



A Letter From Jim

McEachern Memorial United Methodist Church • 4075 Macland Road • Powder Springs, GA 30127 • (770) 943-3008

March 12, 2008

Dear McEachern Members and Friends,

Grace and peace to you in the name of the Father God and of His Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Over the last several weeks we have been announcing the sale of Easter Lilies at our worship services. Purchasing these lilies does two things: it enables us to have a beautiful sanctuary on Easter morning and it helps fund our Youth Summer Mission Trips. I was dismayed when I was informed that to date we have sold a grand total of ten lilies. This Sunday we are making it easy for you. We will place order slips in the pew racks so you can purchase your Easter Lily. Simply place cash or a check for \$12 per lily along with the order form in a pew envelope and drop it in the offering plate. Imagine what a beautiful sanctuary we would have, and all the ministry that could be accomplished this summer, if each church family purchased only one Easter Lily.

This Sunday marks the beginning of Holy Week, the most solemn week of the Christian Year. We will celebrate **Palm Sunday** and Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. Our Music Ministry will present our Easter Cantata at the 9:30 and 11:00 traditional worship services in the sanctuary. Our children will lead the processional waving palm branches as the children did for Christ on the first Palm Sunday.

Maundy Thursday. The word "Maundy" comes from the Latin "mandatum" or mandate. We remember on this day that Jesus gave us a new commandment, to love one another as he loves us. This day also marks the commemoration of the institution of The Lord's Supper. We will celebrate this service in the sanctuary at 7 p.m.

The most somber service of the season is on March 21st with our **Good Friday** service. Reverends Cindy Blocksidge and Donna Goff are preparing a special service for us at 7 p.m. in the sanctuary.

Then, finally, next Sunday March 23rd we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus in our **Easter Sunday** services. We are encouraging all our regular worship attendees, especially our 9:30 worshipers, to consider coming to the 8:15 service in order to make room for all our guests at the 9:30 and 11:00 services. You, of course, are welcome to attend any of the services that best fit your need. For Easter Sunday, and Easter Sunday only, we will move the 8:15 service from the chapel to the sanctuary. We have made arrangements for you to park in the lots across New Macland Road on Easter Sunday. Let me encourage those of us who are able to park there and in the upper lots so our older members and those with physical limitations can park near the buildings; it is a great way to be a servant leader and show hospitality.

Lord, as we complete this journey to the cross help us to feel and experience the loss of your death. May we lie in the tomb with you so that we can also experience the joy and majesty of your Resurrection. Help us to leave the tomb and live as Resurrection people! Amen.

God Bless,