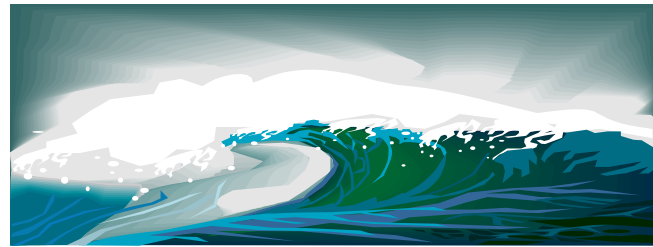




The *April 2019*
Anchor

We have this hope, a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul...Heb.6:19a



**First Baptist Church , 215 Ann Street, Ravenswood, WV 26164 ~
1-304-273-9910 ~ www.fbcravenswood.org**

Wow, can you believe the month of April is here. Easter is just around the corner. As we enter this holy month, we continue to think about God's amazing grace. The Lord sent us His one and only Son, that whosoever would believe on Him, would have everlasting life. Knowing Jesus overcame the grave for us, is knowing that we don't have to go to an empty grave when our time is done, or lift our eyes in hell when we die, but rather, we can be in glory forever. Why? Because of God's amazing grace.

There is a song about God's grace, called *Amazing Grace* that you probably know by heart. John Newton wrote the song about his life. Newton was a former slave trader who had served in the British Navy. Newton's life was steeped in misery as his mother died before his seventh birthday and he turned to alcohol and joined the Navy.

On one of his voyages, the ship he was in was caught in a very bad storm off the coast of Ireland and nearly sank. It was during this time that Newton prayed to God for help, and the ship seemingly lurched to one side, moving cargo to the side of the ship, that somehow filled the hold in the ship's hull. Newton who saw this as the hand of God, converted to Christianity. Sometime after his conversion, he became an abolitionist, as someone against slavery. Later in life, following a stroke, Newton would reflect on God's amazing grace in his life, noting that he was once blind, but now he sees, and penned the words to the song we sing today called "*Amazing Grace.*" Newton saw the hand of God upon him and his life, and the world as a whole. He experienced God's amazing grace and was changed.

As we head into this holy time of the year, let us remember God's amazing grace that He has given to each and every one of us who believe. It is His grace that saved us from our sins. It is His love that reached through the mire of sin, to find us. It was His death and resurrection that gave us life everlasting. If we really think about God's love for us, we will want others to experience what we have in our lives. Don't give up. Hold true to the Word of God. He is faithful. He is just. He is ever-present for our calling upon Him.

May we use this month to rekindle our love for each other and for our Lord. Let us look to reach the poor in spirit, the downcast, and the forgotten. Jesus would want us to do that. Let us reflect on God's love for us individually. Let's represent God's *amazing grace* faithfully, knowing that we are proof of His saving a bunch of sinners....in what we call First Baptist Church. Thank God for His mercy on me. God can do the same for our community. ***Ravenswood needs a Savior. We just have to do our part and be a witness of a changed life....and let His Spirit do the rest.*** May we all be wonderfully blessed knowing we are saved as we head into Easter.

In His Service,
Pastor Toby

We have had a great group in March averaging about 20 each time we meet. This makes for a crowded space at this time since one of our members isn't able to climb stairs very well. I'm thankful for each youth and their willingness to participate in our activities and listen to our Bible lessons.

We are working on the Easter Sunrise Service play - *Victory*. We hope everyone will come out and be blessed as you bless the youth with your presence.

Future plans are looking at some fun activities for the kids. Also we have about 3 or 4 who are interested in going to Brother's Keeper in June. If you have a youth interested, please contact me or the office so we can get you a registration and medical form to complete.



Camps coming up soon too. If you would like to sponsor a youth for camp, just mark in your check memo the amount you want to give. Camp is an awesome way for our youth to be immersed in Jesus' teaching.

Again, thank you for entrusting your teen to my charge. And thank you for supporting our FBC youth.

Blessings,

Ann

Monthly Meetings & Activities

- Apr 1 Trustee Meeting @ 6:00
Deacons Meeting @ 7:00
Apr 2 Temple Challenge @ 6:00
Apr 4 Game Day @ 1:00; Temple Challenge
Apr 5 Women's Camp @ Cowan
Apr 7 VBS Planning after morning worship
Apr 8 BOCE @ 6:00
Apr 9 Deaconess Meeting @ 6:30
Temple Challenge @ 6:00
Apr 10 1st Quarter Reports Due to office
Apr 11 Game Day @ 1:00; Temple Challenge
Apr 14 Palm Sunday - Baptisms
Easter Egg Hunt (Tentative) at 6:30
Apr 15-19 Holy Week Services Noon to 1:00
Apr 17 First Quarterly Business Meeting @ 6:30
Apr 18 Maundy Thursday Service @ 7:00
Apr 19 Good Friday - Office Closed
Apr 21 Sunrise Service @6:30
Happy Easter!
Apr 23 Temple Challenge @ 6:00
Apr 24 Anchor Articles & Ideas Due
Apr 25 Game Day @ 1:00; Temple Challenge
CIRCLE @ 7:00
Apr 26 Men's Work Weekend @ Camp Cowan
Apr 28-May 2 Revolving Revival
Apr 30 Temple Challenge @ 6:00

Nursery Workers

- Apr 7 Bev Stephenson
Apr 14 Jane Moore
Apr 21 Laruen McGoskey
Apr 28 Leigh Ann Kerns

Children's Church

- Apr 7 Fred & Seth McGoskey
Apr 14 Deb Lyons
Apr 21 Richard Massey
Apr 28 Eugene Morgan

CommUnity Kitchen

- Apr 6 Episcopal Church
Apr 13 FUMC
Apr 20 No CommUnity Kitchen - Easter
Apr 27 Kay Pursley Family

Bell Ringers

- Apr 7 Hunter Moore
Apr 14 Tyler McGoskey
Apr 21 Aiden Morgan
Apr 28 Cass Bennett

Deaconess for Communion

Robin McGoskey

Junior Usher

Nicki Nicholson

Focus on Sunday School:



Easter Trivia

I thought some Easter Trivia would be interesting for some this April.

Let see how many of these you knew.

1. Easter always occurs between March 22 and April 25.
2. Easter is a 'moveable feast' - one that is set according to the phases of the moon.
3. In the 13th century, the church prohibited eating eggs during Holy Week. Marking the eggs laid during that week began the custom of decorating eggs.
4. Roast lamb, the main dish for Jewish Passover, is the traditional meat for Easter.
5. It is believed that an Italian baker made the pretzel to look like arms crossed during Passover season sometime between the 300s and 600s
6. Giving eggs is a symbol of 'rebirth' in many cultures.
7. Passover was the Jewish feast celebrated the week Jesus was crucified.
8. Malchus the the high priest servant who's ear was cut off by a disciple and reattached by Jesus.
9. When Jesus died, there were 3 hours of darkness in the land.
10. And on the third day, Jesus arose!

Attend Sunday School this week!





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RECRUITMENT EVENT**

APRIL 6, 2019

10:00 am - 3:00 pm

AT RIPLEY ELEMENTARY

*Let Children
Blossom*

Grow A Home Of Love

**FUN, FAMILY AND
ACTIVITIES!**

Start your Spring off right
by learning about Foster
Care and Adoption

**REFRESHMENTS AND DOOR
PRIZES**

MY FRIEND

There is always some madness in LOVE. But there is also some reason in madness. I've found we are loved for ourselves, or rather, loved in spite of ourselves. I found that the love from a pet is very special. This article is dedicated to my brother in Christ Dave Williams and his beloved pet, BO.

My heart is heavy as I watch my Christian brother walk his beloved dog daily. A ritual that comes with ease for him. Many days his work doesn't allow this, but his loving wife takes over. More than once I've seen Dena walking Bo. Bo is a dog of his own. To me the dog with an attitude. So Bo....this is for YOU.

I first met Bo as I was driving around one day. I slowed up to greet Dave as he was walking his dog. Well; Mr. Bo as I found out didn't appreciate it. My only comment was... you have an attitude Mr. Bo. It made a soft spot in my heart to see dog and master together. As a huge lover of dogs, I saw a picture.

I guess my intent here is to express the quiet love between man and his dog. Losing my best friend just a few months back, I feel an inborn sadness for Dave Williams and his friend Bo. Oh...Bo has not left him yet, but is quietly walking that road. Slower pace (which properly works for Dave). My heart is there with you as you stroll around town.

Having a dog beside you as a faithful companion is one of the best gifts that we can ever have. From the day we first meet them till the day we say goodbye, they remain our best friends. Their life's are so short....and they seem to cross the rainbow bridge way too soon and it is a painful experience for us dog owners.

The one thing I've learned in my life and the dogs that graced it; its never told to you, there is a price you pay for being the recipient of unconditional love, loyalty and companionship: THEY take a huge chunk of your heart when they go.

You can spend the rest of your life with them...but they can't with you. My heart has been broken many of times with them...but it's been worth it and God knows it. Sometimes it takes a dog like Bo to make you a better person.

So Bo....you getting older and a little slower and the world is a little quieter; but for your master...He wouldn't change a thing'



Burt Lyons

It's Easter! Hallelujah!

Each year as we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, we are filled with so many streams of emotion.

Beginning with **Palm Sunday** at First Baptist, we will bear witness to the wonderful observance of Believer's Baptism as we watch our new converts and others who have made the decision to follow the example of Christ Himself by being baptized.

Also, we will hear the happy celebration of children as we sing songs and wave palm branches symbolizing Jesus' ride into Jerusalem. Joyful laughter and happy faces abound as we watch children hunt for Easter eggs hidden around the church yard in the evening.

Holy Week services are at First Baptist this year. We will travel through the scriptures with different pastors each day as we hear the well known stories of the last week Jesus walked as Man on earth. Each service will begin at noon and at 12:30 we will gather in the Fellowship Hall for a variety of lunches. FBC will be serving the food on Wednesday with the Episcopal Church. If you can help that day, contact someone on the Social Committee or the office. A sign up sheet for different soups and items needed will be passed around soon.

Maundy Thursday is a reverent service that starts at 7:00 filled with sadness as we partake in the solemnity showing the darkness that took over as Jesus was betrayed and taken to be crucified. As the candles are snuffed out with each scripture reading, we can feel the overpowering sense of evil, as Satan tries to put out the Christ light.

On **Good Friday**, darkness covers the hearts of men as we hear of the hopelessness that came with the realization that our Savior died.

But then came the morning! Captivate will present *Victory* for the Sunrise Service beginning at 6:30 followed by breakfast served by the Men's Fellowship. Sunday School and Church services are celebrating at their regular times.

Starting the week with happiness, going through trauma and sadness throughout the weekdays, and ending with overwhelming joy with the Resurrection of Jesus on Sunday. **Yes, Easter is a Hallelujah Season of emotions!**

by Susan West

© Christa Bales

BROTHERS' KEEPER '19



**JUNE 23-28
2019**

Junior & Senior High Youth

(age 12 or entering the 7th grade)

**Change the World!
Serve, Learn, Grow, Worship
& Fellowship Together as
Bearers of Hope!**

Galatians 6:2

brotherskeeperwv.org

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Friends

Relationships blossom in good soil. Friendships that start in church, can be a lifetime of love. Look around FBC. Feel that love and friendship? It can last forever.



*And friends are friends forever
If the Lord's the Lord of them
And a friend will not say never
'Cause the welcome will not end
Though it's hard to let you go
In the Father's hand we know
That a lifetime's not too long
To live as friends*

Excerpt from Friends by Michael W. Smith

In and About FBC

Welcome Baylor Ray Staats



Baylor was born March 18 at 12:49 to David and Lyndsey Staats. He was 7 lbs 4 oz and 20 inches long.

Baylor is the 5th grandchild of Connie and Tim Staats.

Congratulations to the Staats family on another beautiful addition!

Can You Hear the Angels Sing?



Two came forward for salvation and baptism. What a blessing to our church family! A baptism service will take place during the Palm Sunday morning service. Let Pastor Toby know if you are considering baptism.

Congratulations to Grace and Tara!

WOOHOO!



Mason Kerns is giving his all as he rings the Big Bell on Sunday morning.

Way to go, Mason!!

Mission Recognition



Peg Lyons was on hand to accept certificates for our Mission Giving from last year.

Under her leadership on the Board of Christian Education, FBC was ranked 2 (out of 362) in Mountain State giving. Todd McClure, our Missions and Financial representative from the WVBC, was on hand to present the certificates.

Thank you to our people of FBC for your giving hearts. May you be blessed.



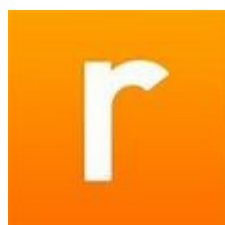
THAT'S RIGHT! We've purchased unlimited access to tons of Christian children's videos plus over 14,000 Bible study videos for adults... and it's **FREE** for everyone in our church! We want you to have this and more importantly, **USE IT**, so we've made it easy:

- 1 Check your email for the invite from RightNow Media. *Let us know if you don't see one
- 2 Open the email and click "Get Started" ...yeah, it's that easy.

Everyone is welcome to access, download and enjoy the films, Bible studies and more that are available at RightNow Media.

First Baptist and friends have unlimited access to BUNCHES of videos. Kind of like a Christian "Netflix".

Watch your email for the invitation and download it today. Its easy and free. It works on most digital devices. You can get the APP for free.



A Different Kind Of Bible Study





First Baptist Church's Women's Ministry at Work

CIRCLE at FBC has been busy behind the scenes gathering items to send to the Congo to help mothers and newborns. We recently mailed out 7 Birthing Baby Safely Kits along with funds to purchase Congo fabric for the new mother to wear as leaves with her child. Thanks to all who helped with this project.

Some of our women will be participating in a skit about Cece's Dolls on April 27 at the Women's Spring Rally at Reedy Baptist Church. The ladies of Good Hope Association will gather at 9:15 for registration and a brunch with the program to start at 10:00. If any ladies would like to attend, please contact a member of CIRCLE or the office.

Our MOP (Mission Outreach Project) this year is Rice for the House of Blessings in Chiang Mai, Thailand. CIRCLE will be having opportunities soon for our church to be a part of this ministry. See the attached flyer for more information.

Our next CIRCLE meeting will be April 25 at 7:00 at the church. This event will be hosted by Amy Starkey. All women are invited and encouraged to come be a part of a Christ led ministry.

Being a part of CIRCLE is one way of being a part of the Lord's service.

Join today!



2019 Mission Outreach Project Rice for Students in Thailand

GOAL: \$6,000

In the overcrowded city of Chiang Mai, Thailand, it is hard to come by steady employment, much less a living wage. Parents struggle to meet their family's basic needs, and when there isn't enough food to go around, the children are often sent out to the night market to beg. When children spend the night begging, they come to school exhausted, and both their health and classwork suffer.



The House of Blessing is an early childhood education center that serves ethnic minority hill tribe children. It provides bags of rice to the students' families. Each family is required to contractually agree that the children will not be made to beg on school nights. As a result, children are coming to school more consistently, well rested, and better able to learn.

How We Can Help

\$30 provides one family with enough rice for a month.

\$360 provides one family with enough rice for one year.

Our goal of \$6,000 would provide 16 families with enough rice for one year!

Dee Lallemont
Mission and Service Coordinator
6 Amanda Lane
Parkersburg, WV 26104
304-482-2976
lallemont@cascable.net



The Revolving Revival Is Back!

Mill Creek Baptist

April 28th 7:00PM
Pastor Larry Greathouse

Hopewell Baptist

April 29th 7:00PM
Pastor Mark Wood

Revolving Revival

May 2nd 7:00PM
Pastor George Chandler

Parchment Valley Baptist

April 30th 7:00PM
Pastor Bob Keen

May 1st 7:00PM
Pastor Andy Robinson

Gilboa Baptist

Ravenswood First Baptist

Once again, First Baptist Church will be joining with other churches in the Good Hope Association for our annual *Revolving Revival*.


The services will begin on Sunday April 28 at 7:00 at Mill Creek Baptist Church. A meal will be served for everyone starting at 6:00 at each church.

Our choir will be singing Sunday April 28 at Mill Creek Baptist. Our church will be hosting the service and meal on Wednesday May 1. Watch for the sign up sheet to help with the meal.

Everyone is welcome to come be a part of our community of churches and be fed by the Spirit.


ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bible Book of the Month
April 2019
Micah



April Meetings
4/1
 Trustees—6:00
 Deacons—7:00
4/7
 VBS Planning—12:00
4/8
 BOCE—7:00
4/9
 Deaconess Meeting—6:30
4/17
 1st Quarter Business Meeting

April Birthdays



Xavier Donahue—4/7
 Michael Casto—4/9
 Kyle Hickman—4/10
 Debbie Legg—4/14
 Melissa Raynes—4/17
 Brent Ritchie—4/18
 Don Raynes—4/19
 Jesse Mize—4/24
 Aaron Bennett—4/28
 Richard Massey—4/28

Is your birthday name missing?
Tell Susan

Adult Game Day!!
Every Thursday
1:00 to 3:00



Revolving Revival

Mill Creek Baptist April 28th 7:00PM Pastor Larry Greathouse	Hopewell Baptist April 29th 7:00PM Pastor Mark Wood
May 2nd 7:00PM Pastor George Chandler	
April 30th 7:00PM Pastor Bob Keen	May 1st 7:00PM Pastor Andy Robinson
Gilboa Baptist	Ravenswood First Baptist

Holy Week
April 14 through April 21

Believers Baptism
April 14 @ 10:45

Easter Egg Hunt
April 14 @ 6:30

April 18—Maundy Thursday
@ 7:00

April 19—Good Friday
Office will be closed

April 21—Sunrise Service
@ 6:30 am

(No evening services on Easter Evening)



Men's Fellowship
Will be serving
Sunrise Breakfast
on Easter

Good Hope Association
Women's Spring Rally


At Reedy Baptist Church
Registration @ 9:30



April 17

First Quarterly Business Meeting
@ 6:30

Women's CIRCLE
April 25 @ 7:00
@ Church
Host: Amy Starkey



Have you checked out the prayer calendar today?

CHURCH PRAYER CALENDAR

Prayer for our fellow members is an important part of our relationship with the Lord and helps us to grow closer as a church family. Each day during this month there is a different individual or family that you are asked to include in your prayers.



A P R I L



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Anne Adkins	2 Sharon Adkins	3 Alan & Gusta Arrington	4 Micah Arrington	5 Anna Bailes	6 Gary & Pam Balser
7 Doug & Debby Bashaw	8 Joshua Bashaw, Sara, Luke	9 Aaron & Melissa Bennett, Beau, Cass	10 Blake Bennett	11 Gloria Blackhurst	12 Carolyn Brown	13 Jason Brown
14 Sue Brown	15 Sandy Confer	16 Jamison Cooper, Dalilah	17 Linda Conley	18 Dave & Carol Crow	19 Bryan & Andrea Crow, Benjamin	20 Brandon & Anna Davis, Liam
21 Gloria Easter	22 Rodney & Sheila Eskins	23 Jim & Mona Eubank	24 Annabelle Flesher	25 Jeff & Venisa Flesher	26 Nathanael Flesher	27 Jim & Kathy Frazier
28 Mark & Susan Gerstell	29 Holly Gerstell	30 Geraldine Gregorich				

