



PASTOR'S THOUGHTS OVER OUR CITY

As we approach Holy Week, are we prepared to walk the journey which Jesus made in his last week? Jesus told the disciples several times that he was going to Jerusalem. He also told them that when he did “He will be handed over to the Gentiles. They will mock him, insult him, spit on him, flog him and kill him. On the third day he will rise again.” (Luke 18:32,33 (NIV)). The disciples never could grab ahold of what Jesus was telling them. There is a verse right after the Triumphal Entry which should touch our hearts.

“As [Jesus] approached Jerusalem and saw the city, he wept over it.”
Luke 19:41 (NIV)

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205 Church Street
Wytheville VA 24382

Boldly affirmed in the bright future God has planned for us, we seek to be inventive and resourceful while encouraging one another on a deeper spiritual journey.

YOUR CHURCH STAFF

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Address Change Requested

Jesus knew all that was going to happen during this whole next week and yet he paused looking at the city and people he loved. Then we can see tears flowing down his cheeks because the people would not allow God to love on them. Instead, the people had their desires and agendas. They were not willing to listen to God and obey God. So Jesus wept.

If Jesus were sitting above our town and preparing to enter town, would he have the same reaction?

Many Christians would say, “Yes, history would repeat.” We know that our society and culture are not following God at this time. However, some of Jesus’ tears were for those who were part of the religious establishment. Does the church do what God is asking us to do? The sad answer for many churches is no.

As we spend Holy Week reflecting on the incredible sacrifice made for each one of us, will we identify the sacrifices we can make for those who have not trusted Jesus yet? Will we weep when we see people not allowing God to love on them? Whether those people be people outside or inside the church?

We must catch a vision of how God feels for those who choose to live at a distance from God. Then we as a community of believers should do every thing we can to help people have a close relationship with God. Are you willing to sacrifice and help?

Because of God’s Love,
Pastor Tim



- **BLAND MINISTRY AND HEARTS & HAMMERS CHAPTERS:**

We don’t know at this time if the Georgia team, who helped with the Baptist Camp’s roof, will be working in the Bland area due to the virus. The Ox Hill Baptist mission team from Northern Virginia has postponed their trip and will not be here in April.

- **BLAND MINISTRY:** Please continue praying for Dee Dee and her husband, Danny. He had bladder cancer surgery and will have further treatments. Dee Dee is now undergoing treatment following her cancer surgery.

- **CLAYTOR LAKE BAPTIST ASSEMBLY INC.:** Fascia and Soffit installation is now complete. The roof trim will be installed after the guttering contractors complete their work.

Dublin Baptist is planning an Easter Sunrise service at the camp starting at 6:45 am. Anyone interested in attending and watching the sun rise over the lake is welcome to participate. There will be a roaring fire in the fire pit so please plan to attend. They will make a final decision on whether to have the service or not as we get closer to Easter.

If you have trouble getting into the building or want to report an immediate problem at the camp, please feel free to contact one of the following camp board members: Dave—540-616-7839, Bill—540-392-8643, Charles—540-980-5667, Thomas—540-250-7274, Mark—540-577-1943, or Robert the web master.

- As we look forward to celebrating Easter this year. Please pray for our Network churches and our country.

In His service

Dave Clonch

Moderator/Director, Western Blue Ridge Baptist Network



- **SPRING MISSION CONFERENCE:** Postponed because of the COVID-19.

Our thanks to Charles and Martha Damron's team for all the work they put into planning and organizing this year's conference. We would also like to thank the exhibitors for preparation and the members of Dublin Baptist for their hard work preparing their Family Life Center for the event. Lord willing warm weather will cause the new virus to go dormant and we can have a late Summer or early Fall Mission Conference.

- **WESTERN BLUE RIDGE BAPTIST NETWORK WEB SITE:**

<http://westernblueridge.wix.com/baptistnetwork>

We had planed to have our Leadership Team meetings on even numbered months, starting in April. COVID-19 has changed our plans. There will be no April meeting, hopefully we can meet in June. We will keep you updated as things develop.

- **MINISTRY DINNERS:** Will be suspended until we are able to have a Leadership meeting to determine a new schedule.
- **VENEZUELAN CHRISTIANS:** Please continue praying for our brothers and sisters as they minister to those in their neighborhood. The virus is now in Venezuela and because of the lack of medical facilities and supplies, things will probably get worse for them.



Judy Collier

NOTES FROM OUR MINISTER OF MUSIC AND WORSHIP

JOURNEY TO THE CROSS



We have just experienced the pain of not being able to worship the Lord together in our beautiful sanctuary. The choir was preparing a musical presentation for Palm Sunday, "Journey to the Cross," which is included below for meditation. It is our prayer that these words will draw each of us closer to our Lord as we relive His great Love for us:

"This is a true story of a journey propelled by love—the love of a mighty God and the people He had created. It's the story of perfection that was destroyed, of mercy that was extended, and of God's faithfulness through it all. Despite humanity's rebellion and disobedience, God' plan to set things right kept unfolding.

There are times the Almighty's voice thundered with judgment. Sometimes it was a song of comfort. For 400 years He was simply silent. Then one night in Bethlehem, everything changed.

As a boy, Jesus roamed the hills of Nazareth. At 12, He stood in the Temple and spoke of tending to His Father's business. At 30, He was baptized as John proclaimed Him "the Lamb of God." Then for three years, He traveled throughout the land healing the sick, delivering the broken, loving the outcast, and even raising the dead.

(Continued on page 4)

At last the road turned again to Jerusalem. As He rode into the city, crowds greeted Him, the way they would greet a conquering king.

Jesus knew what was waiting ahead as the journey that had taken thousands of years descended into deep shadows. Powerful religious and political forces aligned to destroy Him. One who had posed as a faithful follower betrayed Him for the price of a slave. But first the Lord would eat the Passover meal with His friends. He had one more opportunity to show them His love and prepare them for the coming day. In Gethsemane, Jesus prayed alone. The first drops of blood that he would shed on our behalf trickled down His brow as He surrendered to His Father's will.

Soldiers arrived to arrest Him and the long night of trial and torture began. He was sentenced to death by crucifixion. He was stripped and scourged and mocked. And then He carried His own cross up the hill of Golgotha, where He opened His arms, submitted to the nails in His hand and feet, and laid down His life willingly in your place and mine.

On the hillside that day, the message Jesus had come to deliver was unmistakable. God loved us so much, He would do whatever it took to save us.

Just when it looked like the story of Jesus would end in defeat, Heaven revealed a new chapter called 'Victory.'"

And it is in that Victory that we now live . . . and in that Hope that comes from Life in Jesus, that we can overcome whatever this old world hurls at us. "Hallelujah! What a Savior!" He is risen! He is risen, indeed!

In Resurrection Joy,

Judy

Dear WBC Family and Friends:

The world around us is unsettled but God's Word says, "They will have no fear of bad news; their hearts are steadfast, trusting in the Lord." (Psalm 112:7)

Praise the Lord that we are able to maintain connection with our church family and help encourage others in the community through technology, telephone calls, mail, and giving.

We can still maintain our tithing by logging onto the church's website at wythevillebaptist.org and clicking the GIVING tab, by going to MyChurchApp/Wytheville Baptist on your cell phone, mailing your offering to the church, or come by the church and slip your tithing envelope through the mail drop on the entrance door to the main hallway of the church. Your tithes will be used for expanding His Kingdom.

Thank you for being steadfast in prayer for each other, staying in God's Word, and maintaining your giving.

Yes, my soul, find rest in God;

my hope comes from him.

Truly he is my rock and my salvation;

he is my fortress, I will not be shaken.

My salvation and my honor depend on God;

he is my mighty rock, my refuge.

Trust in him at all times, you people;

pour out your hearts to him,

for God is our refuge.

Psalm 62:5-8

In His Hand,
Stewardship Team

Dear Church Family and Friends,

I have had several meetings in the past weeks through an online service called Zoom. Each one has been a wonderful experience during this time of social distancing and it is very easy. I have already met twice with local ministers as we seek ways to be the church and help our community through this time. I have met with the Discipleship class three times and also held Prayer Meeting on Wednesday, March 25, with nine people. Each time has been an encouragement to everyone involved.

I started a Zoom account for the church. This would allow us to continue to have meetings and times of encouragement. You do not need to sign up for this service. It will not cost you anything. All you would need to do is click on a link which I would provide by email. It can be done with or without video. Most of the meetings I have joined or hosted, people had their videos on and it was very similar to being face-to-face. Quite an encouragement for everyone during this time when we should maintain distance from one another. You can use a computer, tablet, smartphone, or even call in on a regular phone to be part of a meeting. It may require you to install the Zoom service but will not cost you anything.

If you are interested in being part of the prayer meeting on Wednesday nights at 6:40 p.m., please send me an email at 42rebus@gmail.com so I can send you an invitation link for the meeting

If you have any questions or need help getting this set up contact me and I will do the best I can to supply Tech Assist by phone.

May God continue to shine brightly on you and your family during this time.

Because of God's Love,
Pastor Tim

Dear Church and Friends,

After speaking with most of the deacons, we have decided to keep the church closed (all services, activities, and also the office) through at least April 15. The deacons will discuss by April 15 what we will do after this. We need to remember our Governor asked people to do everything we can to maintain social distancing during the next 30 days. Gatherings of more than 10 people right now are banned and if we do meet then, cleaning should happen between meetings.

On a positive note, at the suggestion of one of our church members, the next time we are able to gather for Worship Service no matter the date it will be our Easter Celebration. Be in prayer for this upcoming event, date to be announced.

Second positive note, the Discipleship class is continuing to meet in preparation for leading classes in the fall and our Wednesday night Bible Study also meets on Wednesday nights. We are able to meet through Zoom on our computers and phones (instructions for meeting through Zoom are on page 16). It has been a great encouragement for us all.

If you are able, check out the Pastor's Facebook page (Tim Irving) and the Church's Facebook page (Wytheville Baptist Church) for additional words of encouragement at this time. Gary Carson is also working on putting together a YouTube Channel for the church. Link below:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCFxx6dgIsy4pZiyuKZYZGpA/?fbclid=IwAR3_rTMok2Y3fPoZHRGIBDmssKMheq--vCY4WdLY9nEdl7IjV91mGvO9Xwc

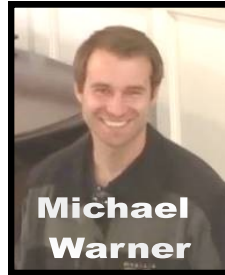
Please continue your prayers for our area, our nation, and our world. May God bring you blessings during this time.

Because of God's Love,
Pastor Tim

He is Alive

Youth News

Hello Church Family,



The youth are currently studying Exodus on Wednesday nights and we have now transitioned from Revelation to the Gospel of John. We have definitely had an interesting month. Of course, the virus has stopped our activities and postponed some of our ideas. However, we have been blessed with time to think of additional avenues and concepts.

In spite of postponing all activities, we were able to host a Wyldelife event in our youth room earlier in March. We had several students come, meet us, and hangout. In addition, the secondary school position as an ELL tutor has been a huge blessing and we thank God for opening that door. One way you can help is by praying for the students that we come in contact with that God would soften their hearts towards us and Himself. In addition, that He would stimulate a desire within them to ask us questions in an environment where we are not allowed to initiate spiritual conversations. We hope this message finds you well and we pray that we all remain healthy during this time.

Michael



It's beginning to warm up and we have spring clothes in WBC Children's Clothes Closet. These children's clothes are free and we always have new families that utilize this ministry. If you have any new or gently used children's clothes, shoes, new underwear, t-shirts, or socks; bring them to the clothes closet down stairs next to the nursery.

If you would like to make a monetary donation, please earmark your check "Children's Clothes Closet" and place it in the offering plate. The Children's Clothes Closet will open on Thursday, April 23, from 2:30 to 4:00 p.m. if permissible.

Spread the Word of God by telling others to listen to the Sunday morning message by logging onto:

www.wythevillebaptist.org
then click the Sermons tab.

Once there, people will find each Sunday's sermon plus all the previous sermons of past months. Thank you to our Multi-Media Team Leader, Daniel Burke, for providing this link for our encouragement, learning, and inspiration.



MAY 2020 BEACON ARTICLES



All May 2020 Beacon articles, announcements, meetings, events, times, etc. need to be turned into the church office no later than Monday, April 20. Thank you for your help in this matter.

DON'T FORGET OUR BENEVOLENCE OFFERING

Our Benevolence offering is divided between helping our members and regular attendees in a time of need and the rest is sent to the Wythe County Ministerial Association and administered by Hope Ministry to help those in the community who need help. This offering will be received during the month of April.

This offering is never hoarded up or put in a savings account, but always used to help others for the glory of God.

Thank you for giving from the heart.

OPEN DOOR CAFÉ IMPORTANT HEALTH & SERVICE NOTICE

Due to the importance of protecting the volunteers and customers, effective immediately and until further notice, the Open Door Café will be closed for eat-in meals.

Open Door Café will be offering "To Go" meals for anyone that requests one to ensure #EveryoneEatsWytheUs.

Monetary donations are still gladly accepted and needed as we work to serve all. The hours will remain 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

AGAPE FOOD PANTRY



Please bring Spaghetti Sauce, Spaghetti Noodles, and Peanut Butter for the months of April, May, and June to help feed those in need in our community. Please, no glass containers.

WBC considers it a privilege to help the Agape Food Pantry distribute food on the second Saturday of every month beginning at 10:00 a.m. and the fourth Thursday of each month beginning at 12:00 p.m. If you would like to be part of this vital ministry, please contact Chris and Rhonda Bracknell or Guy and Linda Sutphin.

KATHRYN ISAACS AND MABEL CRABTREE CIRCLE NEWS



Our April 6 meeting has been cancelled due to the Social Distancing restrictions and no more than 10 people gathering. Watch for more information on the date and time of our next meeting.

Ladies, please keep our church family, community, state, and nation in your prayers. Keep in contact with each other through phone calls, text messages, emails, and cards of encouragement.

Lynn Arnold, Chair

Ladies, we are hoping to be able to have our annual gathering of women in our church, their family, and friends. This year we have named our event "Women's Spring Tea". This event will be determined upon the decision of when the Social Distancing restriction is lifted. Watch for updates and more information.

If Social Distancing restriction is lifted;

Women's Spring Tea

Saturday, May 9, 2020

3:00 p.m.

Wytheville Baptist Church

Williams Fellowship Hall





Our April meeting has been cancelled. Please watch and listen for updates on our new date and place for our next meeting.

Car-

The Youth-Children-Preschool Team would like to see if there is interest to start up Children's Church for the children. The children would be present in the sanctuary for the 1st part of the service, then would go with two workers downstairs to the large room for a prepared session. This would include a brief Bible lesson, then possibly an easy craft, coloring, activity, music, or short video (there is a TV in the room).



We have some material on hand, and ideas can also be obtained from the Internet. We would need at least two teams of two workers to do this.

Please prayerfully consider if you could be a part of this very important ministry, and let one of us on the team know.

Team Members are Jenny Stoker, Chairman; Dede Turner; and Teresa O'Roark.



Dear WB Church family and friends,

Thanks for the many ways you have shown sympathy, kindness and well wishes to me and our sons,

Randy and Chris.

Your love and support have been overwhelming and much appreciated.

Love and Blessings
Mary Graham

The Nellie Bausell Library Notes

April 2020

IS THIS THE END? This is what people are asking David Jeremiah. "Christians wonder whether the end times prophesied in the book of Revelation are upon us. Is the rising disorder we are experiencing a precursor of the approaching Rapture of the church and the final return of Christ? Secularist wonder whether the nation is on the verge of collapse into economic, racial, and political anarchy; or whether a hostile nation such as Russia, China, or Iran might unleash its atomic fury on our cities; or whether militant Islamic terrorists flooding through our porous borders might inflict enough damage to bring us to our knees."

For our animal lovers, we have ***Their Mysterious Ways: Amazing stories about God's animals and us*** was compiled by Phyllis Hobe. If you have known, loved, and been loved by animals, then you have discovered that their special mission is to bring us closer to God and His love for us. Often we are unable to explain their ability to comfort us, guide us, and even heal us but we accept their blessings with a grateful heart.

All these stories are true. You will meet lovable pets who are part of the family, wildlife who bring understanding and reassurance in our times of uncertainty, and animals who seem to appear at the very moment when we need to know how much God cares about us.

Carroll Stewart

HOME: Emery Pruett, Adren Eldridge, Rick Walker, Frances Rochelle, Elton and Mabeline Robinson, O.J. Campbell, Glenna Turner, Dan Robinette, Missy Throckmorton, Bill Valley, Nancy Herndon, Sylvia McGhee



EXTENDED CARE: Betty and John Matheny, Colleen Dunford, Mae Clemons, Della Dunford, Rosalene "Posey" Heath

FAMILY: Sharon Sowers' sister; Carroll Stewart's brother, Jimmy Canada; Daniel Burke's mother, Nellie Burke; Zanah McCoury's daughter, Renita K. Martin White; Gary and Carla Estep's niece, Lindsey, and granddaughter, Everleigh, Paula Moore's sister, Iris Moore; Chris Bracknell's brother, James Bracknell;

FRIENDS: Christian Sympathy to Hope Reynolds upon the passing of her husband. Pray for Sara Lenard, Beth Ferrell, Carolyn Walters, Faith Niday, Clayton Smith, DeDe and Danny Hoosier, Martha Umberger, John Viars, people in Venezuela, Wythe County, and Bland Ministry Center

THOSE SERVING IN THE ARMED FORCES: Thomas Collins, Gregory Carson, Ryan Shupe, Kevin Dalton, Benji Bird, Cory Todd, and all the others who serve our nation

PASTORAL CARE: Our Pastor, Rev. Tim Irving, is accessible for any pastoral need. If you would like to make an appointment with Pastor Tim, please call the church office at 228-3712 or his cell phone: 276-284-1575. For pastoral emergencies at night or during weekends, please call Pastor Tim on his cell phone or the Deacon of the Week.

A decision will be made pertaining to Wednesday night suppers and when we will gather again after a meeting of the Deacons and Pastor Tim on April 15. Watch and listen for more information.



Meetings

The following meetings are scheduled but may change if the COVID-19 restrictions are not lifted.

Sunday, April 19: Pastor Church Relations Team—11:30 a.m.
 Tuesday, April 21: Deacons' meeting—7:00 p.m.
 Wednesday, April 22: Quarterly Business Conference—6:40 p.m.

April Birthdays

1 Danny Sowers
 3 Evelyn Comber
 4 Judy Collier
 5 Jenny Stoker
 8 Andrei Stoker
 Lee Harrell
 9 Mary Graham



17 Rhonda Bracknell
 18 Tom Collins
 22 Bobbie Jean Taylor
 Brett Booher
 24 Eric Collins
 25 Missy Throckmorton
 Ann Collins
 Adam Lester
 29 Billie Taylor

DEACON OF THE WEEK

April 5: Jenny Stoker
 April 12: Danny Sowers
 April 19: Chris Bracknell
 April 26: Eric Crowgey

USHERS Team IV:

Betty Robinette, Roger Hudson
 Zanah McCoury, John Willis

TELLERS

Emery Pruett and Guy Sutphin

GREETERS

Designated Ushers for the month of April

April 2020



Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

<p>But because Jesus lives forever, he has a permanent priesthood. Therefore he is able to save completely those who come to God through him, because he always lives to intercede for them.</p> <p>Hebrews 7:24 & 25</p>			<p>1</p> <p>6:40pm Adult Bible Study on Zoom</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>
<p>5</p> <p>10:30am Worship with Pastor Tim on his Facebook page (Tim Irving) and on the Wytheville Baptist Church page following Pastor Tim's message on his Facebook page</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p> <p>5:00pm Staff meeting on Zoom 6:40pm Adult Bible Study on Zoom</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p>
<p>12</p> <p>10:30am Worship with Pastor Tim on his Facebook page (Tim Irving) and on the Wytheville Baptist Church page following Pastor Tim's message on his Facebook page</p> <p>He Lives</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p> <p>7:00 p.m. Discipleship Class on Zoom</p>	<p>15</p> <p>6:40pm Adult Bible Study on Zoom</p>	<p>The following events, meetings, and functions are scheduled if permissible.</p>		
<p>19</p> <p>8:45am Prayer in the Conference Room 9:00am Fellowship Time with Coffee and Treats 9:15am Sunday School 10:00am Choir Practice 10:30am SPECIAL EASTER WORSHIP SERVICE (if we are permitted to gather) 11:30pm Pastor Church Relations Team meeting 5:00pm Adult Choir practice</p>	<p>20</p> <p>DEADLINE: Newsletter Articles</p>	<p>21</p> <p>9:00am WCMA meeting 7:00pm Deacons' meeting</p>	<p>22</p> <p>6:00pm Wednesday Night Supper 6:30pm Youth Group Bible Study 6:40pm Quarterly Business Conference</p>	<p>23</p> <p>12:00pm WBC helps at Agape Food Pantry 2:30pm Children's Clothes Closet</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>
<p>26</p> <p>8:45am Prayer in the Conference Room 9:00am Fellowship Time with Coffee and Treats 9:15am Sunday School 10:00am Choir Practice 10:30am Worship Service 5:00pm Adult Choir practice</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p>7:00 p.m. Discipleship Class</p>	<p>29</p> <p>REMEMBER: THERE IS NO SOCIAL DISTENCING BETWEEN US AND GOD!</p>	<p>30</p>		