

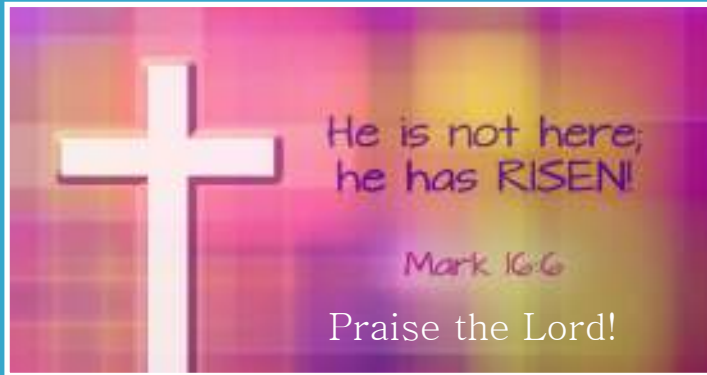


First Baptist Church

Growing Toward Christ

Whiteville, NC

THE CONTACT MONTHLY NEWSLETTER APRIL 2023, VOLUME 58, NUMBER 3



Why do we celebrate Easter? Because Jesus' death, burial, and **resurrection** have made a way for us to go to heaven. We needed a way.

"Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." John 14:6

"For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;" - Romans 3:23

"But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." - Romans 5:8

"For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." - Romans 6:23

"That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved." - Romans 10:9

Events At A Glance

April 2- Baptist Men's Breakfast with guest Gideon speaker Mr. Larry Ray, 8:00 a.m.

April 5 - Egg Hunt with Dinner and Activities, 5:00 p.m.

April 6 - Maundy Thursday Communion Service in the Fellowship Hall, featuring "Christ in the Passover" led by Joy Brown, 6:30.

April 9 - Resurrection Sunday

April 10 - The Church Office will be Closed.

April 17 - Finance Meeting, 9:30 a.m.

April 18 - Deacons' Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

April 19 - Deadline for Committee Chair Reports.

April 19 - Wednesday Night Supper, 5:45 p.m.

April 26 - Quarterly Church Conference, 6:30 p.m.

Complete monthly calendar on back.

*To add an event to our calendar, please contact the church office:
(910) 642-2139*

PASTOR'S CORNER



As April arrives and we look forward to celebrating PALM SUNDAY AND RESURRECTION SUNDAY, I truly thank God for this Lenten Season. We have had the privilege of worshiping together as a community of faith each week while gathering with fellow Christian believers for the very meaningful worship services during Lent. We are extremely grateful to Reverend Howard James, our host pastor, and to the wonderful members of the Whiteville United Methodist Church for their hospitality as we were blessed to enjoy delicious lunches they prepared and served each week in addition to the very special and delightful times of fellowship with friends from the larger Whiteville community.

As we continue our worship opportunities as HOLY WEEK approaches, I have asked my wife, Joy, to share with us the very beautiful ceremony of "Christ in the Passover" on MAUNDY THURSDAY, April 6, at 6:30 p.m. in our Fellowship Hall. This presentation shows the connection between Passover—as described in the Old Testament—and the Lord's Supper demonstrated by Jesus with His disciples in the Upper Room and recorded in the New Testament. PLEASE invite others to come share this special evening with you as we also partake of the Lord's Supper together on this memorable Maundy Thursday, 2023.

In preparation of our celebration of communion and the happiness of Easter Sunday's GOOD NEWS, and as we marvel at the unconditional love our Heavenly Father has for us, I would like to share the following writing about **A Father's Love**.

On Sunday, February 12, 2023, we celebrated LOVE YOUR CHURCH SUNDAY, two days before SAINT VALENTINE'S DAY, on February 14th. As we focused on God's AGAPE (unconditional love) for us, the following will help us as we ALL reflect on our Heavenly Father's LOVE for US . . . and for EACH and EVERY PERSON IN THE WORLD!

+++++

*The words you are about to experience are true.
They will change your life—if you will let them.
For they come from the heart of God.
He loves you.*

*And He is the Father you have been looking for all your life.
This is His love letter to you.*

+++++

AN INTIMATE MESSAGE FROM GOD TO YOU!

My Child...

You may not know me, but I know everything about you. Psalm 139:1
I know when you sit down and when you rise up. Psalm 139:2
I am familiar with all your ways. Psalm 139:3
Even the very hairs on your head are numbered. Matthew 10:29-31
For you were made in my image. Genesis 1:27
In me you live and move and have your being. Acts 17:28
For you are my offspring. Acts 17:28
I knew you even before you were conceived. Jeremiah 1:4-5
I chose you when I planned creation. Ephesians 1:11-12
You were not a mistake, for all your days are written in my book. Psalm 139:15-16
I determined the exact time of your birth and where you would live. Acts 17:26
You are fearfully and wonderfully made. Psalm 139:14
I knit you together in your mother's womb. Psalm 139:13
And brought you forth on the day you were born. Psalm 71:6
I have been misrepresented by those who don't know me. John 8:41-44
I am not distant and angry, but I am the complete expression of love. I John 4:16
And it is my desire to lavish my love on you. I John 3:1
Simply because you are my child and I am your Father. I John 3:1
I offer you more than your earthly father ever could. Matthew 7:11
For I am the perfect father. Matthew 5:48
Every good gift that you receive comes from my hand. James 1:17
For I am your provider and I meet all your needs. Matthew 6:31-33

My plan for your future has always been filled with hope. Jeremiah 29:11
 Because I love you with an everlasting love. Jeremiah 31:3
 My thoughts toward you are countless as the sand on the seashore. Psalm 139:17-18
 And I rejoice over you with singing. Zephaniah 3:17
 I will never stop doing good to you. Jeremiah 32:40
 For you are my treasured possession. Exodus 19:5
 I desire to establish you with all my heart and all my soul. Jeremiah 32:41
 And I want to show you with great and marvelous things. Jeremiah 33:3
 If you seek me with all your heart, you will find me. Deuteronomy 4:29
 Delight in me and I will give you the desires of your heart. Psalm 37:4
 For it is I who gave you those desires. Philippians 2:13
 I am able to do more for you than you could possibly imagine. Ephesians 3:20
 For I am your greatest encourager. II Thessalonians 2:16-17
 I am also the Father who comforts you in all your troubles. II Corinthians 1:3-4
 When you are broken hearted, I am close to you. Psalm 34:18
 As a shepherd carries a lamb, I have carried you close to my heart. Isaiah 40:11
 One day I will wipe away every tear from your eyes. Revelation 21:3-4
 And I will take away all the pain you have suffered on this earth. Revelation 21:3-4
 I am your Father, and I love you even as I love my Son, Jesus. John 17:23
 For in Jesus, my love for you is revealed. John 17:26
 He is the exact representation of my being. Hebrews 1:3
 He came to demonstrate that I am for you, not against you. Romans 8:31
 And to tell you that I am not counting your sins. II Corinthians 5:18-19
 Jesus died so that you and I could be reconciled. II Corinthians 5:18-19
 His death was the ultimate expression of my love for you. I John 4:10
 I gave up everything I loved that I might gain your love. Romans 8:31-32
 If you receive the gift of my son, Jesus, you receive me. I John 2:23
 And nothing will ever separate you from my love again. Romans 8:38-39
 Come home, and I will throw the biggest party heaven has ever seen. Luke 15:7
 I have always been Father, and I will always be Father. Ephesians 3:14-15
 My question is . . . Will you be my child? John 1:12-13
 I am waiting for you. Luke 15:11-32

*Love,
 Your Dad, Almighty God*

Words paraphrased from the Holy Bible:
 FathersLoveLetter.com

April 2, 2023

Palm Sunday

Zechariah 9:9; Matthew 21:1-11; Mark 11:1-10;
 Luke 19:28-40; John 12:9-19

The Triumphal Entry

April 9, 2023

Resurrection Sunday

Matthew 28:1-15; Mark 15:42-47 and 16:1-13;
 Luke 24:1-12; John 20:1-18

The Resurrection



April 16, 2023

Second Sunday of Easter

Matthew 28:16-20; Mark 16:14-20;
 Luke 24:44-53; John 20:19-23; Acts 1:4-8

The Great Commission

April 23, 2023

Third Sunday of Easter

Isaiah 9:1-2; Matthew 5:13-16

The World Is Waiting . . . In Darkness!

April 30, 2023

Fourth Sunday of Easter

John 3:16; Romans 3:23 and 6:23; II Corinthians 6:2;
 Acts 8:26-40; Philippians 2:5-11; Romans 10:8-13;
 Acts 16:25-34

Who. . . What. . . When. . . Where. . . Why. . . How?

APRIL MEMBERS IN MINISTRY

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

- 2 Tina Sauls
- 9 Gina Morningstar
- 16 Tricia Sanderson
- 23 Grayanna Young
- 30 TBA

DEACONS OF THE WEEK

- 2 Merle Worley / Hilda Ray
- 9 Genie Carter / Peggy Underwood
- 16 Willis Pinnell / Glenn Waters
- 23 Stephen Prince / Betty Jo Prevatte
- 30 Kate C. Lee / John Sauls

HOSPICE MEALS

Rose Langston

SOUND & VIDEO

- 2 Kirby Sanderson
- 9 Eric Kronenwetter
- 16 Kirby Sanderson
- 23 Eric Kronenwetter
- 30 Kirby Sanderson

SUNDAY SCHOOL GREETERS

- 2 Clint and Carolyn Grainger
- 9 Genie Carter
- 16 Rose Langston / J. C. Hyatt
- 23 Jolene Lewis
- 30 TBA

USHERS (Chairman: Harry Ward)

- 2 Buster Carter / Glenn Waters / David Heath / Clint Grainger / J. C. Hyatt
- 9 Bill Floyd / David Carter / Mitchell Sauls / Willis Pinnell / Johnny Britt
- 16 Travis Harrison / John Sauls / Mel Ray / Kenwood Royal / Chris Blackmon
- 23 Harry Ward / David Tedder / Haywood Corbett / Kevin Williamson / Kyle Cook
- 30 TBA



STEWARDSHIP

March 5, 2023

| | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Budget Gifts Plan 1 | \$580.00 |
| Budget Gifts Plan 2 | \$4,868.11 |
| Budget Gifts Operational | \$524.00 |
| Total Budget This Week | \$5,972.11 |
| Designated/Other Funds | \$2,124.90 |
| Total Collections This Week | \$8,097.01 |
| Over Budget This Week | \$694.47 |
| Budget Need to date | \$153,331.34 |
| Budget Rec'd to date | \$131,009.77 |
| Under Budget to date | \$22,321.57 |

March 12, 2023

| | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Budget Gifts Plan 1 | \$220.00 |
| Budget Gifts Plan 2 | \$3,662.00 |
| Budget Gifts Operational | \$200.00 |
| Total Budget This Week | \$4,082.00 |
| Designated/Other Funds | \$265.00 |
| Total Collections This Week | \$4,347.00 |
| Under Budget This Week | \$2,584.58 |
| Budget Need to date | \$159,997.92 |
| Budget Rec'd to date | \$135,071.77 |
| Under Budget to date | \$24,926.15 |

March 19, 2023

| | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Budget Gifts Plan 1 | \$475.00 |
| Budget Gifts Plan 2 | \$3,832.33 |
| Budget Gifts Operational | \$1,680.00 |
| Total Budget This Week | \$5,987.33 |
| Designated/Other Funds | \$1,231.33 |
| Total Collections This Week | \$7,218.66 |
| Under Budget This Week | \$679.25 |
| Budget Need to date | \$166,664.50 |
| Budget Rec'd to date | \$141,059.10 |
| Under Budget to date | \$25,605.40 |

March 26, 2023

| | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Budget Gifts Plan 1 | \$0.00 |
| Budget Gifts Plan 2 | \$2,619.00 |
| Budget Gifts Operational | \$1,145.00 |
| Total Budget This Week | \$3,764.00 |
| Designated/Other Funds | \$2,415.00 |
| Total Collections This Week | \$6,179.00 |
| Under Budget This Week | \$2,902.58 |
| Budget Need to date | \$173,331.08 |
| Budget Rec'd to date | \$144,823.10 |
| Under Budget to date | \$28,507.98 |



- 1 Michael Memory
- 6 Gina Morningstar
- 11 Audrey Blackman
- 13 Charlie Duncan
- 14 April Ray
Landon Bailey
- 15 Mary Hooks
Geoffrey Hopkins
Grayson Ward
Harry Ward
- 16 Robert Clyburn
- 30 Anna Kimball
Nicole Hopkins

SUNDAY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE FOR MARCH

- March 5, 2023 - 51
- March 12, 2023 - 29
- March 19, 2023 - 46
- March 26, 2023 - 40

Average attendance for March
Sunday School is 32.

Please join us each week for Sunday
School at 9:45 a.m.

OFFICE CONTACT INFO

Ministerial Staff

Dr. Wayne Brown, Interim Pastor
843-796-0397, interimpastor@fbcwhiteville.com

Dr. Patricia Slomanski, Organist

Ministry Assistant Staff

Mrs. Teresa Malpass, Ministry Assistant
[office@fbcwhiteville.com]

Mrs. Dinah Reaves,
Financial Ministry Assistant
[fbcwhite@fbcwhiteville.com]

OFFICE HOURS

Church Office Hours 8:30 A.M. — 4:30 P.M.,
Monday—Thursday
Phone: 910-642-2139 Fax: 910-642-5874

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WMU



WMU: Monday, April 17, 2023 10:00 A.M.
Call to Prayer and Program: Hilda Ray
Hospice Meal: Rose Langston (Contact Karen: 910-642-9051)
April Mission Project: Snacks for SCC Students

"For, lo, the winter is past, the rain is over and gone; The flowers appear on the earth; the time of the singing of birds is come, and the voice of the turtle is heard in the land; The fig tree putteth forth her green figs, and the vines with the tender grape give a sweet smell." (Song of Solomon 2:11-13a) What a beautiful scripture to welcome Spring!

Our **mission project for April** is collecting snacks for students at Southeastern Community College to be distributed during final exams the first week of May. Our goal is to feed these young men and women **spiritually** as well as to nourish their minds. Please bring individually wrapped crackers, Debbie cakes, raisins, etc., to the Missions Table in the fellowship hall.

2022-24 Watchword: *Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.* Romans 12:12

Our Mission

...is to inform and inspire Christians to influence their world for Christ.

Myrtle Corbett, WMU Director
 Betty Jo Prevatte, Co-Director

WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPER

Please Note: Effective in April, the cost for the Wednesday Night Supper will increase to \$5.00. This increase is needed to cover the rising costs of food and paper supplies. We hope to be able to continue to provide the fellowship meal at least once a month, and we appreciate everyone who participates in preparing the meals, as well as those who come to enjoy them. Thank you for your understanding.

We invite you to join us for the meal at 5:45 p.m. and Prayer Meeting and Bible Study beginning at 6:30 p.m.

| | | |
|----------------|---------|---------------------------------------|
| April 19, 2023 | Group 7 | Peggy Norosky, Chair |
| May 17, 2023 | Group 3 | Myrtle and Haywood Corbett, Co-Chairs |



BAPTIST MEN

Our meeting will be on **Sunday** morning, **April 2nd** with breakfast. All men of the church are invited to attend. Our guest Gideon speaker is Mr. Larry Ray.

Men's Breakfast If you know of needs the men of our church can meet, please let us know.

SPECIAL SERVICE

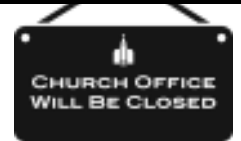
Maundy Thursday service will be held in the fellowship hall on **Wednesday, April 6** at **6:30 p.m.** with a service of sharing in the Lord's Supper and featuring Mrs. Joy Brown presenting *Christ in the Passover*. Please join us and invite a friend.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

The church office will be closed on **Monday, April 10**, in observance of Easter. Have a great holiday!



The weekly Bible study coordinated by Willis & Sue Pinnell and Robert & Kris Clyburn has moved to **Monday evenings at 6:00 p.m.** in the conference room. Everyone is welcome—please, invite a friend!

BIBLE STUDY

QUARTERLY CHURCH CONFERENCE

We will have our Quarterly Church Conference on **Wednesday, April 26, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.** in the fellowship hall. If you are a committee chair, please have your report in by **Wednesday, April 19**, so that it can be included in the conference packet to be passed out at our meeting.



COMMUNITY EGG HUNT

We are having a community egg hunt on **Wednesday, April 5 at 5:00 p.m.** for children and their families. There will be a dinner for everyone and activities for the children. Please invite your friends and neighbors to join us. All are welcome. This event is free of charge.

EASTER MORNING message

Early Sunday morning, some women who followed Jesus encountered a great surprise. Solve the puzzle to see what the angels told them.

Directions: Cross out every other letter in the maze. Write the remaining letters in order to complete Luke 24:5-6, NIV.

PUZZLE MAZE:

Top row: S O B D C K F O N R S T U H C E D L T N I G B O R N H G K E

Bottom row: W Z H S E A H B R O H Y N W S K I L E P D E A F

Internal letters: " _ H _
D _ _ O U L _ _
F _ _ _ _ I V I _ _
A M _ _ _ T H _ D E _ _ ?
H _ _ _ _ O T _ E _ E ;
_ _ _ A _ _ I S _ _ ! "

LUKE 24:5-6, NIV

Answer: "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen!" Luke 24:5-6, NIV

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANK YOU

Dear Grief Committee,

The luncheon you prepared on the day of the service for our beloved father, Joe Sellers, was absolutely wonderful. The quality of the food, as well as the variety, was amazing and delicious. The luncheon also gave us an opportunity to visit and catch up with family and friends, some of whom we had not seen in a long time. You prepared such a bounty that we had food for a week or more.

I can't think of a more worthy and helpful organization at our church than the grief committee. You helped us tremendously during one of the saddest and most difficult times of our lives, and I am eternally grateful!



Ella Jo Sellers

Dear Grief Committee,

My goodness—you out did yourself. The lunch for Mom (Lois) was perfect. We fed a multitude at visitation and our large family ate on it throughout the weekend. Thank you so much for the work you do for so many. Mom used to help feed the masses and loved it. She would have enjoyed this meal.

Sincerely,
The Lois Batten Family

Dear Church Family,

Thank you for all the prayers, visits, cards, phone calls and meals during my recent illness. You have showered me with Christian love.

Peggy Underwood



THANKS!

Thank you for all your donations for Ukraine. The response was fantastic. We had a vehicle full to ship out. We appreciate your sharing the love of Christ with those in need.



| April 2023 | | | | | | |
|--|---|-----------------------------|--|--|-----|-----|
| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
| | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 Palm Sunday 8:00 Baptist Men's Breakfast 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Morning Worship 12:30 Chancel Choir | 3 | 4 | 5 5:00 Community Egg Hunt with Dinner and Activities | 6 6:30 Maundy Thursday Communion and "Christ in the Passover" led by Mrs. Joy Brown | 7 | 8 |
| 9 Easter Sunday 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Morning Worship 12:30 Chancel Choir | 10 Office Closed for Easter | 11 | 12 6:30 Prayer Meeting | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Morning Worship 12:30 Chancel Choir | 17 9:30 Finance Meeting 10:00 WMU | 18 6:30 Deacons' Meeting | 19 5:45 Wednesday Night Supper (\$5.00) 6:30 Prayer Meeting | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Morning Worship 12:30 Chancel Choir | 24 | 25 | 26 6:30 Quarterly Church Conference | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Morning Worship 12:30 Chancel Choir | | | Looking Ahead: Wednesday, May 17th, 2023 5:45 p.m.—Wednesday Night Supper 6:30 p.m.—Special guest speaker, Dr. Andy Hale of CBFNC for an open "Q and A" session for all! | | | |

| May 2023 | | | | | | |
|----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | | |

FBC contact information: Phone - 910-642-2139, Email - office@fbcwhiteville.com, Web - www.fbcwhiteville.com
 Sunday Morning Worship Live on WTXY AM 1540, FM 103.9, kool1039radio.com—*Listen Live*,
 and First Baptist Church Whiteville Facebook page

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