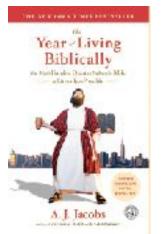


# Meadville Messenger

#### JUST A THOUGHT...

Rev. Milton Whatley



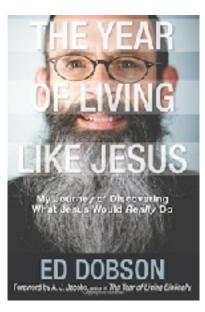
A friend asked me recently if I was going to watch the new television show "Living Biblically". My answer was, "NO!". Hollywood would never (intentionally) support a show that promoted good moral values without giving it a "culturally relevant" spin. Patrick Walsh, the show's producer, has said he is encouraging Americans to "start talking about faith" with the shows creation.

"Living Biblically" is loosely based on the best selling book "A Year of Living Biblically" by A.J. Jacobs. Jacobs, a wonderful writer, has made his

career with a type of participatory journalism (a new era George Plimpton). His first book was "The Know it All" where he, over the course of a year, read the Encyclopedia Britannica and how it impacted his daily life. His wife got to the point where she began to fine him a dollar for every useless piece of information he would put into conversation. Jacobs followed as closely as he could the 613 Jewish laws in the Old Testament. It was both reverent and irreverent at times.

A book I am reading now is "The Year of Living Like Jesus" by the late evangelical writer, Ed Dobson. I'm finding it, reflecting on my reading of Jacobs, to be more thoughtful, more heartfelt, and more encouraging to my spirit.

In the after glow of Holy Week and Easter, I believe the challenge is to us to live one day like Jesus. To love like Him, to give like Him, to forgive like Him, to serve like Him, to begin to think like Him. And then the next day to do it again, and again. What better gift to give than full follow-ship every day.



#### **Worship Matters**

Pat Jones

By the time you read this, we will have celebrated Resurrection Sunday. But right now, at the time this is being written, it is the week before Holy Week. There are so many elements of this season of Lent that are impressive. We plan special worship services: Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday Holy Communion, daily lunches with Lenten devotionals by ministers of several denominations, and then, of course, Easter morning!

If we're not careful, we might tend to think that we are orchestrating all of this.

Nothing could be further from the truth! So, let's clear this up right now.

#### Worship is God's idea!

"God said He will cause righteousness and praise to spring forth through all the earth. Everywhere you turn, there is a new song, a new spirit of worship and new sound of rejoicing. Something significant is happening. The Holy Spirit is resurrecting living worship among His people, paving the way for the King to visit us in ways we've not known before. He wants to be where we are...in our town, our church, our homes, and in our hearts.

God arranged for us to gather for each of the worship services mentioned above. He did that because He wanted to demonstrate His grace and glory. God didn't design this practice for His benefit. Worship is for our sake, because worship is the atmosphere which welcomes

His presence and gives place to His mighty works." (some of these ideas I borrowed from "God with Us" by Don Moen)

So, that means that Sunday morning worship services, as well as any special gatherings to worship, are God's idea, His design, and His heart's desire for us! I don't know about you, but Lent, Holy Week, Easter, and every Sunday, I'm renewed to worship God more deeply, more fervently, and more faithfully. The Body of Christ that gathers at MUMC is evidence of how God is orchestrating worship to glorify Him and Him alone. How wonderful to see all those in worship, especially our younger couples with their beautiful children, living out the verse, "as for me and my house, we will worship the Lord!" Let us be convicted to remember that:

#### Worship is His idea!

See you at the Grace Place!

# AMUMC SCROPBOOKA



Bro. Milt led in a time of prayer at the grand opening of Super Save drugs in Meadville on March 6.

### COLEMANISM

He who cannot forgive breaks the bridge over which he himself must pass.



Will, Lauren, & Daisy Lott



**Holy Week Lenten Luncheon** 





Dear Church family,

We cannot thank you enough for all you have done for us. You have prayed, loved, fed, and shepherded us.

Thanks for praying for our Dad & Paw. Your prayers were felt for months while we were taking care of him.

Again, thanks for the meal and hospitality, flowers and love given to us. It was great to have a place for our family to enjoy a meal and fellowship after the service.

With much love, Libby & Eddie Ashley, Mitch, & John Grayson Preston & Kristen MUMC,

Thank you for the beautiful flowers. From the bottom of my heart, thank you ladies for the wonderful meal.

Love, Doris Bankston

From the family of J.W. Priest

Thank you for the lovely flowers in our time of sorrow.

Hilda Rae & family

Thank all of you so very much for all the hospitality and the "oh so delicious" meal that was prepared for us at the time of the passing of our uncle, M.L. Bankston. Thanks again.

Love in Christ, Lee & Marshalene Gillespie Janie Lee Ronnie Hunt Bo Sullivan Joey Sullivan

#### **APRIL TABLE BLESSING**

O GOD, MAY THE UNITY OF THY PEACE AND INSPIRATION SETTLE UPON US... AS WE GAIN STRENGTH FROM THIS MEAL AND AS WE CELEBRATE LIFE WITH ALL WHO SHARE THEY WORLD WITH US THIS DAY.

PROVIDED BY THE COMMITTEE ON INTER-RELIGIOUS CONCERNS
MISSISSIPPI CITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

# COMMUNITY EVENTS

#### <u>Jefferson Street United Methodist presents:</u>

6th Annual **COMMUNITY MARKET**Saturday, April 7, 2018 7:00am - 3:00pm
511 Jefferson Street, Natchez, Mississippi

Shop old treasures and new or bring your own to sell!

Booth space available. Variety of vendors concessions on site. For more information call: (601) 807-8705



# Anchored Women's Ministry of FBC Women's Conference

"JOY"

featuring Michelle Thomas, comedian and speaker

First Baptist Church of Bude Saturday, April 7 at 6:00 P.M.

Tickets are \$10, available at FBC of Bude. (Ticket price includes meal.)

\*Child care will be provided by FBC Youth for a donation to help with camp expenses.





Sunday 9:45 - Sunday School 11:00 - Morning Worship 4:00 - Intercessors 5:00 - Choir Rehearsal

**Thursday** 4:00 - Prison Ministry **Friday** 6:00 - Sewing Ministry







SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
EASTER 1 8:30A.M. Breakfast 9:30 - Worship	2	3	4	5	6	7 10:00 - 4:00 Yard Sale
8 8:30A.M. UMM's Breakfast	9	10 10:00 A.M. Jolly Elders	11	12	13	14
15 12:00 COM Luncheon	16	6:00 P.M. Emmaus	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

#### **APRIL BIRTHDAYS!**

April 02	Harold Spring	April 20	James Ray
April 07	Chris Sullivan	April 21	Joddie Spring
April 08	David Hester	April 22	Leslie Jeffus
April 12	Justin McGehee	April 23	Brett Herring
April 12	Marc Colson	April 26	Madelene Carter
April 13	Sonny Dickey	April 26	Ashley Hammock
April 13	Leah Crawford	April 29	Madge Spring
April 18	Ken Posey	April 30	Cody Jeffus
April 20	Suzie Abadie	•	-

#### **APRIL ANNIVERSARIES!**

April 4 E	d & Stephanie McCormick
April 9	Shelly & Jennifer Cowart
April 14	Scotty & Lindsay Smith
April 16	David & Sandy Hester
April 22	John & Michelle Smith
April 29	Bo & Beverly Gabbert

### Yard Sale for Local Missions April 7 10:00-4:00

As you are doing your spring cleaning and find things that are old and in the way, consider donating them to MUMC for a church-wide yard sale. You can place donations in room to left as you enter downstairs or in Barbie Fleming's Sunday School room directly across the hall. All monies raised will go toward local missions. Things that go unsold will be donated to either BARL or The Thrift Store in Bude.

### Council on Ministries April 15

Remember that in April we will be having our quarterly COM meeting. Chairpersons of Committees, please have a report ready to share either written or verbal so that we can celebrate the ministry done by your committee or work area over the last quarter. The church office has yet to receive any meeting notes from committees for the meeting book the COM agreed to create at its last meeting.



But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. - Romans 5:8 NIV

## MUMC Staff

Pastor, Rev. Milton Whatley





Director of Music, Pat Jones

Office Manager, Samantha Sivils



#### MUMC

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