

### **From the Pastor.....**

As I write this we are already and officially into the Spring season. It began on Monday, 20 March. We are beginning to see signs of Spring. As I look out my office window I can see yellow daffodils blooming next door at the parsonage (now known as the Farris's residence). My Bradford Pear tree at home is in full bloom and so are the Cherry Blossoms. Of course to enjoy them you have to put a coat on when you go outside because it is after all.....early Spring!

Spring is my favorite time of year for a number of reasons, first and foremost it means that Easter is soon to arrive and with it the reminder of God's love, mercy and grace. And it also means that baseball season has begun in places like West Palm Beach, Florida and Mesa, Arizona. Speaking of Easter and baseball I'm reminded of a story I heard several years ago....

*"It was on September 8, 1998, that St. Louis Cardinals first baseman Mark McGwire made history by hitting his 62<sup>nd</sup> home run of the baseball season. It was an emotional moment for four people sitting in the VIP section of the stadium. They were the grown children of Roger Maris, the man who hit 61 home runs in 1961 to establish the record. The children of Roger Maris were an important part of the celebration that night. Yet none of them had played a major league baseball game in their lives. Maris's children did not receive special attention because of what they had done, but rather because of who their father was. He had made it possible for them to be present and honored because of his achievement years before."*

One day we will sit down at a feast with Jesus Christ and enjoy the benefits of the eternal kingdom not because of who we are, or what we have done, but because our heavenly Father redeemed us through Christ. That is what Easter is all about.

*I love you all....*

**Pastor Frank**



The dessert auction held on March, 11, 2017 was enjoyed by all who were able to participate. Carolyn Lane worked so hard, along with many helpers in the kitchen, to make this such a success. We received a total of \$3870 for our missions fund. Thanks to all who baked, cooked, and bought these items. Let us continue to “go, and tell” as we strive to meet the needs of others here at home as well as those near and far.

The emphasis for Annie Armstrong North American Missions in March surpassed our goal of \$1,000. We will continue with our giving through March. As of this date (March 20), we have received \$1154. We are so grateful for those missionaries in the U.S. and Canada who sacrifice daily as they attempt to reach the lost and lead them to Christ.

The collection of socks and underwear has been extended until the end of April, as we have been challenged to fill 2 boxes that will be delivered by a church member. You may put your donations in the baskets in the family ministry center or under the bench in the back hall. These items will be delivered to the Bland Ministry Center in Wise County, Va.

Our WMU is making plans for hosting the annual WMU Hermon Association meeting on Tuesday, April 25, 2017 at 6:16 p.m. We look forward to providing dinner for approximately 85 members and guests. Our church music leaders will assist us in providing the music. We will have a special speaker, as well as conduct brief business for the coming year.

We are invited to bring a guest and join others for a trip on the Salem express to visit the International Learning Center in Rockville, Va. on May 1, 2017. RSVP for those attending by April 9<sup>th</sup>. There we will see where the missionaries and their families are taught and readied for their assignments abroad, as well as where they are welcomed when they return.

We are saddened by the recent death of Catherine Durrett, one of our past WMU leaders. She worked hard to show us each month just how much WMU meant to her, and how we can continue to support our missionaries around the world.



"It's April, so I can't get away with a newsletter entry without talking about Easter! Easter is a great holiday and I don't totally hate what we've done with it in our society. Who doesn't like plastic eggs filled with candy? And am I the only one that looks forward to tie-dyed egg salad?"

The thing that we, as believers, have to remember is that these holidays have meaning and I'm not just talking the 'quaint Peanuts Christmas special' type of meaning. This season is the sober reflection of a humble life, humiliating death, and glorious resurrection. That's not a 'quaint' thing. Do you realize that this is actually what makes Christianity different from nearly every other religion out there (certainly the major ones)? We center our life around the teachings of a religious "figure" just like other religions. The difference is that Moses, David, and Solomon are all dead. Muhammed is dead. Joseph Smith is dead. The various 'reincarnations' of the Hindu gods are all dead. Gautama Buddha is dead. (Notice a trend?) Jesus Christ is alive. There is no grave, no memorial stone, and no body for our savior. Easter is quintessential to who we are as Christians and to understanding the power of life over death. These are the lessons that youth need to understand because they help young minds reconcile the fact that the world tells them one thing and their faith tells them another. The world tells them to be the smartest, fastest, and most talented while God tells them to simply listen with faith that God will equip them to be as smart, fast, or talented as their calling requires.

Let's use Easter as a time to set ourselves apart from the world by recognizing the deep, meaningful symbolism of the holiday.

-----  
Last month our youth attended PlanetWisdom and the experience was awesome. We had 14 students and 5 adults travel to Woodbridge, VA for the two-day event. We heard great messages, enjoyed comedy, skits, and awesome music. All of our volunteers deserve a lot of thanks and praise for their hard work (Sabrina Farris, Sherry Brillhart, Olivia Perry, and Richard Gustard). Coming up this month, we will be beginning ramping up for summer camp fundraisers and enjoying a few special events (movie nights, etc). Summer camp will be in Ridgecrest, NC from July 12-July 16 and down payments to reserve a spot are \$50. We only have 12 student spots so if your student is interested in attending, please let us know! In terms of fundraising, we have a need for assistance getting kids to this awesome experience. If you want to help, we want to put our students to work! Please contact Joseph if you would like to help in some way."

Sincerely,  
Joseph Pack  
Student Ministry Coordinator  
"CROSSROADS Student Ministries"



# *Musical Connections*

## UPCOMING:

### *The sounds of Easter.....*

Sunday, April 16, 2017

8:45AM Contemporary Worship with music to celebrate Resurrection Sunday

11AM Traditional Worship with the presentation of "The Way, The Truth, The Life"

[by Dennis and Nan Allen]

---

BGBC worship leader, song writer, and musician, Doug Farris, has shared his intrigue with the stories behind many of the songs we enjoy in worship services, specifically the origin, the intention, and the relatability to the listener's own life. He contends that knowing this background information can allow us to go deeper as we engage in worship.

Doug cites as an example "Oh My Soul", written by Mark Hall of Casting Crowns. The song was born out of his cancer diagnosis and the mental battle of faith and fear that comes with that conversation. As a Student Pastor, Mark was no stranger to adversity, but when it happened to him, things were a little different. Doug's favorite line in the song is, "*Oh, my soul. You are not alone. There's a place where fear has to face the God you know.*" Mark has always had a way of stripping everything down to the very essence of do we believe the Gospel and in the very power that comes with it? It's not always easy to remember that this earth and time is not our home.

Similarly, in a poor fishing village in England in 1847, a hymn written by ailing pastor Henry F. Lyte echoes Mark Hall's sentiment. In "Abide with Me," a sorrowful Pastor Lyte addresses the realization that his ministry and life on earth are drawing to a close. He penned the lyrics that reflect the faith of a man who depended upon God to give him strength to face the road ahead.

As believers, our faith can be shaken at times, but one day we will be made whole in the presence of a heavenly Father who loves each one of us more than we can fathom. Songs, old and new, can serve as moving reminders of this truth.

Psalm 42:5 (ESV)

Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my salvation.



## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

March 2017

### **Easter Sunday**

#### **The sounds of Easter.....**

Sunday, April 16, 2017

8:45 AM Contemporary Worship with music to celebrate Resurrection Sunday

11:00AM Traditional Worship with the presentation of "The Way, The Truth, The Life"  
[by Dennis and Nan Allen]

### **HOMECOMING**

On Sunday, April 30, we will gather as a church for an exciting time of faith and fellowship. We will combine our two worship services for an 11:00am worship experience in the sanctuary, immediately following our 10:00am Sunday morning bible study for all ages. This inspirational service will feature our praise band and sanctuary choir.

Following the 11:00am worship service, we will sit down to a Homecoming meal in our Family Ministry Center.

It is always a special day at Bowling Green Baptist Church when we come together to celebrate wonderful worship, great food, faithful friendships, our rich past and a boundless future! We look forward to seeing you there

# APRIL 2017



| SUNDAY                                                                                                                                                                        | MONDAY                                                                        | TUESDAY                                                                                                                                      | WEDNESDAY                                                                                                                                                  | THURSDAY                                       | FRIDAY                                                                            | SATURDAY                                                                              |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                               |                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                            |                                                |                                                                                   | 1 <b>Evang. Team Returns from Ghana</b><br>8am-Noon<br>Pancake<br>Breakfast BETA Club |
| 2 <b>Communion</b><br>8:45am<br>Contemporary<br>Worship<br>10am Sunday<br>School/<br>Bible Study<br>11am Traditional<br>Worship<br><b>Deadline to order<br/>Easter Lilies</b> | 3<br>9am -Noon<br>Beginnings<br>Preschool                                     | 4<br>6pm Young Lives<br>6pm HOA<br>BGMeadows<br>7pm Preschool Bd.<br>Of Directors Meet                                                       | 5<br>9am-Noon<br>Beginnings<br>Preschool<br>11am Area Ministers<br>Meet, Philathea<br>Room<br>6:30pm Crossroads<br>6:30pm Adult Choir<br>7pm Praise Band   | 6                                              | 7<br>9am-Noon<br>Beginnings<br>Preschool<br>5:30pm KIDZ<br>Night                  | 8<br>Spring Clean-Up<br>Day at the<br>Church                                          |
| 9 <b>Palm Sunday</b><br>8:45am<br>Contemporary<br>Worship<br>10am Sunday School/<br>Bible Study<br>11am Traditional<br>Worship                                                | 10<br>Beginnings<br>Preschool Closed                                          | 11<br>12 Noon, Dollie<br>Farmer WMU,<br>Philathea Rm<br>6pm Young Lives<br>6:30pm Care &<br>Visitation<br>4pm-10pm Spirit<br>Night at Roma's | 12<br>Beginnings Preschool<br>Closed<br>6:30pm Crossroads<br>6:30pm Adult Choir<br>7pm Praise Band                                                         | 13                                             | 14 <b>Good Friday</b><br>Beginnings<br>Preschool<br>Closed<br>5:30pm KIDZ<br>Nite | 15                                                                                    |
| 16 <b>EASTER</b><br>8:45am<br>Contemporary<br>Worship<br>10am Sunday School/<br>Bible Study<br>11am Traditional<br>Worship<br>12-7pm FMC<br>reserved by Kristen<br>Bissoon    | 17<br>Beginnings<br>Preschool Closed<br>7pm Church<br>Council                 | 18<br>10am Christian<br>Book Club<br>6pm Young Lives<br>6pm Caroline Co.<br>Relay for Life<br>7pm Finance<br>7pm Building &<br>Grounds       | 19<br>9am-Noon<br>Beginnings<br>Preschool<br>11am Area Ministers<br>Meet, Philathea<br>Room<br>6:30pm Crossroads<br>6:30pm Adult Choir<br>7pm Praise Band  | 20<br>7pm Deacons<br>John Markham<br>devotions | 21<br>9am-Noon<br>Beginnings<br>Preschool                                         | 22                                                                                    |
| 23<br>8:45am<br>Contemporary<br>Worship<br>10:00-10:45am Qrtly<br>Bus. Meeting<br>11am Traditional<br>Worship                                                                 | 24<br>9am – Noon<br>Beginnings<br>Preschool<br>8pm Girl Scouts<br>Blood Drive | 25<br>6pm Young Lives,<br>basement<br>7pm FMC and<br>Sanctuary.<br>Reserved for<br>Hermon Assoc.<br>WMU Annual<br>Meeting                    | 26<br>9am -Noon<br>Beginnings<br>Preschool<br>11am Area Ministers<br>Meet, Philathea<br>Room<br>6:30pm Crossroads<br>6:30pm Adult Choir<br>7pm Praise Band | 27<br>9am-Noon<br>Beginnings<br>Preschool      | 28                                                                                | 29                                                                                    |
| 30 <b>HOMECOMING</b><br>11am Combined<br>Worship<br>Lunch following<br>worship                                                                                                |                                                                               |                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                            |                                                |                                                                                   |                                                                                       |



# APRIL BIRTHDAYS

|                     |    |
|---------------------|----|
| Summer Smith        | 1  |
| Gracelin Flora      | 2  |
| Timothy Pickett     | 5  |
| Ryan Gray           | 8  |
| Rachael Roundy      | 8  |
| Emily Brillhart     | 9  |
| Jeffrey Satterwhite | 12 |
| Joseph Stepp        | 12 |
| David Wright        | 13 |
| Barbara Mills       | 17 |
| Lauryn Knobel       | 17 |
| Doug Ferguson       | 18 |
| Beth Curran         | 19 |
| Addison Kennedy     | 19 |
| Cameran Pickett     | 20 |
| Debbie Bullock      | 20 |
| Joe Lanford         | 20 |
| Margaret B. Lewis   | 20 |
| Davin Kidd          | 26 |
| Zac Foltz           | 26 |
| Mary Flora          | 27 |
| Paige Carter        | 28 |



# APRIL REMINDERS

**Deacon of the Week:**

Apr 2 - Ed Britt  
 Apr 9 - Carolyn Lane  
 Apr 16 - Neal Tidman  
 Apr 23 - Bob Rice  
 Apr 30 - Priscilla Shuler

**Deacons' Meeting Devotions-** John Markham**Building Security:** – Deacon of the week**Counters**– Joseph Pack & Heather Smith**Flowers:**

Apr 2– Alice Farmer  
 Apr 9 – Palm Sunday(Philathea Class)  
 Apr 16 – Easter Sunday (Easter Lilies)  
 Apr 23 - Betty W. Williams  
 Apr 30- Homecoming

**Coffee & Snack Schedule**

2<sup>nd</sup> Bonnie Gromovsky  
 9<sup>th</sup> Jenn Thomas  
 16<sup>th</sup> Meredith Pack  
 23<sup>rd</sup> Sherry Brillhart  
 30<sup>th</sup> Carolyn Lane

**Nursery Workers: \***

2<sup>nd</sup> Ruth Judd, Sandy Taylor, Laney Thomas  
 9<sup>th</sup> Paige Carter, Heather Diritto, Christianna Gray  
 16<sup>th</sup> Haley Kennedy, Debbie Thomas, Kamryn Gray  
 23<sup>rd</sup> Stephanie Sadler, Jake Phelix, Gabby Dixon  
 30<sup>th</sup> Sallie Tidman, Sabrina Farris, Chandler Gustard

\* Both individuals are responsible for the 8:45 service;  
 the underlined individual is also responsible for the 11:00  
 service.