

The Worst-Smelling Flower

And God said, Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb yielding seed, and the fruit tree yielding fruit after his kind, whose seed is in itself... (Genesis 1:11)



The voodoo lily is native to Southeast Asia, although it is sometimes sold in the west as a curiosity. When it flowers, the voodoo lily sends up a fleshy, purple spike that can be three feet long. Besides being one of the worst-smelling flowers you'll ever experience, the spike has another amazing ability.

The spike of the voodoo lily generates a number of hormones that, when heated, smell like rotting meat. It does this because the flies that pollinate the lily feed on decaying flesh. The smell draws them in to look for food, and in the process pollinate the lily. The flower stalk is able to generate plenty of heat that creates its awful smell. Temperatures inside the flowers can reach 110 degrees F. In order to generate this much heat, the voodoo lily actually operates at a metabolic rate similar to that of a hummingbird in flight! This frantic rate continues only until the flower is pollinated.

As a matter of interest, while the voodoo lily is the most dramatic of heat-producing plants, several common household plants that are related to the voodoo lily also produce heat when flowering. These include the dieffenbachia and the philodendron.

Scripture offers a very modest account of God's creative activity. Incredibly imaginative and intricate designs are included in the simple statement, "Let the earth bring forth grass..."

Ref: Rick Weiss, "Blazing Blossoms," Science News, Vol.135. Photo: Voodoo lily (*Dracunculus vulgaris*). Courtesy of Jörg Hempel. (CC BY-SA 3.0 Germany)

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Memorial Baptist Church



February 26, 2023

Church Office

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This Week at Memorial

Sunday, February 26, 2023

8:45am - 9:45am - Discipleship Classes
10:00am - Worship - James Pope Baptism

A Look Ahead

3/5 - Breakfast
3/5 - Upward Celebration/Dinner
3/5-12 - Annie Armstrong Week of Prayer
3/12 - Guest Speaker - Matt Hess
3/12 - Daylight Saving Time Begins
3/17 - L.I.F.T.
3/18 - Student Activity - Paintball
3/19 - Student Takeover
3/20 - Spring Begins

Thank you for joining us for worship today. If you are visiting or have any prayer needs, please fill out an MBC Connect Card and place it in the offering plate.

Week of February 26, 2023

Joy Junction

8:45am - Cindy S.
10:00am Svc. - Ben & Kim S.
Wed. - February 29 - Chris S.

Junior Church

Brenda K. - Mariah R.

Wed. February 29 - Kids Connection

Amy Johnson - Ryan Gerling

Usher Ministry

8:45 - Sunday School - Kevin M.
10:00am - Jesse W., Tim R., Curtiss C.
Wed. - February 29 - Ryan W.

March 5, 2023

Joy Junction

8:45am - Cindy S.
10:00am Svc. - Jamie B., Alana C.
Wed. - March 8 - Cindy S.

Junior Church

Lisa R. - Abby J.

Wed. March 8 - Kids Connection

Amy Johnson - Ryan Gerling

Usher Ministry

8:45 - Sunday School - Joe G.
10:00am - Ed S., Jim S., Jim H.
Wed. - March 8 - Steve G.

Upward Celebration

The Upward Celebration will be Sunday, March 5 at 3:00 pm in the New Haven High School gym. A free Italian dinner will follow at Memorial Baptist Church. RSVP is required by Wednesday, March 1 to Amy @314-378-7849 or amylyn.johnson@gmail.com. Please bring a dessert to the FLC after the celebration.

Student Takeover

Students will lead various ministries within the church and Anderson Menz will be preaching. Please contact Pastor Nathan if you are a student in grade 7-12 and would like to participate.

Annie Armstrong Week of Prayer

March 5 begins the week of prayer for North American Missions. We will have a special guest speaker, Matt Hess, church planter leader for the SBC Send Network in St. Louis

Kentucky Mission Trip March 28 - April 2

The Mission Committee wants to invite you to come serve the Lord in McDowell, KY as we serve over 500 kids and their parents at an Easter block party and other serving projects. Cost is \$200. Contact Pastor Nathan if you are interested.

Join us for Wednesday Night Service!

Pastor Pat will be teaching in a classroom setting, and we have tons of other activities! at 6pm the students gather in the FLC for a time of fellowship and preparing buddy bags for local children. At 7pm they have a time of studying the book of Galatians. Kid's Connection is at 7pm in the Family Life Center.