

**COVENANT NEWS**  
 VOL. XXX No. 12  
 Week of April 1, 2018  
 A Publication of  
 Covenant Baptist Church  
 3131 Erskine Drive, Gastonia, NC 28054

**OPPORTUNITIES – Week of April 1, 2018**

**Sunday, April 1** *Easter Sunday*  
 7:00 am Easter Sunrise Service  
 Breakfast to Follow  
 9:45 am Sunday School  
 11:00 am Easter Worship Service  
 Butterfly Release



**Monday, April 2**  
 Church Office Closed

**No Wednesday Activities or Choir Rehearsal April 4**  
**Wednesday Meals and Activities Will Resume April 11**



Rev. Dan Freeman, Intentional Interim Pastor  
 Rev. Pamela Phillips, Minister of Preschool and Children  
 Rev. Nick Clanton, Minister of Youth  
 Gene and Becky Bumgardner, Co-Directors of Music  
 Becky Bumgardner, Pianist  
 Jerry Fulham, Organist  
 Sharon Waters, Church Secretary  
*sharon@covenantbaptist.net*  
 704-865-2538 [www.covenantbaptist.net](http://www.covenantbaptist.net)

**VOLUNTEERS**

	BABIES & TODDLERS	PRESCHOOL
APR 1	Robin & Leeann Jacobs	Pam Phillips & Assistant
APR 8	Renee & Hannah Phillips	Susan Herd & Dianne Duncan
APR 15	Livvie Richard & Linda Pettigrew	Libby & Meredith McCraw
APR 22	Robin & Leeann Jacobs	Pam Phillips & Assistant
APR 29	Renee & Hannah Phillips	Susan Herd & Dianne Duncan

**APRIL**

DEACON	BUILDING LOCK-UP	USHERS
Wayne Ballenger	James Hall	Koinonia Class

**OUR PRAYER CONCERNS**

***“Look to the LORD and His strength;  
 Seek his face always.” I Chronicles 16:11 NIV***

- Pam Buckner (Salvation for a Mother)
- (Dennis Clark, Becky Bumgardner’s cousin)
- (Regina Elmore, Linda Bess’ sister)
- (Mary Kerley) (Charlain Fitzgerald)
- (Lena Marston – 4 years old – Cancer)
- Betty Ammons, Friend of Family)
- (Larry Marshall) (Ernie Smith)
- (Jerry Moss, Gayle Beam’s brother)

**PRESCHOOL AND CHILDREN**

**Lunch and Egg Hunt**  
**Saturday, March 31 at 12 noon**

Please join us for lunch, egg hunt, games and fun!  
 Following lunch, the children will find eggs and receive a treat bag filled with goodies. There will also be games and other activities. Invite your friends and neighbors to join us!



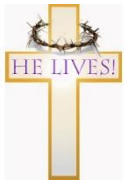
**CELEBRATING THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD**

**Friday, March 30**  
**Good Friday - Church Office Closed**



**Saturday, March 31**  
**12 pm Children’s Egg Hunt**

**Sunday, April 1**  
 7 am Sunrise Service  
 Breakfast to Follow  
 11 am Easter Worship Service  
 Butterfly Release



**GGBA COMMUNITY MINISTRIES  
NEEDS FOR APRIL – JUNE**

*Meat and Cereal*

The GGBA Community Ministries appreciates your donations.



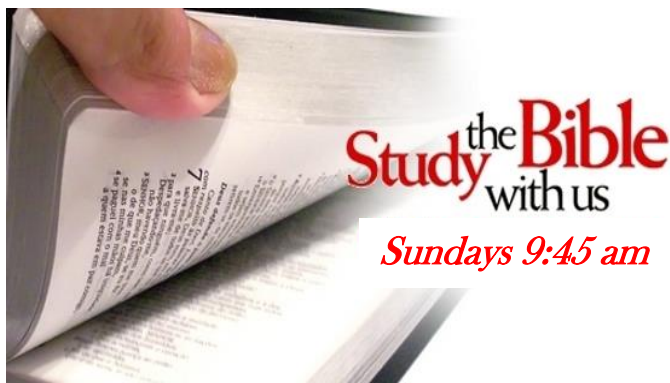
**MISSION ACTION COUNCIL PROJECT  
FOR MARCH & APRIL**

We are collecting hygiene items for patients of the Rosewood Nursing Home. You may place your items in the basket located in the narthex. Items needed are as follows:



Lotion  
Toothpaste  
Razors  
Soap  
Body Wash

Deodorant  
Toothbrushes  
Shaving Cream  
Shampoo



**MUSICAL PRESENTATION**



**The Raleigh Ringers**

Christ Lutheran Church

4519 Providence Road, Charlotte, NC 28226

Saturday, April 7 7:00 pm

Tickets available (group discounts) at

[www.itickets.com/events/395247](http://www.itickets.com/events/395247)

***Our Ultimate Hooray*** by Charles R. Swindoll **John 11**

What gives a widow courage as she stands beside a fresh grave? What is the ultimate hope of the handicapped, the abused, the burn victim? What is the final answer to pain, mourning, senility, insanity, terminal diseases, sudden calamities, and fatal accidents?

The answer to each of these questions is the same: *the hope of bodily resurrection.*

We draw strength from this single truth almost every day of our lives—more than we realize. It becomes the mental glue that holds our otherwise shattered thoughts together. Impossible though it may be for us to understand the details of how God is going to pull it off, we hang our hopes on fragile, threadlike thoughts that say, "Someday, He will make it right," and "Thank God, all this will change," and "When we're with Him, we shall be like Him."

More than a few times a year I look into red, swollen eyes and remind the despairing and the grieving that "*there's a land that is fairer than day*" where, as John promised in the Revelation, "*He shall wipe away every tear... there shall no longer be any death... any mourning or crying or pain... there shall no longer be any curse... any night... because the Lord God shall illumine them; and they shall reign forever and ever*" (21:4; 22:3, 5). Hooray for such wondrous hope!

Just imagine . . . those who are physically disabled today will one day leap in ecstatic joy. Those who spend their lives absorbed in total darkness will see every color in the spectrum of light. In fact, the very first face they will see will be the One who gives them sight!

There's nothing like the hope of resurrection to lift the agonizing spirits of the heavyhearted. But how can we know for sure, some may ask. What gives us such assurance, such unshakable confidence? Those questions have the same answer: *the fact of Christ's resurrection.*

Because He has been raised, we too shall rise! No wonder we get so excited every Easter! No wonder we hold nothing back as we smile and sing and celebrate His miraculous resurrection from the grave!

***Jesus Himself promised: "I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me will live even if he dies." John 11:25***

