

Baptist Connection

Newsletter of Berryville Baptist Church
114 Academy Street
Berryville VA 22611
540-955-1423

EASTER



April

2017

EASTER SUNDAY

A CELEBRATION OF HOPE

Early Service	9:00 a.m.
Sunday School	9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship	11:00 a.m.
Children's Easter Egg Hunt	12:00 Noon

Easter is the most significant day of the year for the believer. On this day we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. It is an occasion of celebration, hope and joy. Invite a friend to be your guest here on Easter Sunday.



HOLY WEEK



Palm Sunday Sunday, April 9th, 2017

We will begin our celebration of Holy Week with our Palm Sunday worship on Sunday, April 9th. We will have our regular schedule, with Early Service at 9 a.m., followed by Sunday School and then our 11 a.m. Worship Service, which will begin with a processional.



Maundy Thursday Worship April 13th, 2017

This year, Berryville Baptist Church will be hosting a candle light service as a time of remembering the last meal Christ shared with his disciples. The service will be on Thursday, April 13th and will begin at 7:00 p.m. As a part of this service, we will share in the observance of Holy Communion.



Good Friday Worship April 14th, 2017

The Clarke County Ministerial Association will sponsor a service at noon, at the Berryville Presbyterian Church.



EASTER WORSHIP 9 AM and 11 AM Sunday, April 16th, 2017

With all the earth and with believers from around the world, we will welcome Easter Sunday with a celebration of worship. This will be a joyful experience and we will want to invite family and friends to join us for this most significant day in the life of our faith. Be aware of special visitors on that Sunday and make a point to welcome them individually and warmly.

Christ the Lord is risen, He is risen, indeed!



Stone's Chapel Memorial Association

Thanks to the church for hosting the Community Choir Sing. It was a wonderful night of Christian fellowship and good music. The Stone's Chapel Memorial Association raised approximately \$ 1,500 for renovation and repairs to this historic Clarke County chapel. Blessings to all who supported this cause.



EASTER EGG DECORATING We need your help decorating Easter Eggs! Join us Saturday, April 15th, at 5:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall for a light supper and lots of fun! Please bring a dozen HARD boiled eggs for each child. Each child will be able to select two eggs to take home and will share the rest with our Easter Egg Hunt (to be held after the Easter morning service). The Recreation Committee will provide the egg decorating kits and tools, the light supper and beverages. And if you don't want to decorate eggs, please join us for the food, fellowship and fun. All are invited.

EASTER EGG HUNT The Easter Egg Hunt will be directly following the Worship Service on Easter Sunday, April 16th. Please meet in the PreSchool room on the first floor.



We are preparing for a program at Providence Baptist Church in Orlean on Sunday, April 23 and Calvary Baptist in Winchester on Sunday afternoon May 21. Regular practices for the mission trip will begin in early May.

We welcome new members Wyatt Wallace and Makayla Hill.

Youth Missions

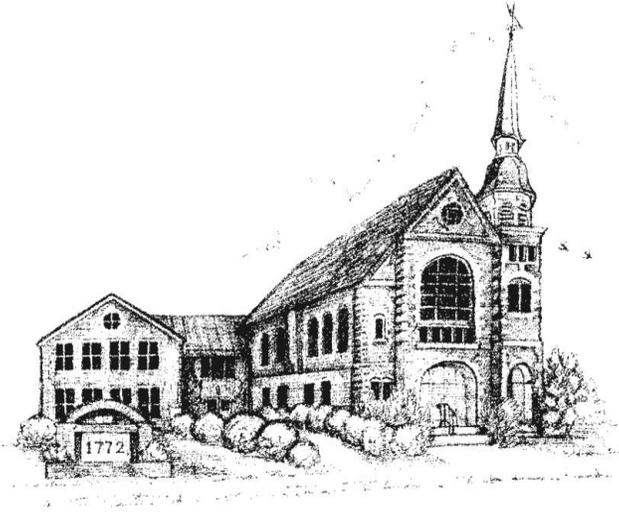


Mission 2017

The team will leave for Wheelwright, Kentucky on Friday, July 14 and return on the 22nd with Youth Sunday on Sunday, July 23.

25 years ago we went to Wheelwright for our first real mission trip. It should be noted that when we close every program with "Jesus Is Alright" that we learned it with the preacher's daughters at the Baptist church. At that time, Mr. Charles Wilson was the preacher.

Wheelwright is a small former coal mining community with some of the kindest people I have ever met. We look forward to sharing a children's ministry and "clean-up, fix-up" work within the community.



**1772 – 2017
245 YEARS OF
BERRYVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH**

Challenge 245

The Finance Committee, the Board of Deacons and Pastor Dan, after prayerful consideration, have organized a plan to challenge the membership of Berryville Baptist Church and its friends to raise a special fund of \$75,000.00. The main purpose of this fund is to pay off the loan the church took out to put the new slate roof on the church. We are hopeful that enough money can be raised to pay off the debt by the second Sunday in September which is when we will celebrate our churches 245th Anniversary.

We would like to challenge each member family and friends of the church to go to God in prayer and see if you are led to rise to this challenge. Anything that you can give above your tithes and offerings would help meet this goal. You can use the Challenge 245 offering envelope that appears monthly in your box of envelopes or simply write "Challenge 245" on the memo line of your check and drop it in the offering plate or write "Challenge 245" on an envelope and insert your gift.

Any funds collected above that needed to pay the debt will be used for special improvements to the church property. The Property Committee would oversee these funds and would welcome any suggestions you might have.



Nurses's Corner

Do you ever argue with God? (you always lose.) I tried for a long time. I said, Lord God, please, can't I be happy and light and positive? After all, Easter is here. But He said, I really need you to write about opioid addiction.

I want you to think about two things: Guard your heart, and guard your medicine cabinet. You may have a family member or dear friend who will take advantage of you because all they can think about is getting more drugs or alcohol. I have adult patients on my floor who have bankrupted their elderly parents. DON'T make the mistake of thinking, "my kid would never do drugs". Multiple grieving parents have also said that. Do your best to know where your children are and with whom. This is not easy in this broken world. Children are being raised more and more by single parents, grandparents (who are often disabled), aunts, uncles and even older siblings. The one statement I hear over and over again is, "I wish I had listened to my child". Notice I said LISTEN, not try to solve the problem. Parents who have raised children to drug- and alcohol-free adulthood have told me that they kept them busy as much as possible and that they always tried to be parents, NOT buddies.

The other huge issue is how people get started using or drinking. Despite all the garbage in social media about how wonderful marijuana is, many people in law enforcement and faith communities continue to regard it as a gateway drug. Patients who are addicts tell me they started using heroin because they were taking opiates for chronic pain and developed a tolerance. Heroin is cheaper than most pain medication, and easily available. But you don't know the strength of the drug coming from Baltimore, and that is why there have been so many deaths from heroin overdoses in this region. If you have ANY medication in your bathroom cabinet, please lock it up and keep it locked, especially if your teenage children have their friends over for video games. Did you ever give a small child an empty bottle with a "child-proof" cap on it? Amazing, isn't it?

I just read today that President Trump is going to put Gov. Chris Christie on an opioid abuse committee. That's a good start, but you can't legislate abstinence any more than you can morality. The greatest weapon in this war is prayer, on our knees, for the next generation. It starts with you and me, one heart at a time. Happy Easter, my beloved in Christ.

Judy Melton, R.N. F.C.N.



“INASMUCH as you did it to the least of these, you did it to me.” -Jesus

MISSIONS' CHALLENGE

Due to my recent health problems and surgery, I have not been able to organize Operation Inasmuch for 2017. It might be a good thing to take a break from our normal procedures at this time.

However, I would like to offer a challenge to each one of us to fulfill the purpose of Operation Inasmuch in Matthew 25: 40 “. . . inasmuch as you have done such things for the least of my brothers and sisters, you have done the same for me”. We can reach out in some way to share the love of Christ. Here are just a few ideas that might help us get started:

1. Take a friend or neighbor to breakfast or lunch.
2. Send a note of appreciation to your child's teacher.
3. Visit a shut in or send them a card to brighten their day.
4. Make a visit to a nursing home just to say : we care.
5. Help a neighbor tidy up their yard.
6. Make a donation to our FISH outlet, food or clothing.
7. Organize some friends to do a craft at a senior facility.
8. Organize a sing-along at a local nursing home senior center.
9. Take a child to an Easter Egg hunt or dye eggs.
10. Send someone a thank-you note for being there when you needed him/her.
11. Invite someone on a picnic or a sunshine day drive.
12. Do something “unexpected” for a stranger.
13. Tell someone you love him/her.
14. Volunteer for one of our church's missions' programs.
15. Offer to run an errand for a shut-in or someone who is sick.

Just remember that the smallest act on your part can mean so much to another person who is down and out.

Hopefully, we can have a picnic at our church in June an share some laughs and good times. Let's shake off the winter blues and look forward to sunshiny days ahead.

In Christ,

Rose Staples



EASTER STORY COOKIE

Ingredients

- 1 cup whole pecans
- 1 tsp. vinegar
- 3 egg whites
- 1 pinch salt
- 1 cup sugar
- gallon size zip top bag
- wooden spoon
- tape
- Bible

1. Preheat the oven to 300 degrees.

2. Put the pecans in the plastic bag. Let the children take turns breaking them by beating with a wooden spoon. Don't crush them finely, but leave in large pieces.

Explain that Jesus was arrested and beaten by the soldiers. Read John 19:1-3

3. Let the children smell the vinegar. Pour it in a mixing bowl.

Explain that when Jesus was thirsty on the cross, they gave him vinegar to drink. Read John 19:28-30.

4. Pour the egg whites into the mixing bowl with the vinegar.

Explain that eggs represent life. Jesus gave his life so that we can have life. Read John 10:10-11.

5. Sprinkle salt into each child's hand and let them taste it. Put a dash of salt in the mixing bowl.

Explain that salt represents the tears shed by Jesus' disciples. It also represents the bitterness of our own sin. Read Luke 23:27.

6. Add 1 cup sugar to the mixing bowl.

Explain that this is the sweetest part of the story. Jesus died because he loves us. He wants us to know and belong to him. Read Psalm 34:8 and John 3:16.

7. Beat the egg whites with a mixer on high speed for 12-15 minutes until it forms stiff peaks.

Explain that the white color represents the purity in God's eyes of those whose sins have been cleansed by Jesus. Read Isaiah 1:18 and John 3:1-3.

8. Fold the broken nuts into the beaten egg whites. Drop by teaspoons onto wax paper covered cookie sheets.

Explain that each mound represents the rocky tomb where Jesus' body was laid. Read Matthew 27:57-60.

9. Put the cookie sheet in the oven, close the door and turn the oven OFF. Give each child a piece of tape and let them seal the oven door.

Explain that Jesus' tomb was sealed. Read Matthew 27:65-66.

10. Go to bed!

Explain that they may feel sad to leave the cookies in the oven. Jesus' followers were very sad when the tomb was sealed. Read John 16:20 and 22.

11. On Easter morning, open the oven and give everyone a cookie. Let them take a bite and show them that they are hollow inside!

On the first Easter morning Jesus' followers were amazed to find his tomb open and empty. Read Matthew 28:1-9.

HE HAS RISEN!

HUNGER

There were times when he knew the feel of hunger. If only by his own choosing. Last summer he felt the desire for food as he cleared out his digestive track in preparation for a colonoscopy. This by his own choosing. Some Saturdays he chooses not to eat, to draw away from people, to pray, to prepare his heart to preach on Sunday. This, too, by his own choosing.

They sat across from each other at the local diner. Pastor and church member. Pastor and friend. Is it wrong to steal? Of course, the pastor replied. Now pastor tell me, if you were hungry would you steal food in order to eat?

Politicians are coached in the art of deflection. They answer without answering the question asked. The pastor though answered quickly and directly by saying, if I were hungry and even more so if my children were hungry, I would steal food. If I saw the opportunity to steal food to relieve our hunger I would. His friend with a slight smile and a nod of agreement said he would do the same.

The pastor no longer goes to the local diner. After his friend passed away he lost interest. Before he would stop in every two or three weeks to chat with the men at the table. It was always the same table, same time, and same group of men. They were retired school administrators, retired businessmen, a retired sheriff, and retired farmers. Men who now have time on their hands. For the most part all active churchmen. He sometimes asked himself if I were not a pastor would I talk differently when being with these men, and likewise, do these same men talk differently when I'm here.

One of the plusses of being a pastor is the conversations, the stories, and the people. If given the chance most people love to talk about themselves. You sit, listen, and people share their stories. At times you rephrase what you hear, but mostly you listen. The pastor when feeling alone and isolated, knows firsthand how rare it is to find that person who will listen, how hard it is to find that person who will be a friend that can be trusted.

From the diner talking with successful retirees to now in his study he sits across from a young man who knows the horror of physical abuse as a child, the pain of hunger growing up, the inside of a jail cell, and years of being homeless. His clothes are old and tattered. His hands are dirty. Some of his teeth are missing.

The pastor listened as the young man described what he's endured during his rather short life. At one point, the pastor asked, have you ever known hunger? Yes was the expected reply. A follow up question, what did you do when you were hungry? The young man answered, "I did what I had to do." The pastor stayed quiet. No more questions.

Life is complicated. Often not black or white. Most of our living takes place in that gray area in between. Sometimes God allows us to be tested. Hopefully God grades on a curve. The pastor knows hunger, but only by his own choosing.

Pastor Dan