

Haymarket Herald

April 2021



The Gospel of Mark

JOIN US FOR MAUNDY THURSDAY AND EASTER!

This is the most important week in the year for believers in Jesus Christ to remember and celebrate his Crucifixion and Resurrection. I hope you will join us for two special services: Maundy Thursday and Easter Sunday!

Please join us in person or online at 7:00 p.m. Thursday, April 1, as we spend an hour reflecting on the events of Jesus' last week in Jerusalem which culminated in his death on the cross. Through a series of Bible readings, dialogues, hymns and choir anthems, we will remember how that last week unfolded: from the triumphal entry into Jerusalem with crowds lining the road, to the clash with the Temple leaders, the last Supper with his disciples, the betrayal by Judas, Jesus' arrest and trial. All of these events culminated in Pilate's decision to have Jesus crucified as a threat to Rome. Unlike most of our worship services, this worship experience will be a somber one. At the end of the service, we will depart in silence...But it is important for all believers to reflect on all the suffering Jesus had to endure. Only then can we truly appreciate the joy of the news on Sunday morning that God raised Jesus from the dead!

We will offer two Easter services on Sunday, April 4. The first service will begin at 8:00 a.m. (a bit earlier than normal) so that we can provide enough time for our cleaning company to thoroughly clean the sanctuary between services. Then at 11:00 a.m., we will hold our second Easter service. Both services will be filled with joy and the excitement of knowing that God raised Jesus from the dead! Our choir will lead us with hymns celebrating the truth that "Christ is Risen!" and I will preach on the key texts from Mark 15 and 16.

If you are able to join us at 8:00 a.m., please come at that time so that there will be more space available for guests who might attend at 11:00 a.m. But most of all, be sure to worship with us, either in person or online, to celebrate the greatest gift God has given us.

In Christ,
Pastor Mark



REV. ALLAN SMITH

Following Jesus in Mission and Ministry

Within the narrative of the Gospel of Luke, just after fasting for forty days in the desert and resisting temptation, Jesus returns to Galilee and begins his public ministry. People were beginning to hear about Jesus and praising him. Jesus returns to the synagogue in Nazareth and reads from the prophet Isaiah: “The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.” (Luke 4:18-19, NIV)

Consider how Jesus fulfilled the prophet Isaiah’s words. Good news to the poor - Jesus shared God’s love with many who were poor and outcast by the community. Recovery of sight for the blind - Jesus certainly healed many from their afflictions and illnesses. Yes, Jesus was the living God in human body. Yes, he forgave sins. Yes, he even illustrated God’s great love for us through his crucifixion.

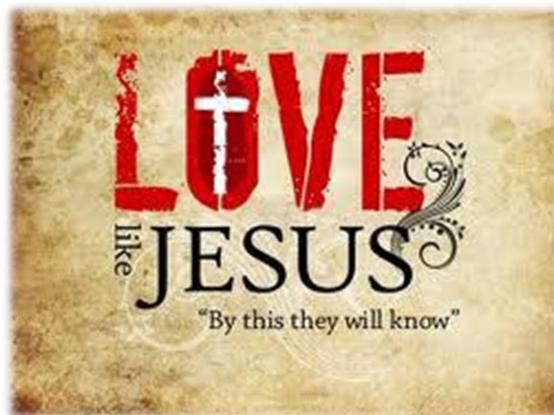
And, while yes, it is important to share the story of Jesus with everyone, remember also that the ministry of Jesus was more than just words. Jesus had a tangible impact on people’s lives. He offered food to the hungry. He offered compassion to the

depressed. He offered community to the lonely. He offered healing to the sick.

The call to us as a church is the same. Yes, it is important to share the story of Jesus with everyone. But it is also important to follow Jesus in ministering to people, particularly people in our community, for this is truly the mission of the church. When Haymarket Baptist Church shares from Jane’s Pantry, for example, the church follows the example of Jesus to minister to people. Just as the Holy Spirit joined Jesus in ministering to the people of Galilee, so, too, has the Holy Spirit called Haymarket Baptist Church to minister to the people in this community.

How can you be the hands and feet of Christ as you follow Jesus’s example of mission and ministry in the Haymarket community?

Allan Smith
Associate Pastor for Community Outreach



OUTREACH AND HOMETOUCH COMMITTEES

Sharing Gods Love

As we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus, we need to share our experiences of God’s love with others. There are many individuals within our own church community who need reassurance and a visible outreach of love and caring. If you would like to be part of the Home Bound committee or know anyone who might benefit please contact: Gayle Hindle at Luv2thread@aol.com.

Gayle Hindle
Chairperson of Outreach and HomeTouch
Committees



DEACON'S BENCH

Faith, Family and Friends

There is a plaque hanging in our kitchen that reads, "Faith Family Friends." It was a gift from our daughter many years ago. I glance at it several times a day. The other day, in particular, I actually happened to think about how much this plaque has played a part in my life this past year.

FAITH: My faith has kept me going. This has been a year of many changes and is definitely a "first" for all of us. I know that God is in control and has a plan for our lives, even during the COVID-19 pandemic. I find myself talking to God quite a bit. Sometimes I might have a thought, a suggestion, or ask for guidance. I may not always agree with the outcome, but I do try to abide by His rules and suggestions. I strive to always be thankful for my many blessings.

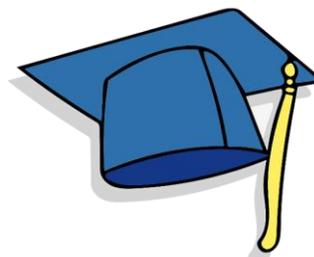
FAMILY: Being an only child, I was taught at an early age not to be selfish. I needed to mingle (as my mother would say) and make friends with everyone. I was surrounded by great aunts and uncles, grandparents, aunts and uncles. Cousins were like the siblings I did not have. My Grandmother made sure that I attended Sunday School and one of my cousins actually introduced me to Dee! I never understood sibling rivalry; although after raising three children and seeing first-hand this rivalry, I tried to impress upon them that they did not always have to be best friends, but we were all part of a family. Life is this way as well; we may not always

agree or get along, but we are all part of God's family and make up the Body of Christ.

FRIENDS: If you are fortunate to have that special friend in life, you know it and treasure them. It is a rarity that someone knows just by looking at you or talking with you what you are thinking. Maybe in this last year, you have had a memory of that special friend, or a special time or place. Did you reach out and let someone know you are thinking of them? There is an old Girl Scout (yes I was one!) song that says, make new friends but keep the old, one is silver and the others are gold.

In the past year I am sure many of you have given thought about your own Faith, Family and Friends. This is what keeps us together, and it is this that will continue to hold us up during these uncertain times. We may have had to cancel, postpone, or rearrange our lives; and although we cannot physically hug, we can FaceTime a smile, send a card or note, or just give someone a call to let them know you are thinking of them.

Dinah Thompson
April Deacon of the Month



DO YOU KNOW OF A 2021 GRADUATE?

If you know of someone connected to Haymarket Baptist Church who will be graduating this spring, or who graduated in December, please contact the church office. In June we will be honoring each person who graduated from Kindergarten, High School, College or Graduate School. We need all the names soon so we can order an appropriate present for each graduate.



PRESCHOOL NEWS

Dear Church Family,
It's Spring at your preschool! We just finished the Scholastic Book Fair, we've celebrated Easter in many ways this past week. We have created sunset paintings with 3 crosses on Calvary, we've made Palm Branches and learned to shout Hosanna! Our 2's classes took a ride on their teacher's back, as she was the donkey in the Easter story- and the children pretended to be Jesus, riding into Jerusalem, while other children waved palm branches - they loved it! We have told the Easter story with Resurrection Eggs, and we've hosted Egg Hunts and made Easter Baskets- it's been a very fun week of learning and activities. Our Kindergarten and 4-year-old students have memorized John 3:16.

We are so excited about good outside weather and a chance to play and run! We will start our outdoor Canopy Easel Painting again now that the weather is warming up. We'll be raising butterflies! We will be celebrating Earth Day- from a Christian perspective and caring for our Earth that God made. We are working on Mother's Day songs and crafts, learning nursery rhymes, and singing lots of patriotic tunes. It's such a joy to walk the hallways and hear 'You're a Grand Old Flag' or 'America, the Beautiful', and our Kindergarten students have learned our national anthem, as we prepare for the end of the year programs.

Everyone has been very healthy - rarely a sickness, and no COVID with the students. Our staff is vaccinated, and things are going very smoothly. We are a finely tuned operation here with all protocols in place! We are hopeful for some relaxing of restrictions as things improve and very hopeful for a return to regular classrooms for the fall. We are thankful for the opportunity to have school this year and make a difference in our community by providing a Christian education to the children, even with all the restrictions. Parents are so grateful.

Have a wonderful Easter, celebrating the Holiest and most historic day in history - the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus!

With love,

Mrs. Laurie Frasz
Director HBCPK



CHILDREN'S COMMITTEE

Happy Spring! I love this time of year and love all the flowers budding on the trees and springing up in the flower gardens. It looks so pretty; God's beauty is all around us. We are so excited for our Easter Eggstravanza Drive-Thru this coming Saturday, April 3, from 2:00-3:30 p.m. We know it will be different from years past, however, we are pretty excited by the creativity of what we have planned and cannot wait to share it with you. And the best part – our favorite Easter Bunny will be present with a new, stylish outfit! Please know, our Easter Eggstravanza is not just for children. If you are a 'slightly older youth' and would like to enjoy the drive thru, you do not have to hijack your grandchildren to fit in; this event is open to everyone of ALL AGES so add it to your calendar!

We are also excited that the Children's Sunday School has resumed, and the children are loving it! If you would like to resume in-person services on Sundays we have a loving, safe place for your children during the service. The children meet at the preschool bathrooms by the back steps and proceed up to the Youth area when the service starts at 11:00 a.m. While you are in the church service, the children are having fun learning about God, his love and how we can be useful servants for him through song, crafts, bible stories, snacks and much more. Come check it out this coming Sunday.

Sunday School Teachers for April

- April 4 – Christy Crockett Wisor
- **Children's Sunday School will be available on Easter Sunday during the 11:00 a.m. service ONLY**
- April 11 – Danielle Ginn
 - April 18 – Danielle Ginn
 - April 25 – Christy Crockett Wisor

Christy Wisor
Children's Committee

MISSIONS COMMITTEE

I read this recently, and though I don't know if the back story is true or not, the essay is still worth reading. I have edited the grammar and syntax to make reading easier.

Seventeen-year-old Brian Moore had only a short time to write something for a class. The subject was what Heaven was like. "I wowed 'em," he later told his father, Bruce. "It's a killer. It's the bomb. It's the best thing I ever wrote." It also was the last.

Brian Moore died May 27, 1997, the day after Memorial Day. He was driving home from a friend's house when his car went off Bulen Pierce Road in Pickaway County and struck a utility pole. He emerged from the wreck unharmed but stepped on a downed power line and was electrocuted.

The Moores framed a copy of Brian's essay and hung it among the family portraits in the living room. "I think God used him to make a point. I think we were meant to find it and make something out of it," Mrs. Moore said of the essay. She and her husband want to share their son's vision of life after death. "I'm happy for Brian. I know he's in heaven. I know I'll see him."

Brian's Essay: The Room

In that place between wakefulness and dreams, I found myself in the room.

There were no distinguishing features except for the one wall covered with small index card files. They were like the ones in libraries that list titles by author or subject in alphabetical order. But these files, which stretched from floor to ceiling and seemingly endless in either direction, had very different headings. As I drew near the wall of files, the first to catch my attention was one that read "Girls I have liked." I opened it and began flipping through the cards. I quickly shut it, shocked to realize that I recognized the names written on each one. And then without being told, I knew exactly where I was.

This lifeless room with its small files was a crude catalog system for my life. Here were written the actions of my every moment, big and small, in a detail my memory couldn't match. A sense of wonder and curiosity, coupled with horror, stirred within me as I began randomly opening files and exploring their content. Some brought joy and sweet memories; others a sense of shame and regret so intense that I would look over my shoulder to see if anyone was watching.

A file named "Friends" was next to one marked "Friends I have betrayed." The titles ranged from the mundane to the outright weird "Books I Have Read," "Lies I Have Told," "Comfort I have Given," "Jokes I Have Laughed at." Some were almost hilarious in their exactness: "Things I've yelled at my brothers." Others I couldn't laugh at: "Things I Have Done in My Anger," "Things I Have Muttered Under My Breath at My Parents." I never ceased to be surprised by the contents.

Often there were many more cards than I expected. Sometimes fewer than I hoped. I was overwhelmed by the sheer volume of the life I had lived. Could it be possible that I had the time in my years to fill each of these thousands or even millions of cards? But each card confirmed this truth. Each was written in my own handwriting. Each signed with my signature.

When I pulled out the file marked "TV Shows I have Watched," I realized the files grew to contain their contents. The cards were packed tightly and yet after two or three yards, I hadn't found the end of the file. I shut it, shamed, not so much by the quality of shows but more by the vast time I knew that file represented.

When I came to a file marked "Lustful Thoughts," I felt a chill run through my body. I pulled the file out only an inch, not willing to test its size and drew out a card. I shuddered at its detailed content.

I felt sick to think that such a moment had been recorded. An almost animal rage broke on me. One thought dominated my mind: No one must ever see these cards! No one must ever see this room! I have to destroy them!" In insane frenzy I yanked the file out. Its size didn't matter now. I had to empty it and burn the cards. But as I took it at one end and began pounding it on the floor, I could not dislodge a single card. I became desperate and pulled out a card, only to find it as strong as steel when I tried to tear it.

Defeated and utterly helpless, I returned the file to its slot. Leaning my forehead against the wall, I let out a long, self-pitying sigh.

And then I saw it...the title bore "People I Have Shared the Gospel With." The handle was brighter than those around it, seemed newer, almost unused. I pulled on its handle and a small box not more than three inches long fell into my hands. I could count the cards it contained on one hand.

And then the tears came. I began to weep. Sobs so deep that they hurt. They started in my stomach and shook through me. I fell on my knees and cried. I cried out of shame, from the overwhelming shame of it all. The rows of file shelves swirled in my tear-filled eyes. No one must ever, ever know of this room. I must lock it up and hide the key. But then as I pushed away the tears, I saw Him.

No, please not Him. Not here. Oh, anyone but Jesus. I watched helplessly as He began to open the files and read the cards. I couldn't bear to watch His response. And in the moment I could bring myself to look at His face, I saw a sorrow deeper than my own.

He seemed to intuitively go to the worst boxes. Why did He have to read every one? Finally, He turned and looked at me from across the room. He looked at me with pity in His eyes. But this was a pity that didn't anger me. I dropped my head, covered my face with my hands and began to cry again. He walked over and put His arm around me. He could have said so many things. But He didn't say a word. He just cried with me.

Then He got up and walked back to the wall of files. Starting at one end of the room, He took out a file and, one by one, began to sign His name over mine on each card. "No!" I shouted rushing to Him. All I could find to say was "No, no," as I pulled the card from Him. His name shouldn't be on these cards. But there it was, written in red so rich, so dark, and so alive. The name of Jesus covered mine. It was written with His blood.

He gently took the card back. He smiled a sad smile and began to sign the cards. I don't think I'll ever understand how He did it so quickly, but the next instant it seemed I heard Him close the last file and walk back to my side.

He placed His hand on my shoulder and said, "It is finished." I stood up, and He led me out of the room. There was no lock on its door. There were still cards to be written.

I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. Phil. 4:13

For God so loved the world that He gave His only son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16

If you feel the same way forward it so the love of Jesus will touch their lives also. My "People I shared the gospel with" file just got bigger, how about yours?

You don't have to share this with anybody; no one will know whether you did or not. But what do you feel in your heart?

Edith Kennedy
Mission Committee Chairperson



WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

We continue our study on "The mysteries of Heaven"

Towards the end of the month of April, I hope we can have in-church and zoom sessions (at the same time). Most would like to get their second vaccine before being in church. Even with having vaccine, we will still be following guidelines with masks, distance, disinfecting because that has not changed yet for in-church meetings by CDC.

I am looking forward to seeing those of you who will be coming to in-church sessions.

Watch for more information to come!!

Blessings from Bernie



JANE'S PANTRY

And do not forget to do good and share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

Hebrews 13:16

Jane's Pantry has been very successful as a result of the many donations and financial contributions given by our church family. A huge thank you goes to everyone who makes this mission viable.

If you know of anyone in need of the Food Pantry ministry, please contact Allan Smith at 703-754-8546 or by email, Allan@MyHBC.org.

Easter Sunday

Worship

We are offering two worship services Easter Sunday, 8:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m., to allow time for the church to be cleaned in between services. Please use this link to register for in-person worship:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/easter-service-tickets-144055739595>

The services will also be available on Livestream and Youtube.

Sunday School

- **Ambassadors' Class** - meeting both in person and virtually at 9:30 Sunday morning.
Teacher: Dee Thompson
- **20 & 30's Class** - meeting via Zoom 9:30 Sunday morning. Teachers: Mark & Linda Olson
- **Praising Hands Class** (part of the deaf ministry) - meeting in person 9:45 on Sunday morning. Teacher: Peter Brawley.
- **Children's Sunday School** - meeting during the 11:00 a.m. worship service only.
Teacher: Christy Wisor
- **Women's Bible Study & Sunday School Class** - meeting on Monday 10:00 a.m. Teacher: Bernice Pearson. To set up for this Zoom class please contact either Bernice at 703-270-9940 or Ernestine Myers at 703-973-2018.

Inside This Issue:

❖ The Gospel of Mark.....	p. 1
❖ Rev. Allan Smith	p. 2
❖ Outreach & HomeTouch	p. 2
❖ Deacons Bench	p. 3
❖ Do you Know a Graduate?	P. 3
❖ Preschool News	p. 4
❖ Children's Committee	p. 4
❖ April Calendar	p. 5
❖ Missions Committee.....	p. 6
❖ Women's Bible Study.....	p. 7
❖ Jane's Pantry.....	p. 7
❖ Easter Worship and Sunday School.....	p. 8

The image shows the phrase "Christ is Risen!" written in a flowing, golden cursive script. The word "Christ" is on the top line, "is" is smaller and centered between "Christ" and "Risen!", and "Risen!" is on the bottom line with a large exclamation point. The background is a light cream color.

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