

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

1. Bill Cogburn
3. Clifford Ruff
5. Joy Jones
7. Gerri Underwood
8. Carson Russell
9. Rhonda Wyatt
10. Al Bowers, Reva Shuler
12. Arlene Reynolds
17. Barbara Buchanan
18. Cheryl Eichhorn, Dick Young
20. Nashawna Aldridge, Bonnie Buchanan, Logan Byrd, Susan Norsworthy
22. Lily Geeting
23. Nancy Buchanan
26. Gabby Hightower
27. Angel Cabe
29. Paige Shell

MEMORIAL

Richard & Joanna West have given a gift to the Sanctuary Audio/Visual Fund in memory of Frances Wyatt.

Palm Sunday

by Rebecca Barlow Jordan

They did not see Him coming. Not Him. They saw a hope re-kindled, an end to their injustice, an easier path to follow.

They waved their palm offerings, laid down their finest clothes, but they saw only a temporary king, not a Suffering Servant.

They sang alleluia from the depths of their hearts, and would have crowned Him there if they could. But they didn't understand.

They didn't see Jesus. Son of God. Messiah. Soon and Coming King. They misunderstood: His kingdom was not of this world.

Jesus knew. Astride on the back of a donkey, He knew why He had come.

The Son of God humbled Himself, set aside royalty, and exchanged Heaven's robes for a towel and a basin of water.

He received their praise that day, but He saw their hearts, young and old alike.

And He wept for them.

And then He died for them.

A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted, "Hosanna to the Son of David!" "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Hosanna in the highest!"
Matthew 21:8-9 NIV

Lord Jesus, we acknowledge You as the Suffering Servant, the Son of God, the true Messiah—and the One who died so that we might have life. May the praise that we offer and the lives that we live give appropriate honor to You, Lord. And may the same servant spirit You showed us characterize our lives as well. Thank you for giving Your life for us! We owe everything to You!

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Congratulations to Jackson & Sarah Heinz
who will be celebrating their
1st Wedding Anniversary on April 2.

Congratulations to Monte & E.J. Plott
who will be celebrating their
1st Wedding Anniversary on April 3.

Congratulations to Doug & Patty McClure
who will be celebrating their
42nd Wedding Anniversary on April 5.

Congratulations to Ed & Polly Leatherwood
who will be celebrating their
61st Wedding Anniversary on April 9.

Congratulations to Chris & Paige Shell
who will be celebrating their
10th Wedding Anniversary on April 9.

Congratulations to Nathan & Krista Beck
who will be celebrating their
11th Wedding Anniversary on April 10.

Congratulations to Cody & Amanda Parton
who will be celebrating their
4th Wedding Anniversary on April 22.

Congratulations to Ron & Joyce Ingle
who will be celebrating their
38th Wedding Anniversary on April 23

HIS RESURRECTED BODY

By Max Lucado

Jesus appeared to the followers in a flesh-and-bone body: "A spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have" (Luke 24:39 NASB). His resurrected body was a real body, real enough to walk on the road to Emmaus, to be mistaken for that of a gardener, to swallow fish at breakfast. In the same breath, Jesus' real body was really different. The Emmaus disciples didn't recognize him, and walls didn't stop him. Mark tried to describe the new look and settled for "[Jesus] appeared in another form" (Mark 16:12 NKJV). While his body was the same, it was better; it was glorified. It was a heavenly body. And I can't find the passage that says he shed it. He ascended in it.

"He was lifted up while they were looking on, and a cloud received Him out of their sight" (Acts 1:9 NASB). He will return in it. The angel told the followers, "This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in just the same way as you have watched Him go into heaven" (Acts 1:11 NASB). The God-man is still both. The hands that blessed the bread of the boy now bless the prayers of the millions. And the mouth that commissions angels is the mouth that kissed children. You know what this means? The greatest force in the cosmos understands and intercedes for you. "We have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous" (1 John 2:1 NASB).

AND THE ANGELS WERE SILENT

By Max Lucado

The idea that a virgin would be selected by God to bear himself...The notion that God would don a scalp and toes and two eyes...The thought that the King of the universe would sneeze and burp and get bit by mosquitoes...It's too incredible. Too revolutionary. We would never create such a Savior. We aren't that daring...In our wildest imaginings we wouldn't conjure a king who becomes one of us.

But God did. God did what we wouldn't dare dream. He did what we couldn't imagine. He became a man so we could trust him. He became a sacrifice so we could know him. And he defeated death so we could follow him.

HONORARIUM

Fred & Bonnie Buchanan have given a gift to the Sanctuary Audio/Visual Fund in honor of Mike Jones for his many years of service.

SYMPATHY

Christian sympathy is extended to . . .

- . . . Sue Bailey, Connie McClure, Rickey & Joan Taylor in the passing of Charles Bailey.
- . . . Peggie & Christy Tyler in the passing of Rebecca Sharp.
- . . . Jordan & Bailey Warren of Mills River, whose 4-year-old son, Jax, lost his battle with cancer on March 1.
- . . . Denise & Alan Mathis in the passing of Denise's aunt, Lois Anderson of Kingsport, Tennessee.
- . . . Mazie Geringer in the passing of her sister, Louise Nelson.
- . . . the family of Lynn Whitten.

BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOMES FOOD ROUNDUP - APRIL 2021

Why is the Food Roundup so vital?

You provide meals and snacks to boys and girls in Baptist Children's Homes' care who often come to us from traumatic situations of abuse and neglect. Many children have gone without eating regularly. Your participation keeps our shelves stocked and children's bellies -- and hearts -- full.

How does my church make an impact?

When children see cars and trucks full of food and necessities pull into our statewide locations, they see God's love in action. Being a part of the Food Roundup is not only about collecting food -- it's about shining the light of Jesus into the darkness boys and girls, many who are unchurched, have endured.

An updated Food/Supply Needs List is included in this newsletter. You may bring your items to the church anytime during the month of April.

BIRTHS

Announcing the arrival of . . .

AUBREY LAYNE to Amanda & Cody Parton on March 5. She weighed 8 lbs. 15 ozs. and was 21 inches long. Grandparents are Jay & Cheryl Eichhorn.

FINLEE CLAIRE to Jessica & Hunter Chambers on March 19. She weighed 9 lbs. 14 ozs. and was 20 inches long. Grandparents are Chris & Paige Shell and great-grandparents are Jim & Carol Shell.

ANNIE ARMSTRONG EASTER OFFERING

Perhaps you have heard the expression, “Turn your mess into your ministry.” We all have a story. Some may seem more dramatically life-changing than others, but each person’s story has an impact on the person he or she inevitably becomes. Life stories can shape passions and inspire us to help save the world, even if it’s only one person at a time.

Often, we question why God allows bad things in our lives or even allows us to make unwise, life-changing decisions. We may never know the answers to those questions this side of heaven, but we can rest assured that God will not waste one single mess we make and will work it out for good. Sometimes, He really does turn our messes into ministries.

Such is the case in the life of Jacob Zailian. He was a thief, a drug dealer and a drug abuser, which landed him in jail several times. He had several children with his then girlfriend, Francine, who had finally had enough. Francine came to the jail and told Jacob she wanted nothing else to do with him. She and the kids were better off without him.

Left alone, Jacob saw that he was behaving in the same way his father had and was creating the same life for his children that his father had created for him. He went back to his cell and prayed to the God he knew existed and gave his life to Christ. From that moment on, his life changed dramatically.

After he was released from jail, he began attending church at the Salvation Army and working to reconcile with Francine. God began putting people in his life who invested in him and disciplined him.

God worked miracle after miracle in Jacob’s life. He and Francine got married and started Set Free Church for the homeless, the drug addicts and the gang members in Sanger—people Jacob says, “would scare many average churchgoers.”

The Sanger community is economically depressed with a high rate of poverty, homelessness and addiction. Most who attend Jacob’s church have known that life and they know Jacob because he was once one of them. Some might never darken the doorway of a traditional church, but they come to listen to Jacob because he understands them, and they see the miracle God worked in his life.

He is a self-described “100-mile-an-hour” kind of guy who injects excitement and enthusiasm into everything he does for the sake of moving the mission forward. The people in his community recognize his sincerity and that he truly cares for them.

Set Free Church currently rents space in a local church building and holds services on Sunday

evenings with a big dinner after every worship service where all are welcome, not just church members. On three additional days of the week, the church prepares free meals and invite those in the community to either come and eat or come and serve. Because the church has a partnership with a store in Fresno and some community organizations, they are able to feed 350–400 people per week and address other physical needs.

Feeding ministry is a primary tool for Jacob. The goal is to meet a basic need while building relationships with the disadvantaged in the community so he can introduce them to Christ and help them leave their old life behind.

The team always asks if they can pray for those who come for food. That often opens doors to hear their stories and needs. The team then prays with them immediately and invites them to attend worship and the next Sunday dinner.

Because the coronavirus pandemic created restrictions on group sizes, Jacob learned to be creative in doing whatever it takes to move the mission forward. He didn’t have access to state-of-the-art video equipment, so he worked with what he had—even if it meant taping his cell phone to a stand so he could broadcast online. He adapted his worship services to maintain social distancing recommendations. And, he and Francine saw how God used the time of uncertainty by bringing more people to Jesus.

Set Free Ministry also takes to the streets, inviting the homeless and the drug dealers to come and learn. They do indeed come because they know and trust Jacob. Over and over again, lives have been changed as those without hope come to faith, are baptized and disciplined. And, the church is growing.

Crystal meth and heroin are a real problem in the community. Jacob is committed to helping those who want out of their addiction connect with a Christ-centered rehab. To help them get clean, he sends addicts to the Lake Elsinore Set Free Ranch for recovery, and when they graduate, he welcomes them to Set Free Church’s discipleship house to help them continue their new life with love, care and intense discipleship.

Our gifts to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering support Jacob and Francine and their Set Free ministry. Jacob looks at every gift as God’s provision, and he uses it all to help the people in Sanger without hope obtain the freedom that is only found in Christ. Jacob and Francine are “steadfast, immovable, always excelling in the Lord’s work” because they know their “labor in the Lord is not in vain” (1 Corinthians 15: 58). Neither is our work in vain.

HISTORICAL TRIVIA

Submitted by Alan Mathis

Did you know the saying "God willing and the Creek don't rise" was in reference to the Creek Indians and not a body of water? It was written by Benjamin Hawkins in the late 18th century. He was a politician and Indian diplomat. While in the south, Hawkins was requested by the President of the U.S. to return to Washington. In his response, he was said to write, "God willing and the Creek don't rise." Because he capitalized the word "Creek" it is deduced that he was referring to the Creek Indian tribe and not a body of water.

In George Washington's days, there were no cameras. One's image was either sculpted or painted. Some paintings of George Washington showed him standing behind a desk with one arm behind his back while others showed both legs and both arms. Prices charged by painters were not based on how many people were to be painted, but by how many limbs were to be painted. Arms and legs are 'limbs,' therefore painting them would cost the buyer more. Hence the expression, 'Okay, but it'll cost you an arm and a leg.' (Artists know hands and arms are more difficult to paint)

As incredible as it sounds, men and women took baths only twice a year (May and October) Women kept their hair covered, while men shaved their heads (because of lice and bugs) and wore wigs. Wealthy men could afford good wigs made from wool. They couldn't wash the wigs, so to clean them they would carve out a loaf of bread, put the wig in the shell, and bake it for 30 minutes. The heat would make the wig big and fluffy, hence the term 'big wig.' Today we often use the term 'here comes the Big Wig' because someone appears to be or is powerful and wealthy.

In the late 1700's, many houses consisted of a large room with only one chair. Commonly, a long wide board folded down from the wall, and was used for dining. The 'head of the household' always sat in the chair while everyone else ate sitting on the floor. Occasionally a guest, who was usually a man, would be invited to sit in this chair during a meal. To sit in the chair meant you were important and in charge. They called the one sitting in the chair the 'chair man.' Today in business, we use the expression or title 'Chairman' or 'Chairman of the Board.'

Personal hygiene left much room for improvement. As a result, many women and men had developed acne scars by adulthood. The women would spread bee's wax over their facial skin to smooth out their complexions. When they were speaking to each other, if a woman began to stare at another woman's

face she was told, 'mind your own bee's wax.' Should the woman smile, the wax would crack, hence the term 'crack a smile'. In addition, when they sat too close to the fire, the wax would melt... Therefore, the expression 'losing face.'

Ladies wore corsets, which would lace up in the front. A proper and dignified woman, as in 'straight laced' wore a tightly tied lace.

Common entertainment included playing cards. However, there was a tax levied when purchasing playing cards but only applicable to the 'Ace of Spades...' To avoid paying the tax, people would purchase 51 cards instead. Yet, since most games require 52 cards, these people were thought to be stupid or dumb because they weren't 'playing with a full deck.'

Early politicians required feedback from the public to determine what the people considered important. Since there were no telephones, TV's or radios, the politicians sent their assistants to local taverns, pubs, and bars. They were told to 'go sip some Ale and listen to people's conversations and political concerns. Many assistants were dispatched at different times. 'You go sip here' and 'You go sip there.' The two words 'go sip' were eventually combined when referring to the local opinion and, thus we have the term 'gossip.'

At local taverns, pubs, and bars, people drank from pint and quart-sized containers. A bar maid's job was to keep an eye on the customers and keep the drinks coming. She had to pay close attention and remember who was drinking in 'pints' and who was drinking in 'quarts,' hence the phrase 'minding your P's and Q's'.

BLOOD DONATIONS ARE ESSENTIAL

**Waynesville Community
BLOOD DRIVE**

**Masonic Lodge
435 East Marshall Street**

**Monday, April 12th
12:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.**

OUR CHURCH'S GIVING RECORD BUDGET RECEIPTS

January - \$18,736.65
February - \$14,400.60

From the Cradle to the Cross

Proverbs 22:6

I recently posted a Sunday School lesson for our youth on our HBC Youth FB page. Part of this lesson was a video clip from a Francis Chan sermon entitled Conviction and Change. He refers to Luke 18 and 19 in his teaching. The topic of this lesson discussed the trend of society to feel the conviction of God's Word, as did the rich young ruler but unlike Zacchaeus they do not experience the change that is necessary to follow the instructions that we are given by God.

I believe this is such an important message for not just our youth but all of us! Are we more than just convicted by what we hear? Does God's Word make us want to take action or do we simply feel the conviction without the motivation to make the changes?

As I think about these Bible verses and ponder what God wants from me, I know this, I know I want to be a Zacchaeus! I want to take action and act on God's word not just be convicted or saddened by it because I chose not to act.

In the weeks and months to come the opportunities presented to you to represent Christ might come in ways that are not in your comfort zone. I pray that you have the strength to obey God in a big way! That you are Zacchaeus and you follow where God commands you to go!

In His Service,

Tasha L. Byrd

THANK YOU

Hunter, Finlee and I would like to thank all who participated in our baby shower. For all the beautiful gifts, gift cards and your prayers. A special thank you to Nancy Buchanan, Barbara Parton and Judy Blanton for arranging our party.

Love,
Jessi

BIBLE STUDY AT LAKE JUNALUSKA FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Lake Junaluska First Baptist Church will be hosting Secret Church 21. The date is Friday, April 23, beginning at 7:00 pm. Secret Church is a 6-hour Bible study that delves into the current persecution of Christians around the world. This is led by

Pastor David Platt. All churches are invited to attend. Registration deadline is Monday, March 29 at 12:00 pm. The registration fee is \$12.00 per person, which includes a study guide. Please call Lake Junaluska FBC at 452-0131 for information and/or registration.

Alzheimer's. A ten letter word that entered my life and my mom's life about five years ago. When you are in the midst of being a caregiver for someone with Alzheimer's or dementia you can begin to feel such isolation and stress and at times denial. I know I did and I began to operate in survival mode. Trips to the hospital and trying to hold down a full time job all the while worrying if mom was safe at home was incredibly stressful. It became apparent two years ago that she wasn't safe and I finally reached out for help.

Then last spring during one of my many conversations with God, I finally realized that this journey of Alzheimer's was not about me or even about my mom. It was something bigger. That's when I decided to begin with baby steps and create a Walk to End Alzheimer's team in honor of my mom.

But now, I am an Volunteer Educator for the Alzheimer's Association in memory of my mom and in hopes of helping others travel this incredible journey. As an Alzheimer's Educator I teach about healthy living for the body and brain, using effective communication with a loved one diagnosed with Alzheimer's to understanding Alzheimer's and much more. I would like to share this free learning with you, my church family, my prayer warriors who helped keep me afloat, and to those of you who may be in the midst of this journey yourself or just want to know more about it.

These programs are all virtual and free through Zoom. The Association needs at least ten attendees and can be recorded. My program that I taught at the beginning of March was for a church near Raleigh as a part of their ongoing education series. The ten church leaders that attended recorded the program for all church members to view at their most convenient opportunity. I hope that I can share this incredible opportunity with all of you if you are interested.

And in closing, I thank each of you for your prayers And I pray for each of you. I look forward to sharing with you what God has laid on my heart as my new mission in this next phase of life. Together we can. Galatians 6:2 "Carry one another's burdens..."

Karen Strickland
Alzheimer Association Volunteer
Asheville, NC

Highlights from Beyond “The Three Steps”

***“This is the day the Lord has made,
let us rejoice and be glad in it!”***

Of all of the many stories in the Bible surrounding the Cross and Resurrection of Jesus Christ, one story stands out more to me this year, than any year in the past – the story of Jesus’ disciples asleep in the Garden of Gethsemane.

My heart is so burdened when I see those of us who claim to be “followers of Christ” - His disciples - whom have fallen asleep on Jesus! We have become so mingled in the world and its pleasures and attractions that we have allowed ourselves to be ineffective and even a stumbling block in the ministry that God has called us to. God is calling us to “Wake Up!”

During my Bible studies, I came across a wonderful devotion that really pierced my heart, and I would like to share it with you. It’s time for all of us – me, included – to be honest and ask ourselves these very important questions:

*Have I fallen “asleep on Jesus?”
Has our church fallen “asleep on Jesus?”*

“FALLING ASLEEP ON JESUS”
JOHN GRANT

“Then he returned to his disciples and found them sleeping. “Couldn’t you men keep watch with me for one hour?” he asked Peter.” Matthew 26:40

*Have you ever been stretched out on your sofa watching the big game or a favorite movie and you suddenly fall asleep and miss how it ends?
Oh, the frustration! You missed the best part.*

Peter, James and John had a similar experience because they fell asleep. It was in the Garden of Gethsemane. Jesus had told his disciples to stay and pray while He went to pray nearby.

But on the precipice of the greatest moment in history, they dozed off. They missed the moment—a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for discipleship.

God wants us awake and alert, not only to serve Him, but for Him to equip us to serve others. He will

make us more like Jesus and send us out so His work can be done through us. He calls us to actively listen for His direction and to readily say “yes.”

When asked by Jesus to do something, have you ever fallen asleep? I know I have. He calls, and I’m often snoozing. But the real question is: have we learned and grown from such experiences in order to become more committed disciples?

*Let’s learn from the disciples’ mistake and stay alert so we can follow our Master more deeply.
Let’s not miss out on the joyful things
He wants to do in and through us.*

“Lord, I know I have let You down, and each time You have lovingly lifted me up. May I continue to grow and serve You more closely. Expand my territory in Your kingdom. Make me a better disciple as I fix my eyes on You”

*Let us all ask God to show us one way we’ve been falling asleep on Jesus. Then listen for the step(s)
He wants us to take to stay alert.*

Thank you, again, so very much for the many financial gifts that have been given to “Spreading the Gospel” through our Audio/Visual Ministry. Please be in prayer about this great need and how you might be a part of this wonderful ministry opportunity to reach many, many people for Christ!

Thank you for the wonderful privilege of serving as the Minister of Music and Worship at Hazelwood Baptist Church! I pray for you daily! I am always available, so please feel free to contact me any time!

I truly love and appreciate each one of you so very, very much!

In His Service,

Denise

E-Mail: damathis123@gmail.com
Cell: 828-550-7408

***Soli Deo Gloria –
“To the Glory of God Alone!”***