

Rev. Rob Purdy Pastor

Church Newsletter

Joanne Wells Editor

A Message from the Pastor

I'm always pretty fired up the month after Easter. There is something about focusing on the Resurrection of Jesus Christ and the promise of our resurrection that is energizing. I think Easter helps us focus on who and what our common faith is all about!

The disciples were pretty fired up after the resurrection, too. Jesus was busy! Here is how Luke describes the 40 days after the Resurrection:

Acts 1:1-3

¹The former account I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach, ²until the day in which He was taken up, after He through the Holy Spirit had given commandments to the apostles whom He had chosen, ³to whom He also presented Himself alive after His suffering by many infallible proofs, being seen by them during forty days and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God.

At the end of this time with Jesus, the disciples are going to receive the gift of the Holy Spirit and their marching orders:

Acts 1:4-8

⁴And being assembled together with them, He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father, "which," He said, "you have heard from Me; ⁵for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now." ⁶Therefore, when they had come together, they asked Him, saying, "Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" ⁷And He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has put in His own authority. ⁸But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me[a] in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

Acts 1:8 is our marching order as well. We are in the planning stages of VBS (Jerusalem), mission trips to South Texas (Judea) and Washington state (Samaria). We currently maintain a mission house in Senegal (end of the earth). This is calling and our purpose! Let's stay energized!

Congratulations are in order for Alli Mayes. For the 3rd year in a row she has won the annual Chili Cook-Off. The field was packed with 17 entries. The judges did a great job! Attendance was awesome! Thank you to the Hospitality Committee and Deacons for making it all work.

After Jesus ascended into Heaven the first thing the disciples did was to have a prayer meeting. Prayer meetings are important! Please consider committing to attending our prayer meetings on Wednesday evenings at 6:30. The Body and Kingdom need us to pray together!

God bless, Pastor Rob

April Calendar

Sunday, April 1

- Lord's Supper Services
- Easter Sunrise Service at 7 AM
- Combined Easter Celebration Service at 10:30 AM

Saturday, April 14

Church Wide Garage Sale Missions Fundraiser

Wednesday, April 18

- Church Council Meeting at 6 PM
- Soup & Sandwich Supper

Thursday, April 19

· Ladies Lunch Bunch

Friday, April 20

Newsletter Deadline

Sunday, April 22

- Youth to lead CC-1st service
- Last Patchwork Meeting

Friday, April 27

 Family Movie Night Youth Fundraiser

Sunday, April 29

5th Sunday Hymn Sing

Weekly Schedule

Sunday **Easter Sunday (Apr. 1) ~ 7:00 am Sunrise Service & 10:30 am Combined Celebration Service

| | ay (, .p , | |
|---------------------|---|--|
| 8:15 am | Adult Bible Study | 1506 Bayport Blvd., (Hwy 146)-Portable Bldg |
| | | 1506 Bayport Blvd., (Hwy 146) |
| 9:15 — 10:30 am | 1st Nursery | 1506 Bayport Blvd., (Hwy 146) |
| 9:15 — 10:30 am | Children's Church | 1506 Bayport Blvd., (Hwy 146) |
| 9:30 — 10:30 am | Berean Adult Fellowship | 1506 Bayport Blvd., (Hwy 146)-Portable Bldg |
| 9:30 — 10:30 am | Youth Bible Study | 1506 Bayport Blvd., (Hwy 146)-Portable Bldg |
| 9:30 — 10:30 am | 1st Worship Service | 1506 Bayport Blvd., (Hwy 146) |
| 10:45 — 11:00 am | 2nd Adult Coffee Fellowship | 1506 Bayport Blvd., (Hwy 146) |
| 10:45 am — 12:00 pm | 2nd Nursery | 1506 Bayport Blvd., (Hwy 146) |
| 10:45 am — 12:00 pm | Children's Church/Pre-K Church | 1506 Bayport Blvd., (Hwy 146) |
| 11:00 am — 12:00 pm | 2nd Worship Service | 1506 Bayport Blvd., (Hwy 146) |
| 1:15 — 2:00 pm | Retirement Ministry Worship Service(No s | ervice on 1st Sunday) Regal Estates, 500 Enterprise, League City |
| 5:00 pm Wo | omen's Ministry Bible Study; "Patchwork"**Not | t meeting on Apr. 1st or 15th ~ 1506 Bayport Blvd., (Hwy 146) |
| Monday | | |
| 6:30 pm | Men's Bible Study & Dinner Fellowship | 1506 Bayport Blvd., (Hwy 146) |
| Wednesday | | |
| 6:30 — 7:30 pm | Youth Discipleship (6th-12th grades) | 1506 Bayport Blvd., (Hwy 146)-Portable Bldg |
| 6:30 — 7:30 pm | Praise, Prayer & Bible Study | 1506 Bayport Blvd., (Hwy 146) |
| 6:30 — 7:30 pm | Nursery | 1506 Bayport Blvd., (Hwy 146) |



Regular Office Hours

Tuesday - Friday 9:30 AM—1:30 PM

The Church office is open Tuesday through Friday, from 9:30 am - 1:30 pm. The main office phone number is 281-474-3281. If you call while the office is closed or after hours please leave a message and we will return your call as soon as possible.

April 2018 Tellers

| April 01 | John & Cheryl Harrison, Norma Keeler & Margie Minix |
|----------|---|
| April 08 | Mary Johnson, Jackie Lally, Kathy Slater & Pat Smartt |
| April 15 | Gene & Heather Engel |
| | |
| April 29 | Mary Johnson, Linda Long & Juliet Wall |



A look at the church finances...General Funds

February 2018.....\$28,545.00

Thank you for your faithful giving!









Come Celebrate Easter One Family Service Sunday, April 1, 2018 at 10:30 AM

Come Celebrate Easter with us on Sunday, April 1st at 10:30 AM. There will be no children's or pre-k church on this day so families can celebrate together (the cry room and the nursery will be open).

Birthdays

A
P
T
I
I

Mark Fancher Colleen Thomas Ashley Pettyjohn Juliet Wall Debra Soileau Luke Kerry Mike Treece Cathy Garrett Michael Stephens Jackie Lally **Taylor Mecom** Michael Clark John Streeter Louise Abernathy John Mayes Ellen Snow

Church Wide Garage Sale Saturday, April 14, 2018

Saturday, April 14, 2018

Accepting donations now (please no big box TV's). If you need someone to pick up large items, please add your name to the sign up on the bulletin board in the hallway outside the restrooms. If you have any questions, please see one of the deacons.

Proceeds will benefit the Missions Fund



Meeting

Wednesday, April 18, 2018 at 6:00 PM

Church Council will be planning for the months of May, June, July and August. If everyone comes prepared and on time the meeting should only last 20-25 minutes.

Soup and Sandwich Supper

Wednesday, April 18, 2018 6:30 PM

The Soup and Sandwich Supper will immediately follow prayer.

Members — we are asking that you bring sandwiches, snacks or a pot of soup to share and let's enjoy a meal and fellowship together.



All ladies of the church are invited! Thursday, April 19, 2018

We will leave the church parking lot at 11:30 am

This month the ladies will be going to the Hoagie Ranch on FM 2094 in Kemah. The church van will leave the parking lot at 11:30 am.

This is always a time of laughter and fellowship for the all ladies of the church, please join in the fun—the more the merrier!



May Newsletter Deadline Friday, April 20, 2018

5th Sunday Hymn Sing



April 29, 2018

9:30 & 11:00 am Services



R.E.F.U.G.E. Student Ministry (6th through 12th grade)

R.E.F.U.G.E. Student Ministry Sunday School meets every Sunday, 9:30—10:30 am in the #1 portable building directly behind the main church building.

R.E.F.U.G.E. Student Ministry Wednesday Discipleship and Activities start at 6:30 pm, ends at 7:30 pm in #1 portable building directly behind the main church building.

Sunday, April 1 ~ Easter Sunrise Service

The youth will attend the Easter Sunrise Service at 7:00 am and will then continue the tradition of going out for breakfast before the family celebration service begins. The youth will need money for breakfast. Parents are welcome to join us.

Sunday, April 22 ~ Youth Lead Children's Church
The youth will lead Children's Church during the first service.

Please be in the Children's Church classroom by 9:15 am.

Friday, April 27 ~ Youth Movie Night Fundraiser

The youth will host a movie night fundraiser featuring "Wonder". Doors will open at 6:30 pm and the movie will start at 7:00 pm. Concession stand items will be available for purchase. For more details please see Lori Forrest.

Upcoming Events

Saturday, May 5 ~ Houston Food Bank

The youth will be volunteering for the 8:00 am to 12:00 pm shift at the Houston Food Bank. This is always a lot of fun. Everyone is invited to join us. There will be a sign-up sheet in the hallway. Everyone must be registered through the Houston Food Bank and for our shift. All of the information will be on the sign-up sheet and Lori will take care of registering everyone. We hope you'll join us!

Saturday, May 19 ~ Family Fun Day

EVERYONE IS INVITED to join the youth at the Seabrook Park for a day of fun. We will be enjoying kickball, basketball, food and fellowship. This is an excellent opportunity for our church members to interact with and get to know our youth better. If you don't feel like playing games, we are always in need of a cheering section! We are asking everyone to bring a food item to share. There will be a sign-up sheet in the hallway. We will plan to be at the park from 11:00 am — 4:00 pm. We hope you will join us.

Sunday, May 27 ~ Youth Lead Children's Church
The youth will lead Children's Church during the first service.
Please be in the Children's Church classroom by 9:15 am.



Vacation Bible School 2018 June 11th — 15th

Recruiting for VBS staff has begun! The sign-up sheet for VBS staff is posted on the bulletin board in the hallway outside the restrooms. Please prayerfully consider where God would have you serve this year. Final plans for VBS 2018 will be determined by the success of staff recruiting.

VBS registration is open to everyone April 1st. CHURCH MEM-BERS...Please remember, classes fill up quickly, please do not wait until the last minute to register your child/children. We are looking forward to another great year.



Women's Ministry Bible Study

Two Sunday in April: 4/08 and 4/22 at 5:00 PM

The women will continue the Bible Study "Patchwork...the handiwork of God" and as a bonus they are making quilts for cancer patients. All women are welcome!



Bible Study & Dinner Fellowship

Every Monday
6:30 PM ~ Snacks 7:00 PM ~ Bible Study
Dinner immediately following the bible study

Can't Is Not In the Dictionary

His divine power has given us everything required for life and godliness through the knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and goodness. 2 Peter 1:3

If any of you have ever played a team sport like I have you know that it requires a huge commitment and responsibility. Growing up I played basketball every year for both my church team and my high school. Every day I was required to work out in the gym during P.E., practice for 2 hours after school with the team, and I even had to go to basketball camps every summer. And that was just for my high school team! For the church basketball league, my wonderful Dad was the coach. You can imagine the pressure of having your dad as the coach. If he saw me slacking off I had to run laps...I HATED running laps. And don't get me started on the grueling punishment any of us would get if we used the word CAN'T. He HATED that work with a passion. I can still hear him say, "Can't is not in the dictionary! Yes you CAN! Now go run ten laps!"

Looking back now I wish I was still as dedicated in the physical exercise that was required of me back then. I wistfully remember those toned muscles, the energy and stamina... but I digress. However, it is the words of my Dad that I remember the most. He knew what I could do and so he pushed me to be the best. He never settled for anything but one-hundred and ten percent. Because of this mindset he instilled in me I am able to use it in my walk with Christ.

As Christians we are required to do His will — we are required to be disciples and to share Jesus with others. I was called at a young age to work with children. So when Cheryl approached me with possibly being the director of Vacation Bible School, at first I was overwhelmed. I didn't think I could possibly do the job because frankly I'd never done anything like this before. But I prayed about it and I said, "Lord, if this is what you want of me then give me the strength and wisdom to do it because I know I cannot do this on my own." So here I am VBS director and loving every minute of it!

What about you? Is there some area that you feel God is calling you to help? Maybe you think you can't do this — that you're not equipped or prepared to go where He wants you to go. Guess what? God WILL give you the strength and wisdom and he WILL equip you for anything He wants you to do. All you have to do is give one-hundred and ten percent of your heart. We need your help in our Children's ministries, for Vacation Bible School, and for many other areas of our church. Please do not think you can't because "His divine power has given us everything required for life and godliness through the knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and goodness." 2 Peter 1:3

So, in the words of my Dad... Can't is not in the dictionary! Yes you CAN! Now go run ten laps!

God Bless, Ashley VanDerbeck



April 2018 Lamplight ~ The Shape of Worry

Several weeks ago, I took my car to the shop for some much-needed repairs. I knew it would be a lengthy wait, so I took along some reading material to keep me occupied. Shortly after I arrived, I noticed a young woman who appeared to be very upset. My first thought was to mind my own business, but it was obvious she needed someone to show her that they cared. That someone was me.

I asked, "Are you okay?"

She responded, "No, I am having an anxiety attack. I think I am going to pass out."

I asked, "Should I call for help?"

She answered, "No," then continued to tell me that she had suffered from severe anxiety attacks all her life. Through the years she learned to cope with the attacks, but this one was shaping into a monster.

She asked me to stay with her until the attack passed. So, for the next few minutes we talked about weather, family pets, and coping techniques for anxiety. About ten minutes later her anxiety attack began to subside. Her rapid heartbeat settled down. Her hands stopped shaking, and her breathing returned to normal. We talked for a few more minutes, then she thanked me for my time and departed to see if her car was ready.

After she left, I began to ponder God's answer to anxiety attacks. I considered several verses in the book of Philippians. The first passage that came to mind was Philippians 4:6-7. This is a familiar passage for most of us, but I especially like it from The Message Bible...

Don't fret or worry. Instead of worrying, pray. Let petitions and praises shape your worries into prayers, letting God know your concerns. Before you know it, a sense of God's wholeness, everything coming together for good, will come and settle you down. It's wonderful what happens when Christ displaces worry at the center of your life.

In our conversation, the woman described her anxiety as waves washing over her. God understands her struggle, and I love the power of peace He displays in verse 7... "It's wonderful what happens when Christ displaces worry at the center of your life.

The second passage that came to my mind is also found the book of Philippians (The Message):

Summing it all up, friends, I'd say you'll do best by filling your minds and meditating on things true, noble, reputable, authentic, compelling, gracious—the best, not the worst; the beautiful, not the ugly; things to praise, not things to curse. Put into practice what you learned from me, what you heard and saw and realized. Do that, and God, who makes everything work together, will work you into his most excellent harmonies (4:8-9).

Yes... this sums it up. Let petitions and praise shape our worries into prayer! Jesus takes the place of our worry, and God works us into his most excellent harmonies. I love this word picture...God shapes worry into a symphony of peace!

Remember this... you are loved, and you are always in my prayers.

In Christ, Cheryl



| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|--|--|---|--|---|---|
| 7:00 AM Easter Sunrise Service 10:30 AM Celebrate Easter Family Service and Lord's Supper Service | MEN'S MINISTY 6:30 PM Men's Monday Night Bible Study and Dinner Fellowship | 3 | Wednesday Evening Prayer & Bible Study 6:30-7:30 PM Youth Bible Study & Adult Praise, Prayer & Bible Study | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 5:00 PM Women's Bible Study | 6:30 PM Men's Monday Night Bible Study and Dinner Fellowship | | Wednesday Evening Prayer & Bible Study 6:30-7:30 PM Youth Bible Study & Adult Praise, Prayer & Bible Study | | | CHURCH WIDE GARAGE SALE MISSION FUNDRAISER |
| 2:30-6:00 PM Blast-n-Cast Training | MEN'S MINISTY 6:30 PM Men's Monday Night Bible Study and Dinner Fellowship | 17 | 6:00 PM Church Council Mtg. 6:30 PM Time of Prayer followed by Soup and Sandwich Supper | 11:30 AM Ladies Lunch Bunch | May Newsletter Deadline | 21 |
| 5:00 PM Women's Bible Study | MEN'S MINISTY 6:30 PM Men's Monday Night Bible Study and Dinner Fellowship | 24 | Wednesday Evening Prayer & Bible Study 6:30-7:30 PM Youth Bible Study & Adult Praise, Prayer & Bible Study | 26 | Youth Fundraiser doors open @ 6:30pm Movie "Wonder" begins at 7:00 pm | 28 |
| 5th Sunday Hymn Sing | MEN'S MINISTY 6:30 PM Men's Monday Night Bible Study and Dinner Fellowship | 8:1 9:1 9:3 9:3 9:3 10: | 0—10:30 AMBerea 0—10:30 AM1st Wo 45—11:00 AM2 nd Ad | Bible Study ult Coffee Fellowship rsery / Children's Church n Adult Fellowship and Yourship Service ult Coffee Fellowship ursery / Children's Church | · | Worship Schedule |