



First Baptist Church of Sunny Side

FOCUSING ON CHRIST

April 2019 Newsletter

Dear Friends,

Anyone who owns a home will acknowledge that there is always something that needs to be done around the house. Things break over time. Wear and tear is just a natural part of owning property. The same is true of churches. Buildings have to be maintained. Walls painted, HVAC replaced, parking lots repaved, bathrooms updated, plumbing repaired. The list at times seems endless. At last months meeting, the church council began to compile a list of issues that need be addressed. Total cost of all work is well over \$200,000. We certainly can not get all done at once, but we are formulating a plan of action to begin addressing the repairs that are necessary to maintain the church property.

And as important as it is to take care of the church facilities, we must not get too focused on building and grounds issues and forget about ministry. The most important resource of the church is it's people. Just like buildings, people can get worn out. At times they need rest and an opportunity to be refreshed. New work needs to be started and fresh faces need to join in the work. Often times individuals who feel led to serve in a church are hesitant to volunteer for fear that they will be taking someone's job, the jobs that individuals are doing simply because no one else seems to be willing to help, jobs that they would gladly pass on to others. In addition to giving someone a break, there are always opportunities to start something new. So, if you feel led of God to become more involved in ministry, please step up and let me know. God Bless, Joel

The deacon of the month is Lynn Varnadoe
You may reach him at: C: 678-662-7977

Volunteers in Preschool

April 7th
Lindsey Betsill
Victor Barr
Fran Neesmith



April 14th
Linda Muehlberger
Lynn Varnadoe
Farah Betsill

April 21st
Nikki Howell
Emily Dunn
John Crankshaw

April 28th
Rick Betsill
Emily Holmes
Miranda Barr



Making Plans for this years
Easter Egg Hunt — Sunday, April 21st
Following the Easter Worship Service



Open the 2nd and
4th Monday of each
month.



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Paul's Pen

And Now – The Rest of the Story

Sparky, the scout dog, had done the job he was trained for by alerting the platoon of the enemy forces just ahead of them and thus saved that platoon. Sometime after that, Sparky's role changed and he found himself in a circumstance where he was not being loved or treated the way he always understood, so he disappeared!

Just like Sparky, sometimes our life circumstances will cause us to feel unloved, lonely, afraid. When this happens we may think the only solution is to just get away. We seem to forget that "The Lord watches over all who love Him. . . ." (Psalm 145:20) and that "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble" (Psalm 46:1). God is always with us in any situation, holding our hand and guiding us with His counsel. We have no reason to be afraid because God loves us and will protect us.

"The Lord will keep you from all harm—He will watch over your life both now and forevermore" (Psalm 121:7-8).

A month and a half later, Sparky found us at our base camp. His desire to find us carried him over the 20-mile distance. Sparky exemplified these promises of God:

Jeremiah 29:13 – "You will seek me and find me when you search for me with all your heart."

Proverbs 8:17 – "I love those who love me, and those who search for me find me."



A Note from Denise

A few weeks ago, my mom was taken to the emergency room with a very serious illness. Her major organs were shutting down, her blood pressure and body temp were dangerously low, and her electrolytes were all out of balance. The emergency room nurses worked to keep her alive and then moved her to ICU. The next day, her kidneys were barely working, her heart rate was fluctuating wildly, and her electrolytes were beginning to get unbalanced again. It looked like she was taking a turn for the worst. It was a long day as the medical staff tried to keep mom stable. I was exhausted from being at the hospital, but I decided to stay the night in ICU with mom because I couldn't stand the thought of her dying alone.

I tried to stay awake but found myself dozing off occasionally. Around 4 am, I woke up when the nurse came in to do blood work. Mom seemed to respond to her touch, and the nurse said that mom might be trying to wake up. Pretty soon, my mom was trying to raise her upper body. I made a comment to the nurse that mom was practicing her escape plan, and then I asked her how mom's vital signs were doing. She said that they were stable, and that the doctors were one step away from weaning mom off the meds that were keeping her blood pressure from going too low.

Well, I was quite shocked. I had spent the night expecting the worst and hadn't even considered that she might improve over night. Much to my surprise, my death watch had turned into a celebration. I sat there in the chair and wondered why I hadn't even hoped for something good to happen. Then, I was reminded of a situation of hopelessness around 2000 years ago. Just after Jesus' death, the disciples were so overcome by their sadness that they couldn't imagine that their Lord might be alive. Even when they saw Him after the resurrection, they didn't automatically recognize Him because they had no expectation of seeing Him again. Yet, despite the disciples' sadness, God's power was displayed through an empty tomb and risen Lord. Death and sin were defeated. Peace and joy overcame fear and grief. The disciples' mourning was turned into excitement.

So as we celebrate the upcoming Easter season, may we all be reminded that God's power is still as strong today as it was on that glorious resurrection morning. It's still available. It's still effective. And God is able to do so much more than we can ever imagine!

Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

Ephesians 3:20-21

April Birthdays



Josh Varnadoe 2nd
Kip Holmes 6th
June Baker 10th
Waylon Turpin 12th
Nathaneal Betsill 15th

Ethan Barr 19th
Christian Johnson 21st
Cynthia Padget 24th
Charlie Crankshaw 30th

April

2019

Sunday Morning

9:45AM Bible Study fellowship

11:00AM Worship

Wednesday Night 7:00PM

Preschool and Children - Team Kids

Youth - Discipleship

Adult - Bible Study

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
				Ladies Bible Study @ 7 PM		
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Baptismal Service Before 11 worship	Food Pantry Open 4:00 -6:00			Ladies Bible Study @ 7 PM		
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Passover Demonstration @ 11:00 Deacon Meeting @ 5:00 Church Council meeting @ 6:00	Senior Adult Lunch at Olive Garden 11:30					
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Easter Service Brunch @ 10 Worship @ 11 Egg Hunt @ 12	Food Pantry Open 4:00 -6:00				Project Linus Sew Day 10:00 -2:00	
28	29	30	1	2	3	4
VBS meeting 5:00 -7:00						