

HE IS RISEN

Canaan Connects

Monthly Newsletter of Canaan UMC

April 2023

From the Pastor's Desk

Cemetery Fence Ministry

For some time now, we have known that a portion of our cemetery fence would need to be replaced. That time has come. Ben Albritton and our Trustees have been hard at work on this project for several months.

We are at the point, after several meetings with the Beeson family (our church neighbors) and with our due diligence and research, the cemetery fence repair project was presented to the Church Council two weeks ago on March 16th. The Council approved the project with estimated cost of \$152,100 for a brick column/vinyl slat design. The Council also discussed the option of a solid brick wall design (exactly like the portion of fence we currently have that extends to Shady Grove Church Road). The cost of a solid brick wall is an additional \$50,000 for an estimated cost of \$202,100.

It was quickly apparent after our March 16th Council meeting that the preferred fence design is a solid brick wall consistent with our existing brick wall. Verbal pledge commitments in excess of \$40,000 towards the brick wall were made following the March 16th meeting. In addition, the Church Council met again this past Sunday and unanimously approved the solid brick wall design at the estimated cost of \$202,100. There are other associated costs with the project such as moving gravestones and site prep to gain access to the foundation which will bring the total cost of the project to approximately \$215,000.

The Finance Committee met on March 23rd to discuss how to pay for the fence repair. That committee determined there are enough existing cash reserves to begin the project, using funds from the building fund and then from our savings. However, with several future projects pending, the Finance Committee understands the need to have a pledge campaign to ask the congregation to consider making additional contributions over and above your regular giving to replenish the funds necessary for the fence project so as to not deplete our cash reserves.

Our Lay Leader, Mr. Gary Smith and our Finance Chair, Ms. Lisa Maxwell, will present details of our pledge campaign at the beginning of worship on April 2nd. As your pastor, I would ask you to please pray for how you can support the church in this endeavor.

I want to say one last thing regarding this project. You will notice I have called this the "Cemetery Fence Ministry". We are not simply making capital improvements here or improving our bricks and mortar campus. These improvements are a benefit to Canaan and to our neighbors to provide privacy and a sacredness by having a sound, secure cemetery fence. This cemetery fence has everything to do with ministry here and in this community. From my study at church, I see hundreds of people visit our cemetery each year at all times of the day at all times of the year. It is a sacred place and holy ground as it serves as a resting place for our loved ones. For us to make these improvements and repairs, we're not "repairing our cemetery fence" but we are creating and nurturing a place where we can grieve, experience God and His grace, experience healing and the eternal life of those who live on in our hearts.

This is an outreach of Canaan Church. Again, I ask you to please consider contributing to this vital and necessary ministry.

Sincerely and in Christ, Pastor Jay

APRIL, 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
USHERS: Ricky Puckett, Bryan Beeson, Peggy Stack, Bryan Fowler RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE ITEMS FOR APRIL: Sudoku & Word Search Books						1 10 am - Noon Easter Egg Hunt Noon - Puckett Rehearsal
2 PALM SUNDAY CONFIRMATION SUNDAY 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 2 pm Puckett Wedding	3	4	5 1 pm Circle of Christian Service 6:30 pm Men's Prayer Group	6 6:45 pm Foot Washing 7 pm Maundy Thursday Service	7 GOOD FRIDAY PRAYER TIME NOON - 3 pm	8
9 EASTER SUNDAY 8:30 am Breakfast 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship	10	11	12 6:30 pm Men's Prayer Group	13	14	15
16 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 11:30 am FUSION 5 pm Choir Practice 6 pm New Beginnings	17	18	19 6:30 pm Men's Prayer Group	20 6:30 pm Circle of Friends	21	22
23 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 11:30 am Chicken Pie Lunch/Circle of Friends 5 pm Choir Practice 6 pm New Beginnings	24	25	26 6:30 pm Men's Prayer Group	27 5:30 pm The Lord's Table Food Distribution	28	29
30 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 5 pm Choir Practice 5 pm FUSION/Shelter 6 pm New Beginnings	<i>"The angel said to the women, 'Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay.'"</i> ~MATTHEW 28:5-6~					

BIRTHDAYS

- 1 - Samantha Hicks
- 2 - Sara Atkins
- 3 - Steve Berrier
Laurie Carden
Donald Hanchock
- 5 - Nathan Zebron
- 6 - Shirley Berrier
Janice Flinn
Noah Holloman
- 7 - Amanda Baumbach
- 8 - Pam Tippet
- 9 - Martha Glenn Bowers
- 10 - Clay Bridges
- 11 - Julie Tuttle
- 12 - Xavier Teasley
- 13 - Eldene Hayworth
Ben Hemrick
- 17 - Donald Bodenheimer
- 18 - Dolores Maxwell
Willow Warden
- 19 - Joshua Guy
Emma Fowler
- 20 - Kim Puckett
Esme Oast
- 21 - Kenny Atkins
Casey Fowler
- 22 - Bill Smith
Jonah Atkins
- 23 - Salem Thomas
Alli Holcomb
- 27 - Don Snyder
- 28 - Steve McCollem
- 30 - Pearl Smith



Circle of Christian Service

Meeting: Wed., April 5, 1 pm
 Hostesses: Jean Berrier/Judy Smith

Circle of Friends

Meeting Thurs., April 20, 6:30 pm

CHICKEN PIE LUNCH Sun., April 23



Congratulations to our
 Confirmands
 Sunday, April 2, 2023:

*Avery Fowler, Noah Holloman,
 Kane Milam, Seth Motsinger,
 Aidan Murphy*



EASTER EGG HUNT - Sat. April 1, 10 am - Noon

PALM SUNDAY/CONFIRMATION SUNDAY - April 2
 10:30 am Confirmands join church during Worship

MAUNDY THURSDAY - April 6
 6:45 pm FOOT WASHING in fellowship hall
 7 pm Worship

GOOD FRIDAY - April 7
 Noon - 3 pm Sanctuary open for Prayer

EASTER SUNDAY - April 9
 8:30 am Breakfast
 9:30 am Sunday School
 10:30 am Worship

BUDGET THROUGH MARCH 31

Received: \$ 94,842
 Needed: \$102,843
 - \$8,001

Thank you for your faithful giving!