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THE VISION

April 2018

"Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them and...teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you..."

Amen. Matthew 28:19-20

"Crucify Him"
Our Lord's Easter Celebration is Coming!

I am excited to for us to share in our Community Sunrise Service at VIMS. This year, April 1st at 6:35am, we will hear the Lord's message from Suzanna Wesley UMC's new pastor, Pastor Hyung (pronounced Young) Moon. Bethany UMC's choir will bring our special music and our church will provide the breakfast.

Just a reminder, if there is inclement weather, the service will be held at the breakfast church, GPBC.

For our Vision Article; here is a question I came across for this Easter that will teach us the meaning of Easter Love --- Why do you suppose the Jewish people who had praised Jesus on Palm Sunday turned so quickly to cry for his crucifixion on Friday?

We must realize that when Jesus entered Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, he was not met by a religious crowd on their way to the Temple. This was the first day of their working week, and their minds were far from spiritual things. Therefore, when they shouted, "Save us, we pray you," (the meaning of Hosanna), they were not calling for a spiritual savior. They believed their

salvation came in faithful obedience to the laws of Moses and their Temple rituals. They had done that the preceding Saturday, therefore they believed their salvation was already secure.

Remember this: Palm Branches were not a symbol of salvation, but a symbol of military victory. So, on what we celebrate as Palm Sunday, the Jewish people wanted Jesus to rally an army right then and defeat their Roman captors. When He did not do that, their enthusiasm quickly subsided!

The prophecy the people recognized as being fulfilled that day was from **Zechariah 9:9**, "Look, your king comes to you: he is righteous and victorious; humble, riding a donkey, riding on a donkey's colt." That verse is set in a military context. Then (v.10) speaks of weapons used in battle and the dominion of a conquering king.

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In Mark 6:34 Jesus had said the people were as sheep without a shepherd. Such sheep will follow anyone or no one. When Jesus angered their leaders on Monday by clearing the Temple of crooked merchants, the leaders easily persuaded the "sheep" against Jesus. Given three more days to let the insinuations and slanders spread, it easily reached a boiling point on Friday. Then, we hear this same crowd shouting, "Crucify Him!"

However, Jesus did respond to their cries and He did offer them real salvation when He allowed them to crucify Him! His Father gave His greatest confirmation when Jesus walked out of his tomb on Easter Sunday Morning! Now, when we truly cry for a deliverer to save us, we have a risen Lord who has already made that possible if we only believe!

Hallelujah thine the Glory, our Lord Jesus Christ, lives today!

Pastor Bud Goude



Deacon's Devotional

Standing With Others in Prayer—Psalm 9:10

Anytime we stop to be present with others in their trouble, we carry the opportunity to bring boomerang joy. You don't have to be famous or important. You don't have to be acclaimed or much sought after, just be you. Stay true to yourself and those values that keep you grounded in kindness.

Keep looking for the boomerang surprise in your life. Listen for the whirring sound that means it may be getting close. Always stay connected to people and seek out things that bring you joy. Dream with abandon. Pray confidently. But be careful what you pray for—because everything and anything is possible through the power of prayer.

By Barbara Johnson from "Joy for a Woman's Soul"

-Sonya Anthony

Deacon of the Week

4/1—Jimmy Diggs

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4/8—Buddy Hogge

4/15—Gary Mangrum

4/22—Sonya Anthony

4/29—Amy Boykin

Nursery Workers

4/1—L. Walton/G. Breeden

4/8—Alishia Milligan

4/15—Devan Willard

4/22—Shannon Jenkins

4/29—Beverly West



April Ushers

Jimmy Diggs Gus Saunders Dale Jacobson Amy Jacobson

April Tellers

Amy Jacobson Ted Fisher

Sun. Sch. Nursery

Sharon/Howard Warren

Older Children's Church

4/1—Paige Belvin

4/8—Jennifer/Lauren Hall

4/15—Madison/Seth Gandee

4/22—Charlene/John West

4/29—Seth Gandee

Younger Children's Church

4/1—Tracy Williams/Jade Jenkins

4/8—Nancy Dyson/Sonya Anthony

4/15—Denise Gandee/Mallory Wagner

4/22—Laraine Sentz/Rachel Wells

4/29—Tammy Greggs



CHURCH DIRECTORY

Did you know that we have a new Church Pictorial Directory?

For a minimal cost of \$5.00 we will provide a printed, color copy in a 3-ring notebook that you can update whenever we distribute revisions.

This Directory is also available free of charge via a free app or online at:

https://members.instantchurchdirectory.com/

Request forms are available at the Information Center in the Narthex. Complete the form, attach your payment and place it in the offering plate on Sunday or bring it to the church office during regular business hours (12:30—3:30 M—F)

Please see Melissa Ashe or Ann Hogge for questions.

"Jesus did not come so we could celebrate Christmas, but so we could EXPERIENCE EASTER".

—Submitted by Linda Breaks



April Family Night Supper

The April Family Night Supper will be held on Wednesday, April 25th at 6:00pm followed by the Quarterly Business meeting.

Come join us and bring your family & friends!



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Sunday Morning Flowers

If you would like to provide flowers for a Sunday Morning Service, please sign-up for a specific Sunday on the flower signup sheet in the Narthex. If you are placing the flowers in memory or in honor of a loved one, contact the office to provide the information so it can be included in the bulletin. What a great way to recognize a birthday, anniversary, etc. and help to decorate the sanctuary.

Mark your Calendars:

May 20th Annual Church Picnic at the church

Activities start at 5:00pm with dinner at 6:00pm

Church Website

Have you visited our church's website recently?

If not, check it out at

http://www.gloptbaptist.org/

for the latest information on ministries, outreach and upcoming events!