



CONTRIBUTED  
**Mafair United Methodist Church on Center Street will host a Ringing of the Bells service on Sunday from 6-7:01 p.m. to mark the anniversary of the assassination of Martin Luther King Jr.**

## Ringling of the Bells to mark anniversary of MLK's death

By **HOLLY VIERS**  
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KINGSPORT — On April 4, 1968, civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated in Memphis, an event that sent shock waves across the country and the world.

Now, 53 years later, local churches are coming together to honor his legacy. Community members are invited to a Ringing of the Bells service Sunday evening, which will include prayer and reading from King's speeches.

"We are trying to commemorate and remember Dr. King," said Ronnie Collins, one of the organizers of the event. "We celebrate the holiday, which is his birthday, but we very seldom do anything relative to when he was assassinated."

### EVENT DETAILS

The outdoor service will be held from 6-7:01 p.m. at Mafair United Methodist Church, located at 1409 E. Center St. The service will begin with prayer, followed by excerpts from King's speeches. At 7:01 p.m. — the time of King's assassination in Eastern Time — bells will be rung 39 times to represent King's age at the time of his death.

Aside from Mafair, three other churches have already made plans to participate. First Presbyterian Church and St. Luke United Methodist Church will ring their bells, while St. Mark United Methodist Church will join Mafair to ring the bell at that church.

Children in attendance will also be given hand bells to ring at the same time.

Attendees should practice social distancing and wear masks, Collins added. Other churches are invited either to join the event at Mafair or ring bells at their own facilities.

See **RINGING OF THE BELLS**, Page A2

# Police arrest suspect in Orebank murder

By **J.H. OSBORNE**  
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KINGSPORT — A Sullivan County man was arrested at a Kingsport residence Friday and charged with first-degree murder in the death of a woman at a different home just outside the city limits earlier in the day.

Sullivan County Sheriff Jeff Cassidy said Emmet Daniel Kimberlin, who turned 33 on Thursday, was located at a residence in the city just before 4 p.m.

Kimberlin was charged with first-degree murder and taken to the Sullivan County Jail.

Police had been searching for Kimberlin since shortly after



Kimberlin

Sullivan County officers arrived at a home in the 400 block of Hooven Street in response to a report of a murder there. The sheriff's office received that call about 10:20 a.m. The victim's identity had not been released more than 12 hours later, pending notification of her family.

Responding officers found the body outside in front of the house, and witnesses said Kimberlin had driven away from the neighborhood — off Orebank Road a short distance northeast of Cleek Road — in a green 1990s Honda CRV, Cassidy said.



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**Police work at the murder scene in the 400 block of Hooven Street in the Orebank community on Friday afternoon. The Sullivan County Sheriff's Office said Emmet Daniel Kimberlin, 33, has been arrested and charged with first-degree murder in the case.**

See **MURDER**, Page A2

# Church's Walk with the Cross draws record crowd in Kingsport



HOLLY VIERS — HVIERS@TIMESNEWS.NET  
**Above, Shades of Grace Pastor Will Shewey speaks at Friday's Walk with the Cross. This year's event drew about 75 people, center. At bottom, a band leads the music after the group arrived at Hunger First. At right, Hunger First's Michael Gillis holds a wooden cross during Friday's walk. The cross had the words 'homelessness' and 'addiction' painted on it.**



75 participants join trek to Hunger First, sing, read from Bible

By **HOLLY VIERS**  
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KINGSPORT — A record crowd gathered downtown to Walk with the Cross on Good Friday afternoon.

Organized by Shades of Grace United Methodist Church, Walk with the Cross is an annual event that not only commemorates Good Friday, but also raises awareness of homelessness and addiction in the city.

Pastor Will Shewey said the walk has taken place every year since the church was established seven years ago, except for last year.

Friday's event drew about 75 people, which Shewey said was the largest turnout yet.

"I think people have been enclosed with the pandemic long enough that they're wanting something to get out and be meaningful in the community," he said.

Participants walked from Shades of Grace to Hunger First and back, stopping along the way to sing hymns and read the last seven sayings of Jesus from the Bible.

A brass band was on hand to lead the music, and walkers took turns holding a wooden cross with the words "homelessness" and "addiction" painted on the back.

"We've all had so many problems, especially in the last year, not only with health and the division in our country, but so many, many ways," Shewey said. "We're hoping this is going to help people understand that as good as it can be in this life, this is just a place we get ready for real life to come."

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### WEATHER

High Low  
**61 33**  
Mostly sunny today



## It's time to try growing some transplants

If you've never grown your own transplants for your garden, perhaps this is the year to do it. It's economical, it allows you to grow varieties you might not be able to buy as transplants, it's satisfying and it's easy. **A6**



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