule of when we'll be singing those pieces in worship. As soon as we came back from Christmas break this year, we began working on some of the pieces we just sang during Lent and Holy Week. I remember hearing some grumbling when we first began. "We can't learn all this in time! We'll never learn all this!" And, to be honest, I remember going home some Wednesday nights wondering myself if I had bitten off more than we could chew.*

*Those of you who were with us on those Lenten Sundays and, especially during Holy Week know how that turned out. From our stumbling through new things in January, we arrived at a point of making beautiful and meaningful music during Holy Week and Easter. It's a process!*

*And, of course, that process continues. The choir will be singing through the Day of Pentecost, Sunday, May 20, before we break for summer. There will be new music to learn, and we'll learn it together. We invite you to be part of that process with us. We rehearse on Wednesdays at 6:30. You don't have to be accomplished to join us. That's part of the process. I look forward to making music with you.*

## JJ White MPC Welcomes New Members

JJ White has two new members - James and Lou DeLoach. They were welcomed by the session and the congregation on Sunday, March 11. Lou and James are originally from Baton Rouge. They have two sons, James Jr. and David.



James and Lou DeLoach with Reverend Bob Phelps

James is retired after 35 years as a supervisor in a chemical plant, and Lou is a retired educator of 35 years. They now live in the country just outside of Magnolia.

They have expressed their excitement in joining our church family. As Lou has stated, "We are looking forward to becoming involved at J.J. White as we grow spiritually in Jesus Christ."

We at J.J. White also look forward to having Lou and James involved in the life of our church, and are happy they have come our way.

### 109 Presbyterian Disaster Kits - with a little help from our friends...

With the help of The Pike County Realtor's Association, the Pike County Quilters' Guild, the JJW Covenant Life Sunday School Class, the PW of JJ White and generous individuals in our church we were able to deliver 81 Hygiene Kits, 24 School Kits, and 4 of the 5-gallon cleanup kits to Fondren to make the next part of their delivery to the PDA center in Arkansas. Thanks to all who participated in this ministry.

*Quilt of Valor Presented to Vietnam Veteran Ron Yates*



*The Pike County Quilters' Guild members were delighted to present a Quilt of Valor to Ron Yates, a Vietnam veteran. The women of the guild, along with Mayor Whitney Rawlings and Reverend Bob Phelps of JJ White participated in the presentation. Ron and his wife Beverly are shown above holding the beautiful quilt. They are both members of JJ White. The Quilters' Guild meets in the JJWMPCEuell Martin Room each month to work on their quilting and are always willing to take part in projects of the church.*

*We join with this group in thanking Ron for his selfless military service for our country.*



Several Presbyterian Women of JJ White MPC attended the recent gathering of PW of the Mississippi Presbytery. The meeting was graciously hosted by Fondren Presbyterian Church in Jackson with about 60 women attending. Martha Heffner from Oxford, Mississippi, was the main speaker. She informed the group about her experiences during her trip to Indonesia as a part of the PW Global Exchange Program.

The offering from the gathering (\$1,135) was designated for the "Stewpot" ministry in Jackson. Stewpot's goal is to "promote, develop, stimulate and encourage physical and spiritual development by providing nutritious meals to the community," and has continued its work since the early 80s.

A delicious lunch was served by the Fondren PW to conclude this time of friendship, worship, mission and learning with women across the presbytery.

Thanks to Debbi Brock for providing transportation to the meeting. Attendees pictured above in the Fondren sanctuary are Debbi Brock (l.) June Moak, Suzi Drummond, Deanna Phelps, Georgia Mendonides, and Sharon Harmon.

Presbyterian Women of JJ White will meet on Tuesday, April 10, at 11:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. All women are welcome to be a part of PW at JJ White.

"Everything we do as an organization and as a community is guided by our PW Purpose, and that includes ministry, resources and relationships.

Forgiven and freed by God in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves

- ♦ to nurture our faith through prayer and Bible study,
- ♦ to support the mission of the church worldwide,
- ♦ to work for justice and peace, and
- ♦ to build an inclusive, caring community of women that strengthens the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and witnesses to the promise of God's kingdom." [www.presbyterianwomen.org](http://www.presbyterianwomen.org)

## **March Session Report**

Your Session met twice in one day in March. We met before worship on Sunday March 11 to receive James and Lou Deloach as the newest members of our congregation. You'll find more information about James and Lou in this newsletter. The Session received them with joy and thanksgiving.

That evening, the Session held its regular meeting for March. Elder Ally Allred was excused (Tax season will be over soon, Ally, we promise.). All other elders were present. Actions taken at that meeting include

- approval of minutes and financial statements.
- noted with deep regret, the death of long-time member, Bess Simmons.
- reviewed several calendar issues involving Bob's schedule in upcoming months.
- approved Girl Scouts' use of the building for upcoming activities including their annual prom for handicapped people and their annual farewell ceremony.
- upon recommendation from the Fellowship and Congregational Care Committee set the date for the annual birthday party for members aged 90 and above for Wednesday, May 9 during our regular fellowship supper time.
- heard updates from the Property Committee on recent repair and maintenance work and plans for demolition of the Schroeder and Brumfield houses on Delaware Avenue.
- approved plans for Holy Week and Easter worship. The Session expressed appreciation to John Drummond for heading up a team to serve breakfast after Sunrise Worship and agreed to delay April's celebration of Communion until Sunday, April 15.

The Session meets monthly. The April meeting will be on April 15. If you have questions or items for the Session's consideration, please see Bob or another member of the Session. Please continue to remember the Session in your prayers as they guide our ministry.

### **JJ WMPC Officers and Session**

**Moderator**

**Session Clerk**

**Treasurer**

**Christian Education**

**Congregational Care and Fellowship**

**Evangelism and Mission**

**Government**

**Property**

**Worship**

**Bob Phelps**

**Noggin Wild**

**Wayne Hutchison**

**Ally Allred and Margaret Ann Morgan**

**Suzi Drummond**

**Kennon Singley**

**Kathy Harbour**

**Whitney Rawlings and Ray Salter**

**Will Kimmel**

# April Schedules

## Flowers

1 Easter lilies  
8 Rusty Whittington  
15 Karen Sanders  
22 Bill Jones  
29 Sue White

## Children's Church

1 Susan White  
8 Joanna Barr  
15 Lee Williams  
22 Melisa DeCoux  
29 Carol Rawlings

## Sunday Morning Breakfast

1 Easter- Breakfast in FH  
8 Beth Wild  
15 Hutchison Family  
22 Debbie Brock  
29 Linda Miller

## Ushers/Greeters

Tommy Ratcliff, Captain  
Robbie DeCoux  
John Drummond  
Stacey Moak  
Johnny Nance

## Men's Interdenominational Breakfast

4 Bob, Clem  
11 Jimmy C., Whitney  
18 Fred, Warren  
25 Bill, Kit

## Elder of the Month

Will Kimmel

# Happy



## April

1 Dominic Cotton  
Meredith Singley  
3 Sue White  
16 Kay Robinson  
17 Tommy Catchings  
18 Bill Catchings  
19 Lee Williams  
20 Kennon Singley  
21 Kathy Harbour  
23 Nicky Barr  
27 Tom Warren Wild  
Colton Jackson  
Avery Jackson

## May

1 Vicki Brill  
2 Pat Randall  
5 Greta James Barr  
7 Helen Ray  
8 Janell Herring  
9 Vicki Craghead  
12 Haleigh Estes  
Will Ratcliff  
13 Kathy Parker  
14 Andrea Simo  
18 Howard Allred  
21 Katie Howell  
24 Jay Johnson  
30 Mike Belote

# APRIL

# 2018

HAPPY  
SPRING!



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
--------	--------	---------	-----------	----------	--------	----------

<p>1</p> <p><b>Easter</b></p> <p>6:59 Sunrise Service followed by breakfast in F.H.</p> <p>10:30 Morning Worship</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p>7:15 a.m Men's Breakfast</p> <p>Supper at 5:15 (other activities will resume next week)</p>	<p>5</p> <p>No Bible Study this Thursday</p> <p>Knutty Knitters 7:00 PM</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>8</p> <p>9:00 light breakfast 9:30 Sunday School</p> <p>10:30 Morning Worship</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p> <p><b>PW meets Fellowship Hall at 1130 a.m.</b></p>	<p>11</p> <p>7:15 a.m Men's Breakfast</p> <p>Wednesday Night Fellowship supper at 5:15 followed by activities for adult and children</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Bible Study with Rev. Phelps 10:30 am</p> <p>Knutty Knitters 7:00 PM</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15</p> <p>9:00 light breakfast 9:30 Sunday School</p> <p>10:30 Morning Worship</p> <p><b>6:00 Session Meets</b></p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p> <p>7:15 a.m Men's Breakfast</p> <p>Wednesday Night Fellowship supper at 5:15 followed by activities for adult and children</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Bible Study with Rev. Phelps 10:30 am</p> <p>Knutty Knitters 7:00 PM</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22</p> <p>9:00 light breakfast 9:30 Sunday School</p> <p>10:30 Morning Worship</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p> <p>7:15 am Men's Breakfast</p> <p>Wednesday Night Fellowship supper at 5:15 followed by activities for adult and children</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Bible Study with Rev. Phelps 10:30 am</p> <p>Knutty Knitters 7:00 PM</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29</p> <p><b>MICA</b></p> <p>9:00 light breakfast 9:30 Sunday School</p> <p>10:30 Morning Worship</p>	<p>30</p>					