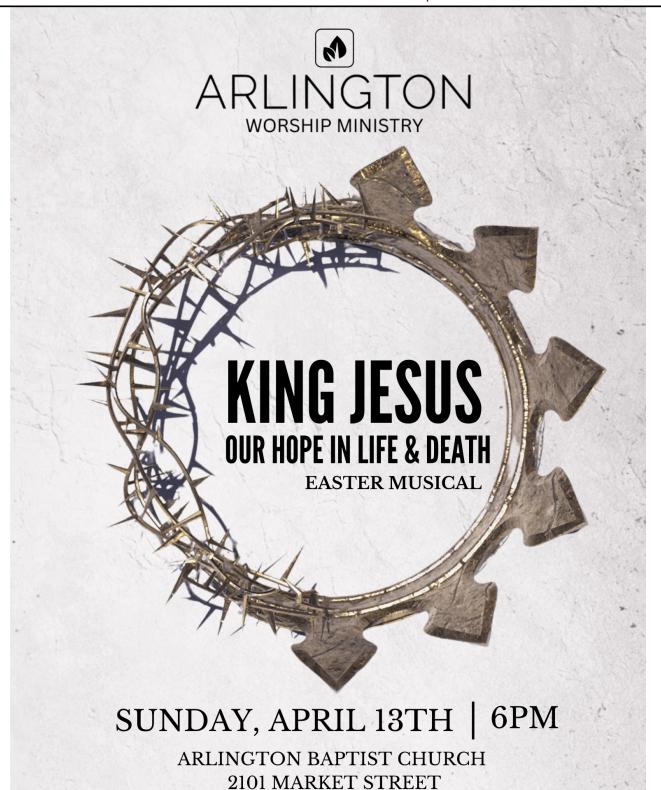


ARLINGTON BAPTIST CHURCH

April 2025—NEWSLETTER



PASCAGOULA, MS 39567

My lower back 'went out' for the first time in my life a few weeks ago while I was doing what I used to know as 'routine stretching.' I've never been 45 before but I'm finding it to be filled with surprises. Last year, I spent a few months learning about vertigo. This year, the lesson is back pain. I've heard people say, 'I wouldn't wish back pain on my worst

A Message from Pastor Michael

enemy.' While I totally agree with that sentiment, I am overwhelmed by the spiritual good that has come from it.

First, the blessing of humility. Humility isn't something we can work up in ourselves. We can train our minds with scripture and prayer but that only helps us restrain our natural bent toward pride. Suffering, however, reveals the truth to our pride and blesses the soul with humility. Our flesh obviously, disdains and rejects suffering. On the other hand, our renewed, inner-selves long for the blessed grace of true humility. Suffering is a gift to fallen creatures in that it produces in us something we wouldn't attain otherwise.

Second, the blessing of contentment. The fruit of contentment is hard to come by in the absence of suffering. As a young man in a young body, I was unacquainted with physical suffering and therefore incapable of appreciating the joy of a healthy body. This is the way that suffering increases our capacity for contentment. The pain taught me to praise God when it was absent and thank God for whatever comfort I could find. Like humility, contentment is a grace that is precious and hard to attain. Physical suffering creates an environment for spiritual growth and teaches the inner-self about contentment - joy in God no matter my circumstances.

Third, the blessing of increased compassion. I have heard people say, 'my back is out' more times than I can count but I will never hear it in the same way again. Next time I hear it, I will remember and care on a level I never did before. In this way, suffering increases our capacity for compassion and compassion is also among our highest spiritual pursuits. Like humility and contentment, it is almost impossible to attain without the experience of suffering.

Romans 5:1-5 'Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through Him we have obtained access by faith into the grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. Not only that, we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us."

Pastor

Michael



In Loving Memory of Richard "Buck" Rutland

Joined our church family May 17, 1987

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Home to be with the Lord March 16, 2025

In Loving Memory of June Windham

Joined our church family, February 25, 2018



Home to be with the Lord, March 12, 2025



Trail Life: Sunday afternoons at 3 pm

Craft Ministry: Saturday, April 5, at 9 am in the fellowship hall **Deacons' Meeting:** Sunday, April 6, at 5 pm in the conference room

Easter Musical: Sunday, April 13, at 6 pm

Children's Egg Hunt: Wednesday, April 16, @ 6 pm The Church office will be closed for Good Friday Good Friday Service: Friday, April 18, @ 6 pm

WOM: Thursday, April 24 @ 5:30 pm or Friday, April 25 @ 10 am. **Game Day:** Saturday, April 26, at 10 am in the fellowship hall

WOM Spaghetti Dinner: Sunday, April 27, following the morning worship service

Member's Meeting: Sunday, April 27, at 5 pm



Graduate Recognition Sunday is May 18.

We would like to recognize all of our 2025 graduates—high school, college, post-graduates, etc. Please call the church office and give us the name of

your graduate, the school, and degree achieved. High school seniors, the deadline to turn in pictures is Sunday, May 11th.







...Mr. & Mrs. Rick May & family in the death of his grandmother, Mrs. Irene Lichkge & her aunt, Mrs. Deb Broatner.

...Mr. & Mrs. Den Knecht & family in the death of his brother-in-law, Mr. Nicholas Pericich and her nephew, Mr. Joey Fountain.

...Mr. & Mrs. David Buckley in the death of his brother in law, Mr. Terry Winnett.

...Mr. & Mrs. Jason McDonald & family in the death of his aunt, Mrs. Pam McDonald.

...Mr. & Mrs. Rick Merrill & family in the death of her aunt, Mrs. Ann Wise.

...Ms Bertie Smith & family in the death of their family member, Mrs. JoBeth Walley.

April 6

1st IMPRESSION TEAM: Joe Odom, Steve Wilkinson, Wesley Self, Raymond Johnson, Jason McDonald, John Simpson & Joshua Sherman

SUNDAY SCHOOL GREETERS: Harold & Jan Walters DEACONS: Ben Broome & Jim Underwood

SOUND & MEDIA: Patti Bradley, Jackie Trussell, Eli Seaton NURSERY: Cissie Brushaber & Wendy Witchen—Bed Babies

Allison Woods & Janine Lahrs—Toddlers

Melissa Tolbert & Amanda Gibson—2 & 3 years old Chase & Caroline Patterson—Children's Church

April 20—Easter

1ST IMPRESSION TEAM: George Thames, Randy Mitchell, J. W. Scott, Steve Nelson, Jim Underwood, Eddie Moore & Mike Wixon **SUNDAY SCHOOL GREETERS:** Bob Freeman & Lewis Savage

DEACONS: Chase Patterson & Pat Gatchell

SOUND & MEDIA: Alyssa Saucier, Frankie Sherman, Grant Gibson NURSERY: Micah Gatchell & Jamie Gatchell—Bed Babies Michelle Wilkinson, Lynn Russell & Heather Conerly—Toddlers Steve & Cindy Nelson—2 & 3 years old

No Children's Church

April 13

1st IMPRESSION TEAM: Patrick Gatchell, Brett Merrill, Paul Gatchell, Pat Gatchell, Jaymie Smith, Shane Mason, Michael Baxter & Shane Overvold

SUNDAY SCHOOL GREETERS: Brenda Beckham & Danny Glass

DEACONS: Jaymie Smith & Shane Mason

SOUND & MEDIA: Brett Cooper, Michael Puglia, Luis Sanchez

NURSERY: Jamie Dwyer, Pam Gatchell & Kendall Wakefield—Bed Babies

Jeannie Ory & Molly Merrill—Toddlers

Jessica Whittington, Ashley Sherman & Heather Overvold—2 & 3 yrs old Alyssa Saucier & Steve Nelson—Children's Church

April 27

1ST IMPRESSION TEAM: Charles Frye, Buddy Carrier, L. C. Ehlers, Lewis Savage, Elliot Smith, Blake Carrier & Mike Woods

SUNDAY SCHOOL GREETERS: Harold & Jan Walters DEACONS: Harold Walters & Jason McDonald

SOUND & MEDIA: Emily Speights, Mike Wixon, Eli Seaton **NURSERY:** Tommie Broome & Teresa Carrier—Bed Babies

Joy Read, Taylor McDonald & April Bass—Toddlers Meagen Smith, Blake & Madison Carrier—2 & 3 yrs olds

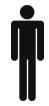
Kate & Addi Kirkland—Children's Church

Check out the ways you can give









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online

text to give

in person

get CONNECTED

YOU CAN ACCESS OUR SERVICES 4 WAYS



Sunday School at 9:15—Worship at 10:30 am



At 11:00 am



Arlington Baptist Church



Go to www.growatarlington.com and click on the YouTube tab



Arlington Baptist Church

P. O. Box 2278

Pascagoula, MS 39569-2278 www.growatarlington.com

Office: 228-769-2789

Email: office@growatarlington.com

STAFF
Michael Wilkinson—Pastor
Justin Humphres—Worship Pastor

Ryan Seaton—Family Discipleship Pastor Cissie Brushaber—Secretary