



"But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen."
 2 Peter 3:18 (CSB)

Pastor's Corner

Dear Smyrna Family,

March is here and that means the beginning of a new season. Once again we are reminded that things change. I suppose that we can say that about most things in life - most things. One thing that is always constant and remains the same is the written Word of God. As a matter of fact, everything about God is immutable (unchanging) and constant. Today, I want to focus on the value of the constancy of the Bible. The Bible says of itself, "Heaven and earth will pass away, but My Words will not pass away" (Matt. 24:35). "The grass withers, the flower fades, but the Word of our God stands forever" (Isa. 40:8; 1 Peter 1:25). My dear friends, the Bible was never meant to simply take space up on your shelf or bedside table. It was never meant to be used solely to press dried rose petals. One of the purposes of the Bible can be found in 2 Timothy 3:16-17 where it reads, "All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; so that the child of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work." That being true, don't you think it would make sense to spend time reading

it, studying it, thinking about it, and ultimately living it out?

Folks, I am consumed lately with the need for bible knowledge. The foolishness that I hear Christians espouse in the name of the Lord is disheartening, embarrassing, and extremely detrimental to the cause of Christ. When I think of the unsaved listening to some of the unbiblical claims from Christians that never come to pass, I can't help but think that they draw conclusions that our faith is a sham. Or when I think of young believers being led astray by false teaching of the Scriptures, I cringe at the lasting damage that is being done to their walk with the Lord. It is high time that we as followers of Christ get into His Word and learn to walk, talk, think, and live in genuine accord with His Word. You must be certain that the God and Lord that you claim to know and serve is the God and Lord of the Bible.

Look again at the passage from 2 Timothy. Why would you not put every ounce of your ability into knowing the Word when it holds the key to so much reward in your life. Can you honestly read that text and tell me that studying the Word, that doctrine, doesn't matter? Look at it! It teaches us about God, our Savior, our sin, our needs, His

redemptive plan, how to raise our kids, etc. It is God-inspired. You couldn't have a better source of knowledge. The Word is there to reprove, That means it exposes our sin and need for transformation. The next benefit of Scripture is priceless too. It corrects us from both false living and false beliefs. That foolishness that I mentioned above would be corrected if people would get into the Word and allow the Truth to correct their crazy beliefs. It works this way - imagine you are reading or maybe listening to someone talking about "walking with God" but they are way off base. How do you know what is true? The Word of God corrects so you quit listening to foolish and heretical teaching.

Finally, the Word is profitable for training in righteousness so that the person of God will be adequate and equipped for every good work. This Book is to instruct us in the ways of God. Folks, stop making "stuff" up on your own and let the Word inform your beliefs and your life.

Devotedly,
Pastor Robert



SMYRNA BAPTIST CHURCH
 building community • equipping believers • serving Jesus

Volume 15, Issue 3

March 2019

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Special Points of Interest:

- ▶ Deacons Meeting, Mon. Mar. 4th @ 7:00 pm
- ▶ Sunday March 10th - Daylight Savings Time Begins - *Spring forward* one hour
- ▶ Beautiful Older People (BOP) luncheon is Wednesday, Mar. 13th @ 11:00 am
- ▶ AHG Ladies Spring Tea, Sat. March 16th from 11 am - 1 pm
- ▶ Feed DHS Baseball Team, Fri., March 29th
- ▶ 5th Sunday Breakfast Fellowship @ 9:30 am

Hello Smyrna Family,

The great pastor and theologian of the 19th Century Charles Spurgeon once said that Christians are a “bookish” people. What he meant by that is that we are constant learners. Indeed, God intended for us to read, study and think and this is no presumption as the primary means He gave us to know Him is a book!

At Smyrna, we as a pastoral staff have attempted to continue to provide resources like the Emmaus Road devotions, HomePointe, the library, and even Sunday evening classes. Our heart and desire is that we would be a people who have reasoned through our faith so that we are grounded in what we believe!

I want to take a moment to tell you about another vein or avenue that will be opened up for good this month and that is a resource of the week. Every week beginning in March our church will offer some type of follow up to the main idea or truth of the sermon for you to take home. Many weeks this may be an article or an additional sermon or perhaps even a book for purchase. Regardless, our hope is that you would take these resources and use them to continue to think on whatever biblical truth is presented.

The point behind this is that it is crucial for us as a church to meditate on truth instead of simply hearing it (agreeing with what we hear or not) and then going home. We want to get into the discipline of internalizing God’s Word and considering all of the ways it may relate or apply to our own walk with God.

I want to encourage you to be on the lookout every week for this resource. You will find it on the center table in the main foyer directly in front of you as you walk out of the rear doors of the sanctuary. Also, be sure to look in your bulletin for info regarding the resource every week! Join us as we continue to grow together!

**Devotedly,
Pastor Aaron**

Associate Pastor of Family
Discipleship & Education
Email:
assocpastor@smyrna1897.org



Good March Smyrna Family,

Did you read my article last month? I hope so! If you did...have you been praying? I *really* hope so! If you recall, I had mentioned that we are in prayerful search of more national mission opportunities. We firmly believe that church planting, whether doing it ourselves or partnering with someone, is the best missions strategy overall, so it seems that at least that part of our prayer has been answered. But now we're beseeching the Lord for the specifics, for open doors. *Where* would the Lord have us plant a church? *Who* would go? If you would join us in praying that God would shed some light on a few specifics or open some clear doors, I would greatly appreciate it!

If you were at church on Sunday, February 17th, you heard Pastor Robert mention at the conclusion of the service that Pastor Josh and I are being "raised up to be sent out." If that's a confusing statement to you (I hope it's not), let me try to clear it up.

We all live and work for God's Kingdom. That's why we do ministry! Our work as pastors, and simply as Christians, is to expand the borders of the kingdom, to take over enemy territory, if you will. And the best way to expand the borders of God's kingdom is *not* by stockpiling and hoarding supplies in our own little base camp. It's by sending out more and more troops with more and more supplies.

What I hope this little illustration helps us to see is that multiplication -- sending out troops -- is the best way to advance God's Kingdom. So, we try to help plant churches overseas and we try to help plant churches here in our own country. In the past, we've simply partnered with others who are planting churches, like Jeff and Kim Lovin in northern Virginia, and Drew and Eunice Cheatham in Portland, Oregon (one day), and Tim and Toni Robinson in Fitchburg, Massachusetts. But now we believe God is calling us to get in the game in a deeper way. We want to be a Kingdom church that is known for being a troops-and-supply sending center! We believe that what would be best for God's Kingdom is for us to continue raising up people to serve as pastors, church planters, or missionaries and to send them out so they can serve as such for the good of the world and the growth of the kingdom. So, continue praying for Smyrna to become, more and more, a Kingdom-expanding church!

For the King,
Pastor Joe

Assoc. Pastor of Administration and Missions
Email: assocpastor2@smyrna1897.org



Monthly Missions Prayer Guide - March 2019

Gary and Michele Kittredge, Ashley (19), Bethany (17), and Sophia (9) - Gbanga County, Liberia

- a. Their number one prayer request is for their preparation to leave Liberia for a year in May to come back to the States for Bethany's senior year of high school. There is a lot to get ready on the farm and at their church for them to be able to leave for an entire year, so they are a bit stressed right now to say the least!
- b. Pray for Ashley as she is still in Word of Life College in Budapest, Hungary. It's tough enough to be alone, but alone in a foreign country is 10 times as difficult.

National Missions

- a. Pray that Smyrna would become a troop-and-supply sending church! We don't want to hoard our things here at "base camp." We want to send out warriors that fight for King Jesus and expand the borders of His Kingdom all across the world. So pray that we would become so Kingdom-minded that we would all have a unified desire to raise up and send out men and women for ministry in our country.

Smyrna Family,

I want to write to you this month concerning the absolute joy it is to be a part of a community of faith. Not just any community of faith, mind you - we are a part of God's New Covenant community. This global community has spanned many generations and finds its expression in *local churches* all over the world.. Sunday, February 17th inspired me to write on this topic. It was a busy day - physically exhausting. But at the end of the day, I was more fulfilled with energy, more filled with life, than when I woke up! I was at Smyrna from 8-2, then again from 5:30-7:30 or so. And this was after a long week of sick children and a sick wife (all I can say is I would hate to be a single dad). I am not looking for your pity here, just setting the scene. And somehow, miraculously, the body of Christ filled me with life, the Spirit gave me energy. And I went to sleep with a smile on my face, feeling better than I had all week. Jesus said in John 4:34 that his *food* was to do the will of the Father. This is the beautiful paradox of Kingdom work: it is tiring, for sure, but it fills you up. It is not *toilsome*. I tend to think this is a little taste of what work was like before the Fall. And what work will be like in the new heaven and earth.

Why is this the case? This is because the blessings of the New Covenant, mediated to us by Christ, are numerous! One of my favorite passages, Hebrews 12:22-23, explains: "But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven." On its own, this sounds pretty strange. But what the author of Hebrews is saying is that when we gather as a local church, we are bringing the heavenly Jerusalem to earth! By faith, we enjoy the benefits of God's heavenly city *right now*. The local church is to be a foretaste of heaven. What we will experience by sight later can be experienced by faith *right now*. There are many other passages to back this up, but I like that one. I also love the Old Testament passages about the New Covenant, like Jeremiah 31:31-34. How is the New Covenant better? Those in it will *all* know God. It won't be a mixed body like Old Testament Israel. Everyone will be *forgiven*. Everyone will have the law written on their *hearts*. All of this is new and better. Praise God, these benefits are extended to us, and we share them together as a body in the local church! Amen and amen.

In Christ,

Joshua Rowland
Next Generation Pastor

MYRTLE BEACH
JUNE 17-21, 2019



DAVID PLATT



MOSAIC MSC



KB



VERTICAL
WORSHIP



DREW
WORSHAM

YOUTH

Give students a week full of surf, sand, group-bonding community, dynamic worship and powerful teaching in God's Word at one of the most desirable beaches on the East Coast.

**STUDENT LIFE CAMP
SIGN UP HAS BEGUN!**

Sign up sheets are at the Children's Welcome Center desk. **SIGN UP NOW!**



A MESSAGE FROM...THE WORSHIP MINISTRY. . .

We are beginning to add a new weekly insert in the bulletin. We will be adding the printed sheet music to the hymn we are singing each Sunday. Those that read music or follow the notes with the words may enjoy having these sheets. On the back there will be a story on the inspiration of the hymn or the composers. They will include a variety of traditional hymns from throughout church history as well as modern hymns.

It's hard to believe March is upon us; the first quarter of 2019 will be history in just four weeks. There's a phrase often used regarding March, "In like a lion, out like a lamb." Simply put, the weather going into March is winter and as the month is ending the weather is more like spring. Sometimes, of course, that's not the case...it can sometimes be reversed! Whenever I hear the words *lion* and *lamb*, I think of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. There is imagery of Jesus as the sacrificial lamb in John 1:29b, "...Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world." 1 Corinthians 5:7, "Cleanse out the old leaven that you may be a new lump, as you really are unleavened. For Christ, our Passover Lamb, has been sacrificed." Then there is also Him returning as the Lion of Judah, Revelation 5:5, "And one of the elders said to me, 'Weep no more; behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered, so that He can open the scroll and its seven seals.'" That *Lion* and *Lamb* is who we worship and celebrate each Sunday and especially on Easter Sunday. Easter Sunday is sometimes in March and sometimes in April. The date is usually the first Sunday after the first full moon occurring on or after the March equinox, which is the equality of night and day.

This month we will be extending our rehearsals to 8:30 pm on Wednesdays as we put in extra time on our musical preparations to remember the Lamb of God and celebrate the Lion of Judah on resurrection Sunday! Please pray for the worship ministry in these weeks leading up to Easter. Pray for good health, consistent rehearsal, good recall for both musical parts and words, that the words impact our lives as well as lives of the listeners, and that it will be a sweet aroma of praise to our Lord! This year's musical is titled "*Living Hope*" and has a variety of songs that reflect on the sacrifice, the cross and the glorious resurrection.

The Kidz Choir and VBS Praise Team are leading worship at the SBCV Children's Ministry Conference Saturday, March 2nd, at Swift Creek Baptist Church in Midlothian. We are grateful to their leaders, Ashley Bobo and Heather Gordon, and the kids that are willing to take the time to serve in this way and represent Smyrna and Jesus at this conference.

Singing His Praises,
Melodie & Brad



A Few of the Hymns & Songs for March

- ◇ "One True God"
- ◇ "He Will Hold Me Fast"
- ◇ "Glorious Is Thy Name"
- ◇ "A Christian's Daily Prayer"
- ◇ "Psalm 23 Surely
Goodness and Mercy"
- ◇ "We Turn Our Eyes"

Kidz News



If you are unable to volunteer on your specified date/time, please find your own replacement and notify the Children's Dept. Coordinator with your replacements name - THANK YOU for serving the children of Smyrna Baptist Church!



SMYRNA BAPTIST CHURCH
building community - equipping believers - serving jesus

MARCH 2018	<u>SS Nursery (9:20—10:40)</u>	<u>Nursery (10:30)</u>	10:30 am - <u>Toddler 1's & 2's</u>	12:15 pm <u>Toddlers 3's</u>	<u>Children's Church</u>	<u>Check In (9:15 - 10:30)</u>	<u>Check In (10:30 - 12:15)</u>
Mar 3rd	Brandy Turner	Michele Snead	Brandy Barchanowicz	Mary Hunt	Stacey Dyson	Kim Davis	Kalley Saye
	Peggy Turner	Sharon Long	Rebekah Servis	Reagan Saye	Angel Davis		
Mar 10th	Annette Perkinson	Mary Tucker	Tia Wilson	Lauren Kidd	Aimee Kennedy	Aimee Kennedy	Kalley Saye
	Ashley Perkinson	Tucker Girls	McKenzie Wilson	Samantha Kidd	Emma Kennedy		
Mar 17th	Audrey Erdmann	Jann Etheredge	Cheryl Joyner	Rhonda Kester	Bryant Gammon	Kim Davis	Angela Walker
	Betsy Adams	Angie Adkins	Kalley Saye	Diane Burton	Danna Gammon		
Mar 24th	Panky Clark	AHG	AHG	AHG	AHG	AHG	AHG
	Kathy Miles						
Mar 31st	Breakfast	Stephanie Rowland	Melissa Taylor	Michelle Ochtyun	Aaron Bobo	Aimee Kennedy	Pam Reynolds
	Fellowship	Melissa Snellings	Kalley Saye	John Ochtyun	Ashley Bobo		



JOHN 17:3

JUNE 24th - 28th

Centri-Kid Camp

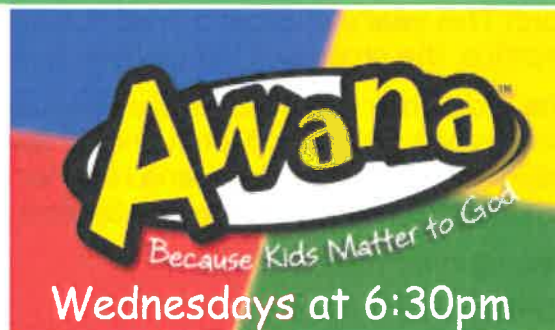
Eagle Eyrie, Lynchburg VA

Sign up sheets are at the

Children's Check-In area

For more information please

contact Kalley Saye



- 🌸 March 6th - Regular club meeting
- 🌸 March 13th - 'PJ' Night
- 🌸 March 20th - Regular club meeting
- 🌸 March 27th - Regular club meeting

KIDZ CHOIR
Wednesdays at 6:00pm
Ages 3 to 12
 3 yrs. to Pre-K Room 114
 K to 6th Grade Room 125

Smyrna Baptist Church Calendar of Events - 2019



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			BOP Wednesday, 3/13 @ 11am		1	2
3 9:30 am Sunday School 10:45am Worship Service 6:00 pm Sunday Evening Class	4 Deacon's Meeting 7pm	5 9:30am—Noon Busy Fingers Ministry/Room 121 American Heritage Girls Troop VA1897 6-8 pm	6 5:30pm Wed. Night Dinner 6:00pm Kidz Choir Practice 6:30pm AWANA/ Youth Mid-Week Worship Worship Ministry Practice	7	8	9
10 9:30 am Sunday School 10:45am Worship Service 6:00 pm Sunday Evening Class 	11	12 9:30am—Noon Busy Fingers Ministry/Room 121	13 5:30pm Wed. Night Dinner 6:00pm Kidz Choir Practice 6:30pm AWANA/ Youth Mid-Week Worship Worship Ministry Practice BOP	14	15	16 AHG Ladies Spring Tea 11:00 - 1:00 pm
17 9:30 am Sunday School 10:45am Worship Service 6:00 pm Sunday Evening Class	18	19 9:30am—Noon Busy Fingers Ministry/Room 121 American Heritage Girls Troop VA1897 6-8 pm	20 5:30pm Wed. Night Dinner 6:00pm Kidz Choir Practice 6:30pm AWANA/ Youth Mid-Week Worship Worship Ministry Practice	21	22	23
24 9:30 am Sunday School 10:45am Worship Service 6:00 pm Sunday Evening Class	25	26 9:30am—Noon Busy Fingers Ministry/Room 121	27 5:30pm Wed. Night Dinner 6:00pm Kidz Choir Practice 6:30pm AWANA/ Youth Mid-Week Worship Worship Ministry Practice	28	29 5:30 pm - Feed the DHS Baseball Team	30
31 9:30 am Breakfast Fellowship 10:45am Worship Service 6:00 pm Sunday Evening Class				<i>Ladies Bible Study Every Wed. @ 10 am</i>		

March Birthdays

- | | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| 2 Adams, Pam | Tench, Robert | Hatter, Sheila |
| Keen, Nancy | 12 Adams, Todd | McCaffity, Christian |
| Westmoreland, Berkeley | 15 Clark, Paige (Panky) | 23 Abernathy, Ben |
| 3 Christian, Blake | Mizzell, Eddie | Davis, Matthew |
| 5 Kennedy, John A. | 16 Blount Jr., Wallie | Garrett, Delbert (Boo) |
| Knott, Virginia | 17 Gray, Megan | Gupton, Allison |
| 6 Bain, Hatcher | 18 Upton, Olivia | Wilkins, Hurley |
| Burton, Ralph | 19 Evans, Charles Sr. | 25 Cales, Melva |
| 7 Harrison, Debbie | 20 Mizzell, Catherine | 26 Gupton, Debra |
| 9 Servis, Sierra | 21 Kidd, David | 27 Sneade, Trevor |
| 10 Perkinson, Brandy | 22 Bobo, Ashley | 30 Jones, Kurt |





SMYRNA BAPTIST CHURCH

building community • equipping believers • serving jesus

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Mission Statement

Smyrna Baptist Church exists for the purpose of building up a community of fully equipped believers who give glory to God with every aspect of their lives.




MARCH 2 2019

Equip children's ministry leaders to effectively minister to preschoolers and children in all areas of children's ministry

 SWIFT CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

 8:45 AM to 3:30 PM

 sbcv.org/kmc

wednesday night DINNER



MARCH & APRIL Class Dinner Schedule

Mar 6th	Branches & Growing Families
Mar 13th	S.A.L.T., Aging Gracefully & Refocus
Mar 20th	YOUTH
Mar 27th	Pathfinders
Apr 3rd	NO MEAL - Spring Break
Apr 10th	Men's Class & Ladies Precept
Apr 17th	NO MEAL - Business Meeting
Apr 24th	Generations & Young Professionals



- 🌸 April 1st-5th - Spring Break for Dinwiddie County schools
- 🌸 April 6th - BMen Fellowship @ 8:30 am
- 🌸 April 7th - Lord's Supper Observance
- 🌸 April 7th - Start of New Sunday evening classes @ 6:00 pm
- 🌸 April 10th - BOP Luncheon
- 🌸 April 12th -Manna Ministry
- 🌸 April 17th - SEMI-ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING
- 🌸 April 21st - EASTER - Worship Ministry Presentation
- 🌸 April 26th - Manna Ministry