

Morris

MEMORIAL

APRIL 2022

What Is the Legend of the Dogwood Tree?

Question: "What is the legend of the dogwood tree? Was the cross Jesus was crucified on made of dogwood?"

Answer: The Bible does not tell us what type of wood the cross Jesus was crucified on was made of. Roman history does not go into specifics as to how the crosses were made or what type of wood was used. There is a legend that the cross was made of dogwood. This is unlikely considering the typical size of a dogwood tree. The legend of the dogwood tree, author unknown, is as follows:

In Jesus' time, the dogwood grew
To a stately size and a lovely hue.
'Twas strong and firm, its branches interwoven.
For the cross of Christ its timbers were chosen.
Seeing the distress at this use of their wood
Christ made a promise which still holds good:
"Never again shall the dogwood grow
Large enough to be used so.
Slender and twisted, it shall be
With blossoms like the cross for all to see.
As blood stains the petals marked in brown,
The blossom's center wears a thorny crown.
All who see it will remember Me
Crucified on a cross from the dogwood tree.
Cherished and protected, this tree shall be
A reminder to all of My agony."¹

Again, this is just a legend. It is a nice poem, but there is no biblical basis to it.

¹ <https://www.gotquestions.org/legend-dogwood.html>

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mondays:	9:30 a.m.	Nurture in Action
Wednesdays:	10:00 a.m.	MEC Chapel
	10:30 a.m.	Bible Study
	7:00 p.m.	Bible Study
Sundays:	9:00 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:30 a.m.	Worship Service
	2:00 p.m.	Youth

April 4 – Worship Team 1:30 p.m.
April 4 – MEC Board 6:30 p.m.
April 5 - Trustees 6:30 p.m.
April 12 – Finance Team 6:30 p.m.
April 14 - Maundy Thursday service at 7:00 p.m.
April 15 - Good Friday service at 7:00 p.m.
April 19 – Church Council 6:30 p.m.
April 26 – PPRC 6:30 p.m.

Financial Update

Needed monthly to meet our 2022 budget:	\$33,681
Received March 1 – 31:	\$25,684
Expenses for March 1 – March 31:	\$37,081
Received 1 st quarter (January 1 – March 31):	\$89,988
Expenses for 1 st quarter (January 1 – March 31):	\$75,938

Thank you for your dedicated tithes and offerings to Morris Memorial.
Your gifts are deeply appreciated.

COMMON GROUNDS NEWS AND NEEDS

The Common Grounds Annual Report has been completed for 2021. We thought it might be helpful for you to know some statistics that will help you see the impact our mission outreach is making on our local community. They are the following:

Families Common Grounds helped	-	973
Actual Number of People helped	-	2311
Number of New Families	-	83
Average Monthly Income	-	\$737.93

In addition, the number of volunteers from our church who served in different capacities was 21. This number does not include our faithful Knit Wits who have made us dish cloths and baby blankets to distribute so they should be included as well. If you think you might be interested in volunteering at Common Grounds, please contact Susan at one of the phone numbers below and plan to come to the mission outreach to see what we do, how we work, and whether you'd like to be a part of our neighborhood outreach. We'd welcome you! It might be helpful to know that we are only open from 10:00 AM- 2:00 PM on Tuesdays and Thursdays if that is a consideration.

Again this year we have applied to our West Virginia Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church for one of their Hunger Grants. If we receive one of their grants those funds will assist us in providing more fresh vegetables, fresh fruits, milk, eggs, and frozen meat on a more regular basis. Our goal is to provide our families with enough food to last 2 ½ - 3 days at each visit in addition to healthier food. If you would like to donate food this month, please consider CANNED FRUIT (preferably in their own juices), CANNED SPAGHETTI SAUCE, and/or BOXED OATMEAL. You may place them in the woven trunk in the open recessed area in the Narthex. If you would like to make a donation by check, please make the check out to Morris Memorial Methodist Church and in the bottom left-hand corner write Common Grounds. Thank you so much for sharing your resources (whatever way or ways you choose) with those who are so in need right here in our area. May God bless you richly!

If interested you may contact Susan Vieweg, our Morris' Mission Team's Common Grounds Coordinator, at (304) 344-2617 or (304) 549-6155. Thank you!

To our Church Family:

Mildred, Ted and the Ford family want to thank all of you for your prayers, cards, food, and all the great support you extended to us during the recent passing of our son, Kevin Ford. It really made things easier for us, especially Mildred.

We want to thank Bruce for the great job he did on the service. Also a big thank you to the Brothers in the Cross for taking the time to come and sing one of Kevin's favorite songs, "County Roads." Thanks to David Leake too for showing the slides for us.

*Thank
You*

It is such a blessing to have the great church family that we have. We love each of you.

The Bledsoe and Ford Families

APRIL CELEBRATIONS

Birthdays:

Mary Collins	April 1	Steve Jones	April 10
Mel Dillard	April 4	Brad Hall	April 11
Kent Williams	April 9	Tony Hess	April 15
Mike Barber	April 10	Robbie Skull	April 21

Anniversaries:

Jeanne & Tim Basford	April 9
Marg & Gill Heasley	April 18