



WELCOME TO OUR

Chalice News

we're so glad you're here!



Pastor Mark Reid

PASTORS THOUGHTS:

The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; he has risen, just as he said." Matthew 28:5-6

On the first Easter Sunday morning, two women were in for the surprise of their lives. Instead of finding a closed tomb, they found an open grave, and an angel greeting them with the words "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; he has risen, just as he said." For them and for every follower of the Lord Jesus, life would never be the same. The resurrection of Jesus from the dead changed the course of history.

The resurrection is God's way of announcing that our life does not have to be a one-way journey to the cemetery. God is saying we don't have to be stuck in our past. The risen Savior has hit the delete button on our sins. We don't have to wonder who's in charge, because this Savior has been given all authority in heaven and on earth. And we don't have to wonder what's ahead, because nothing "will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 8:39).

The key to remember is he is Lord. Because Jesus is Lord of our lives, we have hope. Even in a world that seems hopeless we have the promise of a resurrected life. What a wonderful peace and hope we have as we enter into Easter season. The resurrection is the assurance for us of God's amazing love, grace and mercy. What a awesome God we have!



From Pastor Sam to You:

“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead ... In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.” - 1 Peter 1:3, 6-7

As believers and followers of Jesus Christ, those who have been born again by the Spirit of God, we are not those who are hopeless. We have a hope that surpasses all other things one could possibly hope in, a LIVING hope. In other words, our hope is alive, it's active, it's persistent through all things. It doesn't waver, it doesn't change, it isn't dying, and it isn't fading, despite what we face. And that hope that we have, we have because of the Resurrection of Jesus. We have hope because we have a God who has defeated and conquered sin and death. Death, the very thing that the world fears the most, doesn't even pose a threat to us, and in fact brings us the greatest blessing one could ever experience; communion with Christ. We have a God that IS RISEN! We have a God who gives new life to us. A God who was not a victim to sin, but the conqueror of it, and who empowers us to live victoriously over it as well, through the power of the Holy Spirit.

This Living Hope, Christ's resurrection, is the very reason that we as believers can rejoice in all circumstances. No matter what trials, sufferings, afflictions, persecutions, struggles, or problems we may face, we have all we need to rejoice right where we stand. Because His resurrection transcends this life, and it transcends our circumstances. Even if all else falls by the way side around us, we can stand joyfully, and live a fully satisfied and content life, because we have a hope that the world doesn't have. That is, our risen Savior, who has triumphed over all things, who has given us brand new life, resurrected us from the dead, and who will one day resurrect us back to Him, and to that we look forward!

So no matter what you may face in this life, you can rejoice, you can walk in newness of life, because there is a hope. And that hope is our Savior whom the grave could not keep!

Christian Men's Fellowship

The members of the CMF had a busy March with various activities. The men meet for their regular monthly meeting on Monday, March 6th, and made arrangements for upcoming events. Steve Rogers gave an inspirational devotion on the human heart. He shared some physical characteristics of our heart, but he emphasized that God desires each Christian to have a strong spiritual heart. The heart of a Christian loves God with all our heart, soul and mind, as well as, one that focuses its heart on following God's will and not our own. Furthermore, we should give from our heart and keep our whole heart holy. Steve provided some delicious refreshments afterwards.

On Thursday, March 9th, eleven men from FCC journeyed to Pleasant Hill Christian Church in Jones County, for a joint men's fellowship with members from the host church, as well as, those from Tuckahoe Christian Church. All the men enjoyed a delicious meal provided by the host church. Mac Tucker, our local RHS history teacher, shared an inspirational message relating some of his personal experiences he had as a result of his recent accident and his recovery from it. He eagerly gave God all the glory and honor for his quick, miraculous recovery, and stressed the need for all Christians to "work" at being better in spreading the word of God to a suffering world.

On Sunday, March 12th the CMF hosted its third and final Soup & Sandwich fundraiser for the school year. We extend our sincere appreciation to all we assisted in the preparation of the variety of soups, sandwiches, drinks and desserts, but most of all to those who purchased meals and/or gave donations to the scholarship fund. To our knowledge we have no high school graduating seniors for 2023. However, due to the extended pandemic and the lack of fundraisers we were unable to have, our scholarship fund had greatly diminished. Again, THANK YOU for all who participated in the event.

On Saturday, March 18th, thirteen men gathered at Angie's Restaurant in Jacksonville for fellowship and a fine breakfast. Our "birthday boys" for March included Adam Murphy (4th), Dennis Jones (13th) and Mike Gurganus (14th). It was great to have Zack Davis to join us for his first fellowship breakfast. We hope to have other young men to attend in the coming months.

The CMF has several upcoming events in the near future. Our next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on Monday, April 3rd, at 7 p.m. in the fellowship hall. Bob Woodard promises to provide our devotion. Our April Birthday Breakfast will be held on Saturday, April 15th at Angie's Restaurant in Jacksonville at 7:15 a.m. Furthermore, the CMF wants everyone to mark their personal calendars for Friday, June 2nd. Members of FCC and their guests will have the opportunity to travel to Kinston to attend a professional Wood Ducks baseball game at 7 p.m. More information will be provided in the near future. Our rain day for the Wood Ducks game is Friday, June 16th. Other events are being made and considered as the summer approaches.

Remember all men of the church are members of the Christian Men's Fellowship. So, make plans to attend the various activities and programs provided each month. Have a blessed day!

Dennis E. Jones

CMF Reporter

CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Our March 14th meeting was well attended. We opened with prayer praises and concerns. The devotion, "Created for Connection" was given by Rosolyn. The scripture was Psalm 133:1. We are all broken at times, but we are beautiful. We are to be connected with each other especially during tough times. The opening prayer followed.

We signed some all-occasion cards for future use. A thank-you card was read. Also, two verbal thank-you were shared.

For our information, the spaghetti meal scheduled for April 16th after the 11 o' clock service may be changed to another date. More about this in the near future.

We planned our menu for feeding the residents at the homeless shelter on Saturday, April 29th, at 6 pm. The menu will be fried chicken, green beans, mac and cheese, deviled eggs, rolls, desserts, lemonade, and tea. These items need to be in the fellowship kitchen by 5:15 pm for the servers to leave no later than 5:30 pm to serve at 6 pm.

Shortly after last month's meeting, we gave a monetary gift to a person whose husband had recently passed. This month's service project is to give a monetary gift to a lady in need.

RCOM, one of our local outreach ministries, is well-stocked for this month. CHEW, another of our local outreach ministries, is in need of instant grits. Please bring your donation to church and place them in the container for the CHEW program.

Shirley gave our treasury report for CWF. Pati May gave a report on the Christmas box.

Our hostess for April 11th is Pati. Thanks to Mary Ann for exchanging with Kay Heath, who had hand surgery for this month's refreshments. We closed with prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Ann Metts,
Secretary

In Memory Of

Glendle Burns-Laura Markl

Arloe Snodgrass, Mae Adkins-Mara Akins

Evelyn Jarman, Sylvia Jones-Kurt & Betty Jones

Carr & Grady Family-Ann Grady

Sam Coe-Bill & Pati May

Charles Huffman-Brenda Huffman

Ruth (Ruku) Lupton- Brenda Huffman

Parents of Ben & Bev Black

Linda Woods, Linda Bedillion-Carrie Bedillion

Parents of Bob & Shirley Woodard

Linda Maxwell-Doug Maxwell

Bruce & Mary Lou Buck-Carol Appleyard

Shorty & Sharel Crane-Mike Crane

Janie Karcher & Albert Karcher-Ashley & Craig Bennetch

Glennie Robinson-Forrest & Vickie Whaley

Minnie & Andy Kepes, Sue Rockwell-Andy & Melissa Kepes

Ray Minshew-Taylor & Christa Bostic

Robert E & Anita Brown, Bill & Mary Bostic-Angel & Tony Bostic

In Honor Of

Our Children & Grandchildren-Bev & Ben Black

Bobby & Carol Howard-Forrest & Vickie Whaley

Annette Minshew-Taylor & Christa Bostic

Trent & Garrett-Angela & Tony Bostic



BAPTISM

Service April 2nd 6:00PM

Baptized, Renewal of faith, Dedication

Sign up in the Vestibule or Board across from office



Easter Sunday

10:00 AM SERVICE

ONLY 1 SERVICE ON THIS DAY.



Worship Service

April 7th
6:30 PM



April 8th 10-12 First Christian Church

EASTER EGG HUNT

Invite your friends

Birth to 5th- Grade



Spring is around the corner, ready to clean out the house? You would like to have a rummage sale, but you live out in the country, and no one comes by? We have a place for you. This is offered to FCC attendees to sell items and will be open to the public to shop.

On April 15th at First Christian Church, we will be having a Rummage Sale in the parking lot. This is also a fundraiser for updating the Fellowship Hall. Spaces will be rented 17x 17 (the size of 2 parking spots) for \$25.00.

Things that are not be allowed to be sold:

Guns, Knives, Animals, or Alcohol.

Please contact: Steve Rogers at (847) 848-2788 or Debbie Rogers (847) 736-9386 to reserve a space.



April 15th
Workday
Contact Mark Lunceford



2 Tim Padget
4 Carter Jones, Sandi Jackson
6 Ann Jones
8 Kay Heath
14 Colton Metts, Leah Hall
18 Duane Taylor, Beverly Black
21 Ben Black
23 Anola Swinson
28 Elwood Jarman
30 Aiden Reid



Nursery

Available 11:00 Service

SERVICES

Every Sunday

Easter Sunday 10:00 AM Unity Service

8:30 AM & 11:00AM

Kid's Church 11:00 5-5th Grade

Jesus Cafe 9:45 Coffee & pastry

SUNDAY SCHOOL

9:45 in the Fellowship Hall

BIBLE STUDY

Every Wednesday Adult
9:30 AM & 6:30 PM



YOUTH

Every Wednesday 6:30 PM

Choir Practice Every Wed. at 7:15 PM
Praise Team Practice Every Thurs. 6:30PM



EVENTS

April 1st DHF Gathering 9:30-12:00

April 2nd 6:00 Baptism Service

April 3rd Christian Men's Fellowship 7:00 PM

April 6th Maundy Thursday

24 hr. Prayer Vigil sign up in Vestibule 6:00PM-

Good Friday 6:00PM

April 7th Good Friday Worship Service

April 8th 10:00 - 12:00 Children's Easter Egg Hunt Birth - 5th Grade

April 15 Rummage Sale 8:00AM-2:00 PM

April 15 Workday

Adult Sunday School

ALL ADULTS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND A NEW SUNDAY SCHOOL BIBLE SERIES ENTITLED "BELIEVE." THE 30 WEEKLY SESSIONS WILL BEGIN ON SUNDAY, JANUARY 8TH AT 10 A.M. IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL. DENNIS JONES AND TOM BARBEE WILL ALTERNATE MONTHLY IN LEADING THE SESSIONS, WITH A SHORT VIDEO PRESENTATION BY RANDY FRAZEE, AN ASSOCIATE OF MAX LUCADO. WE WOULD LOVE FOR ALL ADULTS TO JOIN US AS A SEQUENCE TO OUR COMPLETED STUDY OF "THE STORY."

COME JOIN US

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
124 TROTT RD
RICHARDS, NC 28574
(910)324-4690

OFFICE HOURS:
MONDAY-THURSDAY
9:00AM-2:00 PM

FIND US
WEBSITE: WWW.FCCRICHLANDS.ORG
FACEBOOK AND YOUTUBE