

### **Concerning the Word of Life**

What is your favorite passage in the Bible and why? Mine is 1 John 1:1-4, which reads; "That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life— 2 the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us— 3 that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. 4 And we are writing these things so

that our joy may be complete."

There are three reasons why 1 John 1:1-4 is my favorite passage of the Bible. The first reason is that it anchors our salvation in the historical events of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection. One of the significant errors that Christians repeatedly make because of pride is to anchor

their salvation into having the right knowledge or purity of doctrine. To be clear, yes, theology is very important, for it serves as a type of guardrail for our faith. And, as I understand what Paul is saying in Romans 10, there is a necessary knowledge of the Gospel if a person is to believe in the Gospel. Having a salvific knowledge and a good theology is extremely important. Yet, a person is not saved by what he or she knows, nor on how perfect one's theology may be, but rather salvation is the work of God through Jesus Christ. This is why I like 1 John 1:1-4, for it anchors me in the historical event of Jesus. John, the writer, gives testimony to history. He is not proclaiming a philosophy or preaching a way of life but is testifying to things that his eyes have seen, and his hands have handled. He is telling us that something in history (Jesus!), has happened by which we now have eternal life.

The second reason that 1 John 1:1-4 is important to me is that it describes our salvation in terms of fellowship, fellowship with God, and fellowship with each other. Notice again vs. 3, "that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ." The work of Jesus Christ (the Word of Life) is both the means and source of our

> fellowship with the Lord and our fellowship together. This fellowship rooted in Christ is the sweetest fellowship one could know. John adds in verse 4, "we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete." This leads to the third reason I love 1 John 1:1-4; it communicates to me how I may have complete joy. Complete joy is found in fellowship with the Lord and with each other, a fellowship anchored in the historical life, death, and resurrection of Jesus.

My prayer for you is that you may have this fellowship and so have complete joy. Where do you find this fellowship? The only place where you can discover the historical message of Jesus and the fellowship of the saints is the church. If you are a part of New Baptist Church and have not been attending due to the virus, we miss you, and our joy is not complete without you. I invite you to start making your return to church. If you are a part of a different church, it is time to plan your return to the larger fellowship. If you are not a part of any church, please know that there is a place for you in the family of God.

> Grace and Peace Pastor Trent Eastman

## **New Baptist Church**

## April Birthdays

- 4 Donna Norris
- 6 Cam Brown
- 9 Joe Anderson Linda Cummings Pearl Miller (107 years young)
- 11 Lisa Blake Rhett Casto Bradley Chenault
- 12 Sharon Blume Linda Keller
  - Cooper Manchester
- 13 Gracie Morgan
- 16 Tessie Deuser
- 17 Pete Jones Judy Lantz Jim Sanborn
- 18 Haley Boyce
  Jonah Egan
  Betty Owens
- 20 Brenda Bates Mitchell Hall Bret Woodall
- 23 Norm Allred Toni Gygi Bessie Vanover
- 24 Bob Smith
- 25 Melanie Mullins
- 26 Theressa Dillon Paula Holley Jenneth Lemley
- 27 Michael Campbell
- 28 Kyle Cook Gloria Holmes
- 29 Becky Davis Taylor Hazelett Earl Trawick Waylon Vanover
- 30 Katrina Eskins Sharon Snoddy



Wednesday, April 21 for May issue of *Bridges* 





**SPRING! EASTER! NEW LIFE! HALLELUJAH!** How we have looked forward to this time of year! "Summer and winter, springtime and harvest...Great is Thy faithfulness" unto us!

All Winter Bible studies were postponed this year due to the surge of cases of COVID-19. We are so grateful for God's presence in the lives of those who contracted this virus. And we are extremely thankful that many in our church have now been vaccinated. Because of this, our Pastor Trent has opened up Wednesday evenings for small groups to meet.

Soooo...it is time to sign up for your choice of Bible studies! YAY! With Easter coming early this year on April 4, we are left with plenty of time before summer begins. Several of you have asked if we will be able to meet in small groups, so if you are willing, we are ready to offer two studies. These are the same two we did last fall, so if you participated in one you may want to sign up for the other. The studies are:

- "Life-Changing Prayer" and
- "The Faithful"

and signup sheets are available in the church entryway. Please sign up so workbooks can be ordered. We plan to start these classes on Wednesday, April 14 at 6:30pm and they will conclude by the end of May. At this time, there are no Wednesday morning classes planned.

God's Church is still alive and well...and we need to be in His Word to keep ourselves ready for the life He wants us to lead! So, here's to getting back into some small group studies! And remember to "Be strengthened by the GRACE that is in Christ Jesus!"--2 Timothy 2:1

For Good... Dolores Adkins





Join us on Thursdays, 5:30pm – 6:30pm New Baptist Church Fellowship Hall

(enter by fellowship hall door on east side of the building)



### Notes From the Choir Director, Karen Dailey

Without a doubt the choir family is missing joining our voices in song and praise to our Savior. We are looking forward to gathering again in the near future. It will be different, look

different, sound different but it will be done with safety in mind for all concerned by following the guidelines set before us. A survey will be sent to the choir members to determine where we are with vaccines and how the members feel about singing in small groups, with masks, and for both services etc. If you are a choir

member and haven't received the email with the survey, please let me know and I'll send you a hard copy or leave one at the main office of the church. It is necessary for me to tally the results from the survey to know how to move forward. In the meantime, keep your heart open by enjoying songs of praise. Music can be found anywhere you listen. From the radio to the birds building nests in the trees, we can find reason to lift our voices, our hearts and our hands in praise to our living Lord! "Oh come, let us sing unto Jehovah; Let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation." Psalms 95:1





This time each year is a time of contemplation and reflection for me. The change from winter to spring is a constant reminder of new life and new beginnings. The warmer weather and sunshine just seem to brighten my days. It is also tax time and that is taxing at best. For me though it is a time of remembrance. April 1<sup>st</sup> will be the 37<sup>th</sup> anniversary of my father's death. He was 58. He lived his faith openly wherever he was. He touched lives at his work, at his church, at play and especially with his family. I am reminded of the lessons he taught me in the secular and spiritual realms. He taught me to respect our country and flag. He taught me about faithfulness and integrity. He taught me about being a good churchman. He taught me to love life and to laugh. He taught me how to be a husband and father. He taught me to love Jesus first. I will visit his grave and thank him again for who he was and still is in my life. It was in October 2019 that my mom joined Daddy in heaven, and what a reunion that must have been.

I also think of my dad's humor. It was dry and would catch me off guard so often. I think if he could have chosen he would have chosen to die on Resurrection Sunday (Easter) but that was not the case. He did die on a Sunday, though, in 1984, April Fools Day. It just seemed sort of appropriate. Please excuse my ramblings here but know it is good to remember and to thank the Lord for the impact He made in my life.

On April 8, Becky and I will be celebrating our 43<sup>rd</sup> anniversary. I thank the Lord for Becky each day. He knew just whom I needed and I am better because of her.

The Covid pandemic has certainly made the past year challenging. I hope that we are turning the corner with the vaccine and will soon be able to meet together and enjoy our fellowship once again. It is so good to see folks coming out again after they have been fully vaccinated. Their smiles are from ear to ear as they enter the church. What a joy it is to see folks again. We cannot though let our guards down and see a spike in infections. So, for the time being we will still be wearing masks, sitting physically distanced, and bumping elbows rather than shaking hands. But know this, the day is coming when we can fully fellowship again.

We, as a staff, are looking forward to getting back to a full schedule of activities and services. We will when it is prudent and safe to do so.

PASTAR ROSIN



"At the cross we understand what God means when he talks of loving us, begin to take it in that there is nothing that he will not do, no sacrifice he will not make, no suffering that he will shirk, if only he can help us. 'He loved me,' said Paul, standing upon Calvary and gazing in a stunned way at the cross, 'I who was a persecutor, and a

blasphemer, and injurious, and yet he loved me and he gave himself for me.' And with that [Paul's] heart broke, and the old life was gone."

-Scottish preacher Arthur John Gossip, in a 1926 sermon titled "What Happens at Calvary"

#### **Noticing God**

Thinking about the past month we have experienced ice storms and flooding, not to mention still dealing with a pandemic, but there is hope. In just 4 weeks we have transitioned from cold and ice to sun and flower blooms. Through the season of Lent we have been focused on noticing God with the youth group. This week we looked at simplifying. Jesus teaches in Matthew 6 that we shouldn't be worried about clothes and food and material things because God provides for our needs. When we recognize this, letting go of our chasing after things, we can simply notice God and seek first His kingdom. A couple times in that story Jesus says "look" or "see" the things and nature and in this we recognize God working.

In the same way, spring is a season when we can look and notice that the brown things begin to turn green, that the dull becomes bright with new life. Thinking about Easter, the darkness and sadness of the cross makes way for a new resurrected life when the tomb stone is rolled away and Jesus walks out. What a great reminder and opportunity for us to talk about new life and resurrection as we look and notice signs of new life this spring. I'd encourage you to point these out and ask your kids where they see God? What does new life look like? Take time to discuss the sadness of the cross and the importance of Jesus taking the punishment for sin, but the joy that he has conquered death and offers a gift of new life, resurrected life to everyone who trusts him!

We have hope that April will bring new opportunities for families, children, and youth to meet on Wednesday evenings and will communicate what that will look like after Easter on Facebook and our website. We will have a **Good Friday service** where families can celebrate communion together on **April 2** and then will have a **Sunrise service at 7am** and **Easter Worship** at **9 or 11am**.

For youth, we are planning a **Guyandotte Association Broomball Night** at New Baptist on **April 16**. Time and details will follow. If you'd like more information about any of these events or would like added to the youth text list to learn more about our activities, please reach out to me at leeboso@gmail.com.

My prayer is that you and your family will find joy in this season as the God of resurrected life makes himself known to you through the death and resurrection of Jesus. I pray that the budding of flowers, chirping of birds, and warmth of sunshine allows you to notice the God who provides life working in and around you!

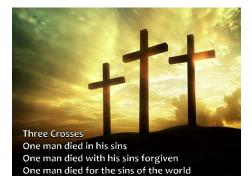
In Christ, Pastor Lee<><



Peanut Butter Jelly Canned Meat



It's time to be thinking about summer camps. At this time we are still uncertain about what programming will be for Camp Cowen this year. As soon as we know more about camp we will share the info or you can check out the website at campcowen.org. for more details.



FINANCIAL PEACE University

A new Financial Peace Class will be starting in April. It will be a "study on your own" class with a virtual group discussion starting on April 6 at 7:00pm and continuing each Tuesday at 7:00pm until June 1.

Enrollment is available online at fpu.com/1134188, or you can sign up at a greatly reduced rate by contacting John Baisden (four memberships available) at 304-972-9050 or JohnBaisden53@gmail.com

For more information, contact John Baisden at the number above.

#### via The Herald-Dispatch



HUNTINGTON — Marshall University and The Pottery Place are once again teaming up to offer the popular Empty Bowls fundraiser event to benefit Facing Hunger Foodbank.

Due to the coronavirus pandemic, the event — typically a soup lunch where attendees choose

their own handmade bowl to purchase and keep — moved online in 2020, with bowls instead being placed for sale on The Pottery Place's website.

That format returns in 2021 for the entire month of April. Those interested can check <u>www.thepotteryplace.biz</u> each Friday for updates, new bowls (to be sold for \$20 each) and a dessert auction.

Each bowl sold for \$20 provides 180 meals for those in need.





Thanks to anyone who ordered a chocolate peanut butter egg. We sold approximately 427 eggs. Thanks for continuing to support Pastor Dasnis and his ministry at Jerusalem Baptist Church in Haiti!

We will be donating Easter baskets to the Veterans Home in Barboursville. Due to COVID restrictions we will only be allowed to drop supplies off and the staff will assemble and distribute them this year. However, we are thankful to bless the 75 residents.

As you know, our area was affected by flooding recently. The Mission Board donated \$500 to Fellowship Baptist Church to help in the recovery effort. We also collected the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering to go towards flood relief through the WVBC.

We will be collecting loose change for A New Beginning Crisis Pregnancy Center in May with our usual baby bottle drive. Go ahead and start saving your change.

## Welcome New Babies!!

#### Born March 1, 2021

Annabeth Paige Adkins Hunter Edward Adkins

Parents: Eddie and Bethany (Woodall) Adkins Grandparents: Bret and Pam Woodall

Great Grandmother: Pat Meredith

## Born March 10, 2021

Cecília Drew Nunley

Parents: Andrew and Kristen (Adams) Nunley Grandparents: Chuck and Joyce Adams

# Borr

## Born March 15, 2021

Charlíe Greer Adams

Parents: Reid and Hillary Adams Grandparents: Chuck and Joyce Adams

## **Prayer Concerns**

(Please let the church office know if there are any names that need to be added or removed from the prayer concern list.)



#### **Church Family and Friends:**

**Church Family and Friends:** Karen Pruitt Adams, Chelcie & Coralie Adkins, Nancy Adkins, Mickey Bane, Jenny Benson, Dean & Cookie Caldwell, Pam Cole, Jack Cook, Rose Davis, Sally Davis, Tessie Deuser, Tracy Foster, Patty Green, Toni Gygi, Doris Halcombe, Minnie Harris, Anna Holstein, John & Linda Hovey, Sandy James, Pete & Anita Jones, Bill Lapole, Virginia Lawrence, Joseph Leggott, Joyce Mannon, Roy Maynor, Pat Meredith, Linda Miller, Charlie Morris, Grace Napier, Carol Newlon, Bob & Paula Paden, Barbara Pauley, Carl Pemberton, Sr., Corlie Perry, Ginger Poteete, Carolyn Powers, Lena Powers, Vicki Rickard, Carol Richardson, Walter & Marion Sansom, Peggy Saunders, Dale Shao, Major & Lynnette Simms, Barbara Lynn Spurlock, Jim & Ann Spurlock, Raymond & Carolyn Spurlock, Judy Swann, Grover Tadlock, Earl & Teresa Trawick, Pat Vickers, Don & Ellen Walker, Dave Watkins, Ronnie Waugh, Nolice White, Mary Lee Wilkes, Mark & Jo Ellen Willett, Sharon Wimmer, Bret Woodall; the family of Otto Clifford Daniels

Additional Prayer Items: our pastors our community our military personnel our country

#### all affected by the Covid-19 crisis unsaved loved ones our government leaders

#### **Death in Church Family**

Mary Clifton, 91, of Huntington WV, passed away on Sunday, March 14, 2021. Mary was a long time member of Beverly Hills Baptist Church and a charter member of New Baptist. Mary is survived by a son, Kelly Clifton.

#### Short and sweet

Nineteenth-century pastor Charles Haddon (C.H.) Spurgeon was known as the "prince of preachers." He founded a seminary in London, now named Spurgeon's College, and taught young pastors-in-training how to prepare sermons.

Spurgeon often gave students a Scripture text and then had them deliver extemporaneous sermons. One afternoon, he assigned Luke 19:1-10 to the shortest class member.

The student immediately stood up and said, "Mr. President and brethren, my subject is Zacchaeus, and it is therefore most appropriate to me. First, Zacchaeus was little of stature, as am I. Second, Zacchaeus was up a tree; so am I. Third, Zacchaeus made haste to come down; so will I."

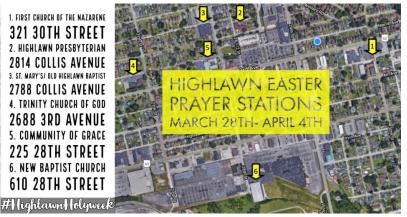
When the young man sat down, his classmates urged him to continue. But Spurgeon loved the sermon, saying, "No, he could not add anything to such a perfect little speech without spoiling it."

(from The NewsletterNewsletter)



Looking ahead to May – we will be recognizing high school and college graduates on **Sunday, May 16**. Graduates please email your info (name and school, degree (college), future plans) as well as a picture to Pastor Lee at leeboso@gmail.com.

The Holy Week and Easter Prayer walk is back! The station signs will be up starting on Palm Sunday, March 28th, and run through April 3rd. A new set of devotions and prayers will be put up starting on Easter Sunday and will run throughout that week.



Easter meditation <u>S.M. Lockridge</u> (1913-2000), pastor of Calvary Baptist Church in San Diego from 1953 to 1993.

#### It's Friday

Jesus is praying Peter's a sleeping Judas is betraying But Sunday's comin'

#### It's Friday

Pilate's struggling The council is conspiring The crowd is vilifying They don't even know That Sunday's comin'

#### It's Friday

The disciples are running Like sheep without a shepherd Mary's crying Peter is denying But they don't know That Sunday's a comin'

#### It's Friday

The Romans beat my Jesus They robe him in scarlet They crown him with thorns But they don't know That Sunday's comin'

#### It's Friday

See Jesus walking to Calvary His blood dripping His body stumbling And his spirit's burdened But you see, it's only Friday Sunday's comin'

It's Friday The world's winning People are sinning And evil's grinning

It's Friday The soldiers nail my Savior's hands To the cross They nail my Savior's feet To the cross And then they raise him up Next to criminals



It's Friday

## but

It's Friday But let me tell you something Sunday's comin'

#### It's Friday

The disciples are questioning What has happened to their King And the Pharisees are celebrating That their scheming Has been achieved But they don't know It's only Friday Sunday's comin'

#### It's Friday

He's hanging on the cross Feeling forsaken by his Father Left alone and dying Can nobody save him? Ooooh It's Friday But Sunday's comin'

#### It's Friday

The earth trembles "he sky grows dark My King yields his spirit It's Friday Hope is lost Death has won Sin has conquered and Satan's just a laughin'

#### It's Friday

Jesus is buried A soldier stands guard And a rock is rolled into place But it's Friday It is only Friday Sunday is a comin'!

## Sunday's Comín'



**New Baptist Church** 610 28th Street Huntington WV 25702

Office Hours: 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM Tuesday thru Friday

Phone: 304-523-3355

E-mail: newbaptist2008@gmail.com

On the Web: www.newbaptistchurch.com

#### **Pastors:**

Rev. Trent Eastman (trente@me.com)

Rev. Lee Boso (leeboso@gmail.com)

Rev. Robin Crouch (rlcrouch1948@gmail.com)

#### Service Hours:

#### <u>Sunday</u>

9am Worship Service

- Traditional Hymns
- Social Distancing Practiced
- Masks Required

#### \*11am Worship Service

- Praise & Worship Hymns
- Social Distancing Practiced
- Masks Required

\*The 11am service is also live streamed on FaceBook (@NewBaptistChurchWV)

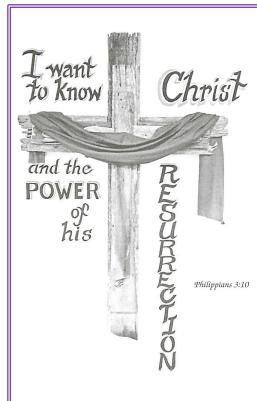
**Wednesday** 

6pm Pastor's Devotion on Facebook Live

NBC Food Pantry Tuesdays 10am-4pm



NEW BAPTIST CHURCH 610 28<sup>TH</sup> STREET HUNTINGTON WV 25702



## Friday, April 2

6:30pm Good Friday Communion Service

## Easter Sunday, April 4

7:00am Sunrise Service

9:00am & 11:00am Praise & Worship Celebrating our Risen Savior