

SUNRISE CHURCH | MARCH 2026

# The Beacon

A close-up photograph of several green palm fronds, likely from a date palm, arranged in a fan-like pattern. The fronds are long and pointed, with some showing slight browning at the tips. The background is a soft, light green gradient.

**Join us for Palm Sunday**

We can't wait to see you on March 29, 2026! There will be an Easter egg hunt for children afterward - don't forget to bring your baskets!

### *Our Faith-filled Journey to Jerusalem*

*<sup>3</sup>For this very reason, you must make every effort to support your faith with goodness, and goodness with knowledge, <sup>6</sup>and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with endurance, and endurance with godliness, <sup>7</sup>and godliness with mutual affection, and mutual affection with love. (II Peter 1:5-7)*

Last month, I highlighted this passage from II Peter. For Lent, we are making our journey to Jerusalem using this progression of faithful living. Each sermon is focusing on our faith-filled response to God's goodness. In a way, we are on a pilgrimage to Holy Week and the glorious dawning of Easter morning!

February 22	First Sunday in Lent	"Goodness"
March 1	Second Sunday in Lent	"Knowledge"
March 8	Third Sunday in Lent	"Self-Control"
March 15	Fourth Sunday in Lent	"Endurance"
March 22	Fifth Sunday in Lent	"Godliness"
March 29	Palm Sunday	"Mutual Affection"
April 2	Maundy Thursday ~ Passover Seder/The Lord's Supper (6:00 p.m.)	
April 3	Good Friday ~ "Service of Shadows" (7:30 p.m.)	
April 5	Easter	"Agape Love"
	Community Sunrise Service on the Beach (6:45 a.m.)	
	Celebration of the Resurrection (10:00 a.m.)	

The verses from II Peter suggest steps that lead us to embracing "agape" love. "For this very reason, you must make every effort to support your faith with goodness." What a remarkable statement! And yet, it is only the first step on the journey. II Peter leads us through appreciating this goodness (knowledge) to exercising self-control that leads us to endurance (read: persevering) that brings godliness. It is godliness that ushers in mutual affection (in Greek: "philia" ~ a love among friends that is as strong as family bonds), which ultimately leads to "agape" love – a self-giving, self-sacrificing love.

The challenge for us is the daily struggle to embrace the good. Instead of giving up a favorite food or activity for Lent, I hope you have chosen to adopt a new practice or habit. Lent is a wonderful opportunity to reorient ones life to the "goodness of the Lord!"

In God's grace,



# Help decorate the Sanctuary for Easter Sunday!

Easter Lily order forms will be available in the Narthex beginning **March 22nd**. Please consider ordering them *in memory of* or *in honor of* loved ones. Forms may be placed in the offering plate or turned into the church office. You may also give online at <https://www.oursunrise.org/give/> with "Easter Lily" in the memo line and email your dedication to the church office at [hello@oursunrise.org](mailto:hello@oursunrise.org). The flowers are a beautiful way to help decorate our sanctuary for the Celebration of the Resurrection on Easter Sunday. The order deadline is **March 29th** and the cost of an Easter Lily is \$10.

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**client choice wellness pantry** FY24-25

**794,944 pounds**  
OF FOOD WAS DISTRIBUTED

**\$2 million+**  
RETAIL VALUE (\$2,188,787)

**943 HOUSEHOLDS SERVED**

Thank you for being so supportive of East Cooper Community Outreach (ECCO) in 2025. Sunrise donated **\$9584.05** and **649** pounds of food and hygiene products.

Grocery Bag Sunday is March 23rd. Grocery bags with shopping lists attached will be available in the Narthex and in the bin outside the Narthex doors beginning Sunday, **March 15th**. All filled grocery bags need to be returned by Sunday, **March 22nd**.

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## Sunrise Columbarium & Memorial Garden

Lent began with Ash Wednesday on February 18. During Lent we prepare for Easter when we celebrate the resurrection of our Savior, Jesus Christ, with the promise that we will have life eternal.

The Columbarium and Memorial Garden provide a beautiful, sacred final resting place for our members and our families, as well as those who have a close relationship with the church. Additionally, memorial plaques are available to remember those who are inurned or interred elsewhere.

Information about purchasing a niche in the columbarium or a plaque for the Memorial Wall is available on the church website at [www.oursunrise.org](http://www.oursunrise.org), at the church office or by contacting Ida Havelka at [ihavelka@comcast.net](mailto:ihavelka@comcast.net) or 843-412-1884.

# February in Photos



Souper Bowl of Caring Chili  
Potluck winners



Valentine's Breakfast sponsored by  
the Men's Breakfast Group



Valentine's Breakfast sponsored by  
the Men's Breakfast Group

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## Holy Week Event Descriptions

***Palm Sunday Worship, Easter Egg Hunt & Procession of the Palms: March 29th*** - The Worship Service with the Procession of the Palms is at 10:00 a.m. There will be an Easter Egg Hunt at 10:30 am. Bring your baskets!

***Maundy Thursday: April 2nd at 6:00 p.m.*** - This year, we will be in the Fellowship Hall sharing the Passover Seder meal and the Lord's Supper. This is a very special evening. The Last Supper that Jesus celebrated with his disciples in the Upper Room was the Passover Seder. It retells the story of God rescuing the people of Israel from Egypt. It was during the Last Supper that Jesus instituted the Lord's Supper. This event makes that important connection as we first share the celebration of the Passover and then finish the evening with Communion.

***Good Friday Service of Shadows: April 3rd at 7:30 p.m.*** - This is a powerful service at 7:30 p.m. that takes us on our Lord's final journey from the Garden of Gethsemane to the Cross. The service is an adaptation of an early fourth-century worship service, traditional to Holy Week. The church is well lighted at the beginning of the service. The lights dim as it continues, until, at the end, the sanctuary is shrouded in deep shadows. The gradual extinguishing of the lights and candles is symbolic of the flight of the disciples and the resentment of the world leading to the final isolation of Jesus on the Cross. At the conclusion a bell is tolled thirty-three times, recalling each year of Christ's life.

### **Easter Morning: April 5th**

6:45 a.m. Sunrise Service on the Beach at Breach Inlet

10:00 a.m. Celebration of the Resurrection

# March at Sunrise

**Growing Faith's** next meeting will be on March 15th at 9 am in the Middle School Youth Group room. Any older elementary & middle school students (4th - 8th grade) are invited to join us!

**The Adult Sunday School** class will continue with its Bible study that connects the many familiar stories and people of the Bible. The class meets weekly in the library at 9:00 a.m. There is a video conference option via google meet. ~ Vance

**Middle School Youth Group** (6th-8th grade) meets Sundays at 10:30 am and will also meet March 8th and 22nd from 4:30 - 6:30 pm at Sunrise Church. This month's meetings will include dinner, games, and a group devotional. If you have any questions, please reach out to Breezy at [breezy@oursunrise.org](mailto:breezy@oursunrise.org) or (843) 860-9581.

**On Friday evenings at Sunrise Church college-age young people** are gathering at 7:00 p.m. for Bible study, a meal, and then finishing the evening with a game like Uno. This youth group is a continuation of our Senior High group from last year. It's under the leadership of Harrison & Ritchie.

**The Women's Morning Bible Study** will meet on March 10th at 10 am in the library. This Bible study connects the many familiar stories and people of the Bible. New members are always welcome. ~ Vance

**The Women's Evening Bible Study** will meet March 17th at 5:30 pm using the book *Esther: Daring Faith for Such a Time as This*. In this 7-session study, author Kelly Minter invites you into the daring faith modeled by Esther and her cousin Mordecai—a faith developed over time, rooted in the goodness of God, lived out through extraordinary circumstances, and used to change the world. New members are always welcome. ~ Caroline

**Cents-Ability** is collected the 2nd Sunday of each month. Thanks to you, donations have been made to Neighbors Together, East Cooper Meals on Wheels, and East Cooper Community Outreach. Please continue to give at least two cents per person per meal in the bowl in the Narthex. This simple act is an expression of thanksgiving for what we have received.

Start off your Tuesdays with the **Jerry Dillon Men's Prayer Breakfast** at 8:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. Enjoy great food, fellowship, and a devotion.

SUNRISE CHURCH  
**EASTER**  
**EGG HUNT**  
SUNRISE CHURCH  
SUNRISE CHURCH



**MARCH 29 AT 10:30 AM**  
**3222 MIDDLE STREET**

**TREATS AND CRAFT**  
**DON'T FORGET TO BRING A BUCKET!**

# March 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1</p> <p>Communion &amp; Family Service 8:45am - Choir Practice 9am - Adult Sunday School 9am - Fellowship (Fellowship Hall) 10am - Family Service 10am - Worship Service 10:40am - Middle School Youth</p>	<p>2</p> <p>2:45pm - Music Lessons (Choir) 5:30pm - Agape Do Karate 6:45pm - Seaside Singers</p>	<p>3</p> <p>8am - Men's Breakfast</p>	<p>4</p> <p>10am - AA Meeting 6:30pm - Choir Practice</p>	<p>5</p> <p>5:30pm - Agape Do Karate</p>	<p>6</p> <p>10:30am - Bridge - Fellowship Hall 7pm - College Youth Group</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>8</p> <p>Cents-Ability 8:45am - Choir Practice 9am - Adult Sunday School 9am - Fellowship (Fellowship Hall) 10am - Family Service 10am - Worship Service 10:40am - Middle School Youth 4:30pm - Middle School Youth</p>	<p>9</p> <p>2:45pm - Music Lessons (Choir) 5:30pm - Agape Do Karate 6:45pm - Seaside Singers</p>	<p>10</p> <p>8am - Men's Breakfast 10am - Women's Morning Bible</p>	<p>11</p> <p>10am - AA Meeting 6:30pm - Choir Practice</p>	<p>12</p> <p>5:30pm - Agape Do Karate</p>	<p>13</p> <p>10:30am - Bridge - Fellowship Hall 7pm - College Youth Group</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15</p> <p>8:45am - Choir Practice 9am - Adult Sunday School 9am - Fellowship (Fellowship Hall) 9am - Growing Faith - Family 10am - Family Service 10am - Worship Service 10:40am - Middle School Youth</p>	<p>16</p> <p>2:45pm - Music Lessons (Choir) 5:30pm - Agape Do Karate 6:45pm - Seaside Singers</p>	<p>17</p> <p>8am - Men's Breakfast 5:30pm - Women's Evening Bible</p>	<p>18</p> <p>10am - AA Meeting 1pm - Stephen Ministry Meeting 6:30pm - Choir Practice</p>	<p>19</p> <p>5:30pm - Agape Do Karate</p>	<p>20</p> <p>10:30am - Bridge - Fellowship Hall 7pm - College Youth Group</p>	<p>21</p> <p>9am - Pinewood Derby</p>
<p>22</p> <p>8:45am - Choir Practice 9am - Adult Sunday School 9am - Fellowship (Fellowship Hall) 10am - Family Service 10am - Worship Service 10:40am - Middle School Youth 4:30pm - Middle School Youth</p>	<p>23</p> <p>2:45pm - Music Lessons (Choir) 5:30pm - Agape Do Karate 6:45pm - Seaside Singers</p>	<p>24</p> <p>8am - Men's Breakfast</p>	<p>25</p> <p>10am - AA Meeting 6:30pm - Choir Practice</p>	<p>26</p> <p>5:30pm - Agape Do Karate 6pm - Battery Gadsden - Sanctuary</p>	<p>27</p> <p>10:30am - Bridge - Fellowship Hall 7pm - College Youth Group</p>	<p>28</p> <p>4pm - Fellowship Hall Usage</p>
<p>29</p> <p>8:45am - Choir Practice 9am - Adult Sunday School 9am - Fellowship (Fellowship Hall) 10am - Family Service 10am - Worship Service 10:30am - Easter Egg Hunt 10:40am - Middle School Youth</p>	<p>30</p> <p>2:45pm - Music Lessons (Choir) 5:30pm - Agape Do Karate 6:45pm - Seaside Singers</p>	<p>31</p> <p>8am - Men's Breakfast</p>	<p>1</p> <p>10am - AA Meeting 6:30pm - Choir Practice</p>	<p>2</p> <p>5:30pm - Agape Do Karate</p>	<p>3</p> <p>10:30am - Bridge - Fellowship Hall 7pm - College Youth Group</p>	<p>4</p>

# March Birthdays

- |    |                      |    |                 |
|----|----------------------|----|-----------------|
| 1  | Roberta Blanchard    | 17 | Laurie Plumb    |
| 2  | Linda Nettles        | 18 | Autumn Woodbury |
| 4  | Mikayla Locke        | 18 | April Woodbury  |
| 5  | Amanda Holliday      | 18 | Lila Terry      |
| 6  | Devin McDavid Jones  | 23 | Dan Hancock     |
| 8  | Robin Feerst         | 24 | Gayle Nixon     |
| 8  | Mary Anne Lake       | 24 | James Hunt      |
| 10 | Barbara Dingle       | 25 | Charlie Evans   |
| 11 | Carly McDavid Hribar | 27 | Walker Chalmers |
| 14 | Chuck Lockhart       | 28 | Hope Murph      |
| 14 | Brianna Hill         | 29 | Nancy Havens    |
| 15 | Elinor Varndell      | 31 | Pat Latham      |
| 15 | Sarah Hooper         | 31 | Bob Waller      |
| 17 | Mark George          | 31 | Emily Fairchild |

**Church Office Hours:**

8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  
Monday through Friday

Phone: (843) 883-3888

[www.oursunrise.org](http://www.oursunrise.org)

## Sunrise Staff

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