



124 Trott Road

Richlands, NC 28574

Church Office Hours

Monday—Friday

9 a.m.—1 p.m.

910.324.4690

fccrichlands.org

office@fccrichlands.org

Facebook, YouTube

Service Times

8:30 AM Traditional

10:00 AM Sunday School

11:00 AM Contemporary

Pastor Mark Reid

Senior Pastor

Office hours: Tuesday,

Thursday, Friday 9:00-1:00

Samuel Wentz

Associate Pastor

Office hours: Tuesday,

Thursday, Friday 9:00-1:00

Staff

Kay Payne

Director of Music

Debbie Rogers

Office Manager

Gwen Morton

Custodian

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CHALICE NEWS

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A WORD FOR THE CHURCH

Pastor Mark Reid

Easter is a season of great gladness for those who know Christ. But for those who are without “the light of the knowledge of God’s glory” (2 Corinthians 4:6), there is nothing to rejoice over.

Jesus left us with the great hope and certainty that He is going to return to bring a new Heaven and a new earth where, we are told, there will be no more sorrow, trouble, or death for those who have believed and followed Him. There will be trouble, sorrow, and suffering for those who have neglected or rejected Him.

As Christians, our great task is to obey the command to tell the whole world about Christ crucified, buried, yet risen again. My prayer for you during this season of the year, when we meditate on our Savior’s great sacrifice for us on the cross, is that you will be filled with great peace and hope, because “He is risen!” That is the Good News.

“LORD, we ask that You would give us Your vision for our lives, in Jesus’ name

Pastor Mark



From Pastor Samuel To You:

With Easter approaching, it can become increasingly easier for the whole point of Resurrection Day to get lost on us. Between egg hunts, services, planning, family get togethers, and dinners, it can quickly become overwhelming, and before we know it, the day has passed and we haven't even taken time to sit and be truly grateful for what the Lord has done. When in reality, the entire year for the Christian ought to revolve around this very truth and reality that we celebrate on Easter Sunday. The fact that God sent his Son Jesus to the world to live a perfect life, take upon himself our sins, and die a perfect substitutionary death, to provide the atonement and forgiveness for our sins, providing the finished work for our salvation. And then as He rose back up resurrecting from the dead, he provided for us new life, restoring fellowship between us and our God, and giving us eternal life with Him. He put sin, the grave, and death itself to death on behalf of His children. And through His resurrection he paved the way for new life in Him, freed from our sin, freed from our bondage, freed from our guilt and shame, freed from being enemies of God, and now given the opportunity to be adopted into His family and kingdom. What Joy!

The reality is that although we especially celebrate this on Resurrection Sunday, as Christians we ought to be celebrating this EVERY SINGLE DAY! Because every single day that we wake up and breathe, our reality, and our future is changed because of the cross, and the empty tomb. It wasn't simply an event that happened two thousand years ago that isn't all together prevalent in our lives today. It is a reality that effectively changes everything for us. It is a reality that should transform the very way we live, every day of our lives. It is the reason and cause for us to spend every day in worship, prayer, adoration, and celebration over God's love, goodness, grace, mercy and kindness. It is the very motivation that propels us to labor for the Gospel, to make disciples, and to share Christ with others, joining in the work of the Kingdom, for the sake of God's glory. And it is the very fuel that causes us and enables us to leave our old life behind, repenting of our sin, and turning to Jesus in place of it, running to His feet, and responding in obedience and surrender to Him and His word. This whole year Pastor Mark has been preaching on the idea of "Surrender". Laying our whole life down and submitting it to God. The reality and truth of Christ's resurrection is entirely the purpose and motivation for that surrender. Without the empty tomb, we have nothing, without the empty tomb, we have no reason to worship, and no reason to surrender. 1 Corinthians 15:17 says that "If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins."

So ultimately, it is the very thing that we celebrate on Easter Sunday morning, Christ's bodily resurrection from the dead, that validates our faith, that motivates our living, and secures the very Gospel that we proclaim. It changes the reality of every single day of our lives as followers of Jesus. And it propels us, and is the reason for why we do what we do, on all the other 364 days of the year. Without the cross and the resurrection we have nothing, we have no hope, we have no peace, we are still lost, and without life, and perishing. So as we approach Resurrection Sunday together as a church, let us be cherishing this glorious truth, and marveling at God's love, grace, and mercy. Let us not downplay the reality of the empty tomb, but let us cele-

Christian Women's Fellowship

At our CWF meeting on March 8th, thirteen was in attendance. We opened with prayer praises and concerns. Brenda P. gave the devotion, "Strength and Weakness" based on II Cor. 12 where Paul states "God's strength is made perfect in weakness." The devotion was followed by prayer.

Several all-occasion cards were signed to be used as needed. We had received 2 verbal thank-you from individuals whom we had helped last month. We discussed the ham dinner fundraiser which was held on Sunday, March 13th, after the 11 o' clock service. Adults were \$8 per person and children, 10 years old and younger, were charged \$4 per child. Thanks to all who made this successful.

We are scheduled to feed the Onslow County Homeless Shelter on April 30th. We will plan the menu during our April 12th meeting. We will also be advised of any needs the residents have beforehand. As a point of interest, we plan to show a Christian movie on Sunday, May 15th. All ages are invited.

We gave monetary gifts to two families. This was our service project for the month. At present, RCOM is well stocked. CHEW, however, is in need of pop tarts at this time. Instant oatmeal and instant grits will gladly be accepted for another month. This is a monthly outreach.

We appreciate any and all donations of these items for CHEW for the upcoming month/months.

The Christmas box report was given as well as the CWF Treasury Report.

Thanks to Kay H. for delicious refreshments. Anne N. will be the hostess at our April 12th meeting. ALL LADIES, we request your presence at our meetings. We would appreciate your input.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Ann Metts, Secretary

On behalf of the Church

*Thank you, to all of those who came out to help on the
"Cleaning Day".*

OUTREACH

The Outreach Committee is planning a clothing giveaway to those who are in need of any clothes. We have not set a date yet. We are in the process of collecting clothes of ALL sizes! We are really in need of some children's clothes (infant- teens)!

The clothes can be dropped off in the church office or if you need someone to pick the clothes up for you please call the church office and we will make sure someone goes by and gets them!
Once we have enough clothes we will set a date.

Susan Stroud

Christian Men's Fellowship

As our lives are returning to a greater sense of normalcy, the CMF was able to have its regularly scheduled activities for the month of March. On Monday, March 7th, the men met for their monthly meeting, with President Tom Barbee leading the group. Associate Pastor Sam Wentz requested assistance for the after-prom party to be held at our church on April 23rd. The CMF approved a gift of \$250 to support the event. Furthermore, Edward Williams presented the evening devotion for the group, reviewing original sin from Genesis chapter 3. Adam and Eve rejected God's moral authority when they listened to the insinuations and misstatements of the deceiver. The consequences of their sin fell upon all people. But God made a way through faith in his son, Jesus Christ, for believers to have their sins washed away and to be reconciled to God.

The men of the church held their regular monthly Birthday Breakfast at Angie's on Saturday, March 20th, with eight men in attendance. Each month the CMF recognizes our church men celebrating their birthday during that given month with a free breakfast. All men of the church are strongly urged to gather with the group during our next event, to be held on Saturday, April 16th at 7:15 a.m. at Angie's in Jacksonville.

The CMF would like to express its sincere appreciation for the churchwide support given for the Soup and Sandwich fundraiser held on Sunday, March 20th. With thirteen varieties of soup, along with sandwiches, desserts and sweet tea, the event was considered a great success, helping to increase the Senior Scholarship Fund, which had diminished over the last two years, due to the pandemic. Scholarship applications for our three graduating seniors will be distributed in April, with a return deadline by Sunday, May 1st.

Our next scheduled CMF meeting is Monday, April 4th at 7 p.m. in the fellowship hall. Bob James will provide the evening devotion. The men will be making plans for the upcoming Mother's Day recognition for Sunday, May 8th. All men of God are invited!!

Dennis E. Jones, CMF Reporter

Samaritan's Purse

I wanted to share with you another ministry that Samaritan Purse is involved in. Not only do we process and ship all the shoeboxes that are compiled by people like you & me. They also help rebuild, cleanup, provide medical services to those in need, and spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the hurting, and lost. Below is one story about a Ukrainian refugee who fled the bombing and sought medical attention from Samaritan's Purse hospital in Lviv.

A patient is rushed in gripping his chest and gasping for air. Samaritan's Purse doctors and nurses slip into a well-trained rhythm, asking him about his symptoms, examining his vitals, running multiple tests—calming him with a hand on the arm and kind words amid a flurry of activity.

Through tears and panic he breathlessly tells them that his name is Oleg. He's 47. He'd fled his hometown in eastern Ukraine. There were bombs and shelling in his neighborhood.

He came alone, but not because he wanted to. Just days before his arrival at our Emergency Field Hospital in Lviv, he watched in disbelief through his front window as a missile strike punched into civilian targets near his home. He watched his neighbor's home collapse.

He learned that the attack had killed friends and family. In an instant, his life changed. When he walked through the zippered doorway of our hospital, he was clearly in distress—but not merely physically.

When Oleg's tests came back, they confirmed what the doctor already suspected—Oleg's heart is strong and healthy. It was a panic attack. Not a heart attack.

The trauma of the war had caught up to him—the horror and grief of what he'd seen and lost manifested in physical symptoms and now he couldn't speak their names—the names of those the war had stolen from him.

They were beloved relatives and friends. Oleg didn't need medicine. He needed peace. He needed hope.

Since the opening of our field hospital on March 14 and at our other medical intervention sites in Lviv and in southern Ukraine, our doctors and nurses have met many such patients who are grief-stricken and facing futures without loved ones and without hope.

As our teams provide the highest standard of medical care, they never forget that they are doing their work in Jesus' Name because only He can provide restoration to their hearts and lives.

Billy Graham Evangelistic Association chaplains also are working alongside our medical teams to provide comfort and spiritual support for suffering patients like Oleg.

Healing Through Hope

A chaplain named Vitaliy introduced himself to Oleg.

"My soul is in pain," Oleg told Vitaliy.

Vitaliy listened, bearing witness as Oleg tried to tell the story filled with so much grief. Vitaliy knew it would be impossible to make sense of the deaths of war. Vitaliy understands. From Irpin, a city near Kiev, some pieces of Oleg's story mirrored his own. He'd also lost dear friends in the conflict.

"I know that only God can give you peace, give you hope," Vitaliy told Oleg, speaking gently and in their own language. Then he shared the Gospel with him, and later Oleg said he had never heard it explained so simply.

Cotinued...

Oleg wept. But those tears of grief and panic had turned to tears of relief. He'd acknowledged that what Vitaliy had told him was true—that God was the only source of true peace and true hope. In his grief, he also had prayed to receive Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior.

Before coming to the Emergency Field Hospital, he knew about God, but this was the first time that he had made a genuine, personal connection with God. It was powerful medicine for him.

"When you pray," Oleg said, "It's more important for your soul than pills or any medication."

The wounds of this war are deep, and Oleg's healing is only beginning, but he left our hospital with something much better than modern medicine. He left with true hope for the future because of his new-found faith in Jesus Christ.

"Thank you for coming here to this dangerous place to help us," he said.

Samaritan's Purse continues to provide medical care to displaced people in Ukraine devastated by the effects of war.

We are seeing patients with infected wounds improperly cleaned and cared for as people fled, extreme dehydration after days of travel without reliable access to water, and a desperate need for prescription refills amid severe shortages in the local healthcare system.

Multiple Samaritan's Purse airlifts and the readiness of Disaster Assistance Response Team members have helped maintain and even increase our medical capacity in Ukraine, where we continue to be able to meet the needs of so many hurting people.

This high-level, high-capacity care has provided many opportunities to share God's love with people during a time marked by terror.

Please pray for Ukraine. Pray for peace and a swift end to the conflict. And pray that God will use our teams to bring His hope to the people who are suffering.

Copied, Samaritan Purse

Samaritan's Purse continues aiding anyone, anywhere, anytime. They are the hands & feet of Christ, as are you when you help provide for the Samaritan Shoebox Ministry each year. The shoeboxes that we pack each fall are so much more than a shoebox filled with items. It is a tool used to present Jesus Christ to those around the world who may have never heard of Him. Please help us make this ministry a success in 2022. There will be a list provided each month of the items needed to fill the shoeboxes. Any items you purchase can be left in the vestibule in the red container.

Items to bring in for April Samaritan Shoebox Ministry is as follows:

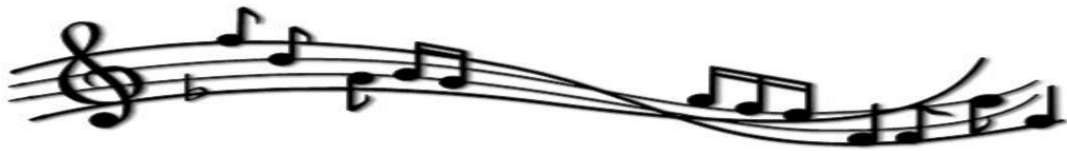
5" to 7" Stuffed Animals

Youth Flip Flops

Youth T-Shirts

Thank you for your continued support of this ministry.

Brenda Huffman



CHOIR NOTES

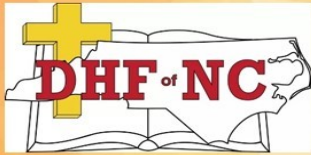
Make a joyful noise unto the LORD, all ye lands. Serve the LORD with gladness; come before his presence with singing. Know ye that the LORD he is God; it is HE that hath made us and not we, ourselves: We are his people and the sheep of his pasture. The LORD is good. His mercy is everlasting; and his truth endureth to all generations. (Psalm 100. paraphrased)

During the month of March, we celebrate four Sundays of Lent. This is a time of reflection and consideration of our own faith. We also remember the days leading to the crucifixion, death and resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. **I love to Tell the Story, When I Survey the Wondrous Cross, and Beneath the Cross of Jesus** are just a few of those hymns that help us to inwardly experience the sacrifice and suffering of Christ. The rest of the story culminates on Easter Sunday when the miracle of His resurrection changes the world for all generations to come. The Sanctuary choir, and all the musicians of the church look forward to singing praises and sharing songs of praise with you.

We would like to have more people to join any of the music programs of the church, and we welcome new participants anytime. **Choir rehearsal is 7:30 pm each Wednesday. Handbell practice at 5:45 pm on Thursday.**

Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus
Just to take Him at His word
Just to rest upon His promise
Just to know, "Thus saith the Lord."
Jesus, Jesus how I trust Him!
O for grace to trust Him more! (L. Stead)

Blessings, Kay Payne



Spring Seminars

April 9, 2022

Registration
Begins at 9:00 a.m.

Reaching Disconnected Christians & non-Christians

Mental Health/Substance Abuse
Awareness & Access to Services



Led by Cindy Thomas,
MSW, LCWSA, LCAS
& Bethany Cobbs,
MSW, LCSW, LCAS

Led by Rev. Jeffrey & Becky Banks
of Free Will Chapel PFWB



Location: First Christian Church, 124 Trott Rd, Richlands

If you are planning to stay for lunch please sign-up by Sunday, April 3rd. You can sign-up in the Vestibule, on the church app, call the office, or at the website: DHFof NC. This is for lunch only so they have a headcount.



Life in the Church

Monday, April 4th Christian Men's Fellowship Meeting 7:00PM.

Saturday, April 9th DHF Gathering. Registration starts at 9:00AM.

Monday, April 11th Board Report 7:00PM

Tuesday, April 12th Christian Women's Fellowship Meeting 7:00PM.

Saturday, April 16th Men's Birthday Breakfast at Angie's in Jacksonville at 7:15 AM. All men and son's welcome. If it is your birthday month, enjoy a free breakfast.

Saturday, April 16th Children's Easter Celebration Egg Hunt 10:00 AM.

Sunday, April 17th Easter Service 10:00 AM (one service only on this day)

Monday, April 18th –22nd After Prom Decorating in the CLC.

Saturday, April 19th After Prom 10:00 PM-1:00 AM.



APRIL

2 *Tim Padget*

4 *Carter Jones*

4 *Sandra Jackson*

6 *Ann Jones*

8 *Kay Heath*

14 *Colton Metts, Leah Hall*

18 *Duane Taylor, Beverly Black,
Isaac Hernandez*

21 *Ben Black*

23 *Anola Swinson*

28 *Elwood Jarman*

30 *Aiden Reid*

Disciple Heritage Fellowship

DHF Conference

April 28-29

Decatur IL.

More information can be found on the
website: [discipleheritage.org/
conference](http://discipleheritage.org/conference)

Thank You to our Church Family. We are so grateful for all you have done for us during this past month. For the cards, phone calls, prayers, and visits meant a great deal to us as we struggled with our heartbreaking loss. Along with the emotional support you gave us, the meals, and other gifts of your time and energy helped sustain us day to day.

Debbie, Steve and Family