

Rev. John Donaldson—Pastor Dee McDaniel—Administrative Assistant	Mike Kelley—Music Director Alex Kelley—Children’s Director	Ashley Hammac—Preschool Director Delon Hampton—Custodian
---	---	---

**Church Phone:** 706-798-1454 **Daycare Phone:** 706-798-9843 **Daycare Cell:** 706-836-4765 (Secondary Number)  
**Church E-mail:** burnschurch@comcast.net **Church Website:** burnsmemorial.com  
**Pastor’s Cell Phone:** 706-421-6339 **Pastor’s Email:** pastor@burnsmemorial.com  
**Office Hours: Monday - Friday: 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM**

Burns Memorial Methodist Church  
P. O. Box 5157  
Augusta, GA 30916


NON PROFIT ORG  
US POSTAGE PAID  
AUGUSTA GA  
PERMIT NO 213


**Electronic Service Requested**

**Place a Lily on the Cross!**

Please be part of our Easter Celebration by placing a lily either in memory of or in honor of someone on the **Cross of Lilies**.

The forms are in the bulletin. You may also mail your list to the church. If you mail it in, please make your check payable to the Fellowship Sunday School Class. **March 24th** is the final day to submit your forms. The Fellowship Class appreciates your support of their mission projects by participation in this lovely event.





**Let the Methodist Men provide your Smoked Ham for Easter this year!**

The spiral sliced smoked hams are 9-12 lbs. and the price is \$60.

**Last day to order a ham is Sunday, March 24th.**  
**Date for pick up is Friday, March 29th, from 8-11 AM in the Family Life Center.**

**To order, please fill out a form and place it in the offering box, give it to a member of the Methodist Men or call the church office. This is a fundraiser for missions of the Burns Methodist Men. Thank You!**

***The Flame* Deadline: March 21st**

# *The Flame*

**of Burns Memorial Methodist Church**

March 2024

*On Fire for Christ*

Issue Number 218

## From The Pastor

It is common in the month of March to read the Book of Esther. Here’s the short version. While the Jews were still in exile in Persia, the Persian king, Ahasuerus, became displeased with his wife, and had her removed. Shortly afterward, feeling lonely, the king had a selection of beautiful young ladies gathered up and presented to him, from which he would choose the new queen. As it happened, he chose a young lady named Esther. Unbeknownst to the King, Esther was Jewish, in fact her real name is Hadassah, but we’ll still call her Esther. After Esther was made queen, her uncle and advisor Mordecai, would come and sit in the palace courtyard, just to be near Esther and sometimes pass messages through the servants. On one occasion, this led to the King’s life being saved. Mordecai overheard a plot to assassinate the king, passed the word to Esther, and the king was saved. The scribes added this event to the recorded history of his kingship.



About that time, the King promoted a villain named Haman as his second in command. Haman, a proud man, commanded for music to be played as he walked around the city. Everyone who heard the music and saw him must stop what they were doing, and bow to the ground. Really. Well one day, he walks through the courtyard, music plays, and everyone bows except Mordecai. Haman sees this, is angry, and on learning that Mordecai is Jewish, plans revenge not just on Mordecai, but on all the Jewish people in Persia. He sits with his friends, and they plot their action. Dice are rolled to pick the date of the coming destruction of the Jews. (The word for dice in Persian is “pur”.) The order is brought to the King, and he unknowingly signed it.

Word gets out on this coming date for the Jewish annihilation. Mordecai hurries to the courtyard and gets word to the Queen. Esther agrees to speak on their behalf to the King, but it is forbidden for her to go and see him, unless called for. After a 3 day fast, she goes to see him anyway, risking her own death. The King receives Esther. “What can I do for you?” he asks. She simply invites him to dinner. Haman is also invited. The dinner is successful. The King asks again what he can do for Esther. She says, “Come back again tomorrow and I’ll tell you.”

Haman is overjoyed to be part of this, but after the first dinner he sees Mordecai again, who once again will not bow. In his anger, Haman commands a gallows to be built for Mordecai to be hung on the very next day. THAT night the king could not sleep. He asks for the history of his kingship to be read to him. In the morning the servant, still reading, comes to the point where Mordecai had saved the king’s life. Just then Haman comes to see the king for permission to kill Mordecai. The king asks, what should be done to honor someone the king is pleased with? Haman, thinking it was him, lists several honors – put him in a king’s robe, put him on the king’s horse, give him a parade, with someone calling out praise for him. The King says, do all of this, leave none of it out, do it for Mordecai who saved my life.

Haman is taken aback, but does what he is commanded, then makes haste to the second dinner with the King and Queen. At this dinner, Esther reveals Haman’s intention to kill her people. Haman is bound,



hung on his own gallows, and Mordecai given his estate and position. A new law is passed enabling the Jews to defend themselves, so they are spared from annihilation. The day that had been picked to destroy the Jews is still celebrated as a day they were victorious. This annual celebration is called Purim (named for the dice), and this year it is March 24 – 25.

- The big picture of the book of Esther is that God is ultimately in charge, and that God often works behind the scenes as He cares for His people. This was true for the Jews in Persia and is still true for God’s people today.

Thanks be to God. Pastor John

The image on the cover page is from a painting by Melani Pyke titled "The Shepherd Holds Me" used with the artists permission. To see more of her beautiful paintings, go to [www.melpyke.com](http://www.melpyke.com).

MARCH COMMUNITY MEALS

“Food brings people together on many different levels. It’s nourishment of the soul and body; it’s truly love.” — Giada De Laurentiis

**March 17, Fellowship Lunch.** Following the worship service all are invited to some great food and fellowship in the FLC. The meal is free. Burles Johnson is grilling chicken! There will be wonderful sides dishes provided by our great Burns cooks! We had so many wonderful sides last month that Nathan said it was the best church meal he had ever enjoyed!

**March 20, Family Night Supper.** Join us Wednesday Night, March 20, for a wonderful taco buffet with chicken, 2 kinds of beef, all the fixin’s and dessert. It’s \$8 for 13 yrs. & up, \$4 for 4-12 yrs., and 3 & under eat free! Michelle and her crew do a great job each month! We hope to see you there!



GLOBAL METHODIST CHURCH DECISION TIME

In the February 19<sup>th</sup> Administrative Council Meeting, the Council was unanimous in wanting to move forward with our decision as to whether not Burns Memorial Methodist Church should join the Global Methodist Church. We will be having an informational, question/answer meeting on Sunday, March 10, at 3 PM in the sanctuary. With us will be Neal Tam. He is the Lay Leader for District 5 of the North GA Conference of the Global Methodist Church. (District 5 includes Richmond, Columbia, Lincoln, & McDuffie counties.) And then on Sunday, March 24, following the worship service, we will have an official church vote on the decision as to whether or not to join the GMC. In this church meeting, all church members present will have a vote. All members, please make an effort to be present both at the informational meeting on March 10, and the voting meeting on March 24.

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

**\*\* Please join us for the special services of Holy Week.**

**Good Friday Cross Walk** — March 29, starts at Burns at 10 AM

**Good Friday Service** — 6 PM

**Sunrise Service** — 7:15 AM (Outside by the crosses, or in the FLC if raining)

**Easter Breakfast**, about 8:00 AM

**Easter 11 AM Worship Service**, with the Fifth Sunday Men’s Choir



Easter Word Search

G	S	N	O	I	T	P	M	E	D	E	R	Y	Y	M
J	J	U	Y	K	I	R	Y	T	T	F	X	E	O	L
R	L	K	F	W	E	E	C	I	O	J	E	R	C	K
X	Y	N	G	Q	C	U	W	V	U	P	C	M	C	K
R	C	R	O	S	S	H	R	E	D	P	H	M	N	E
I	F	V	A	I	B	Q	U	I	R	G	P	Q	R	N
S	A	Q	Z	M	T	M	I	R	A	C	L	E	T	S
E	I	A	O	I	R	C	H	R	C	O	Y	I	U	E
N	T	T	P	R	C	G	E	Y	O	H	S	S	R	L
I	H	H	S	O	O	C	A	R	K	I	E	P	V	K
N	W	O	R	C	S	D	U	B	R	J	V	R	G	T
O	H	T	N	G	N	T	E	S	F	U	L	A	M	I
D	P	V	O	U	Q	F	L	D	K	A	S	Y	S	H
Z	M	E	S	B	Z	Z	W	E	M	L	Y	E	D	F
E	T	G	L	M	E	G	K	B	S	L	T	R	R	U

APOSTLES  
CROWN  
LAMB  
PRAYER  
RESURRECTION  
SON

CHURCH  
FAITH  
MARY  
REDEMPTION  
RISEN  
SUNDAY

CROSS  
JESUS  
MIRACLE  
REJOICE  
SAVIOR  
TOMB

