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# THOUGHTS & TRAVELS

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## BibleMethodist

CONNECTION OF CHURCHES

### Events:

#### Lenten 2021

Ash Wednesday	February	17
Good Friday	April	2
Palm Sunday	March	28
Easter	April	4

#### Weekly Devotionals:

Following the leadership and encouragement of Michael Avery, the Connectional Chairman, we have instituted a weekly devotional program.

Each Wednesday you may click on the Bible Methodist Channel of YouTube and watch an inspirational and instructional devotional.

#### Serving churches in:

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Colorado

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Kentucky

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Louisiana

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Idaho

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Oklahoma

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Texas

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#### Connectional Ministerial 2020:

- This event is March 16-18, 2021
- Higher Ground, West Harrison, IN
- Reservations - please email: [melba\\_sams@icloud.com](mailto:melba_sams@icloud.com)

#### Inter-church Holiness Convention:

Dates: April 13 - 15

Location: Convention Center, Gatlinburg, TN

## Financials:

### Conference Operating Finances:

Conference Operating Receipts: (December)	\$18,569.05
Conference Operating Expenses: (December)	<u>\$9,063.10</u>
Total	\$9,505.05

### Camp Finances

Camp Budget (estimated)	\$35,000.00
Camp Offering	<u>\$13,248.91</u>
Anticipated need	\$22,871.09

## Prayer and Praise:

- During your Sunday morning pastoral prayer, please pray for the church in Whitehouse, Texas and Pastor Eric Going.
  - Pray for the President, Congress, Judiciary, Governors and local governments.
  - Pray for Tim Keep and Bible Methodist Missions.
  - Pray for the Muir's as they minister in Mexico.
  - Pray for Troyers. They are on extended furlough.
  - Pray for Marika Herrer ministering in South Africa.
  - Pray for Shirley Fogleman and the ministry in Papua New Guinea. We are asking you to pray for her eyes, she is having trouble reading which has a bearing on her teaching.
  - Pray for R.G. and Sarah Hutchison. They are presently in the US.
  - Pray for David Martinez who is studying in preparation for ministry in Mexico.
  - Please pray for Heartland Conference, Great Lakes Conference and the Southern Conference. COVID and the ramifications have made their ministries very difficult.
  - Pray for Mid-America Conference President Darrell Stetler II - He is facing treatment for possible cancer.
  - Pray for Troy and Jenell Keaton. Janell has cancer.
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- Thank the Lord for reports of His presence last Sunday.
  - Thank the Lord for safe travels.
  - Thank the Lord for his intervention in to the live of those open to the gospel.

## Thoughts:

To continue the thoughts about the Lenten season I share a bit of information regarding the focus of this part of the Cristian calendar.

Ash Wednesday is the first day of Lent. Many Christians begin Ash Wednesday by marking a Lenten calendar, praying a devotional, and making a Lenten sacrifice that they will not partake of until the arrival of Easter.

Ash Wednesday derives its name from the placing of ashes on the forehead, The ashes represent an attitude of repentance. Often those participating repeat the phrase, "Repent, and believe in the Gospel" or "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return." The ashes are prepared by burning palm leaves from the previous year's Palm Sunday celebrations. They represent both the death of the Lord Jesus and the participants understanding of the need to embrace His sacrifice for redemption.

I am not asking us to participate in the ritual of Ash Wednesday but I would encourage us to think of and participate in this time of contemplation. A deep and thorough understanding of The Father's sacrifice and the Lord's offering of Himself should remind us of the price of our sins and the deep love God expresses in offering redemption.

## Personal:

I mis-reported last week. Oh, what was reported happened, but what we were planning was not accurate. We looked at the calendar incorrectly and have been with our children in South Carolina longer than planned. Last Sunday we worshiped at the Bible Methodist Church in Easley, South Carolina. We then had dinner with our son, Tim, his wife, Sue and two of their grandsons and our son, Larry, and his wife, Martha and their children. Sunday evening we attended church with Larry and his family.

This week we have been with Larry's family. We will not drive to Hobe Sound until next week on Tuesday. Among other activities, I wrote and sent reports as Conference President and Editor. The reports will be part of the material presented to the Connectional

Committee in a couple weeks. I have worked on school work as well as a letter from the Conference to the Church Treasurers.

GCS



Showing some of the work the people at DeRidder, Louisiana have done to their building. They plan to begin working on the exterior soon,

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