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Rev. Jim Kopco, Pastor

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April 2016

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The Pastor's Corner

I hope everyone had a great Easter. Most people have some fun with candy, eggs, and bunnies during this time of year. But I hope each of us also took some time to celebrate Christ's Resurrection! It's the Resurrection that's the heart of the Christian Gospel.

C.S Lewis, in his book, Miracles, put it this way:

"The Resurrection is the central theme in every Christian sermon reported in the Acts. The Resurrection and its consequences were the "gospel" or good news which the Christians brought: what we call the "gospels," the narratives of our Lord's life and death, were composed later for the benefit of those who had already accepted the *gospel*. They were in no sense the basis of Christianity: they were written for those already converted. The miracle of the Resurrection, and the theology of that miracle, comes first: the biography comes later as a comment on it.

Nothing could be more unhistorical than to pick out selected sayings of Christ from the gospels and to regard those as the datum [starting point] and the rest of the New Testament as a construction upon it. The first fact in the history of Christendom is a number of people who say they have seen the Resurrection."

In the Bible, in 1 Corinthians 15, Paul said,

12 But tell me this—since we preach that Christ rose from the dead, why are some of you saying there will be no resurrection of the dead? 13 For if there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised either. 14 And if Christ has not been raised, then all our preaching is useless, and your faith is useless. 15 And we apostles would all be lying about God—for we have said that God raised Christ from the grave. But that can't be true if there is no resurrection of the dead. 16 And if

there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised. ¹⁷ And if Christ has not been raised, then your faith is useless and you are still guilty of your sins. ¹⁸ In that case, all who have died believing in Christ are lost! ¹⁹ And if our hope in Christ is only for this life, we are more to be pitied than anyone in the world. 1 Corinthians 15:12-19 (NLT)

If the Resurrection isn't true, then there's no use living the Christian life!

Thankfully, the Resurrection is true! Paul continued his message by saying,

20 But in fact, Christ has been raised from the dead. He is the first of a great harvest of all who have died. 21 So you see, just as death came into the world through a man, now the resurrection from the dead has begun through another man. 22 Just as everyone dies because we all belong to Adam, everyone who belongs to Christ will be given new life. 1 Corinthians 15:20-22 (NLT)

Belief in the Resurrection of Christ. It's the center of the Gospel message. It's our reason for hope. It's why we meet together as a church. Christ is risen. He is risen, indeed!

Pastor Jim





BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

(To add a name, please contact Joani Layman, 434-476-7982)

3 rd	Sarah Lloyd – B
4 th	Tony Turner - B
7 th	Eddie D. Martin Jr. – B
8 th	Wanda Saunders – B
9 th	Kelly Henderson – B
11 th	Ann B. Fears – B
	Pat Spencer – B
13 th	Jason Dickerson – B
15 th	George & Billie Jean Baylous - A
	Mitzi Gunn – B
17 th	Brenda Ashby – B
18 th	David Shiner - B
	Eddie D. Martin – B
19 th	Buster Dawson – B
	Jonathan Hudson – B
20 th	Darryl Dawson – B
	Joshua Cook – B
24 th	Betty Dickerson – B
	Michelle Epps – B
	David & Michelle Epps – A
25 th	Owen Satterfield – B
	Howard & Kathy Overstreeet – A
26 th	Eddie & Patricia Martin – A
27 th	Samantha M. Rather – B

28th

UPCOMING BLOODMOBILES

Bill & Kathleen Murphy - A

SATURDAY, APRIL 2 SATURAY, JUNE 4

10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

GIVE BLOOD - SAVE A LIFE!



Sunday, April 17 - Wednesday, April 20

Please mark your calendar for April 17-20, when we will have our **Spring Revival**. The revival will begin at the 11 a.m. service on Sunday, April 17, and will be followed by a covered dish lunch. There will be no service or choir practice on that Sunday evening, but we will have revival services on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday (April 18-20), beginning at 7:00 p.m. each night.



Our revival speaker will be Dr. Don Fowler, Professor of Biblical Studies at Liberty University since 1998. In addition to his having pastored several churches-- including the campus church at Liberty University from 2000-2002—Dr. Fowler's writings have been published in various

Bible commentaries and dictionaries.

Special music on Monday evening will be provided by the River Creek Band, on Tuesday by Jamie and Kathy Laine, and Cecil Hazelwood will sing on Wednesday.

We hope you will invite a friend to join you in attending these inspirational services.



CONGRATULATIONS to

Amelia and Nathan Clements, whose twin daughters Avery and Sadie were born on March 24, weighing 6 lb. 2 oz.

each. Phillip and Wanda Saunders are proud grandparents!

FELLOWSHIP MEALS

- Sunday, April 17 Covered-dish Revival Lunch
- Sunday, May 15 Covered-dish Graduate Recognition Lunch

Bring some food to share and join us!



On Sunday, May

1, we will have a
dedication service
for babies and
young children.
Parents wishing to
participate with
their children in

this service - or who want to learn more about what a child dedication service means - need to contact Pastor Jim by Sunday, April 17.



We would like to recognize our graduates on Sunday, May 15. If there is a graduate in your immediate family whom you would like for us to recognize, please get that info to Pastor Jim by May 1st at the absolute latest.



Kelly Henderson would like to know who would be free to volunteer with VBS on June 5-8/9. Please call Kelly at 470-4114, or speak to her in church, if you will be able to help; this will enable her and

all of our great VBS team to begin early planning.

DRBA SENIOR REVIVAL

The DRBA Senior Revival will be held on Thursday, April 14, from 10:30 a.m. until noon at First Baptist Church, South Boston. Pastor Bob Ballance will be the speaker, with special music by Ben and Linda Hughes.

Please plan to join us for this special time of spiritual renewal and fellowship. Lunch will be provided at no cost; however, pre-registration is required, so do let Pastor Jim know by April 7th to preregister.

BENEFIT CONCERT

For Halifax County Cancer Association

Saturday, April 2

7:00 p.m.

Halifax County High School

Ernie Haase/Signature Sound

(a great Southern Gospel group which has toured with The Gaithers)

Tickets are \$10. Contact Jeff Henderson or Hollis Owen.



Richard Dent McLaughlin May 6, 1966 – March 13, 2016

Granville Steve Conner January 18, 1959 – March 18, 2016

A SPECIAL TWO YEAR ANNIVERSARY

On Sunday, April 3rd, it will have been two years since Bill Murphy received a double lung transplant at Duke University Hospital. Despite the occasional "bump in the road," he is doing well and is enjoying a relatively normal life.

We join Bill and Kathleen in praising God for His faithfulness and mercy in granting continuing strength and health to both Bill and Kathleen after the ordeal of his illness and surgery. Please continue to remember them in your prayers, as you lift up the many others in our church and community who have special needs and concerns.



MEN AND WOMEN TO SEPARATE FOR BIBLE STUDIES

After a number of months' combined study of the Ray Vander Laan DVD studies on Wednesday nights, after our Spring Revival we are going to take a break for some separate men's and women's Bible studies.

Starting on Wednesday, April 27 at 7 p.m., the ladies will dig into Beth Moore's study "Living Beyond Yourself - Exploring the Fruit of the Spirit." The format is familiar: we watch a DVD presentation one Wednesday, do personal Bible study during the week, with discussion the following Wednesday night; then that cycle is repeated through the following weeks. If you would like to order your student book through the church, we ask that you pay \$10; the church will pay the remaining cost and shipping expense. However, if you want to participate and cannot pay the \$10. please don't let that keep you from coming. Just ask for "scholarship price" when you place your order, and the church will pay all the cost. All ladies' student book orders must be placed with Joani Layman by Sunday, April 10th.

Also on April 27 at 7 p.m., the men will begin a study on The Ten Commandments.
Please see Pastor Jim for details on this.

CHURCH CALENDAR

Sundays (unless otherwise announced)

9:45 a.m.

Sunday School

11:00 a.m.

Worship

6:00 p.m.

Adult Bible Study

7:00 p.m.

Adult Choir

Wednesdays (unless otherwise announced)

7:00 p.m.

Men's & Women's Bible Studies

8:00 p.m.

Adult Choir

Thursdays (unless otherwise announced)

7:30 p.m.

Praise Team practice (2nd & 4th Thursdays)

Sat., April 2

10 to 2 11 a.m. Red Cross Bloodmobile here

Sun., April 3

Morning Worship / The Lord's Supper

Afterwards

Building & Grounds Committee meets briefly

Mon., April 4

7:00 p.m.

Deacons & Wives meet

Sun.- Wed., April 17-20

Spring Revival - 11 a.m. Sunday; 7 p.m. MTW

Sun., April 24

6:00 p.m.

Quarterly Business Meeting