

ON A HILL



*too far away*

RANDY VADER  
JAY ROUSE  
CAMP KIRKLAND

# *From "On a Hill Too Far Away"*

---

By John Fischer

In Old Greenwich, Connecticut, stands a church with a cross in it. Unlike most churches, whose crosses adorn the front wall behind the preacher, this one is bolted down into the concrete floor in front of the platform, not more than three feet from where the preacher stands. Its positioning defies reason and art and convention. No architect in his right mind would have designed such a placement. It is an obstruction. The congregation's eyes always have it somewhere in view, so that even when they look away, it is still there, impressed on the back wall of the retina.

The minute I walked into the church in Old Greenwich and encountered this startling placement of the cross, I felt as if I had discovered something truly significant. For just as the cross has been placed squarely in the center of this church, so it has always stood in the center of history and in the center of any life that has truly embraced it. And just as the placement of this cross seems uncomfortable, so it is...and so it should be. There is nothing comfortable about the cross.

As the familiar hymns tell us, it's an old rugged cross we cling to and an old, old story we tell. To a society that is always trying to reinvent itself, the cross and the gospel appear to be strangely out of sync. Something tells me it's supposed to be this way, that it always was and always will be this way. The cross is an anomaly. It is inconsistent with what naturally would be expected. The cross destroys the wisdom of the wise and frustrates the intelligence of the intelligent. Yet it is perfectly in line with a God who has always been full of surprises.

The Old Greenwich cross seems more like what crosses should be if we are, in fact, going to have any of them around as reminders. It is rugged, sturdy, hard, bare, and in the way. The Old Greenwich cross has to be reckoned with. It is in the middle of everything. Every event that takes place in this church has to accommodate this cross in some way. It cannot be moved easily like the pulpit or the platform chairs or the Communion table or the planters of ivy that line the platform's edge. It's almost as if the church was built around this cross – as if it were the first thing down before the walls went up and the roof went on.

Something tells me it was

# Morning Worship

Palm Sunday - March 24, 2024

Prelude		Holly Benedict
Welcome and Offertory Prayer		Allie Chasin
Offertory	"All Glory, Laud, and Honor"	Joyful Ringers

## On a Hill Too Far Away

*Presented by the Sanctuary Choir and Orchestra*

Without the Cross - Opening

Lift High the Lord

Sing Hallelujah

My Father's House

Take This Cup

At Calvary

I Come to the Cross

Without the Cross

He's Risen, Hallelujah! Finale

Invitation	"Come Just As You Are"	Congregation
Benediction		Michael Tolar
Postlude		Holly Benedict
Narrator		Michael Tolar
Soloists	Dean Isaacs, Tammy Kurczek, Stephen Reed, Amy Storms	

## Welcome to Mount Moriah

We hope that you experience the presence of the Lord as we worship together. If you are a guest with us today, please fill out a blue welcome card and place it in the offering; we would love to connect with you! We also invite you to say hello to our Welcome Team in the foyer after worship for a small gift.

## Care Team Lunch

The MMBC Care Team is hosting a "Dutch treat" lunch at Carolina Bleu Grille in Clayton at 11:30AM on 3/25. This lunch is open to anyone who would like to attend. No advance sign-up is required. Contact Carolyn Clark at (919) 793-4021 for questions or if you need a ride.

## College Care Packages

We are collecting the following items to send to our MMBC college students during exam time.

Individual packages of chips, nuts, crackers, muffins, gum, cookies, trail mix, candy, pop tarts, granola bars.

Please place your items in the collection boxes throughout the church. See Julie Holder for questions. We will be collecting from March 24-April 14

## Upcoming Events

- 4.12 - Family Night for Mt. Moriah Kids
- 4.14 - New Member Class
- 4.21 - Prayer & Worship Night
- 5.04 - BBQ & Bluegrass
- 5.05 - Student Ministry Real Night
- 6.17 - Vacation Bible School
- 6.24 - Elementary Music Camp
- 7.08 - Student Ministry Summer Camp
- 7.22 - Elementary Summer Camp

## Holy Week Schedule

### Sunday 3/24 - 11AM

Palm Sunday - Easter Cantata

### Wednesday 3/27

Regular Wednesday Night Activities

### Thursday 3/28 - 7PM

Maundy Thursday Service

### Sunday 3/31 - 6:45AM

Easter Sunrise - Ebenezer Methodist

### Sunday 3/31 - 11AM

Easter Worship Service

\*No Sunday School

## Annie Armstrong Easter Offering

We will be collecting the Annie Armstrong Offering on Easter Sunday, March 31st. Our goal is \$10,000. Envelopes available at the Welcome Desk. 100% of gifts given to AAEO go to support more than 2,900 missionary families serving across the United States and Canada.

## Wedding Shower

There will be a Wedding Shower honoring William Boswell and Taylor Stallings, on April 7th from 2PM-4PM in the Fellowship Hall. William and Taylor are registered at Amazon, Belk, Target, Home Depot, and The Fisherman's Wife

## April Fellowship Meal

The next Fellowship Meal will be on Wednesday, April 3rd. The menu will be beef tacos with toppings, chips & salsa, cheese sauce, and hotdogs for the kids, dessert, and coffee/tea.

Cost \$6 per person or \$25 per family of more than 4

Email Joan Cooper at [fellowshipmeal@mmbc.life](mailto:fellowshipmeal@mmbc.life) or call (919)730-6662 by 4/1 to sign-up.

# Prayer Guide

Our **deepest sympathy** to the family of **Betty Johnson**; mother of Dawn (Michael)Tiller

Our **deepest sympathy** to the family of **Cynthia Hughes**; sister of Charlene Cove

**Jason West 12**; friend of Gail Raper; stroke and brain bleed

**Bert & Diane Riggsbee 13**; parents of Matt; Bert w/Alzheimer's and Diane is hospitalized

**Ora Dean Morning**; grandmother of Michael Tolar; age 93; successful heart valve replacement 3/20

**Mike Fischer 22**; hospitalized with infection after LVAD on heart

**Raymond Simmons 22**; father of Alysia Wilkins; hospice care

**Hannah Keller 22**; niece of Nancy Corzine; surgery was not needed; fungus needs to be treated before bone marrow transplant for MDS

**Tess Clark 13**; surgery on 3/20 to remove tumor from inner ear

**Daryn Wilkins 22**; beginning new chemo on 4/1 to treat kidney cancer

**Anne Lee 18**; Bella Rose Rehab; recovering from COVID

**Walter Dunn 11**; nephew of Geri Adams; seizures have come back

**Will & Tara Hairston 13**; neighbor the Bullock's; Tara recovering from diabetic shock; Will mental and physical exhaustion

**Addie Buehler**, suffering from Functional Neurologic Disorder, which causes loss of leg use, pain, and other symptoms

**Laurie Brower**, surgery 3/19 to begin process of adding nerve stimulator device in back

## Friends & Family Battling Cancer

Ronnie Albertson 23

Mike Bailey

Mackie Bullock 13

David Bunn 13

Danny Byrd 14

Dr. Ray Carr

Charlie Cox

Robby Dillard 12

Angela Debelak 14

Katie Dowdy 15

Connie Faison 25

Pearl Fowler 25

Donna Gainey

Phillip Hedrick 15

Leigh Hudson 21

Lynn Ingalls 25

Bonnie Johnson

Paula Klein 13

Steve Klein

Kevin McKenzie 13

Doug Poole 19

Ralph Price 20

Jennifer Rodeniser

Jimmy Sutterfield

C.G. Townsend 25

J.C. Whitt 22

David Wilver 12

Carl Carlson 11

## Friends & Family with Continuing Needs

Phil Aquino 18

Elizabeth Ashley 11

Stacy Busch 15

Gary Byrd

Gene Clark 15

Joan Cooper 13

Charlene Cove 17

Sam Cunningham 22

Lewis Dowdy 15

Lois Evans 22

Gordie Graham 17

Dot Hensley 19

Sarah Elise Jennings 16

Hannah Keller 22

Mike Kemp 12

Rochelle Kemp 15

Terris Klausung 22

Milton Kraft 17

Cindy Lowery 11

Tammy Nance 15

Sandra Parrish 25

Richard Pickett 13

Renee Rhodes 11

Nash Rose 13

Tammy Sanderford 14

Trevor Sanderford 14

Lessie Scott 16

Dyke Starnes 18

Peggy Stevens

Jeri Taylor 13

Tom Underhill 11

Becky Waters 25

# Sermon Notes



## Memory Verse

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come! **2 Corinthians 5:17**

## Daily Scripture Reading

**Sunday, March 24, 2024:** Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 31:9-16; Philippians 2:5-11; Mark 14:1-15:47

**Monday, March 25, 2024:** Isaiah 42:1-9; Ps. 36:5-11; Heb. 9:11-15; John 12:1-11

**Tuesday, March 26, 2024:** Isaiah 49:1-7; Ps. 71:1-14; 1 Cor. 1:18-31; John 12:20-36

**Wednesday, March 27, 2024:** Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 70; Heb. 12:1-3; John 13:21-32

**Thurs, March 28, 2024:** Ex. 12:1-4, (5-10), 11-14; Ps. 116:1-2, 12-19; 1 Cor. 11:23-26; John 13:1-17

**Friday, March 29, 2024:** Is. 52:13-53:12; Ps. 22; Heb. 10:16-25; John 18:1-19:42

**Saturday, March 30, 2024:** Job 14:1-14; Ps. 31:1-4, 15-16; 1 Peter 4:1-8; Matthew 27:5-66