

Family & Friends..... March 31, 2021

Words of Spring. See how many of these words associated with the Spring Season will make you smile: daffodils, sunshine, rainbows, flowers, butterflies, tulips, breezes, blooms, birth, puddles, umbrella, galoshes, baseball, foal, eggs, bunny, grass, picnics, growth, green, baby chicks and ducks, cherry blossoms, vibrant colors, kid (baby goat), crocus, showers and thunderstorms, ferns, bumble bees, birds, baby deer and Primroses. We are suddenly blessed with sights, sounds, and smells from the natural world. The world wakes up in the Springtime. The trees get their leaves back. The flowers and trees start blooming and fill the air with Nature's confetti. The American Robin often thought of as the harbinger of Spring, but many of them will stay around during the winter months, and always a welcome sight. Robin's boost our spirits with their cheery, musical whistles with a delightful sound. The sweetest spring songs of the bird world as they sing daily is music to my ears. It is easy to connect the feeling of a spring day to a positive attribute of hope. We are invited to an action of inspiration and commitments to fresh starts in each of us. A beautiful butterfly will always bring a smile to my face! God is good! To God Be the Glory!

*And He who sits on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new."
And He said, "Write, for these words are faithful and true."
Revelation 21:5*

Wishing all our Family & Friends a Happy Easter Holiday! Hope the children are able to hunt the Easter Eggs and everyone has lots of fun! Those on our prayer list: Chuck Pippin was taken to Northwest Hospital by ambulance Monday morning. Pat Musson took a fall on Saturday night with a trip to emergency room. She is pretty bruised and sore, but should be okay. Hattie Louise Perry is now at Highlands Health. Ron Beaty is still in the hospital having tests. Betty Smith is having problems with her heart. She is undergoing tests and waiting for results. Joe & Kay Hott asked for prayers for their daughter, Heidi. Monica Klingman asked for prayers for her father who has cancer. Amy Bowman asked for prayers for her niece, Krista Magness. Continue to pray for the Duffy family, and Susan's dad. Keep the Herndon family in your prayers in the loss of Liz Herndon. Continue to remember and pray for Bob Musson, Robert Horton (bone infection), David Baker, Gene Roberts, our missionaries, our military and police force, our country and president, and a cure for the Covid-19 virus.

There will be a baby shower for Melissa & Chad Dobbs on Sunday, April 18th from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m. They are registered at Target, Walmart, and Babylist.com... It's going to be a girl, Kyleigh Lynn!

Items for Fair Haven Children's Home: Mac & Cheese, Canola Oil, BBQ sauce, tuna, and children's shampoo.

Our Food Pantry: Brownie mixes, cake mixes, applesauce, fruit cups, spaghetti sauce, tuna, chicken, Ravioli, peanut butter, flour, sugar, and baking mixes.

Because Jesus bore the cross for us,
we should be willing to take it up for Him.

Love you, stay safe. *Karen*

**Bella Vista
Church of Christ**

Highway 71 and County Road 40
989 NW McNelly Road
Bentonville, AR 72712

Return Service Requested

LORD'S DAY		8:15
Early Worship	Bible Class	9:30 AM
Second Worship		10:30 AM
WEDNESDAY		9:45 AM & 7 PM
Ladies' Class	Bible Class	Live Stream @ 7 PM

Phone: 479/273-2434

www.bellavistachurchofchrist.com

ELDERS

Tracy Bowman.....479-899-3089
Don Butcher.....636-548-0458
Dallas Dobbs479-640-4943

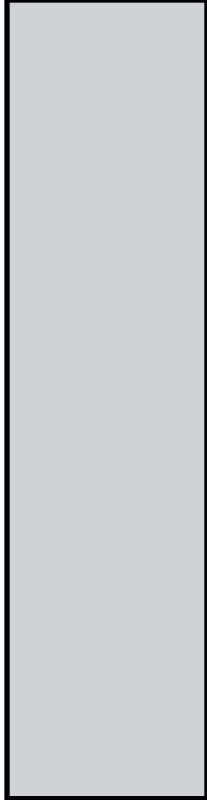
DEACONS

Mark Bagwell John Bowman Chris Johnson Bryan Busbee Joe Hott
Robert Horton Perry Johnson Harold Phillips Terry Roberts Aaron Sloan Mitchell Whittington

MINISTERS

Randall Caselman.....479-855-4447
Jeff Grisham.....479-531-9135
Parker Willis.....615-587-3208
Selwyn Nel Cape Town, South Africa
Javier & Helmer Rosero..... Bogota, Colombia

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Bella Vista

Celebrate Jesus

As the world prepares to celebrate Easter we must ask ourselves: Who? Why? When? What? How? Some will celebrate this Sunday with family gatherings, eggs, bunnies, a big meal; yet never think of mentioning Jesus. We appear to be more caught up with egg-hunts than an empty tomb. Some even question the idea of celebrating the resurrection. I gotta tell you, it's always appropriate to celebrate Jesus, always appropriate to celebrate any event in His life: His birth, death, resurrection, miracles, teachings, His promised second coming, etc. And why not? He is God in the flesh who came to forgive our sins and save our souls. Why would His children, the ones He has forgiven and saved, not celebrate Him daily?...

- He is the Lamb of God – His only begotten...
- The Light of the world...
- The Bread of life...
- The Living Word...
- The Door of the Sheepfold...
- The Way – The Truth – The Life
- The bright and morning Star...
- He is King of kings – Lord of lords...
- The I AM that I AM...
- The Alpha & Omega - Beginning & the end...
- He is the Vine...
- The Good Shepherd...
- Head of the Body, the Church...
- Priest after the order of Melchizedek...
- Mediator...
- Comforter...
- Wonderful Counselor...
- Mighty God – Was with God – Was God
- Everlasting Father...

MEMBER



- Emmanuel – God with us...
- Creator – The author of life...
- Provider...
- Sustainer of all things...
- Prince of Peace...
- Savior...
- Our Propitiation...
- The resurrection and Life.

"Therefore God exalted Him to the highest place and gave Him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father" (Philippians 2.9-11).

CELEBRATE JESUS!!

—RANDALL CASELMAN

Some Facts About Easter And The Resurrection Difference

And when he (Herod) had apprehended him, (Peter) 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"
(Acts 12.4 KJV).

Some interesting facts: Our word Easter comes to us through what's known as the Dynamic Equivalency theory of translating the Greek text. This theory says rather than translate the literal meaning, a modern word (Equivalency) is used. Years ago, Hugo McCord, in the appendix of his translation of the New Testament, said, "dynamic equivalency should leave the same impression on a twentieth century reader that was in the mind of a first century reader." With this in mind, Acts 12.4 should read "Passover" not "Easter." The Greek is "Pascha." A word that appears 29 times in the New Testament and is Translated "Passover" every time except in Acts chapter 12 where the King James translators render it Easter, a word unknown in the first century. The New International Version says, "*Days of unleavened bread,*" the New American Standard renders our word "*Passover.*"

Where did Easter originate?

It appears to be the convergence of three historical events?

The Jewish Passover. Passover was celebrated during Nisan, the first month of the Jewish calendar (Abib in Exodus and Deuteronomy). Nisan generally falls during our March and April. The reason the date moves is simple, the Jews observed the Lunar calendar and we the Roman. The Lunar calendar moves events through the months by phases of the moon.

The resurrection of Jesus. Of course this event took place during the Jewish Passover event.

A pagan festival celebrating the new life of spring. The date of this festival was tied to the spring equinox; that time when the sun is over the equator. Basically, this means day and night are equal in length all over the world. This occurs between the 19th and 21st of March.

Today's symbols of eggs, flowers, rabbits, ducks and chickens come from this spring event and the new life of the resurrection concept. I understand that the idea of new clothes for Easter comes from a practice of having baptized believers wear white robes.

No, Easter is not celebrated as a special day in the New Testament. Passover was and still is celebrated by practicing Jews. The resurrection of Jesus was and is somewhat celebrated by New Testament Christians within the Lord's Supper; our remembering the pain and saving power of Jesus' blood shed as we remember His death, burial and resurrection. We recall the resurrection because it affirms that Jesus lives, "*first born from the dead.*" And like Paul, we all want to experience this resurrection power.

The Resurrection Difference...

Question – Does the resurrection make a difference in our life? Really? It certainly made a daily difference in the lives of the early Christians. I submit to you that if we are interested in restoring New Testament Christianity in our culture, the death, burial and resurrection must make a difference in our lives. Not once a year, not only on Sunday, but a daily difference! Are we willing?...

A difference in our perseverance. Scripture teaches us there's a reward for those who will "*fight the fight, finish the course, keep the faith.*" The resurrection turned the despair and disillusionment of the cross into a triumph at the tomb. If Jesus could deal with the Sanhedrin, Pilate, Jewish prejudice, the crucifixion; if He conquered death, hell and the grave; He can conquer any and all problems in my life and yours. Let us be like Paul: In a prison cell, chained to a guard, waiting to stand before Caesar, yet we hear him say, "*I want to know Christ and the power of His resurrection.*"

A difference in our worship. On the road to Emmaeus, they declared, "*did not our hearts burn within us as He talked?" "And they worshipped Him.*" Acts two speaks of the first church: "*with great joy, they were constantly in the temple, praising God.*" When we believe the tomb is empty, it will impact our life with excitement and enthusiasm. We'll no longer have to be begged to attend worship; sing praises; share Him with our neighbor; live daily for our risen Lord. We'll do our worship joyfully. Jesus is alive! What a difference His resurrection makes.

The resurrection makes a difference in whom we love and serve. "*Love not the world, neither the things of the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in Him.*" Demas loved the world more than God. *Paul said, "Do not be conformed to this world."* From the lips of Jesus it was: "*you can not serve two masters*"... "*If you love Me, you will keep My commandments.*" Like the Old Testament declaration of Joshua, the

resurrection of Jesus demands that we "*choose this day whom we will serve.*"

The resurrection makes a difference in our eternal destiny. Again we hear Paul, "*I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection. And so, somehow, to attain to the resurrection from the dead.*" If Jesus was just another good man with lofty ideals, which captured the minds of men, and died a premature death: Then the resurrection would not be a unique message. The Koran contains high ethics. Mohammed said some good things. Buddha had lofty ideals, but they died and still are in the grave.



Jesus Lives! Because He lives, His resurrection is our power to be like Him in our resurrection. Peter says, "*we have a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.*" Paul says, "*if Jesus was raised so will we be*"... "*Death is swallowed up in victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.*" The power of the resurrec-

tion is our victory over death, giving us life eternal with God. Indeed, what a difference the resurrection makes!

Of course the resurrection of Christ makes no difference in our lives unless we respond to it. Listen to Jesus! "*I am the resurrection, and the life; he that believes in Me shall not die but have everlasting life.*" As we approach this weekend let our hearts dwell on the event in the life of Jesus which guarantee us a future – Specifically His Resurrection.

So, let us not celebrate the day, Easter, but Celebrate Jesus and the difference His resurrection has made in our life.

—RANDALL

SUNDAY SERVANTS: 4/4/21

EARLY SERVICE (8:15 AM)

Song Leader.....	Alex Thompson	Prayer & Scripture	Jim Branstetter
Communion Scripture & Prayer	Chad Dobbs	Greeters/Handouts.....	Gary McCool & Ken Rosenbaum

SECOND SERVICE (10:30 AM)

Song Leader.....	Sammy McCain	Prayer & Scripture	Don Butcher
Communion Scripture & Prayer	Curt LaPorte	Greeters/Handouts.....	Bob Spaw & Chris Johnson

MARCH WORSHIP COORDINATORS

Worship Coordinator	Mike Lunsford	Streaming Coordinator	Aaron Sloan
Audio Coordinator	Homer Makinson	Video Coordinator	Marquis Elliott