

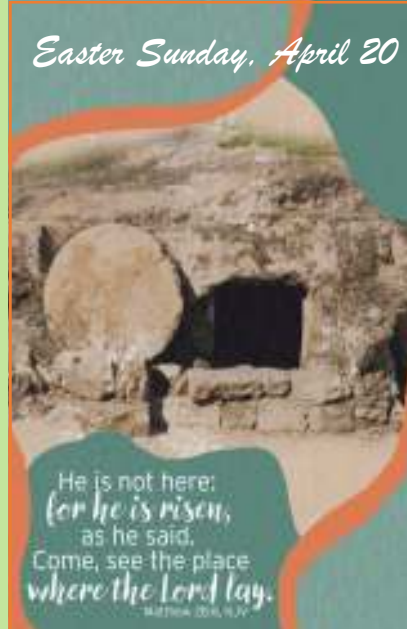
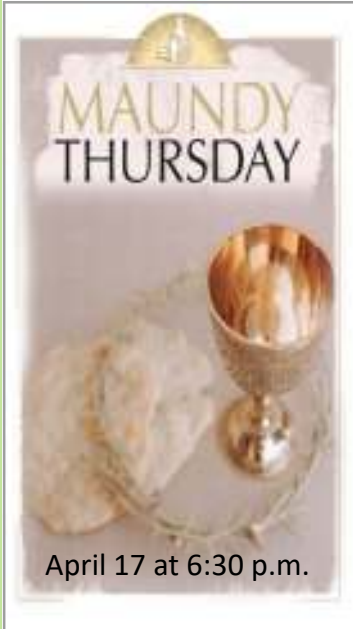


First Baptist Church

Growing Toward Christ

Whiteville, NC

THE CONTACT MONTHLY NEWSLETTER APRIL 2025, VOLUME 60, NUMBER 4



Events At A Glance

- April 2, 9, 16 - Lenten Services, 12:00 noon at Whiteville United Methodist Church
- April 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 - Wednesday Evening Prayer Service, 6:30 p.m.
- April 13 - Palm Sunday, Baptist Men's Breakfast, 8:00 a.m. Church Council Meeting, 2:00 p.m.
- April 14 - Finance Meeting, 9:30 a.m.; WMU Meeting, 10:00 a.m.
- April 15 - Deacons' Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- April 16 - Deadline for book study book orders
- April 17 - Maundy Thursday Service, 6:30 p.m.
- April 20 - Easter Sunrise Service, 6:30 a.m.
- April 21 - Office Closed for Easter Monday
- April 23 - Covered-dish Meal, 5:45 p.m.; Quarterly Church Conference, 6:30 p.m.
- April 23, 30 - Wednesday Morning Prayer Service, 10:00 a.m.

Complete monthly calendar on back.
To add an event to our calendar,
please contact the church office:
(910) 642-2139



May 3, 2025

Breakfast - 8:00 a.m., Commissioning - 8:30
There will be projects for everyone.
You are invited to participate with us.

PASTOR'S CORNER



"There is salvation in no one else! God has given no other name under heaven by which we must be saved." Acts 4: 12

The Easter season is now fast upon us. Spring is in the air and a sense of transformation is all around. What was previously brown and parched is fast becoming green with fresh buds bringing with them the promise of new life. To be sure, the pollen is here - and what a nuisance it is. But it will be gone soon enough, as God will see to it. Throughout my travels where I am exposed to people of different cultures and faith paths, a common topic will often emerge and reemerge: With the many religions that are out there, why is Jesus Christ the only way to God? Here I sense that old word pluralism is creeping back in once again. Indeed, one of the most prevalent criticisms of Christianity is that it is too narrow. The fact is, many people refuse to believe that there is only one way to get to Heaven. Christians are oftentimes criticized for implying that they are somehow better than those who do not believe in Jesus Christ. But of course, the very reason that Christians believe Jesus Christ is the way to Heaven is because He said so Himself when He told us, *"I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me."* (John 14:6).

Words like "teach", "sent", "do", and "give", are cornerstones to the followers of Christ. People can spot it in us. It's how we live and it's why we're not like anyone else. We rarely take a day off. Because we don't want to. Because we don't have to. Because for the Christian, this is what it looks like to live a life on mission. Trust me, once you're on - you **DON'T** want to get off! And here's an added bonus: God already provides for us ahead of time everything He requires back in return. "Love thy neighbor as thyself"... It all stems from a place of His indwelling love. As beloved members of First Baptist Whiteville we are able to give back what has already generously been given to us. There's simply nothing else like it. Is there any other way that I could possibly want to live? We engage in a lifestyle of servanthood because we can. I can give back because I've been given to. Let me now remember to give back to my church, which promises to give so much to me! Let us prepare for the mission field ahead. Give graciously to God from an overflowing heart. He will bless the love that you give - and then expand, multiply, and increase it **IN WAYS UNTOLD!**

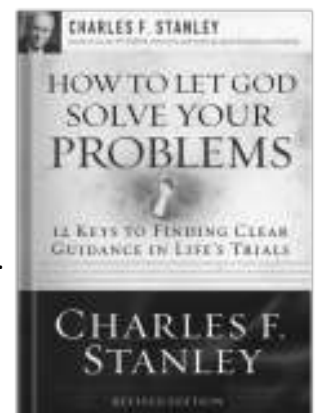
We are in a season of joy, we are in a season of love. But as we look around, we are also in a season of need. Let us prepare to give back from hearts that willingly serve - **AND WATCH AS GOD PROVIDES!**

God bless you and let us keep alive the hope and renewal of the Easter season for all to see! Many blessings to you and yours,

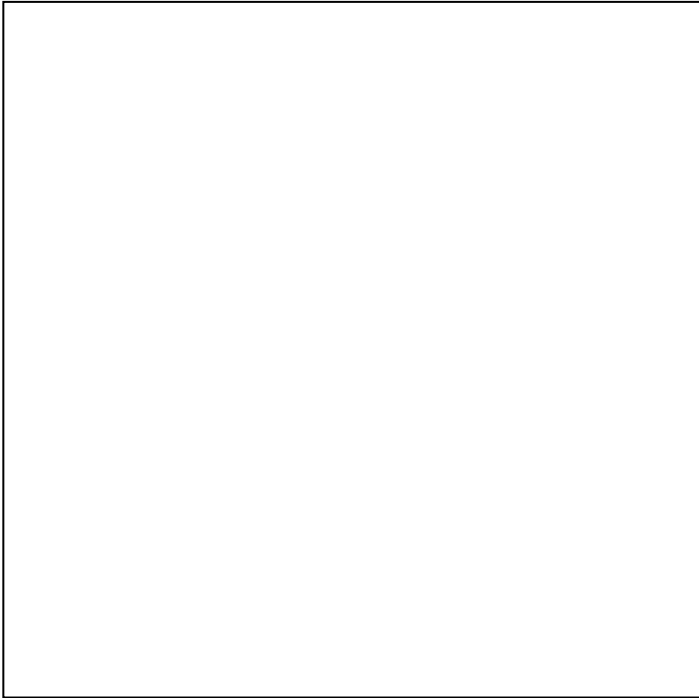
Pastor Chris

BOOK STUDY

Beginning Monday, May 5, we will begin a book study of Charles F. Stanley's book – *How to Let God Solve Your Problems: 12 Keys to Finding Clear Guidance In Life's Trials*. Please contact the church office or Pastor by April 16 if you would like to order a book. The cost will be \$12.



OBSERVING SEASONS

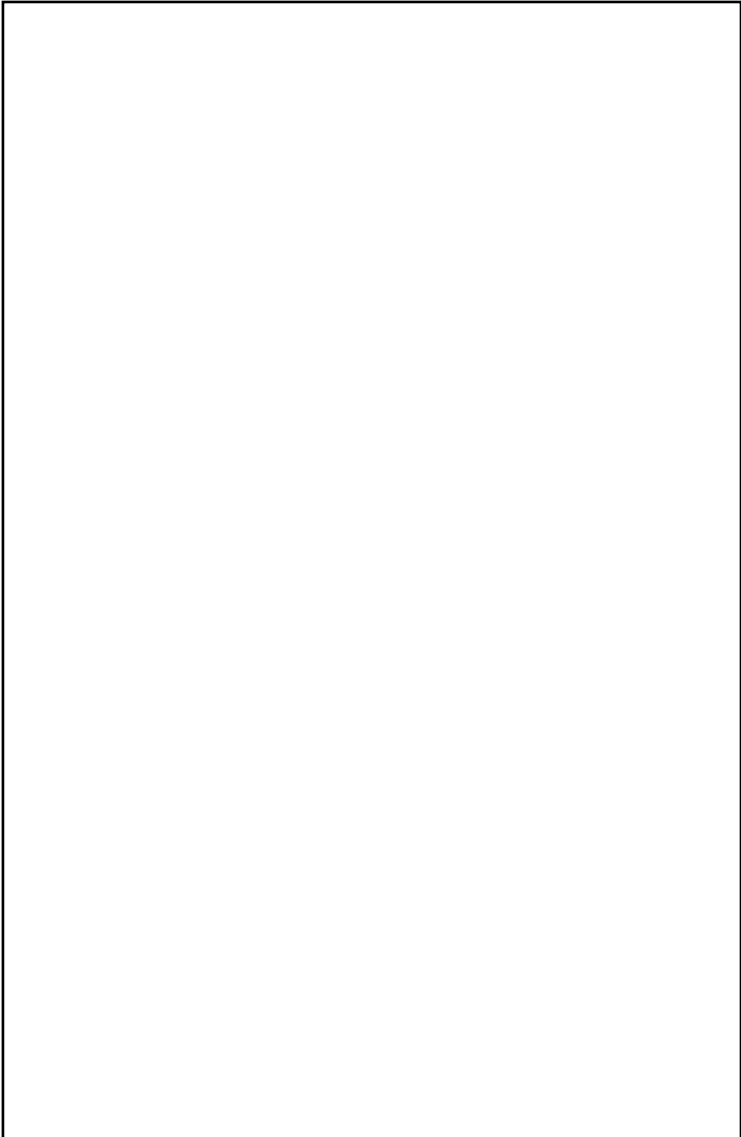


As we observe Maundy Thursday and remember Christ and His disciples at the Last Supper, we think about the weight on the mind of Christ knowing what was about to take place. His mind must have been heavy. But He went willingly to make a way for us to have a relationship and eternal life with His Father. Without His death our salvation would have been impossible.

Though thinking on His death is a somber thought, we must look forward to His victory over death with His resurrection. Maybe you can imagine what it must have been like for

the believers of that time to try and grasp that Christ actually rose from the dead and proved His power as God, and to see all the things that He said would come to pass really did happen. What an awesome God we serve!

In your quiet time with the Lord, during this Lenten season, maybe you can read these songs and reflect on the work of Christ in our behalf. A friend once said that he used a hymnal during his personal devotions because it directed his mind toward Christ. Not only should we review God's goodness to us, but we should share the Good News of Jesus Christ with those around us. Maybe someone we come across will need to hear of the hope they can have in Christ.



APRIL MEMBERS IN MINISTRY

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

6 Tina Sauls
13 Jan Hinson
20 TBD
27 Beverly Pope

DEACONS OF THE WEEK

6 Buster Carter / Bobby Hensley
13 Willis Pinnell / Mary Alice Stanley
20 Donna Prince / Betty Jo Prevatte
27 Gina Morningstar / Kirby Sanderson

HOSPICE MEALS

Julie & Resa Hillman

NURSERY WORKERS

6 Brad & Anna Johnson
13 Bobby & Wendy Hensley
20 Keith & Jamie Beverley
27 Dale Duncan / Genie Carter

SOUND & VIDEO

6 Kirby Sanderson
13 Eric Kronenwetter
20 Kirby Sanderson
27 Eric Kronenwetter

WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPER SCHEDULE

April 23—Group 6 - Chairs Fred & Martha Senter
May 21—Group 7 - Chairs Lauren Cole & Mary Jean Prince
June 23—No meal
July 23—Conference—WNS Committee

BIRTHDAY CARDS

On Wednesdays during prayer services, we will have birthday cards in the fellowship hall for fellow members who have birthdays the following week. We ask that if you are attending Wednesday prayer services that you sign their birthday cards. We will take care of addressing and mailing them from the office. Thank you for your help in serving your fellow members.

STEWARDSHIP

March 2, 2025

Budget Gifts Plan 1	\$100.00
Budget Gifts Plan 2	\$2,265.00
Budget Gifts Operational	\$1,200.00
Total Budget This Week	\$3,565.00
Designated/Other Funds	\$3,040.00
Total Collections This Week	\$6,605.00
Under Budget This Week	\$1,858.08
Budget Need to date	\$119,307.76
Budget Rec'd to date	\$106,088.50
Under Budget to date	\$13,219.26

March 9, 2025

Budget Gifts Plan 1	\$300.00
Budget Gifts Plan 2	\$4,000.00
Budget Gifts Operational	\$300.00
Total Budget This Week	\$4,600.00
Designated/Other Funds	\$250.00
Total Collections This Week	\$4,850.00
Under Budget This Week	\$823.08
Budget Need to date	\$124,730.84
Budget Rec'd to date	\$110,688.50
Under Budget to date	\$14,042.34

March 16, 2025

Budget Gifts Plan 1	\$0.00
Budget Gifts Plan 2	\$1,955.00
Budget Gifts Operational	\$202.00
Total Budget This Week	\$2,157.00
Designated/Other Funds	\$2,852.08
Total Collections This Week	\$4,739.08
Under Budget This Week	\$3,266.08
Budget Need to date	\$130,153.92
Budget Rec'd to date	\$112,845.50
Under Budget to date	\$17,308.42

March 23, 2025

Budget Gifts Plan 1	\$100.00
Budget Gifts Plan 2	\$3,035.00
Budget Gifts Operational	\$277.00
Total Budget This Week	\$3,412.00
Designated/Other Funds	\$1,113.40
Total Collections This Week	\$4,525.40
Under Budget This Week	\$2,011.08
Budget Need to date	\$135,577.00
Budget Rec'd to date	\$116,257.50
Under Budget to date	\$19,319.50

March 30, 2025

(Will be available in the next newsletter.)

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

1 Michael Memory
6 Gina Morningstar
13 Charlie Duncan
13 April Ray
15 Mary Hooks
Geoffrey Hopkins
Grayson Ward
Harry Ward
16 Bob Clyburn
29 Chris Duncan
30 Nicole Hopkins
Anna Kimball

MARCH SUNDAY SCHOOL REPORT

March 2, 2025 - 51
March 9, 2025 - 44
March 16, 2025 - 43
March 23, 2025 - 51
March 30, 2025 - 57

Average attendance for March
Sunday School is 49.

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

OFFICE CONTACT INFO

Ministerial Staff

Dr. Christopher Hillman, Pastor
pastorhillman@fbcwhiteville.com
804-301-2580

Mrs. 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 Meeting: April 14, 2025 10:00 A.M.

Program / Call to Prayer: Hilda Ray

Mission Project: Operation Inasmuch

Hospice Meal: Resa & Julie Hillman (Contact: Karen: 910-642-9051)



Operation Inasmuch! WMU enjoys assisting the Missions Committee in this churchwide project. Everyone is busy with many assignments. WMU is helping with soup, sandwiches and dessert. Everything will be packed and ready for delivery. We are so excited to see many people and they appreciate being remembered.

WMU Emphasis for 2024-2026: *What Joy!*

2024-26 Watchword: *Because we loved you so much, we were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God but our lives as well. – 1 Thessalonians 2:8*

Our Mission

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

Myrtle Corbett, Co-Director

Betty Jo Prevatte, Co-Director

OPERATION INASMUCH



Please mark your calendar for Operation Inasmuch on **May 3**. We will start this event with breakfast from **8:00-8:30 a.m.** There will be a place for everyone to participate. If you have a suggestion for a project, please call a member of the Missions Committee: Martha Senter, Genie Carter, Martha Watson, Donna Prince, Resa Hillman, Gina Morningstar, or Hilda Ray.

BAPTIST MEN

Baptists Men's breakfast will be **Sunday, April 13 at 8:00 a.m.** All men of the church are invited. Think of a member who is not attending and invite him to this great fellowship breakfast and meeting.

Fred Senter, Director



CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

Committee Chairs, please mark you calendars for our next church council meeting on **Sunday, April 13 at 2 p.m.**

Remember that all committee/organizational reports need to be turned in to the church office by Wednesday, April 16.

SINGING IN THE SUN

If you are interested in the ***Singing in the Sun*** event being held at the Myrtle Beach Convention Center, you can find a full list of events and speakers at www.abrahamproductions.net or call 1-888-238-6858. The event is scheduled for **April 21-26, 6:00 p.m. nightly and 2:00 p.m. on Saturday.** Dr. David Jeremiah will be speaking on Tuesday. There will be musical groups as well. For more information, contact Resa Hillman.

ANNOUNCEMENTS (CONT'D)



COVERED-DISH MEAL AND QUARTERLY CHURCH CONFERENCE

Our next Quarterly Church Conference is scheduled for **Wednesday evening, April 23, at 6:30 p.m.** For Conference, we meet after Wednesday Night Supper, at **5:45 p.m.** which is a covered-dish meal, to discuss the changes/activities during the last quarter. If you are looking for service opportunities, this will be the perfect time to get the full overview of church activity. Please join us to get a better view of how our church is ministering to its members and to the community.

WEDNESDAY MORNING PRAYER SERVICE

Beginning **Wednesday, April 23**, we will start meeting for our Wednesday Morning Prayer Services again. We have had a good response to this prayer service, and want to continue meeting this need for our congregation. Everyone is welcome—it is open to the community. We usually have coffee and snacks. Please come out and join us.



MAUNDY THURSDAY

Our Maundy Thursday Service will be **April 17, 6:30 p.m.** in the sanctuary. Please join us as we prepare our hearts and minds to focus on Christ's work for us on Calvary. Everyone is welcome.

CHURCH AFTER CHURCH

We would love for you to join us for Church After Church each Sunday after the morning worship service. We enjoy fellowship with our congregation in a different restaurant around town each week. We get to know one another a little better and enjoy a good meal in the process. Folks in our community can see God's people communing together like family. Everyone is welcome!





OUR EASTER GIFT

Thanks to Easter, what wonderful gift does God give us?

Directions: Start at the given letter, move one space in the direction each arrow points. Write the last letter in each sequence in the spaces provided. Then write those answers in order on the blanks below to complete 1 Peter 1:3, NIV.

A	B	C	D	E
F	G	H	I	J
K	L	M	N	O
P	Q	R	S	T
U	V	W	X	Y

- C → ↓ ↓
- H → ↑ ↑
- V → ↑ ↓
- I ← ← ↑
- T ↑ ← ↑
- P ↑ → ↓ ↓
- D ↓ → ↓ ↓
- T ↑ ← ↑ ←

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!

In his great mercy he has given us

_____ into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

1 Peter 1:3, NIV



Answer: new birth



> NEW LIFE <

How did God work through Jesus to give us new life at Easter?

Directions: Use the puzzle pieces from the box to complete 1 Peter 1:3, NIV.



In his _____ he has
 _____ us new _____ into a
 _____ through the
 _____ from the _____.

1 P E T E R 1 : 3 , N I V

Answer: In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. 1 Peter 1:3, NIV

April 2025																																																							
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat																																																	
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FBC contact information:
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 Web - www.fbcwhiteville.com
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