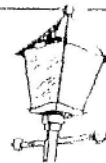


Lamplighter

Let your light so shine
before others . . .

Matthew 5:16



Up River Friends Meeting, Belvidere, NC 27919 -- Vol. XXXIX- No. 3

March 2016

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR:

DEAR FRIENDS:

THE DYNAMIC AROUND THE PASSION OF CHRIST:

This is the time of year that many in the Body of Christ reflect on the Passion of Christ. Christ's Passion is beautiful, but there is a foul dynamic that made His Passion possible. Reflecting on the religious, political, and societal stiffness, one can appreciate how this ugly dynamic made Christ's Passion beautiful, particularly the back-and-forth between the Sanhedrin, Pontius Pilate, and Christ. One can gain a greater appreciation for how deep Christ's love is for people who often do unlovely things.

First, it should be noted; there were two courts in the Sanhedrin: religious and political. The religious court held religious authority over all the Jewish people who resided outside of Palestine, a legislative body, concerned with religious affairs, of which the Roman State was not interested.¹ In contrast, the political Sanhedrin was separate in form and function. The state, through its rulers, appointed the members of the court and placed the High Priest as its head. Since the political Sanhedrin had no written statutes for guidance, it tried cases any time of the week and met at very different places.¹

Though formerly a Jewish institution, in Jesus' day, the political Sanhedrin became the watchdog of Roman expansionism—obedient to procurator and High Priest. Roman authority was absolute, summoning the Sanhedrin to investigate judicial matters, but also withdrawing prisoners from under its jurisdiction.¹

The Sanhedrin needed Pilate, and what the leaders of the Jews hoped for was Pilate's consent to capital punishment without examining the case for himself, which he was not willing to do.² In reality, Jesus was handed over to Pilate not because he had committed a capital offence against Mosaic Law rather Roman law. The Sanhedrin sought political charges by employing religious questions: "Are you the Christ?" to which Jesus confessed. The charge against Jesus, being The Christ was a crime against the Roman state, and the Sanhedrin needed Pilate's capital jurisdiction over political offenders.¹

Pilate is not deceived, (Mark 15:10), the governor was aware that envy is the motive behind the action of the chief priests.² If Pilate were going to execute Jesus, it would be because he threatened the political stability of Roman.³ Pilate was reluctant to sentence Christ, so the Sanhedrin took matters into hand and force Pilate to act.

The crowds were gathering to demand their annual benefit, the release of one prisoner, a franchise to ease tensions between the governor and governed. Pilate felt safe suggesting he release Jesus, feeling confident the opposition to Christ was fundamentally due to the envy of the Sanhedrin. Nevertheless, the fast acting machine infiltrated the crowd urging them to ask for the release of Barabbas.² There is no proof that this group was the same which welcomed Jesus into the city days before, rather, these were more than likely Galilean pilgrims who were under the thumb of the Sanhedrin.²

Disgusted, Pilate is ready to hand over jurisdiction to the Jews, and the Jews are set to accept because Jesus is worthy of death in their viewpoint. For the first time, the accusers freely state the real charges—blasphemy—He had made Himself The Son of God.² The plot thickens when the Sanhedrin suggests Christ's kingly claims are in opposition to the sovereignty of Caesar. The emperor will not look on acquittal lightly, and fearing a review of his administration, Pilate must give up Jesus if he wishes to retain his post.²

Rome jealously guarded the right to exercise capital punishment,³ and Pilate caved to the wishes of the Sanhedrin and exercised his authority. Christ's punishment was being The Son of God; the irony is; Christ is

The Son of God. The leaders of the Sanhedrin were jealous of Christ, yet Christ willingly laid down His life to save theirs.

Christ's death was not to pay for His sins, but the sin of everyone, which is one of the things that makes Christ's passion so beautiful, He gave His life to pay for the sins of God's fallen creation. Jesus gave His life for both parties of the Sanhedrin. Joseph of Arimathea was a prominent member of the Sanhedrin (Mark 15:43). Nicodemus is another member who asked Jesus how he could be saved (John 3:1-21). Jesus gave His life for these, and perhaps others of the Sanhedrin, who believed. Christ gave His life for the members of all religious and political parties even Republicans, Democrats, Baptists, and Quakers.

While Scripture never tells us that Pilate became a believer, Jesus died for people like Pilate, who dare not jeopardize their authority to perform what is moral. Scripture provides the suggestion that Pilate wash his hands of Jesus (Matthew 27:24), yet Pilate had the power to stop Jesus' crucifixion yet did not. Pilate, even though he washed his hands of Jesus, chose his status in the eyes of Caesar over his standing in the eyes of God. Christ gave His life for people who do not always do the honorable thing.

Christ's passion was for the whole world. Jesus made a way for all individuals—good people, bad people, complacent people, envious people, cantankerous people—all people to enjoy restored relation with the Father. It is simply a matter of placing faith, trust, and belief in Christ. "...If you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved" (Romans 10:9, NKJV).

It does not stop there; Jesus is so passionate about you that He arose from the grave to die no more. For all who believe and place their confidence in Christ, He has paid the way for you to know life eternal with Him (Romans 8:11).

There is much to learn about the dynamic of the Passion of Christ; however, the most dynamic thing is this: He loves you with an everlasting love. For all who believe and place confidence in Christ "I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Romans 8:38-39, NKJV).

References

¹ Okorie, A. M. (1996). *Who Crucified Jesus*. *Communio Viatorum*, 38(2), 101-109.

² Harrison, E. F. (1948). *The Son of God among the sons of men 14 Jesus and Pilate*. *Bibliotheca Sacra*, 105(419), 307-319.

³ Stein, R. H. (1996). *Jesus the Messiah: A Survey of the Life of Christ*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press.

Blessings, Chuck

PRAYER REQUESTS; World leaders and those working to bring world peace. Our elders and leadership of our meeting, Jason Warren, Carolyn Baker, Connie Baker, Tabatha Baker, Dale Hunter, Brandon Price, Melody L. White, Garland Anderson, Lela Bundy, Iona Baker, Ralph Hartley, Peggy Wilcox (Richard's mother), Tommy Chappell, Jackie Wiley, Kathy Turner, Linda Hall, Jenna, Ryan and Baby Cash Caldwell, Cody & Lauren Lamb, Reby Stallings, Linda Givens, Judy Phthisic, Sydney Pierce, Pete Mansfield, Tommy Stallings, Jean Pressley (Sonya's mother), Stacy Hall (Stephen Hall's twin-brother), Conna Gessler, Alan Corprew, Aubrey Burgess, Jean Pressley (Sonya's mother), Cody Lamb & wife Lauren, Sid Stallings, Robert Hall (cousin of Rose Riddick), Kay Boyce, Talynn Gurganus, Denise Dail, Lois Faye, Paul White and family, Mary Frances Twiddy, Chad Winslow, Quincy Riddick, Lewis Stallings, Carlton Rountree, Karen & Freddie Boblit, Beulah Phthisic, Faye Lassiter, Anna Wrae Smith, C. F. Stallings, Virginia Ripperger, Abby Baker, Anna Spivey, Carey Guyer and her best friend Erica, Bill Jones, the families of Carlton Boyce, Al Gessler, Elsie Gregory, Susan Storey, Dana Rielly, our care-givers, youth, and missionaries. If you know of anyone who needs to be added to our prayer list, please contact Pastor Chuck or Catherine. Thank you.

(Unless we know their needs or you make us aware of their needs, after 30 days the name will rotate off).

UP RIVER FRIENDS MEETING'S MISSION STATEMENT:

To know Christ and to make Him known.

SCHEDULE OF SUNDAY & WEEKLY SERVICES

BIRTHDAYS and ANNIVERSARIES

10:00 am Sunday School
 11:00 am Worship Service
 Nursery and Junior Church

 02nd 6:00 pm Choir Practice
 6:30 pm Light Meal
 7:30 pm Children Time
 07th 7:00 pm Ministry and Counsel
 09th 6:00 pm Choir Practice
 6:30 pm Light Meal
 7:30 pm Monthly Meeting
 13th **DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS**
(set clock ahead one hour)
 14th 2:00 pm Elizabeth White Miss. Circle
 15th **LAMPLIGHTER NEWS** is due – thank you
 16th 6:00 pm Choir Practice
 6:30 pm Light Meal
 7:30 pm Children Time
 19th **EASTER EGG HUNT**
 20th 11:00 am **PALM SUNDAY SERVICE**
 23rd 6:00 pm Choir Practice
 6:30 pm Light meal
 7:30 pm Children Time
 25th 7:30 pm **GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE**
 27th **HAPPY EASTER** –(see article below)
SUNRISE SERVICE (Up River Cemetery)
Breakfast to follow-Up River Fellowship Hall
 Followed by **PRAISE AND WORSHIP 9:45-10:15**
10:30 am EASTER MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE
(Sanctuary)
 30th 6:00 pm Choir Practice
 6:30 pm Light meal
 7:30 pm Children Time

02nd **TOM & JENNIFER McCLAREN**
 Catherine Winslow
 03rd Eliza Grace Jethro, Jessa Spivey Pope
 07th Amber Winslow
 10th Joy Riddick
 13th Lee Dail
 14th Brenda Lassiter
 16th Ashley Russell Winslow
 17th **HERBERT & JESSIE MAE WILLIAMS**
 18th Jonathan Winslow
 19th Georgia L. Stallings
 21st Millard T. Winslow, Kelly B. Winslow
 Carter Alan Lowe
 23rd Nicole B. Barton, Sherree Winslow
 24th **ARLAND & HELEN WINSLOW**
 Nathan Glenn Williams
 Carlie Lynn & Carmine Michael Salvatore
 26th Chuck Hartman
 28th Mary Harrell, Eric Woods
 29th Angela Renee W. Pope
 31st Jesse Rountree, Matt White



FLOWERS:

06 th	Faith Dail	20 th	Kellie Price & Kyllie L.
13 th	Brenda Lassiter	27 th	Tommy & Rose Riddick

NURSERY (Sunday School):

First Sunday: Brenda & Jenna C.
Second Sunday: Lois & Faith
Fifth Sunday: Lois Dail

Third Sunday: Jovan Ward
Fourth Sunday: Cheryl & Tiffany

PRE-SCHOOL (Sunday School):

First Sunday: Kim & Drew

Second Sunday: Mike & Jamie

Fifth Sunday: Amanda Winslow

Third Sunday: Dena Richardson

Fourth Sunday: Kim & Drew

NURSERY (Worship Hour):

First Sunday: Brandon & Nicole

Second Sunday: Jason & Caroline

Fifth Sunday: Jovan & Cheryl

Third Sunday: Chris & Tabatha

Fourth Sunday: Jimmy & Tiffany

TODDLER NURSERY (Worship Hour):

First Sunday: Ashley J. & LouAnn

Second Sunday: Lacey & Austin

Scottie & Sonya

Fifth Sunday: Rusty & Terry Sweeney

Third Sunday: Sydni & Kelly Winslow

Fourth Sunday: Brandon & Julane

CHILDREN'S CHURCH: (GRADES K-5)

First Sunday: Lynette & Tabatha

Second Sunday: Josh & Gabby

Fifth Sunday: Join Worship

Third Sunday: Holly

Fourth Sunday: Matt & Amanda

UPCOMING EVENTS:

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER OPPORTUNITIES:

March will bring a number of worship and ministry opportunities at Up River! Mark your calendars now and pay special attention to times.

Easter Egg Hunt - Saturday, March 19. Fun, games, crafts and learning about Jesus for children from birth to 100! Time to be announced.

Palm Sunday Service - Sunday, March 20 at 11 a.m. The day of observance of Jesus' s arrival into the city as crowds waved and spread palm branches in his path in welcome.

Good Friday Service - Friday, March 25, 7:30 p.m. Enter in light and move into darkness as the story of Jesus' last day on earth is told in scripture and song.

Easter Sunrise Service - Sunday, March 27 at Up River Cemetery. Celebrate the Son rising as the sun rises over Whiteston. Time to be announced. Breakfast to follow in the Up River Fellowship Hall.

Easter Praise & Worship - Sunday, March 27 at 9:45-10:15 am in the Fellowship Hall. Music and praise to honor the King of Kings.

Easter Morning Worship Service - Sunday, March 27 at 10:30 a.m. in the meeting room. The Up River Family will gather earlier than usual for a special time of praise and thanksgiving for the Savior who died for our sins and rose in victory on the third day.

150TH ANNIVERSARY HOMECOMING:

Up River will hold a special day of praise and thanksgiving in observance of 150 years of worship and ministry "up the river" on **Sunday, August 7 at 10:30 a.m.** Worship service, lunch and an afternoon program of music are tentatively planned. Please mark your calendars and plan to join us as we thank God for the opportunities to worship and serve as He has provided in the past, and seek the leading of the Spirit in moving forward.

UP RIVER MISSIONARY CIRCLE :

The Elizabeth White Missionary Circle met in the Fellowship Hall on Monday, February 8th at 2 o'clock. The program was *Gifts of Gratitude* shared with the nine members present. We have enjoyed our lessons on *Gratitude* shared by Friends here in the United States and other countries. We contributed to the Quaker Institute of Peace in Cuba, the Right Sharing of World Resources for Samson Ababu's support and in East Africa for Getry Agizah with the Friends Church Peace Team.

The next meeting will be March 7th at 2 o'clock in the Fellowship Hall with Lois Faye White bringing the program on *The Stuff of Faith*. Everyone is welcome.

SERVING at the LORD'S TABLE:

On February 10th, servants for the Lord from Up River prepared and served a Fellowship meal to 52 guests including the volunteers. Ron Rountree and Jacque Pagels provided the chili; Judy Parsons provided the homemade pimento cheese sandwiches; desserts were provided by Kristen Keller, Brenda Lassiter, Catherine, Winslow, Etta Florence Winslow, and Gloria Wissman. We were blessed to have the following to help set up, serve, and clean up: Ashley & Jennifer Berry, Pastor Chuck & Sonya Hartman, Kristen Keller, Judy Parsons, Ron, Catherine, Etta Florence, and Gloria. God has truly blessed us by being able to fellowship with others in our surrounding community.

We would like to thank those who may not be able to give of their time, but are donating to this ministry. Thank you also to all of you who are lifting this ministry up in prayer.

Peace of Christ,

The servants of "The Lord's Table"

ALBEMARLE PREGNANCY MEDICAL CLINIC:

The Albemarle Pregnancy Resource Center and Clinic is a non-profit Christian medical clinic providing free pregnancy testing and other services. The center is staffed by licensed medical personnel and staff that has been trained and certified to perform certain tests by the medical director.

There is an in-house boutique stocked with all the necessities new moms need to take care of their newborns and toddlers through age 4. Participants in the parenting program earn points that can be used to purchase items in the boutique.

Friends at Up River will have an opportunity to help support this agency and its work in the coming weeks through the "Baby Bottle Boomerang" program. Empty baby bottles will be made available at the meetinghouse to be filled with contributions. Watch for further information on this up-coming project.

The telephone number for this clinic is 252-338-1655. If you have questions about this program give them a call or if you know of a friend that their services could benefit – share this number with them.

QUAKER LAKE PRINTS FOR SALE:

Quaker Lake prints are on sale! These prints were formerly sold to raise money for the Conference Center at \$100 each. Now they are \$25.00 each including tax and shipping. There is a Quaker Lake print hanging over the sofa in the Library. If you would like to own one of these prints E-mail kenreb50@gmail.com or call 1-336-879-1340, cell – 1-336-953-5870. Also blank Quaker Lake cards \$4 per box, by pickup only.

THE QUERIES: The following comes from the Faith and Practice (Book of Discipline) of North Carolina Yearly Meeting of Friends under the heading THE QUERIES. *Please take time to consider these thoughts and hopefully our meeting will grow both spiritually and numerically.*

CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP: Do you love one another as becomes the followers of Christ? Are you careful of the reputation of others? When differences arise, do you make earnest effort to end them speedily?

*To each of you who contributed to this newsletter, **THANK YOU SO VERY MUCH.** If you would like to share in upcoming newsletters, please feel free to do so – just give me a call at 297-2485 or e-mail me at lcwjr@inteliport.com. Also if you have a loved one or a friend whom you think would like to receive our newsletter – please let me know; or if you no longer wish to receive our newsletter, let me know. Thank you very much. Catherine G. Winslow*

Victory!

The Easter message tells us that our enemies — sin, the curse and death — are beaten. Ultimately they can no longer start mischief. They still behave as though the game were not decided, the battle not fought; we must still reckon with them, but fundamentally we must cease to fear them anymore.

—Karl Barth, *Dogmatics in Outline*



[image above: VICTORY_13644, VICTORY_13644C]

Taking up the cross

"That's her cross to bear," it's said of someone's hardship or inconvenience. The challenge might be as serious as poverty or as trivial as crabby neighbors. However, when Jesus called people to "take up their cross," he didn't mean it that way. Nor was he referring to anyone imposing suffering on another.

When Jesus said, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me" (Matthew 16:24 and parallels), he spoke of a radical new way to engage a society that more often called people to take up swords and fight for self-preservation. He called people to peace, not violence — and from being self-focused to following him.

That is also Jesus' call today. The cross isn't a euphemism that lets us dismiss someone's suffering. We don't appoint someone else to bear it. When we choose the cross, we do so for ourselves in response to Jesus' invitation that, one way or another, ultimately leads through death to new life.

Easter joy

Joy is prayer. Joy is strength. Joy is love. Joy is a net of love by which you can catch souls. God loves a cheerful giver. One gives most who gives with joy. The best way to show our gratitude to God and people is to accept everything with joy.

A joyful heart is the inevitable result of a heart burning with love. Never let anything so fill you with sorrow as to make you forget the joy of the Christ risen.

—Mother Teresa



Bible Quiz

While Jesus was dying on the cross, who mocked him, saying, "He saved others; he cannot save himself"?

- A. Priests
- B. Scribes
- C. Elders
- D. All of the above



Answer: D (See Matthew 27:41-42.)

Walking the faith

As spring buds and temperatures rise, it's fun to get outside and walk. Walking is great for both body and mind. "To solve a problem, walk around," advised St. Jerome. Naturalist Henry David Thoreau agreed, saying, "The moment my legs begin to move, my thoughts begin to flow." Indeed, walking has been linked to improved creativity and reduced anxiety.

Some Bible versions translate Ephesians 5:8 "Live as children of light," while others use "walk": "You were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light" (NKJV). What a great rendering! Living is something we often do passively and without much thought, while walking is an intentional, active pursuit; we must choose when, where and how we do it.

Now that we're children of light — newly alive spring-time people, Easter people! — Jesus urges us to not just live the faith but to walk it. When our faith becomes active, new thoughts flow, anxiety decreases and we make strides in our relationship with Jesus.

—Heidi Mann

No more sting

One spring day, a father and son were driving when a bee flew in the window and buzzed around. Because the boy was deathly allergic to bee stings, he panicked. But the calm father reached out and caught the bee in his hand, holding it tight.

After a few moments, the dad reached over, opened his hand and showed his son the stinger, stuck in his palm. "It's okay," the father said. "I took the sting, so the bee can't hurt you."

Likewise, people who know Jesus as their victorious Savior no longer need to fear the sting of death. "O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?" (1 Corinthians 15:55, ESV).

Happy to help

The International Day of Happiness is observed on March 20 (also the first day of spring this year; coincidence?). Jesus said we'll be happy (or "blessed") when we're meek, merciful, pure and so on (see his Beatitudes in Matthew 5:3-12). In other words, happiness results from putting others' needs above our own.

Research confirms that helping others boosts people's self-esteem, forges strong friendships, offers a sense of belonging and purpose, decreases stress, increases gratitude and sparks others to "pay it forward." In fact, University of Texas researchers found that the "activism cure" is a great way to overcome bouts of sadness. So get helping — and get happy!

Easter possibilities

The message of Easter is not only that Christ is risen, not only that suffering is not the last word, not only that God gives new life, but this: Nothing is impossible with God.

—The Rev. James Martin, S.J.



Where the river flows *life* abounds. *Ezekiel 47:9*

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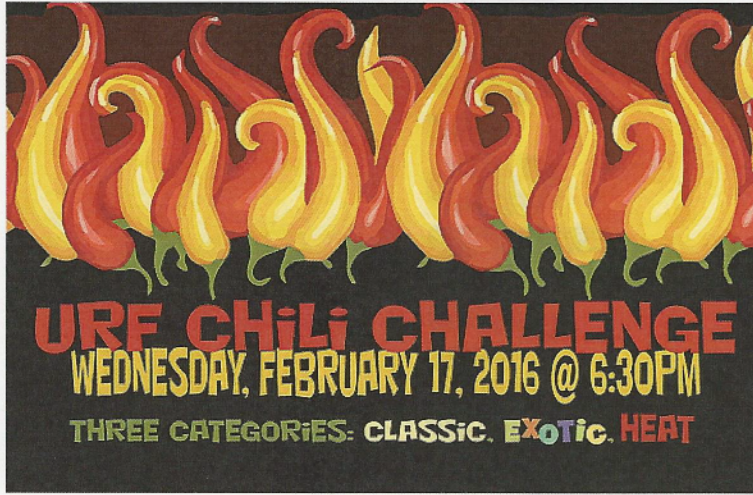
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To know Christ and to make Him known.

Faith & Practice

Do you strive for the constant realization of God's presence in your life?

~ Spiritual Growth Query

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UPCOMING EVENTS

10 Feb

Up River Friends will be serving lunch at the Lord's Table in Hertford. If you would like to volunteer please contact the office.

17 Feb

3rd Annual Chili Cook Off. In the Family Life Center beginning at 6:30pm.

March

Easter Egg Hunt TBA

[+ Read More](#)

CONTACT US

523 Up River Road
Believer, NC 27919

Phone: 252.297.2442

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Up River NEWS

Chili Challenge

URF Chili Challenge, Wednesday, February 17th at 6:30 pm (Enter your best chili recipe with three choices Classic—tomato based, Exotic—any combination of ingredients / sauce, and Heat—spicy/hot. You may enter as many different varieties as you wish).

Meals On Wheels

we are in need of volunteers to help deliver meals. If you are interested in this avenue of personal ministry contact the office.

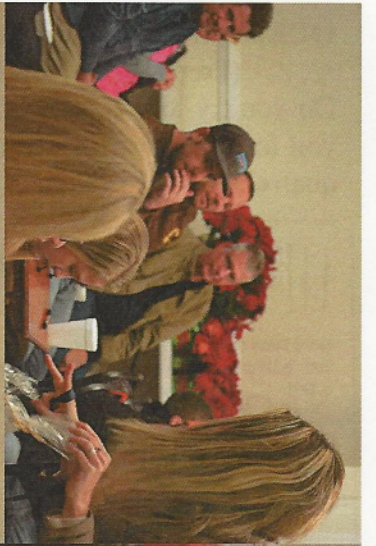
Lamplighter

All articles due July 15th.

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Visit our new web page ...

www.upriverfriends.org



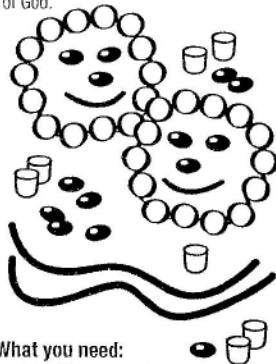
QUERIES FOR BOYS AND GIRLS:

(Prepared by New England Junior Yearly Meeting)

Do you try to act, as Christ showed the way, so that there is no cause for quarreling with other children? Do you forgive those who injure you by word or act? Are you careful to speak well of others? When your friends quarrel, do you try to help them to feel friendly again?

LITTLE LAMBS

Make these cute treats as a reminder that Jesus our Savior is also the Lamb of God.



What you need:

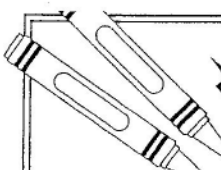
- Vanilla cupcakes
- Vanilla frosting
- Butter knife
- Mini marshmallows
- Jellybeans
- Red licorice

What you do:

1. Bake and frost the cupcakes.
2. Place marshmallows around the edge of each cupcake.
3. Cut green or blue jellybeans in half and place two on each cupcake as eyes. Cut pink jellybeans in half and place one below each pair of eyes as a nose.
4. Cut thin strips of licorice, and place one on each cupcake as a mouth.
5. Enjoy!

LAMPLIGHTER

Up River Friends Meeting
523 Up River Road
Belvidere, NC 27919



PUZZLE

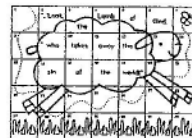
Lamb of God

John the Baptist knew Jesus was the Messiah — and offered a special greeting when he saw Jesus.

Directions: Cut apart the squares and arrange them in a rectangle in numerical order, starting with #1 in the top left and going across to #7. Continue building four more rows of seven squares each, to reveal John 1:29, NIV.

1	2 "Look,	25	4 Lamb	20	16 sin
8	33	27	12 the	23	18 the
20	6 God,	22	30	10 takes	34
24	17 of	5 of	19 world!"	22	11 away
3	31	26	9 who	13	15
14	7	28	35	21	

[NOTE: A completed puzzle is in a file called kid0316b_a on this month's CD and on the website, www.NewsletterNewsletter.com.]



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