

Melbourne Heights Baptist Church
 3728 Taylorsville Rd.
 Louisville, KY 40220



Melbourne Heights Baptist Church is an Accepting, Caring People Sharing Christ

News from Melbourne Heights for March 2016

Upcoming Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28 9:15 Sun School 10:30 Worship 11:45 Youth Parent Camp Me 3:30p Sunday Night Fellowship 6p Youth Bible Study	29 1p Art Ministry 4:15p TOPS 7p Young Adult Study	Mar 1 10 Sr. Adults 10 Staff Mtg. 6:30p Private Event	2 6p Bible Study 7p Choir	3 6:30p Private Event	4	5 9 Workday
6 9:15 Sun School 10:30 Worship 6p Youth Bible Study 6p Sunday Night Fellowship	7 1p Art Ministry 4:15p TOPS 7p Young Adult Study	8 10 Staff Mtg. 11 Ruth Class 6:30p Private Event	9 6p Bible Study 7p Choir	10 8:45 S.E.A.M. 6:30p Private Event	11	12
13 9:15 Sun School 10:30 Worship 6p Chili Cook-off	14 1p Art Ministry 4:15p TOPS 7p Young Adult Study	15 10 Staff Mtg. 6:30p Private Event	16 6p Bible Study 7p Choir	17 6:30p Private Event	18	19 8 Private Event 12p Choir
20 9:15 Sun School 10:30 Worship 6p Cantata	21 1p Art Ministry 4:15p TOPS 6:30p Leadership Team 7p Young Adult Study	22 10 Staff Mtg. 6:30p Private Event	23	24 8:45 S.E.A.M. 6:30p Private Event	25 6p Good Friday Service	26 10 Easter Egg Hunt
27 9:15 Sun School 10:30 Worship	28 1p Art Ministry 4:15p TOPS 6:30p Deacon's Mtg 7p Young Adult Study	29 10 Staff Mtg. 6:30p Private Event	30 6p Bible Study 7p Choir	31 6:30p Private Event	Apr 1	2 9 Workday

In this edition

- From the Pastor
- Looking Ahead
- Sermon Series
- Bible Study
- Youth News
- Spotlight Event
- Mission Update
- Kid's News
- Birthdays
- Lenten Collection
- Senior Adults

From the Pastor

by Adam Schell

Throughout the season of Lent this year, we have been focused on the cross. Of course, the cross is the most common, yet prominent, symbol of our faith. But the cross was also a brutal means of execution.

So why do we put this brutal means of execution on the top of our steeples, why do we adorn our sanctuaries with it, why do we wear it on clothing and jewelry? Because the meaning of the cross changed early one Sunday morning, when the crucified Christ was resurrected. Because of Christ's resurrection the cross, which was once an imposing symbol of torture and death, became our greatest symbol of hope and life.

We have a tradition at Melbourne Heights that visually transforms the cross before our eyes each Easter. We take a simple cross, not unlike the one Christ was crucified on and transform it into a visual reminder of the resurrection by adorning it with flowers.

(continued on page 2)

3728 Taylorsville Rd. Louisville, KY 40220 | Phone: (502) 454-4681 | Fax: (502) 454-4842 |
 www.melbourneheights.org | Office Hours: Mon thru Thu 8am—4pm

From the Pastor

(continued from page 1)

It's one of my favorite traditions at our church, and it's one of the most powerful parts of our Easter service each year.

But this year, we want to do something to enhance our "Blossoming Cross." This year we want to change the "Blossoming Cross" from something we see during one service, into something that can inspire and change us throughout the season of Easter.

Here's how we're going to do it: rather than asking you to bring in fresh cut flowers, we want you to bring in artificial flowers (you can find them everywhere from The Dollar Tree to Hobby Lobby). With artificial flowers, we will be able to display the "Blossoming Cross" long after our Easter service concludes, and we can be visually reminded of our hope for new life every time we see it.

Looking Ahead

On Sunday night, March 20 at 6:00pm, our choir will be presenting our annual Easter Cantata. This year's presentation, entitled *Because He Lives*, is a passionate celebration of the resurrection of Jesus Christ - featuring some beloved songs, as well as several brand new favorites.

Join us as we follow Jesus on his journey into Jerusalem and down the way of suffering to his death on the rugged cross. And let your heart and soul be filled with eternal hope as we celebrate the victorious resurrection of our Lord and Savior.

March's Sermon Series



In 1707, Isaac Watts wrote, "When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of glory died, my richest gain I count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride."

Although we sing the words of this hymn every year during the season of Lent, have you ever stopped to think how strange these words really are? Our richest gains are really a loss, our pride should actually inspire our contempt. But no matter how strange it sounds, it's also true...and it's all because of the cross.

But we don't like to talk about the cross. Sure, there are hymns we like to sing and scripture we like to read, but none of us are really comfortable surveying the cross. After all, the cross was an instrument of violence and death. It's far from a lighthearted subject.

But the season of Lent draws us into the shadow of the cross. The season of Lent forces us to survey the wondrous cross. The season of Lent forces us to make sense out of something beyond our understanding.

So throughout the season of Lent we will journey toward the cross together, and allow our foolishness toward the cross to be transformed by God's power.

Lenten Collection



In 2013 we began a new tradition at Melbourne Heights for the season of Lent. For this six week period, we collect an offering of tangible items to donate to a local non-profit organization or charity. Over the last three years, we have donated canned goods, blankets, paper towels, toilet paper, and other household items to a half dozen different organizations.

This year, we will once again be collecting items for the Cabbage Patch Settlement House. "The Patch" is a local, non-profit Christian organization who seeks to equip and empower at-risk children, youth and their families by helping them maximize their economic, educational, emotional, moral, physical, social and spiritual potential.

So far this year, we have collected 181 cans of soup (that's over 120 pounds), as well as 92 tubes of toothpaste (which is enough for one person to brush their teeth everyday for 30 years).

We'll continue announcing the item we'll be collecting one week in advance through our bulletin, "Top Things" email, and Facebook page. So keep your eyes open, and see how you can help the children and families of "The Patch."

Senior Adult News

After a great meeting last month, where Bob Mueller was our guest speaker, our Senior Adults are looking forward to a couple more exciting meetings.

Our next meeting is only a few days away, on March 1 at 10:00am. The church staff will be our guest, and Rick Donaldson (our Administrative Assistant) will bring the devotional. After that each staff member will share the story of how they entered into their respective area of ministry.

So make plans to join us on March 1, and hang around afterwards - we'll be going to lunch at Cattleman's Restaurant.

In April, we'll be meeting at the church on Thursday afternoon, April 7 at 12:45pm. We'll carpool together to the Young Heart Theater to see a new musical about Kentucky. It'll be a fun show and one you're sure to enjoy. But that's not all, after the show we'll head to Ditto's on Bardstown Road for a late lunch/early dinner.

For more information, you can check the Senior Adult Bulletin Board in Rogers Hall.

Subscribe to Our e-Newsletter

If you like the news and updates you've received in this newsletter, we encourage you to sign up for our e-newsletter. Our e-newsletter includes all the same information sent directly to your inbox.

You can subscribe by visiting <http://eepurl.com/8VbzT> to sign up.

March's Bible Study



Wednesday Nights | Our Faith is a journey, not a destination. So everyday of this journey we have the capacity to move closer to God or to move further away.

As the year began, we spent Wednesday nights trying to understand some of the challenging aspects of our faith that keep us from moving closer to God. In the coming weeks, we will take the next step on this journey.

Join us on Wednesday nights at 6:00pm, as we find ways to follow God more nearly, know God more clearly, and love God more deeply.

Youth News

by Joe Noland

Wow it's amazing how quickly the year is going by. It's hard to believe we are heading into March and spring, because it feels like it should still be January.

We are already looking at camp, camping, and other events that will be happening over the next few months. And we're continuing to plan fundraisers to help offset some of the cost of these events.

As you've already read in this newsletter, the youth will be sponsoring and hosting the annual Chili Cook Off on Sunday March 13. Our youth will be selling tickets for \$5 per person

the night of the event, and cleaning up afterwards.

This all comes on the heels of our Valentine's Breakfast where we were able to raise \$340 for our camp fund. With every fundraiser we're getting closer and closer to having camp paid off for the year.

In other news the youth have started up Sunday night Bible Studies once again. We are starting with a series titled "Finding God in the Force," which if you haven't already guessed is a study using Star Wars. It will be four weeks and then we'll jump into a series called "Questions." This study comes directly from questions that your youth submitted in January. I'm looking forward to really jumping into that series to hopefully give our youth a better understanding of God.

Spotlight Event



Do you make the best Chili around? Have you always wanted to prove it? Here's your chance.

On March 13 at 6:00pm, we're hosting our third annual Chili Cook Off. So cook up a pot of Chili and show off your skills. You might just take home the award for best or hottest Chili.

If you're more of an eater than a cook, then bring your appetite - and \$5 per person - and enjoy all the Chili you can eat. All proceeds will benefit our Youth Camp Fund.

Mission Update: Habitat



We will soon be participating in the 23rd annual Baptist Build for Habitat for Humanity. As always, we will be scheduling a work day at this year's build, and you're invited to come out and lend a hand. Details about our workday will be available soon.

As part of our commitment to the Baptist Build, we also pledge to financially support the construction of this new home. We have pledged \$2,500 to this year's build, as of February 21, we have received \$1,295 in donations. So we still need your help to fulfill our pledge. We will continue to receive Habitat Donations until March 13. You can give to this project by designating "Habitat" on your check or envelope.

Kid's News

by Michelle Cloud

After taking a short break for winter, Children's worship ramped back up in February. Our kids have been learning about the Parables of Jesus upstairs, while our adults have been trying to better understand the cross. In March, we'll take our kids a little deeper in the stories of the Gospels and help them to learn more about who Jesus is.

And that's not all that's been happening in Children's worship. We are also encouraging our kids to participate in service projects. So far, our kids have been writing notes to our

homebound members and those who have been in the hospital recently. And of course, our kids love helping with our collection for the Cabbage Patch House.

And just like our kids are learning what it means to serve in the church, we want to remind you that there are plenty of ways you can help out and serve in our Children's Ministry. We're always looking for help with Children's worship and in the nursery. And there's one way that everyone can help serve our Children's Ministry coming up.

We will have our annual Easter Egg Hunt on March 26. And that means we need lots of candy for our eggs. We're asking you to help by bringing in bags of individually wrapped candy (that's also nut free). And if you'd like to help at the actual Easter Egg Hunt, contact me - Michelle Cloud - we'd love to have you.

March's Birthdays



March 3 | Margie Rose
March 7 | Claudia Tomsett
March 10 | Leon Denham
March 11 | Ken Farris
March 17 | Pat Hicks
March 18 | Anna Lee Wheeler
March 22 | Teresa Crawford
March 23 | Guy Futral
March 25 | Larry Perkins
March 26 | Joan Rains
March 29 | Joyce Denham
March 30 | Carol Crawford