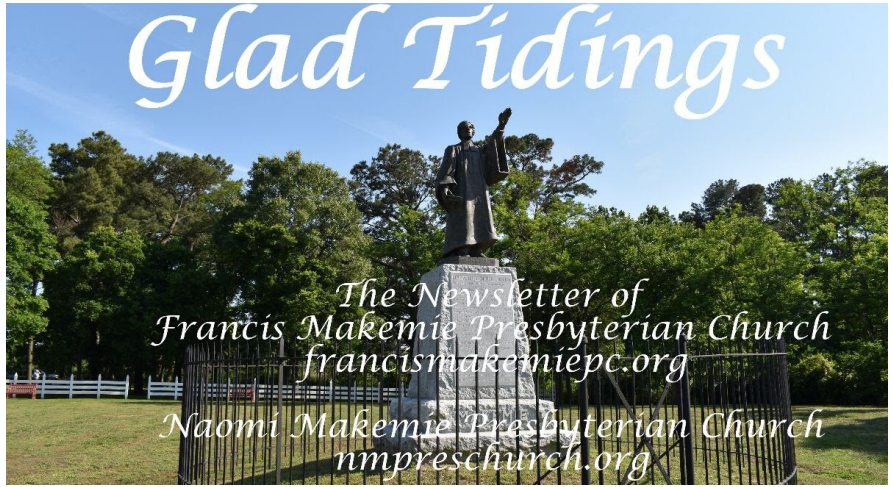


MARCH 2025 Volume 3 Issue 3

# Glad Tidings



**Pastor-Reverend Monica Gould c-757-709-2846**

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**Naomi Makemie 89 Market St (P.O. Box 397 ) Onancock, VA 23417 phone: 757-787-1331 Staff and Elders:** Office Administrative Assistant-Jennifer Stapleton, Organist/Pianist-Mark Nuckols, Choir Director-Debbie Ryon, Videographer-Mike Gould, Head Usher-Suzanne Rogers, Nursery Worker-Jacqueline Diaz, Treasurer-Patty Davis, Rick Turner Clerk-Jennifer Stapleton Elders: 2027 Megan Ames, Anne Barnes, Rick Turner 2026 Suzanne Rogers, Kate Baird, Judd Everhart 2025 Jennifer Stapleton, Bill Baird, Patty Davis, Web: [www.NMPresChurch.org](http://www.NMPresChurch.org) [naomimpchurch@gmail.com](mailto:naomimpchurch@gmail.com) Go to Naomi Makemie Presbyterian Church **YouTube Channel** for Sunday service.

**Pastor Transition Team**-Megan Ames, Brad Davis, Barbara Haynes, Paul Hughes, Suzanne Rogers

**Francis Makemie 23355 Back St (P.O. Box 680 ) Accomac, VA 23301 Staff and Elders:** Organist & vocalist-Jill Cathey Cynthia D. Hall-clerk Richard F. Hall III-treasurer, 2027: Wanda Hughes, Tammy Mason, 2025: Paul Hughes, 2026 Kathy Boggs, Barbara Haynes Web: [Francismakemiepc.org](http://Francismakemiepc.org)



NMPC Giving  
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HAPPY  
 Birthday  
 FROM YOUR  
 CHURCH FAMILY

## MARCH

Joanne Humphreys	03-01
Jerry Fluharty*	03-02
Kate Baird	03-03
Jeremy Diaz	03-04
Wanda Hughes*	03-05
Kate Jacob	03-05
Erin Fletcher Hall*	03-09
Carol Rush	03-09
Mike Gould	03-15
Becky Lock	03-16
Barbara Mears	03-18
Rick Hall*	03-21
John Callander*	03-21
Patty Davis	03-21
Mark Nuckolls	03-22
Miles Barnes	03-24
Virginia Dunning	03-26
Bruce Holland*	03-26
Carol Doud	03-28
Brandon Stapleton	03-31

This year, Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent, falls on March 5. During worship services that day, pastors in many Christian churches dip a finger in ashes (often made by burning branches from the previous Palm Sunday) and make a cross on parishioners' foreheads.

Why ashes? Traditionally, they're a sign of mourning, humiliation and penitence. Ashes also represent the frailty and temporary nature of human life ("You are dust, and to dust you shall return," Genesis 3:19). Christians are pained because our sins led to Jesus' death. With repentant hearts, we begin the season of Lent, knowing that it leads to Jesus' resurrection on Easter Sunday.

For Ash Wednesday — and throughout the 40 days of Lent — ponder this prayer from an Italian sacramentary, or liturgical book: "O God, you know how fragile is our human nature, wounded as it is by sin. Help your people to enter upon the Lenten journey strengthened by the power of your word, so that we may be victorious over the seduction of the Evil One and reach the paschal feast in the joy of the Holy Spirit."

As we enter this Holy Season may we find ourselves seeking to draw closer to Jesus as we contemplate all that he has done for us. Friends, we have journeyed far and wide together. We have been through deserts, and climbed mountains, and we have crossed seas together. Let us be mindful of this precious time as we fall in love with each other and Jesus all over again.

A Holy Lent to you all,

Love

*Monica*

All meetings are at NMPC unless otherwise noted.

March 2025	March 2025	March 2025	March 2025	March 2025	March 2025	March 2025
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	Wednesday	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2 9:15 FMPC 11:00 NMPC Communion	3 Presbyterian Women 11:30-1pm	4 Yoga 5:45-6:45 OBCA 5:30	5 Prayer meeting ASH Wed 6PM	6 Choir 4:30-6	7	8 Daylight Savings
9 Lent 1 9:15 FMPC 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 NMPC	10	11 Yoga 5:45-6:45	12 Lent Study 5:30	13 Choir 4:30-6	14	15
16 Lent 2 9:15 FMPC 11:00 NMPC Guitars CCYF 2 @CSL	17 NMPC Session 5:30	18 Yoga 5:45-6:45	19 Prayer meeting Movie 5:30	20 First Day of Spring Book Club 1-3 Choir 4:30-6	24	25
23 Lent 3 9:15 FMPC 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 NMPC	24	25 Yoga 5:45-6:45	26 Lent Study 5:30	27 Choir 4:30-6	28	29
30 Lent 4 9:15 FMPC 11:00 NMPC	31	April 1	April 2 Lent Study 5:30			

*Lent* comes from a word that means *spring*, and spring is “springing” this April morning. May our faith spring up in new life as well, through this time of worship.



## ASH WEDNESDAY

worship service 6pm  
at NMPC



Encounters with Jesus

### Encounters with Jesus....

#### Wednesday Night Lenten Series

#### Dinner and Discussion

Wednesdays 5:30 pm NMPC

March 12 th; 26 th and April 2 nd; 9 th .

March 19 th will be our regularly scheduled Movie Night. Please make plans to join us for this Lenten series led by Pastor Monica looking at stories from the Gospel of John of those who had significant encounters with Jesus.

We will start the evening at 5:30  
with a Meal of Simplicity.

There will be a sign-up sheet posted on the table in the Grove Room and circulated during fellowship time on Sundays, for soup, bread, fruit, cheese and a simple dessert. We are looking forward to this special time together as we prepare our hearts and minds for the joyful news of Easter.

Contact Donna Doan, Nina Moring, Kate Baird or Pastor Monica with questions.

### Potluck & Movie Wednesday March 19th

#### RISEN

**Jesus' body has gone missing after the crucifixion. A Roman centurion is tasked with finding it. Think he'll succeed?**

**Dinner 5:30**

**Movie 6 pm**





## Sunday School Update

The upstairs at Naomi Makemie is a busy place on the second and fourth Sundays of the month with our three Sunday School Classes in full swing! Learning, fellowship, discussion, and fun activities are available for preschoolers to adults! Please consider joining us for this special time as we grow our faith together!



### March Sunday School Dates March 9<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> (9:45am)

The Adult Sunday School class has at last completed its study of The Sermon on the Mount. For the month of March, we will continue our discussion-based class with Lenten related study. We meet at 9:45am on Sunday School Days and hope to see you there! (Bill Baird)

In the Preschool Sunday School class, we have been working our way through Jesus' family tree in the Old Testament. We have learned about Abraham, Sarah, Issac, Jacob and Joseph and his twelve brothers, while reading stories and enjoying some music and crafts. Next, we will discover the life and miracles of Moses. (Jean Beard and Joan May)

Since Christmas our Youth class has been looking at the early life of Jesus and the beginning of his ministry. We have met the 12 Disciples and are reading about the people Jesus healed. We will also be looking at the meaning of Lent and how we can prepare ourselves to receive the joyous news of Easter. (Kate Baird)



**The Youth will meet March 16 at 2pm**  
at the Commonwealth Senior Living  
23610 North Street.

We'll support the senior residents through a  
March craft activity.  
RSVP to Pastor Monica

"The remarkable thing is that Jesus brought it all into reality in his own person," writes Bible scholar N.T. Wright in *Matthew for Everyone*.

"He was the salt of the earth. He was the light of the world: set up on a hilltop, crucified for all the world to see, becoming a beacon of hope and new life for everybody, drawing people to worship his [F]ather, embodying the way of self-giving love which is the deepest [fulfillment] of the law and the prophets."

The NMPC Mission Committee is working on some exciting projects in the months ahead.

**First,** we will be providing an **Easter Dinner** to the residents currently at the Eastern Shore Coalition of Domestic Violence. We will have sign-ups to provide food and to help serve the food. A date and time will be announced soon.



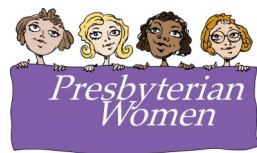
**Second,** we are gathering information about volunteering opportunities with Habitat for Humanity.



**Third,** our school supply drive will start after Easter.

**And lastly,** we will be getting a date set to work with Waste Watchers to pick up trash along the roadways.

Please contact Jennifer Stapleton if you are interested in any of these mission projects.



The Presbyterian Women will meet **Monday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>** at 11:30 in the Makemie Room at NMPC. We will begin our study of Chapter 2, “A Lesson About Receiving the Word” in *The Parables of Jesus*. Donna Doan will be leading our discussion and Nancy Bateman is our hostess. We have had wonderful attendance at our last meetings and invite others to join us. Bring a bag lunch. Beverages and dessert will be provided. A short business meeting will follow our lesson and lunch.





*Looking for more church involvement? Look no further!*



At **Naomi Makemie Presbyterian Church**, there are numerous ways to get more involved in church services and operations — everything from preparing Communion to working on the Newsletter, or actual physical work like painting the walls in the Nursery. There are many committees on which to serve. Most are chaired by one of the nine “Ruling Elders,” with the help of church members and friends.

*This kind of service can be especially rewarding. To be sure, there is a time commitment, but that’s where the reward is — serving the church, meeting new people (or getting to know them better) and becoming “the hands and feet of Jesus.”*

The following is a list of committees under the Elders, known collectively as the “Session,” and a brief description of the members’ duties. *We hope that one will grab your attention.* We need as many new committee members as possible for 2025. You are encouraged to contact the chair for more information; because of the time commitment required, it’s probably best if you pick one committee.

**Worship.** This committee is chaired by *Anne Barnes*.

The Worship Committee is responsible for all aspects of Sunday morning worship. The committee also makes arrangements for weddings, funerals, flowers, ushers, communion, pulpit supply and more, including communications with the pastor and clerk/moderator.

**Building and Grounds.** This committee is chaired by *Bill Baird*.

As you may have guessed, the Building and Grounds Committee oversees all maintenance-related work on the Church itself and the Manse (where Monica and Mike live, barely a block from NMPC). The committee also manages insurance, inspections and maintenance contracts.

**Christian Education.** This committee is chaired by *Kate Baird*.

This committee oversees the various educational programs at NMPC, including Sunday School, Bible studies, Vacation Bible School, youth and confirmation.

**Congregational Care and Outreach.** The chair of this committee is currently vacant.

This committee oversees activities aimed at connecting to the community, such as congregational and community events.

**Finance.** This committee is chaired by *Patty Davis*.

The Finance Committee, in concert with the Treasurer, oversees all financial aspects of the Church. This includes preparation of the annual Church budget.

**Stewardship.** This committee is chaired by *Jennifer Stapleton*.

The Stewardship Committee plans and executes the annual effort to encourage NMPC members to pledge what they can afford in their weekly/annual offering.

**Media and Communications.** This committee is chaired by *Judd Everhart*.

The chief responsibility of this committee is the weekly online streaming of our Sunday morning service. The committee also maintains the NMPC website and social media pages. In addition, the committee creates publicity, the Newsletter and other communications.

**Mission.** This committee is chaired by *Jennifer Stapleton*.

This committee oversees the distribution of the various charitable community/mission gifts awarded annually by NMPC.

Finally, there are three Administrative efforts — the **Clerk/Admin Assistant** (Jennifer Stapleton); **Personnel** (led by Megan Ames); and **Nominations** (led by Rick Turner) Credit Judd Everhart

## A HOLY LENT? BASKETBALL MADNESS?

After moving to a college town, Pastor Kendra Thompson learned about the athletic phenomenon known as March Madness. And after a nondenominational upbringing, as a young adult she learned about Lenten traditions.

Lent and the NCAA college basketball tournament, which usually coincide, both point to the divine, Thompson argues. "In Lent, with each day we are drawn closer to the crushing reality that we've crucified our God. And yet we are also faced with an impossible victory: that death did not win, that our God is raised in Jesus Christ," she writes. "Likewise, watching college basketball invites us into a season of hoping in unlikely possibilities, marveling at upsets, and giving thanks to God for the connection we find as his people."

Like fans swept up in high-stakes games, Jesus' disciples abandon everything to follow him. Lent might be "holy madness," Thompson muses. It's "an opportunity to 'feel' our religion, not just in our heads but with our skin, our voices, even in the anxieties of our prayers."



MARCH 8



You're Invited!

Every week to worship with us at Francis Makemie at 9:15 am

or at Naomi Makemie at 11:00 am

