



WELCOME TO OUR

Chalice News

we're so glad you're here!



Pastor Mark Reid

PASTORS THOUGHTS:

May is here and it always makes me think of Mother's Day. The Bible tells us in Proverbs 31:30 "A woman who fears the Lord is to be praised." I have found that over the years with both my mom and with my beautiful wife that it is not the gifts that matter on Mother's Day. They just want to be appreciated, loved, and know they matter. They want to know that what they do counts. Godliness is in short supply these days. A woman that fears the Lord should indeed be praised. Raising children that love and follow Jesus is no small task. Having moms that serve and show the example of Jesus is an amazing thing. For many of us now that we are older, we remember what an impact our moms had on our lives. If they are still living take time to praise them. If you are a mom today, thank you for all you do. We praise you for loving and fearing the Lord. We praise you for teaching us to Love and fear the Lord. We praise you for the sacrifices you make every day. We love you and appreciate you more than we tell you. May we learn from your example to fear the Lord as well.

From Pastor Sam to You:



Jesus said to Mary, “Do not cling to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to my brothers and say to them, ‘I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’” Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, “I have seen the Lord” — and that he had said these things to her. - John 20:17-18

Last month I talked about how the resurrection of Christ should give us hope, helping us to find joy in all circumstances. But that’s not all the resurrection should do to us. Among many other things, the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the grave should make us missional. The reality that physically and truly overcame the bounds of death should stir up in our hearts a burden for the lost, and a purpose to go and tell the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the message that our Lord died and rose again.

This of course was amongst the first of Jesus’ instructions to Mary Magdalene when she first saw him after his resurrection. While weeping, once she finally hears the voice of Jesus and knows that it is him, her sorrow turns to joy! And that joy thrusts her to the ground to cling to Jesus feet in honor and worship. It is what Jesus says next that is truly intriguing. He implores Mary not to cling to him. He’s telling her to let go of him.

WHY? First of all because he was not yet ascending. In other words, Jesus wasn’t leaving immediately, there was still a little time left before he would go back to his Father, so Mary had no need to act as if she would never see Jesus again. But most importantly, Jesus tells Mary not to cling to her because he needs her to GO! He is sending her on mission, and is telling her to go and tell what she has seen. Go and tell the disciples that he has risen. Go and tell all that Jesus is Lord and that he has resurrected from the dead. Mary cannot cling to Jesus any longer because she now has a job to do. We all have that same job today! To go and tell, to make disciples, to proclaim the Gospel to everyone, and share our faith with all those around us.

Ultimately, the resurrection put Mary on mission. And it ought to do the very same to us. If the resurrection is true, how can we be silent? How can we hold back if something so miraculous, that has the power to save, has truly happened? We need to go and tell, as Mary did. Some can go a little further, some may be more stationary at this time in their life, but that doesn’t exclude anyone from proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus, and his death and resurrection. It may be to our family. It may be to our coworkers or friends, or those we see regularly. It may even be to strangers at the grocery store, or the gas station. We may simply be able to pray for and help empower those who still have the strength to go for themselves. However we do it, and whatever time we all have left, let us use it for no greater purpose, than to proclaim our risen Savior! That is how we respond rightly to his resurrection!

Christian Men's Fellowship

The CMF met on Monday, April 3rd, with Bob Woodard giving an inspirational devotion on "Forgiveness," based on scriptures from Matthew 5:23-24, Ephesians 4:32 and Matthew 6:14-15. Unforgiveness leads to bitterness, which hardened our heart through time. As Christians, we need to forgive others before asking God for our forgiveness.

Due to the great success on March 9th of meeting with other CMF members from two other churches at Pleasant Hill Christian Church, our CMF decided to invite all of the men's groups from the Heritage churches in our area to a second gathering. The CMF has invited all of the men's groups to meet in Richlands on Thursday, June 8th, at 6:30 p.m. Further developmental plans will be finalized at our May 1st regular monthly CMF meeting.

Other plans are on the calendar for a trip to Kinston on Friday, June 2nd, to attend a 7 p.m. Wood Ducks Baseball Game. So, mark your calendar now and reserve the date.

On Saturday, April 15th, eleven men attended the monthly Birthday Breakfast, where we acknowledged the birthdays of Bill May (14th), Ben Black (21st) and Elwood Jarman (28th). Our May gathering will be on Saturday, May 20th, at 7:15 a.m. at Angie's Restaurant in Jacksonville.

Remember, all men of the church are invited to our regular monthly meetings on the first Monday of month, as well as, other CMF activities. Edward Williams will provide our May devotion at 7 p.m. on May 1st.

Dennis E. Jones

CMF Reporter

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

CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Several ladies attended our April 11th meeting. Prayer praises and concerns were given. Rosolyn followed with the devotion, 'Choose to Bless.' Several scriptures were read. We all have choices to make. We want to bless and feel blessed, not be bitter. She gave the opening prayer.

All occasion cards were signed by all in attendance to have on hand as needed. Three thank-you cards were read by Kristy from 3 we had helped previously. A couple of ladies ordered our CWF t-shirt.

For general information, the spaghetti meal planned for April 16th, was changed to September 17th due to another event at this time. We are scheduled to feed the residents at the Onslow County Homeless Shelter on fifth Saturday, April 29th. The meal was planned at our March meeting. All food and drinks need to be in the fellowship kitchen on or before 5:15 pm. The servers will leave at 5:30 pm to be there to serve at 6:00 pm.

We gave two families financial gifts for our service project. Both have serious health issues. For our local outreach, CHEW is not in need at this time. RCOM, however, is needing small cans of chicken, or small bottles of mustard and ketchup no larger than 20 oz. Kudos to all who have donated to these in the past.

On May 20th, we will be hosting a Bingo game for ALL ages from 2 pm to 4pm in the fellowship hall. Light refreshments will be served.

We are already sending 'Save the Date' to our crafters. We are getting great response. The CWF has agreed to support Brenda Huffman in a fundraiser for Samaritan Shoebox with homemade laundry detergent. She plans to sell it at the fall craft show. Beverly is working on a movie/dinner ticket for two to be raffled at our craft show. We plan to have another raffle or two also.

The treasurer's report for CWF was given. Also, a report was given on our Christmas box.

Thanks to Pati May for the delicious refreshments. Our hostess for our May 9th meeting is Shirley. Ladies, come join us.

We closed with prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Ann Metts, Secretary

SAMARITAN SHOEBOX MINISTRY

SHOEBOX ITEMS STILL NEEDED

Youth Flip Flops (Youth sizes only)
Dental Floss
Ponytail Holders
Hairbands
Hairbows
Travel Size Tissues
Drawstring Backpacks (to fit in Shoebox)
Pencil Pouches

Small Lined Notebooks
1 Subject Spiral Notebook
Colored Pencils
Sheets of Stickers
Stuffed Animals (approx. 5" to 7")
Small Toys
Small Games
Small Balls
Small Puzzles

OTHER SUPPLIES NEEDED

The below supplies are the items we are using to make things for the Shoeboxes, such as, necklaces, Tic-Tac-Toe Games, People & Robots made out of plastic bottles & bottle caps, etc.

Zip Lock Storage Bags (Gallon Size)	Beads (for making necklaces)
Plastic Soda Bottles (Please Clean & Let Dry)	Plastic Craft Lace (for making necklaces)
Plastic Soda Bottle Caps (water bottle caps too small)	New or Used CD's
Felt Squares (all colors)	
Foam sheets to make Tic-Tac-Toe Boards	
Foam Cut Out Pieces (to use as Tic-Tac-Toe game pieces)	

The above two list of items are things we still need to fill the Shoeboxes for the 2023 Christmas season. Your continued support has helped FCC to supply at least 400 shoeboxes each year to Operation Christmas Child, a Franklin Graham ministry.

For anyone who is not familiar with this ministry we fill shoeboxes with school supplies, and basic needs for children around the world. We send them to Samaritan's Shoebox, Operation Christmas Child operation center & they deliver them to children around the world. They add a book called "The Greatest Journey" in each child's own language. This book is about Jesus and his ministry, and how he died on the cross for our sins. The children are then offered a twelve-week Bible study. Thousands, and thousands of children, and their families give their life to Christ because of a shoebox. A shoebox is a tool God uses to spread His Gospel to people all over the world. This is your opportunity to witness to children all over the world. To learn more about this ministry click on <https://www.samaritanspurse.org/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/>

Brenda Huffman



May 20th 2-4PM
Sponsored by CWF



Men's Birthday
Breakfast
at Angie's Restaurant
7:15 AM



S.T.A.R.S.

Lunch May 21
following 11:00 service



VBS

June 26-30
3yrs-5th Grade

Register for VBS 2023
You can register by the QR
code, link below,
[fccrichlands.org](https://firstcc.fellowshiponego.com/external/form/5403c436-ee32-4f9e-b9ee-87b246015a11) (under
small groups, children) or
on our church app.



Nightly Registration Begins at 5:15 PM
Dinner at 5:30 PM
VBS Starts at 6:00 PM

[https://firstcc.fellowshiponego.com/external/
form/5403c436-ee32-4f9e-b9ee-87b246015a11](https://firstcc.fellowshiponego.com/external/form/5403c436-ee32-4f9e-b9ee-87b246015a11)

If you will not be joining us for dinner,
please register nightly before entering the
Sanctuary at 6:00 PM

Church phone app



website: fccrichlands.org



Adult VBS...Keep a look out for more information on
registration.



4 *Aaliyah Duganne*
7 *Shelia Nikkel*
12 *Donald Markl*
19 *Terry Jarman*
20 *Kelsey Metts*
23 *Laura Markl*
27 *Bonnie Stamey*

EVENTS

1st CMF Meeting 7:00 PM
6th Outdoor Concert 6:00 PM
8th Board Meeting 7:00 PM
9th CWF Meeting 7:00 PM
14th Happy Mother's Day
20th Men's Breakfast 7:15 AM &
CWF sponsored BINGO 2-4 PM
21st SATRS Lunch
29th Memorial Day-Office
Closed

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

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

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

SERVICES

Every Sunday

8:30 AM & 11:00AM

Kid's Church 11:00 3yrs-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



Nursery



**Available 11:00
Service**