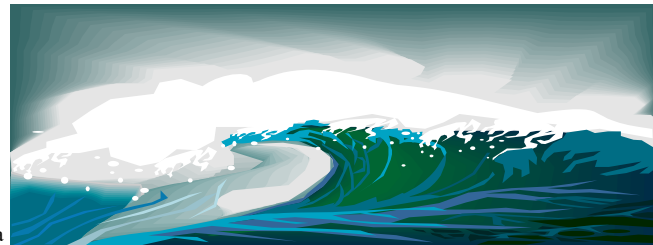




The *March 2024*  
Anchor

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



Resurrection Sunday or what many Christians refer to as Easter Sunday comes early this year on March 31. The holiday marks a special time in the lives of believers as we celebrate the death, burial, and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. I tend to watch in amazement as all of nature seems to come alive this time of the year as flowers begin to spring up from the ground, and the grass gets greener and greener each week. I find myself waking to the sounds of countless birds chirping.

This time of year many people start thinking about getting back into church. Someone might ask you how the term Easter got to be affiliated with Jesus and the Bible. According to *The British and Foreign Bible Society*, the origin of the word Easter is debatable and some Christians are even hesitant to use the term because the word is not found in the Bible. The *Society* points out that the word “Bible” is not in the Bible either, but Christians still use it all the time. They note that the word Easter is found in one Bible and that’s the King James Version in Acts 12:4. How it got into that translation and not others is interesting. The *Society* says it got into the translation during a revision of existing texts, stemming back to the work of William Tyndale. Apparently, Tyndale chose to translate the word “pascha” as “Easter” in the Greek. They report Tyndale made the change in Acts 12:4, as well as in all 29 other places in the Bible where “Passover” was mentioned in the New Testament.

However, the *Society* states that reviewers and revisers who produced the King James Version of the translation changed all the other Tyndale references of “Easter” to “Passover” except in Acts 12.4 (KJV) which reads, “And when he had apprehended him, he put him in prison, and delivered him to four quaternions of soldiers to keep him; intending after Easter to bring him forth to the people.” It’s unknown exactly why. But, it is interesting that the *Society* asserts that these events depicted in Acts 12:4 were not about Jesus’ resurrection like we celebrate today, but rather it was about the Passover. They say this is why, “so many biblical scholars, including the Armstrong Institute of Biblical Archeology,” believe this KJV translation and use of the word Easter is misleading, noting that every other translation of this verse, has translated the word “Easter” to “Passover” including the New King James Version. So now you know. I find it interesting and I hope you do to. I find myself often interchanging the terms Resurrection Sunday and Easter Sunday. I think everyone will agree, we use the word referring to the celebration of the resurrection of Christ.

To that end, this time of the year is a busy time for our church. We have a ton of activities going on throughout the month. I want to pay particular attention to the events around Holy Week. First, an adult painting party is scheduled for the Friday before Palm Sunday (March 22) at which time we will be painting the Old Rugged Cross that is nestled in flowers along with the Scripture of John 3:16 listed above the cross. You can find that image in this edition of the Anchor. The painting technique that will be taught is done by a local artist at her art studio in Fairplain. All materials are supplied. The cost is only \$25. You'll be given an apron to wear to keep paint off your clothes, and then get to keep the finished painting on a large canvas to take home afterward. You'll be pleased. No experience is necessary. This is a step-by-step acrylic painting class. Please see Kristi King or let Susan West know if you want to go and she can advise Kristi. Only 20 spaces are available.

Then on Palm Sunday, we will have an Easter Egg Hunt for the kids following our worship service, followed by the annual Deacons dinner which will feature Baked Steak as the main course. All are welcome to that meal. Then Monday-Friday of Holy Week, you can take part in the daily Jackson County Ministerial Association's Holy Week Services. This year's services will be hosted at Praise Cathedral here in Ravenswood. I will be speaking at the first service on Jesus flipping tables. Different ministers will speak throughout the week. A free lunch will follow each service at 12:30. You'll be blessed by attending the hour-long event daily. Then on Wednesday, our church will host an abbreviated Passover Meal or Seder Meal teaching session in the fellowship hall. You need a reservation to participate in the program as the food for the teaching is pre-plated and planned for the event. Please see Susan if you want to attend. You'll learn how the Passover meal works and its symbolism. Bring your kids.

Then on Thursday of Holy Week, we will have our annual Maundy Thursday service, a Tenebrae service which is held in the dim lighting under candlelight. This quiet service is emotional as we prepare our hearts and minds for the season remembering the death of our Savior. Then on Easter Sunday, we will have a brief Sunrise Service at 6:30 followed by a breakfast buffet at 7:00 in the fellowship hall. Breakfast will be followed by Sunday School at 9:30, and then our celebratory Easter worship service at 10:45. There are so many activities this month, and we hope you will have your fill with the remembrance of the resurrection of our Savior.

In closing, be sure to start thinking about who you are going to invite to church for Holy Week. This is one of the two times of the year that you can invite people to church and they are not offended. All people know Easter and Christmas are traditionally the most attended services all year for churches. Use this to your advantage in bringing your children, grandchildren, family members, spouse, or friend to church. We want to put our best foot forward with hospitality as

we welcome people to church who have not been here in a long time. God is blessing our church in a mighty way. Let's stay obedient to the Holy Spirit and watch what God does over the next few weeks in our service. I'm expecting great things and I hope you are, too. He Is Risen! We have a reason to celebrate all month. Let's start today!

In His Service,

*Pastor Toby*



# Happy Easter!

Happy Easter!

# Deacons Dinner

Everyone is invited to come out and meet your Deacon at the Deacon's Dinner on Palm Sunday, March 24 right after the morning service and Easter Egg Hunt.

Deacon Chair Mark Gerstell will lead us as we enjoy a delicious meal and hear about the deacon plans for First Baptist.

It's going to be a great time!



**Bring the Kiddos!**

To our annual  
Easter Egg Hunt  
After the morning service  
On Palm Sunday!



## *Palm Sunday Service*

March 24 at 10:45

Begin the Holy Week with  
**Hosannas to the King!**

See the children march with  
palm branches!

Come! Join! Worship!



# Holy Week Services 2024

This year, the Jackson County Ministerial Holy Week Services will be hosted by Praise Cathedral, 500 Elwood Street, here in Ravenswood.

The services will be Monday through Friday beginning at noon each day. The message will begin at noon with a luncheon served at 12:30 to allow those who are on their lunch break to be able to return to work by 1:00. If you are attending, please allow those who work to get their lunches first.

The following ministers will deliver the message:

- Monday Pastor Toby Wagoner First Baptist Church
- Tuesday Pastor Ben Riggleman Evans Church of God
- Wednesday Pastor David Shirer First Church of the Nazarene
- Thursday Rev. Michael Ludle Methodist Charge
- Friday Father Penumaka St Matthew Catholic Church

First Baptist Church will be serving soups, sandwiches & desserts on Wednesday.

## A Painting Night at Fairplain

On Friday, March 22, we are gathering in Fairplain at *Art with Karen Wolfe* for a **Studio Paint Party!**

The class will be from 6:00 to about 8:30 and the cost is \$25. That includes all supplies needed to paint the picture shown here. The picture is 11x14.

The class has seating and supplies available for 20 people. *At this time* we have 11 people signed up to go.



If you are interested, bring a friend and contact Kristi King to register!



# LAST PASSOVER REVISITED



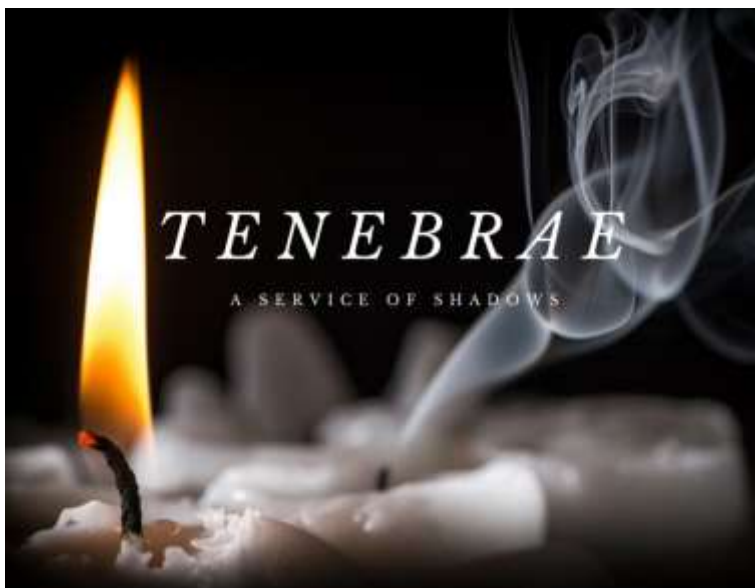
*We have something new planned for Holy Week!*

On Wednesday, March 27 at 6:00, we will be observing the *Last Passover Revisited* in the Fellowship Hall. We will travel back in time to when Israel was freed from Egypt's slavery - when God had Moses lead them to the Promised Land.

Partake of symbolic foods and drink as we hear the story of Passover. See what each item represents in the lives of the Jewish people.

Then watch as the disciples and Jesus interact during the last meal of our Lord before He is taken away.

You need to sign up to come to the *Last Passover Revisited* so that we can have set the tables for each person. Contact the office or Susan West to register.



*A Service of Shadows*  
~ ~ ~

*March 28 at 7:00*

*Come, hear, feel the  
Deep sadness of Christ's  
betrayal*

# He Arose!



Our Morning Begins! Everyone is invited to come and participate in the Sunrise Service on Easter Sunday morning! We will gather at 6:30 a.m. in the sanctuary for a short service celebrating our Risen Savior Jesus Christ.

Following the service, we will all enjoy the annual Sunrise Breakfast hosted by our own Men's Fellowship. For those of you who are new to our church, this breakfast is an on-going tradition here at First Baptist. And you're welcome to join us.



# Happy Easter!

*Sunday School at 9:30 a.m.*

*Morning Worship at 10:45 a.m.*

# AB Men's Prayer Breakfast



The effectual fervent prayer of a  
righteous man, availeth much





**BOWLING FUN!**



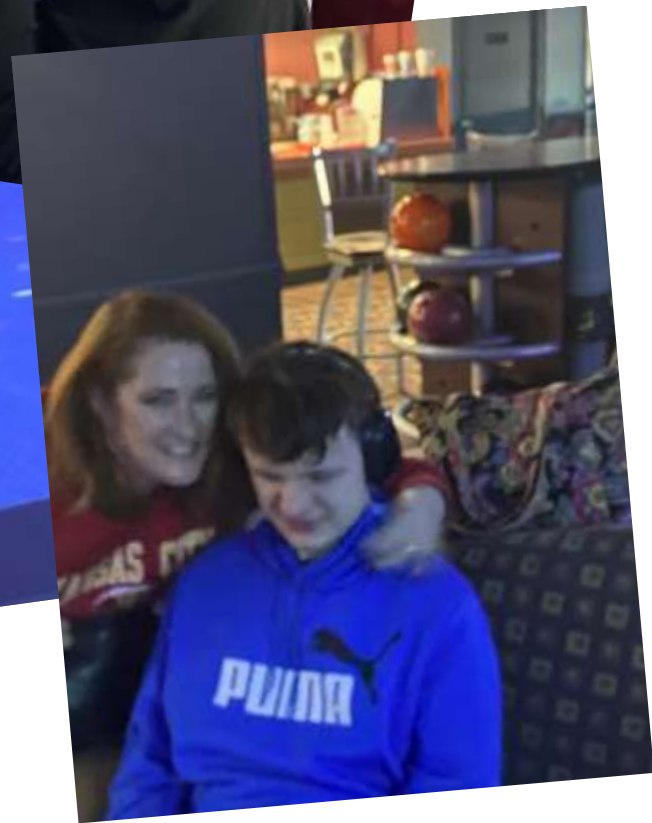


**Young and Older!**





# MORE Bowling Fun!!



Zack and Charity setting up for the Souper Bowl Food Drive

# YA Shares the Love



The Young Adults were busy in February showing and sharing love.

YA supported Sanctity of Life mission by donating money for the baby bottles.

They also gave roses to all the women in the church for Valentine's Day.

*On March 10 at 6:00, the YA are hosting a baby shower for Sierra and Will Barnett. They are expecting a baby boy - Perry - in April.*

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**YA at Winter Jam!**



# MORE YA FUN

Fun times at our Super Bowl Party hosted by Zack and Jacob Graham.

We watched the game, sang karaoke, danced, played games, and had a surprise birthday party.

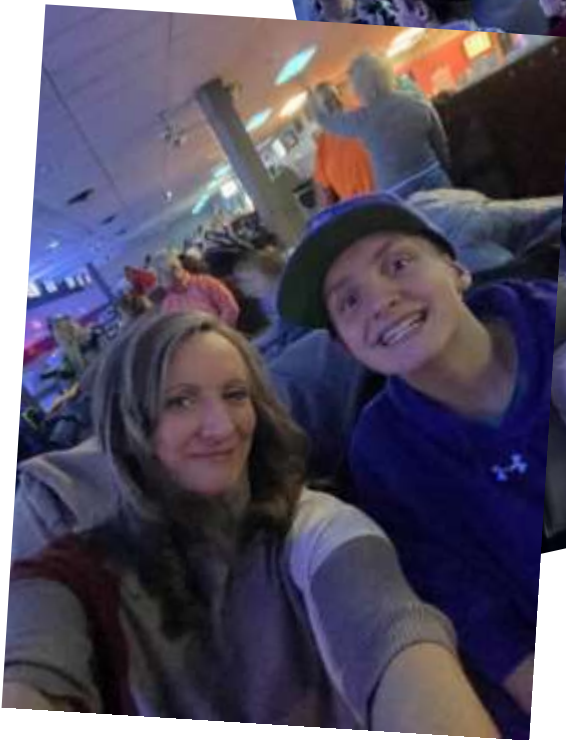
**Making the most of the evening.**







Young Adults and More!

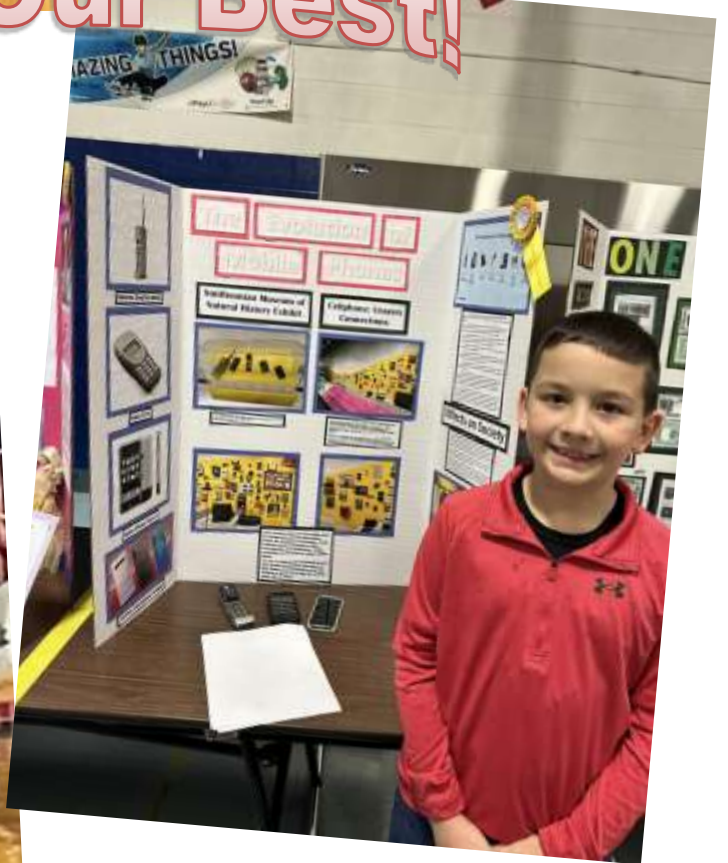




Our People Out There!



Doing Our Best!

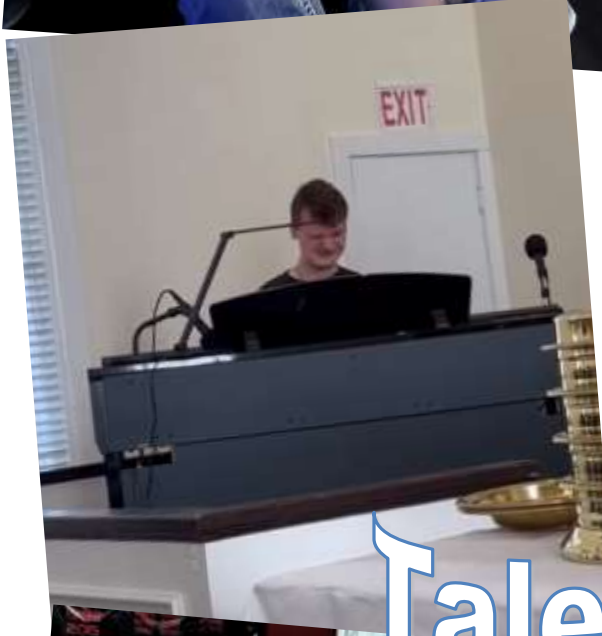


School and Sports!



# Setting Examples

g h i r a c



Talent



compassion!



# Save a Life!



LifeVac is covered by your HSA/FSA account



This new Life Vac device is available for choking. The device is located under the office window. Hopefully, we never have a need, but we are ready!

## Get Ready for Blastoff VBS!

We will be having a cosmic meeting March 18 at 6:00 to start planning for our Space Adventure Vacation Bible School.

All are encouraged to be a part of this great outreach to our universe kiddos.

We will need all kinds of astronauts:

- Out of this World Teachers
- Photon Food Helpers
- Galaxy Guides
- Proton Play Timers
- Creation Crafters
- Dark Matter Decorators
- Space Dust Cleaner Uppers
- Asteroid Fill Inners
- And anyone who wants to have fun!



**Help plan our Space Trip!**

## MOVIE NIGHT!

Free!

Friday, March 1 at 7:00.

We will be showing  
*The Jesus Revolution*



## SKY ZONE TRIP



First Baptist Church Youth will be tripping to Sky Zone in Charleston on March 17 from 5-6:30. We will leave the church at 3:00 (lunch on the road) and be back by 8:00. The youth are encouraged to come out and have a great time!

Contact Pastor Toby if you want to go.



The Young Adult Group would like to thank our church family for your support of our Souper Bowl mission project.

There were **634** food items donated for our local community!

Items were taken to the Blessing Boxes around town as well as the local food pantry.



GO  
MARCH  
25  
!



# King Landon





# RvHS Chorus Dinner Theatre

## Supporting our Youth



and having fun!





# BRRRR Tubing Trip!





# Great Family Time!

We had a tribe of 48 First Baptists for our Winter Place Tubing Trip in February.

NO injuries (that we know of) and we sure did have lots of fun!

(some may have been sore the next day though)



## *FBC Adults Are on the Move!*

Two upcoming activities are available for our adults in March.  
But we need to know who is interested.

1.



*Come Join Us for a Studio Paint Party!*

Friday March 22 from 6~8:30

at 2966 Charleston Road, Ripley

Cost \$25 per person (includes all supplies)

The Studio can only seat 20 so please let Kristi King know asap.

Call or text (816)522-1957

*We will be painting the above picture on 11x14 canvas and  
enjoy snacks and fellowship.*

2.



*Enjoy an evening of music with David Phelps!*

Saturday March 23 at 6:00

Blennerhassett School Auditorium

*General Admission is \$35 (tickets are going fast!)*

Contact Kristi King at (816)522-1957 asap!

## Focus on Sunday School:



### **Give of Your Best**

There is an old hymn that many of us or our grandparents have sung through the years.

*Give of your best to the Master  
Give of the strength of your youth  
Clad in salvation's full armor  
Join in the battle for truth*

Our songs that we learned so long ago had a divine and important message for all of us. This one's message is very clear. The Lord God has given so much to us, we need to give back.

How can we do this? What can we do for the Lord? Where can we be used?

Some people may think the mission field has to be overseas in a foreign country. But anywhere - in your home or outside your front door - is a mission field.

One way of serving, may be to teach Sunday School. Faithful teachers are needed everywhere - even at First Baptist. Be in prayer and consider opening the eyes of the youth to the message of Jesus and His love through Sunday School.

We need a 3-5 grade teacher now. Be in prayer and consider teaching. Contact Terry Morgan for more information.

**It's amazing what you can learn in Sunday School!**

## **March Calendar**

- Mar 1 Movie Night
  - Mar 2 Bible Conference; Children's Spring Rally
  - Mar 3 Social Committee Meeting
  - Mar 4 Trustee Meeting
  - Mar 7 Deaconess Meeting
  - Mar 10 Daylight Savings Time Begins; Others First
  - Mar 11 BOCE Meeting
  - Mar 12 Men's Fellowship
  - Mar 13 Anchor Articles Due
  - Mar 17 Youth Sky Zone Trip
  - Mar 18 VBS Planning
  - Mar 19 Finance Committee
  - Mar 21 CIRCLE
  - Mar 22 Painting in Ripley
  - Mar 24 Palm Sunday; Easter Egg Hunt; Deacons Dinner
  - Mar 25 Holy Week Services Begin
  - Mar 26 Deacons Meeting
  - Mar 27 *The Passover Revisited*
  - Mar 28 *Maundy Thursday Services*
  - Mar 29 Good Friday—office closed
  - Mar 31 Happy Easter! Sunrise Service
- \* Game Day every Tuesday 1:00-3:00 (not on holidays)

## **March Birthdays**



**Ella Pistelli 3/1**  
**Kathy Frazier 3/2**  
**Amy Williams 3/3**  
**Gusta Arrington 3/4**  
**Helen Johnson 3/4**  
**Amy Bowles-Taylor 3/7**  
**Peg Lyons 3/16**  
**Zach Graham 3/21**  
**Rose Stevens 3/23**  
**Glen Stevens 3/24**  
**Rhonda Samples 3/29**  
**Adam Pistelli 3/29**  
**Sharon Adkins 3/30**  
**Lily Stewart 3/30**

**Is your birthday name missing? Tell Susan**

## **Bible Book of the Month**

### **Galatians**



## **CommUnity Kitchen**

**Mar 2 Burt Lyons**  
**Mar 9 Sherry Walker**  
**Mar 16 Open-Need Volunteer**  
**Mar 23 Calvary Baptist**  
**Mar 30 Holiday—No CK**

## ***Volunteers needed for CommUnity Kitchen***

**Sign up today on the  
side office door!**

# 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.



## March 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 John Stephenson	2 Tom & Bev Stephenson
3 Glenn & Rose Stevens	4 Ralph, Jen Taylor, Kelly, Logan, McKenzie	5 Mark & Amy Bowles-Taylor	6 Destiny Thomas	7 Stephen & Leanne Thompson, Ryley	8 Randy & Carolyn Torris	9 Jared Torris
10 Jody Tolbert	11 Dale & Ann Vanderlaan	12 Ellen Varner	13 Dorothy Varner	14 Toby & Jennifer Wagoner, Hannah	15 Aaron Wagoner	16 John & Grayce Wagoner
17 Pauline Walker	18 Phillip & Sherry Walker	19 Janyce Watkins	20 Megan Watkins	21 Susan West	22 Danny & Kim Westmoreland	23 Dan & Amy Williams
24 Cody Williams	25 Nick Williams	26 Dave & Dena Williams	27 Jordan Williams	<b>28 Mike &amp; Cara Williams, Marcus</b>	29 Lucas & Samantha Willis, Silas	30 Kerry Wines
<b>31 Jennie Wise</b>						



Christ the Lord  
Is Risen Today!

Alleluia!  
Alleluia!