



# THE VISION

April 2019

*“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*

Easter 2019

Did we know: Easter is the most important and oldest festival of the Christian Church, celebrating the resurrection of Jesus Christ and held (in the Western Church) between March 21 and April 25, on the first Sunday after the first full moon following the northern spring equinox.

Easter denotes the celebration of our Lord’s resurrection from the tomb! Resurrection means a “raising up”, or “rising up” from the Greek word ANASTASIS. In the verb form it means “to cause to stand or rise up; to raise from sleep or from the dead.” The resurrection of the dead is one of the most basic of doctrines; and we accept it as fact that Jesus Christ, the Messiah not only suffered and died for the sins of the world, but that He subsequently rose from the grave by the power of Almighty God, His Father!

In New Testament times, 2 witnesses were required to give an affirmative testimony before a certain event could be validated. How many people does the Bible say gave an affirmative witness of the resurrected Lord Jesus Christ?

Scripture tells us Jesus appeared over some 40 days to the women at His tomb, to Peter, and to His brother James. He also appeared in the upper room to His followers without Thomas and the next week to the Twelve including Thomas. He appeared to 2 followers on the road to Emmaus and their families, to His disciples with Peter at the Sea of Galilee, and to some 500 followers in **I Corinthians 15:5-8**.

Jesus appeared to MANY more than the Jewish Law required.

Did Jesus appear to his earthly mother? Maybe he did! **Mark 16** and **Luke 24** name some of the women at the tomb on Resurrection Sunday. Among them is “Mary the mother of James.” This probably was not Jesus’ mother, but she may have been present. First century believers knew Jesus had existed long before Mary conceived Him, and this was written later when James, the half-brother of Jesus, was the leader of the Jerusalem church.

Again, when Jesus appeared to Cleopas and another person on the Emmaus Road that first Easter, **Luke 24** says He went home with them for supper. Since **John 19:25** says Mary had a sister married to Cleopas, it is very likely Mary and Jesus’ siblings were staying there for Passover. If so, they saw him at supper and again later that evening when they gathered in the Upper Room (without Thomas). We do know, according to **Acts 1:14**, that all his family were saved and present when the Spirit came at Pentecost.

Jesus had reasons to appear to Mary Magdalene, Peter, James, and many other followers. But, He had already broken ties with his earthly mother at the Cross when He entrusted her to John. Besides, knowing how people would esteem Mary, He did not need to spotlight her again. Maybe He did appear to Mary, but we have no specific record of it.

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Does Jesus still live today? YES! All people who believe by faith that Jesus Christ is the Son of God who was born of the virgin Mary, lived and died to set people free from their sins, rose the third day from the grave, ascended back to heaven and is now seated at the right hand of God the Father in heaven, will be saved!

Jesus said, "And I will pray the Father, and He shall give you another Comforter, that He may abide with you for ever; Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth Him: but ye know Him; for He dwelleth with you, and shall be in you. I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you. Yet a little while, and the world seeth me no more; but ye see me: because I live, ye shall live also. At that day ye shall know that I am in my Father, and ye in me, and I in you," (John 14:16-20). This Easter, let us proclaim the eye witnessed Resurrected Lord Jesus Christ lives within our hearts!

Pastor Bud Goude



**Deacon of the Week**

4/7—Keith Belvin  
4/14—Ted Fisher  
4/21—Bill Breeden  
4/28—David Crummett

**Nursery Workers**

4/7—L. Walton/G. Breeden  
4/14—Devan/Elyza Willard  
4/21—M. Wagner/Youth  
4/28—S. Jenkins/Youth

**April Ushers**

Jimmy Diggs  
Gus Saunders  
Dale Jacobson  
Amy Jacobson



**CHURCH WORKERS**

**April Tellers**

Amy Jacobson  
Ted Fisher

**Sun. Sch. Nursery**

Sharon/Howard Warren

**Older Children's Church**

4/7—Paige Belvin  
4/14—Jennifer/Lauren Hall  
4/21—Madison/Denise Gandee  
4/28—Charlene/John West

**Younger Children's Church**

4/7—Tim Owens  
4/14—Nancy Dyson/Sonya Anthony  
4/21—Janis West  
4/28—Laraine Sentz/Rachel Wells



**Help The Easter Bunny...and Youth Missions In The Process!?!?!?**

Make your Easter basket filling task easier and tastier this year by purchasing home made Easter eggs from the WMU. We will be taking orders for either peanut butter or butter cream eggs on March 24, 31 and April 7 after church in the old fellowship hall. The eggs will be only a \$5 donation unless you would like them personalized with a name at just \$1 more. You may pick up your delicious purchases on April 14. We appreciate all the ways you help us advance the Kingdom through Missions. All proceeds will go to our Youth Mission Fund. For questions or to place orders please see Sharon Warren or any WMU member. God bless you!



**April Family Night Supper**

The April Family Night Supper will be held on Wednesday, April 24th at 6:00pm followed by the business meeting at 6:30pm.

Come join us and bring your family & friends!



**Church Picnic**

The Annual Church Picnic will be held on Sunday, May 19, 2019 at GPBC! Activities start at 4:30pm with dinner at 6:00pm. Invite your family and friends!!



On May 11, Care net Peninsula will host Walk For Life. This will be a fun, family-friendly event. It is a walk for awareness and support, not a protest. **The Willard family has signed up to participate. Devan Willard is the co captain for the Middle Peninsula Friends for Life team.** You can donate or sign up to walk at [www.fundeasy.com](http://www.fundeasy.com) At the top of the page, in the search box, type **Willard** and you will be taken to their fundraising page.



### Easter Crosses

Would you like to place a cross on the cross in Memory or in Honor of a Loved One? The donations for the crosses will go to support Benevolence. A cross can be placed for a minimum of a \$5.00 donation, but more will gladly be accepted. The Deadline will be Thursday, 4/18/19 and the crosses will be placed on the cross as the donations are received. The Cross Contributors List will be included in the Easter bulletin. Place your form & payment in the labeled box in the Narthex. Contact Paulette Ashe at 642-3251 for questions. Thanks for your generosity!



### Gloucester United Emergency Shelter Team (G.U.E.S.T.)

#### Thank you!

Gloucester Point Baptist Church served as an overnight shelter last month. A warm and safe place for the homeless, to sleep and to receive a hot meal and breakfast was provided.

Thank you to Groves Memorial Presbyterian Church for partnering with us and providing delicious meals nightly.

We can show Jesus we love him by loving one another and loving our neighbor as our self. GPBC members and many others definitely showed their Love for Jesus by helping out with the Guest ministry. Thank you for your love for those who needed it most!

We are so very grateful to all the volunteers for giving of their time to care for others in need!

A special Thank you: -For all the supplies members brought in,  
-To Rachel & L.T. for cooking breakfast every morning and to the Ruritan Club for donating money for breakfast supplies,  
-To Keith for helping out every morning, and  
-To Brian, Stan, Ted and other Churches for help with transportation.



This ministry has truly been such a Blessing to all involved.

Thank you  
Pauline Littell  
GPBC-Guest Host site Coordinator

# Deacon's Devotional



### Invest in Someone

After returning from the Journey Retreat with the youth in March, there were a few things I wanted to share that we learned in the adult sessions that could help our church grow. Statistically, 7 out of 10 youth that attend a church youth group leave after they graduate high school and do not return, essentially leaving their faith behind. That's an alarming statistic, but there are ways we can combat church dropouts.

First, choose to invest in someone. The 3 out of 10 youth that choose to stay faithful have, on average, five adult friends that keep them interested in coming back to church. Those who do not have adult friends find it difficult to come back after graduation because they have no connections with the church outside of the youth group and feel out of place.

Second, take an interest in what they are interested in. Too often, we want the youth of today to conform with our standards and interests, but why not take the initiative and find out what they like? We are the adults after all. We may be able to help them form connections for a future career or we might simply enjoy their company.

Third, help them find who they are. The youth of today are hungry to find who they are and what they are meant to do in this life. Having more support along the way can make a strong impression on them and keep them coming back for more.

Regardless of what the news tells you about the youth of today, they are very headstrong and driven to make a positive impact in the world. Instead of being a roadblock in their way, let's choose to reach out and be there for them in their formative years so they will grow to be the young men and women God has called them to be.

-Seth Gandee, Deacon

### Sunday Schedule

Sunday School (All Ages)- 9:40am  
 Worship Service- 11:00am  
 C.A.R.E. Ministry—2:00pm

# April 2019

### Wednesday Schedule

5:30pm: Teens Living For Christ  
 6:30pm: Children's Bible Study & Choir  
 6:30pm: Prayer Meeting & Bible Study  
 7:30pm: Choir Practice

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 American Heritage Girls 6:30pm	2 Girl Scouts 6:00pm  Bldg & Grounds 7:00pm	3	4	5 Senior Morning Out 9:30am  AA 8:00pm	6
7 Lord's Supper 11:00am  Deacon Mtg 3:00pm	8 WMU Council 10:00am  American Heritage Girls Board 6:15pm	9 Girl Scouts 6:00pm	10 CYM Quarterly Meeting 6:00pm	11	12 Senior Morning Out 9:30am  AA 8:00pm	13 WMU Candy Easter Egg Event (fellowship hall) 9:00am
14 <b>Palm Sunday</b>  SS Breakfast- Minnie Rowe 9:15am  Easter Cantata 11:00am	15 American Heritage Girls 6:30pm	16 Armstrong Circle 5:30pm Meal 6:00pm Meeting Girl Scouts 6:00pm  Vision Deadline	17 Children's Easter Egg Hunt 6:00pm	18 <b>Maundy Thursday</b>  Acree Circle 10:00am  Maundy Thursday Service 7:00pm	19 <b>Good Friday</b>  9:30am Senior Morning Out  AA 8:00pm	20  Emma Crawford Quilting 9:00am-4:00pm
21 <b>Easter</b>  Sunrise Service VIMS 6:05am (GPBC Music)  NO C.A.R.E.	22	23 Girl Scouts 6:00pm	24 Family Night Supper 6:00pm Business Meeting 6:30p	25	26 9:30am Senior Morning Out  AA 8:00pm	27
28	29	30 Girl Scouts 6:00pm				

### April Birthdays:

Shannen Jenkins	4/5
John Miller	4/6
Bill Swindeck	4/7
William Hogge	4/8
Queenie Holt	4/10
Stewart Wood	4/15
Cassie Wiese	4/17
Thomas Hall	4/17
Pearl Goude	4/18
Samantha West	4/19
Wesley Bullis	4/20
Tom McElfresh	4/20
L.T. Wells	4/20
Ashley Jo Zepeda	4/21
Paul Greggs	4/24
Linda Mitchell	4/27
Barry Milligan	4/29
Benjamin Greggs	4/29
Barbara Mangrum	4/29
Jeff Breaks	4/30
Rebecca Joyce	4/30

### Anniversaries:

Gus & Sarah Saunders	4/3
Donnie & Jo Green	4/22
Gordon & Alice Smith	4/25
Gary & Bonnie Ogden	4/29
Tom & Sandy McElfresh	4/30

