





### EASTER AT BGBC

Easter at BGBC this year will include something old and something new. There will be our traditional choral special in our second service. This year, Sandra Stevens and our sanctuary choir will be presenting, “Blessed Redeemer” by Dennis and Nan Allen. And of course we will be having Sunday School.

However, in addition to this moving choir special we’ll begin the day with a sunrise service which will include our awesome Praise Team and a message from Pastor Frank. I can’t think of a better way to begin Easter than to rejoice in His resurrection as the day dawns. This will be followed by a delicious breakfast (with plenty of coffee) hosted by our wonderful Hospitality Team.

During breakfast we’ll be showing a movie inspired by Max Lucado entitled, “Resurrection.” This is a story of one Roman soldier’s quest for the truth of the resurrection. Here is what the morning will look like:

6:30am – Sunrise Service (weather permitting), outside at the rear of the church.

7:30am – Breakfast in the FMC.

8:00am – Movie: “Resurrection” in the FMC.

9:00am – Sunday School for all ages

10:30am – Choral presentation of “Blessed Redeemer” in the Sanctuary.

I sincerely hope you will join us this Easter. I also hope you will bring someone with you. Of the 52 Sundays out of a year, Easter is probably the one Sunday almost everyone will attend church, if invited by a friend. Perhaps they need some “Good News” in their life. You see, Easter’s empty tomb has never been and will never be old news. Everything became new on Easter Sunday because of the empty tomb, and because of our living Savior. The message of the resurrection is the ever-new, Good News about Jesus Christ who conquered sin and death, and who rose from the grave. Everything He touches becomes instantly and eternally new.

He is Risen,

Pastor Frank

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS UPCOMING**

**Vacation Bible School.** The VBS sign-up sheet has been posted on the bulletin board. Volunteers are needed for Nursery, Pre K Teaching Team, Grades 1-6 Teaching Team, Recreation, Music, Missions, and Arts and Crafts. Please consider being a volunteer for VBS, June 4-8.

**Homecoming is Coming Soon!** Save the date for Sunday, April 29. Our annual Homecoming Sunday is scheduled for that day. Update: There will be a professional photographer available to take family photos. Details will soon be published.

**Holy Land Tour.** Join Pastor Frank, Pastor Kevin James and others for a once in a lifetime opportunity to tour the Holy Land from November 27—December 6, 2018. Cost is only \$3,499 per person, which covers virtually everything. A deposit of \$500 to secure a reservation is due by May 31 in order to receive an “early bird” discount. Brochures are available from Pastor Frank.

# Growing and Learning in Grace

by Paige Carter

## A Really Awesome Problem to Have

I heard recently in a podcast featuring the leader of the great Hillsong Church that “healthy things grow.” If healthy things grow, I would say that our children and student ministries have some healthy things going on! Last year, I asked Pastor Frank if we could reserve additional slots for camp, taking a leap of faith. We have to put up a \$50.00 deposit for every slot we reserve. With a green light from Pastor Frank and church leaders, I reserved 30 slots. I put up a sign up sheet in January and within hours, all 30 slots and a few more were on the list. The majority of these slots were filled by children you would readily recognize if you are in the hallway before or after Sunday school and certainly if you frequent Kidz Nite. (Kidz Nite draws several kids from neighboring churches that do not have an active children’s ministry. These kids are with their families on Sunday morning.) Some of the children who signed up are kids who are friends of kids at our church. This, too, is a great thing! Outreach is happening. So, what to do when there are 30 slots and a waiting list? The struggle is real!!!

Here is what I have decided to do. The first 30 slots are for children who are currently active in our children’s ministry. This includes Sunday activities or Kidz Nite. After that, slots can be filled by friends or community kids who just want to be part of camp. Of course, the goal is to acquire as many slots as I have children on the list, but this may not be possible. Again, the struggle is real. Camp is an extraordinary opportunity to get away, to be in a place where Christ-centered, kid-friendly activities are the order of the day. I find it to be a retreat, a place where my quiet time is scheduled and nothing can get in the way of my focus on Jesus. Wouldn’t it be amazing if the world was like that?

Camp is such a blessing, even, if not especially, for the adults who go. Please be in prayer for us as we prepare. Pray, too, for the young men and women who lead Centrikid across the country. They will leave their college campuses or places or work in May and begin intense training and preparation to serve kids with high-energy and endless enthusiasm, clearly relying on Christ to provide! Be in prayer, too, for those who manage and prepare the facilities, and ensure that the children are fed, housed, and safe. Please pray, too, for the youth who will be going with Joseph and his team to Centrifuge/M-Fuge.

**Vacation Bible School is coming soon! Let us know how (not if) you can serve!**

**VBS is for everyone!!!**

**Upcoming dates....**

**VBS June 4-8**

**Centrikid June 16-20**



Our new WMU emphasis for 2018-2020 is UNSHAKABLE PURSUIT. What does this mean? Our unshakable pursuit is to know God more, show His love unconditionally, and make more disciples who make more disciples. I Corinthians 15:58 CEV says “My dear friends, stand firm and don’t be shaken. Always keep busy working for the Lord. You know that everything you do for Him is worthwhile”. Please take a few moments to view the WMU bulletin board as we explore some of the Women at the Cross. As found in Luke 23, as Jesus was being led away to be crucified, the crowd that followed included a group of Jewish women who mourned and waited for Him. Many of this group followed Jesus throughout the end of His earthly ministry caring for his needs. Some also provided food and financial assistance. Read the Bible verses accompanying the names to help understand more about these women.

Our missions dessert auction on March 10 was a great success. Over 70 entries gave us a total of \$4,270. These monies will assist with all mission needs other than the African missions trips each year. Many thanks to Carolyn Lane for her hard work and to all the volunteers who helped. Thanks also for all those who contributed so many delicious items for auction. What a fun evening!

North American missions prayer and collection of monies continued for the missionaries through the month of March. I hope you will continue to pray and give, as it is estimated that about 269 million peoples in North America do not know Jesus Christ. We must urgently pursue God’s plan to be on mission here and now. As of March 18, 2018, we have received \$855 towards our goal of \$1500. Praise God for mission minds and hearts.

# Musical Connections

*"When words fail, music speaks."* Hans Christian Anderson



Singing in a choir or playing an instrument in a band or orchestra is about more than just making beautiful music. Participating in music groups has all kinds of physical, cognitive and psychological benefits as well. It has been found to improve well-being--- from reducing symptoms of anxiety to regulating heartbeat, lowering blood pressure and strengthening the immune system. This comes from a 2016 study by Tenovus Cancer Care and the Royal College of Music (Renew.com).

There's also good news for those who have played music earlier in life too. The cognitive and neural benefits of musical experience continue throughout life. It may even counteract negative effects of aging such as memory and hearing difficulties in older adults, according to reports shared at a symposium in California that explore musical experience and hearing loss (Renew.com).

Surely this was the Lord's design when the Psalmist wrote:

*Make a joyful noise unto the LORD, all ye lands.*

*Serve the LORD with gladness: come before his presence with singing.*

*Psalm 100: 1-2 (KJV)*

Consider getting involved in the Music Ministry of our church this Spring. Music brings richness to our lives in so many ways.



## April Birthdays

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



## April Reminders

### Deacon of the Week:

April	1	Brad Thomas
	8	Danielle Cushing
	15	Ed Britt
	22	Carolyn Lane
	29	Neal Tidman

Deacons' Meeting Devotions- Sherry Brillhart

Building Security: – Deacon of the week

Counters— Joseph Pack and Heather Smith

### Flowers:

April 1	Easter Sunday – Easter Lilies
April 8	Kay & Bob Rice
April 15	Alice Farmer
April 22	Betty W. Williams
April 29	Homecoming – Flowers Furnished by the Church

### Coffee & Snack Schedule:

April	1	Hospitality Committee
April	8	Daniele and Josh Cushing
April	15	Debbie Thomas and Haley Kennedy
April	22	Jeff and Heather Diritto
April	29	Homecoming

### Nursery Workers: \*

1<sup>st</sup> – **Stephanie Sadler** – Jake Phelix – Chandler Gustard  
 8<sup>th</sup> – **Sallie Tidman** - Sabrina Farris – Gabby Dixon  
 15<sup>th</sup> – **Jeanne Jordan** - Kristen Bissoon – Kailey Gray  
 22<sup>nd</sup> – **Carolyn Lane** – Tracey Mallory – Emily Brillhart  
 29<sup>th</sup> – **Heather Smith** - Jenn Thomas – Kyle Farris

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