



# *The Elim Waterfall*

*March – April 2022*

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## *From the Pastor:*

C. Austin Miles didn't like the month of March. Too much wind he thought. He would often tell others, "I'll make it through another year if I can get through the month of March. Oddly enough, he passed away on March 10, 1946, in Pitman, New Jersey.

So, who is C. Austin Miles? He's the man who wrote that beloved hymn, "In the Garden." Miles attended the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and the University of Pennsylvania. In 1892, he abandoned his career as a pharmacist and wrote his first Gospel song. He later became editor of a music publishing company and served them for 37 years. His hobby, however, was photography. He even built his own "darkroom" for developing his film. Using the special "red lighting" of the darkroom, he would read his Bible while waiting for the developing process to finish. Since he was a musician and a songwriter, he often found himself reading with the express purpose of getting ideas for Christian songs.

One day in March 1912, while waiting for his film to develop, his Bible fell open to the gospel of John, chapter 20. That chapter finds Mary coming to the garden to visit the tomb of Jesus. When the risen Lord speaks to her, sadness quickly turns to joy.

Miles imagined that he was present with them in the garden on that glorious occasion, witnessing the wonderful event. Later, he would write, "This is not an experience limited to a happening almost 2,000 years ago. It is the daily companionship with the Lord that makes up the Christian's life." In the inspiration of those moments, he wrote a poem. He later said the words and phrases came quickly. That same evening, he composed the music, and in doing so gave the world this beautiful hymn.

Well, while March may represent Miles' least favorite month, it also represents the month he wrote this great hymn, a hymn that was inspired by the glorious news of the resurrection!

So...it seems appropriate in these months of "*March*" and April, that we make our Lenten/Easter theme this year, "In the Garden." Have you ever considered what an important place the Bible gives to gardens? It begins in Genesis with the Garden of Eden, a garden of paradise. It ends in Revelation 22 with the picture of

another garden of paradise. And in between, is a third garden, a garden of redemption. I invite you to join us in the garden every Sunday throughout the months of March and April. Here's what you can expect!

# Worship SCHEDULE

March 6, *"In the Garden: Enjoying Paradise" Genesis 2:8-15*

March 13, *"In the Garden: Losing Paradise" Genesis 3:1-19*

March 20, *"In the Garden: Sowing" Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23*

March 27, *"In the Garden: Weeding" Matthew 13:24-30*

April 3, *"In The Garden: Abiding" John 15:1-8*

April 10, *"In the Garden: Praying" Luke 22:39-46*

April 17, Easter, *"In the Garden: With the Gardener!" John 20:1-18*

April 24, *"In the Garden: Paradise Regained! Revelation 22:1-5*

**Speaking of gardens.... why did the tomato turn red?**

**BECAUSE IT SAW THE SALAD DRESSING!**

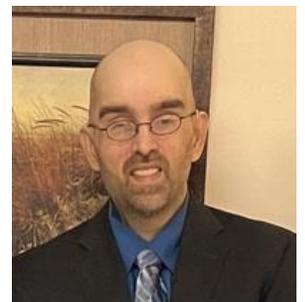


REMEMBERING.....



Warren Ippen, age 83, passed away at home on December 27, 2021. Warren was a lifelong Stillman Valley resident who served in the Army reserves and worked as a barber for many years. He also farmed until recently retiring. He was a member of the Stillman Valley Lion's Club and Ogle Co. Farm Bureau. He is survived by his daughters: Lonna (Thad) Young, Gay (Rob) Fritz, Edie (Bruce) Fowler, Beth Ippen, and Lori (Jamie) Bee, and eight grandchildren and four great grandchildren. His funeral service was held on January 4, 2022.

Micah Somers, age 40, passed away unexpectedly on December 28, 2021, after battling many health issues since his birth. He was an avid reader and loved history, especially the Civil War era. He also enjoyed being involved with steam engines with his family. He is survived by his parents, Joe and Dawn Somers; brothers Trenton and Nick (Brittany) Somers. His funeral service was held on January 6, 2022.



# dates to Remember

## March

- 2 – “On Purpose” Bible Study meeting at 6 p.m.
  - LENT begins
- 15 – Consistory at 6:30 p.m.
- 17 – ST. PATRICK’S DAY



## April

- 3 – Communion & Quarterly Benevolent Fund Offering
  - OPEN HOUSE for Bob & Linda Alderks → →
- 10 – PALM SUNDAY
- 15 – GOOD FRIDAY
- 17 – EASTER Breakfast 8:30 – 9:30 a.m.  
EASTER Worship 10:00 a.m.
- 27 – NEWSLETTER DEADLINE for May-August issue



Bob and Linda Alderks of Chana will celebrate their 45<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary (4/2/77) with an Open House on Sunday, April 3, from 3-5 p.m. at the Jarrett Prairie Center in Byron, IL. Come help them celebrate 45 years of wedded bliss! No gifts please.

## BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES (A)

### March

- 4 – Braxton Tasso
- 6 – Mary Ellen Rahn  
Marie Hopkins  
Grant McClendon  
Rodney & Cyndy Hayenga (A)
- 7 – Julie Mann
- 8 – Roger Hayenga
- 10 – Jami Bruns
- 16 – Roger & Carol Hayenga (A)
- 17 – Henry Haner
- 24 – Bev Kearns
- 26 – Donna Fruin  
Dan Alderks  
Deb Maas & Gary Nefstead (A)
- 28 – Marla Rozeboom

### April

- 2 – Bob & Linda Alderks (A)
- 6 – Nick Somers
- 10 – Peggy Howe  
Robert & Kristi Calbeck (A)
- 15 – Heather Alderks
- 18 – Joe Somers
- 25 – Pastor Marv Jacobs
- 27 – Rodney Hayenga

Ebenezer is hosting a Lenten Study starting Wednesday, March 9. A light supper will be offered at 5:30 p.m. followed by a study of Christ's Last Words on the Cross at 6:15 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend in person or via Zoom.

