



*"Preparing Lives for Today, Tomorrow and Eternity"*

1300 Anderson Drive  
Williamston, SC 29697

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*"Preparing Lives for Today, Tomorrow and Eternity"*

## **CHURCH News** *April 2021*

### **Hillcrest Staff**

**Rev. Larry Baldwin**, Pastor  
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**Linda Barrett**, Ministry Assistant

**Ellen Tierce**, Custodian

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The Church Library is temporarily closed

# Jesus Has Risen!

Praise be to God! He Is Risen Indeed!

Have a Blessed Easter!

April 4th

Sunrise Service	7:30
Breakfast	8:00
Sunday School	9:00
Worship Service	10:00
No Evening Service	



I recently read an article by *Brian Orme* about Easter and it really made me think. I hope you enjoy it as I did. The title is, "The Surprise Ending of Resurrection."

"In some stories, hope is wrapped up in the obvious and tangible elements of the plot, but other times hope is revealed through a surprise ending or a twist — giving new life to the story in foreshadowed glory. The Easter story is a vivid example that things aren't always as they seem. In a way, Easter is a celebration of the greatest story twist in history, one that's so subversive it changes everything for all time. It's easy to gloss over the Easter story — we've heard it so many times — and forget the surprise and shock of the resurrection. It's easy to read through the Gospels without that "aha" moment it really delivers. We have the privilege of reading the resurrection into the teachings of Jesus — we know how the story ends — but for the disciples, the moments before the resurrection were steeped in fear, darkness and confusion. For the disciples, the resurrection provided an incredible twist — in *Sixth Sense* fashion — that made the story come alive in a new way ... past experiences began to make clarion sense. It changed everything.

Eugene Peterson explains it like this in his book *Christ Plays in Ten Thousand Places*: "The Christian life begins as a community that is gathered at the place of impossibility, the tomb." The scandalous plan of God, revealed in the death and resurrection of Jesus, reveals to us that what we see is not *all* there is. Easter tells us that a man convicted is not really guilty, that a cruel instrument of torture and death is really a symbol of remarkable hope and grace; it also tells us that an empty tomb is what we should have expected all along. On the surface, the story of Easter reveals a plot by the religious leaders of Jesus' day to take down a rebel once and for all. As Jesus is handed over to the authorities, the picture that's painted is that Caesar is king, his kingdom rules and the Roman cross would have the last say. Even homeless peasants with an unusually impressive following and a supernatural track record would be trumped by the empire for rebelling. The path to the cross was a willing conviction accepted by God in the most subversive act on Earth — a conspiracy to take on the sin of the world and launch a counter-kingdom that would overthrow every worldly empire. Not by violence or brute force, but by love and sacrifice — through Christ.

Colossians tells us that with each step Jesus was making a public spectacle out of the pseudo powers and authorities and that, with the cross, he was triumphant. What looked like defeat was actually ultimate victory. Easter reminds us that even though injustice may run rampant at present — even though it appears that darkness is pervasive and final — we know God is working, that his love is greater, and that resurrection is real. As the morning came on the third day, a sun-cast freshness burst on the scene to reveal a subversive hope that thrusts us into a new story, one that rests on the work of Christ — a grassroots grace that upends every injustice. Through the brilliant light of the resurrection, we can walk in newness of life.

At a time when the Caesars of our day still claim to rule and injustice seems commonplace, the revolutionary hope of new life springs up in our hearts as we embrace the promise of Christ and experience the call of an extreme God to believe. This new way, this subversive hope, is a call to live counter to the mainstream tendencies of darkness and selfishness and to embrace the resurrection life. In this, we not only celebrate the story of Easter, but we join it as ones who have received an unspeakable gift.

As Miraslov Volf says in his book *Free of Charge*, "When Christ died on the tree of shame outside the gates of Jerusalem, God bore our sin, and we were both condemned as sinners and separated from our sin, and in our lives, God lives somewhere unfathomably deep within us — behind our faculties of knowing and willing — and swallows up our sin and transforms our lives." This transformation through Christ is our twist in the story — our *aha* moment. Through Christ, we continue to live out the resurrection life in our own generation — continuing the subversive plot that God initiated in Christ.

So, this Easter, relive the surprise ending; relive the story with a fresh passion for the genuine hope that we embrace. Relive the reality of a risen Lord and new life.

May this hope continue to paint our future in every possible way."

Laboring and Loving it!  
Preacher Larry



**Rotations for Ushers and Greeters**

- |                        |                 |
|------------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Ushers</b>          | <b>April</b>    |
|                        | Robert Harrison |
|                        | Andy Brown      |
|                        | Tim Broome      |
|                        | Tony Cooley     |
|                        | Harold Martin   |
|                        | James Ford      |
| <b>Alternate Usher</b> | Jerry Hill      |
|                        | Greg Paige      |
| <b>Greeters</b>        | <b>Front</b>    |
|                        | Jerry Hill      |
|                        | <b>Back</b>     |
|                        | Harold Martin   |
|                        | Robert Harrison |

Contact Jerry Hill or Robert Harrison if unable to serve during rotation.

Children's Church

04/04	No Children's Church
04/11	Ellen Tierce
04/18	Volunteer Needed
04/25	Volunteer Needed

Nursery Ministries

04/04	Samanthia & Justin Dies
04/11	Edie & Melvin Ford
04/18	Bell & Ryan Jennings
04/25	Samanthia & Justin Dies

Signup Sheets are on the Mission Table for Volunteers!

**Ways to Give**

Church Office or Drop Box: Monday through Friday Office Hours 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM	By Mail: 1300 Anderson Dr. Williamston, SC 29697
Drop In Tithe Box At Church: 10:00 Service	Online: <a href="http://www.myhillcrest.org">www.myhillcrest.org</a> - Give Tab

**Month Four—Reading the Bible in One Year—2021**  
This reading is set up for reading during weekdays with time to catch up on the weekend.

Date 2021	Scriptures	Date 2021	Scriptures
1-Apr	2 Kings 8-12	17-Apr	Catch Up Day
2-Apr	2 Kings 13-17	18-Apr	Catch Up Day
3-Apr	Catch Up Day	19-Apr	2 Chronicles 14-18
4-Apr	Catch Up Day	20-Apr	2 Chronicles 19-23
5-Apr	2 Kings 18-22	21-Apr	2 Chronicles 24-28
6-Apr	2 Kings 23 - 1 Chronicles 2	22-Apr	2 Chronicles 29-33
7-Apr	1 Chronicles 6-7	23-Apr	2 Chronicles 34 - Ezra 2
8-Apr	1 Chronicles 8-12	24-Apr	Catch Up Day
9-Apr	1 Chronicles 13-17	25-Apr	Catch Up Day
10-Apr	Catch Up Day	26-Apr	Ezra 3-7
11-Apr	Catch Up Day	27-Apr	Ezra 8 - Nehemiah 2
12-Apr	1 Chronicles 18-22	28-Apr	Nehemiah 3-7
13-Apr	1 Chronicles 23-27	29-Apr	Nehemiah 8-12
14-Apr	1 Chronicles 28 - 2 Chronicles 3	30-Apr	Nehemiah 13 - Esther 4
15-Apr	2 Chronicles 4-8	1-May	Catch Up Day
16-Apr	2 Chronicles 9-13	2-May	Catch Up Day

# The Lord's Prayer

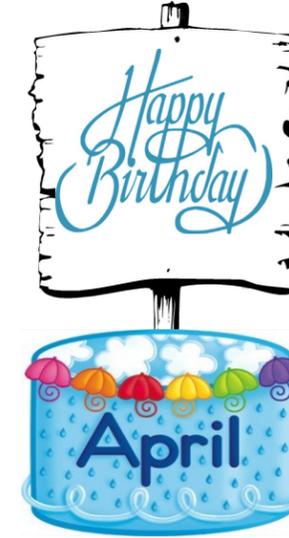
Our Father, who art in heaven,  
 Hallowed be thy Name.  
 Thy kingdom come.  
 Thy will be done,  
 On earth as it is in heaven.  
 Give us this day our daily bread.  
 And forgive us our trespasses,  
 As we forgive those  
 who trespass against us.  
 And lead us not into temptation,  
 But deliver us from evil.  
 For thine is the kingdom,  
 and the power, and the glory,  
 for ever and ever.  
 Amen.



## April Celebrations



Christina Wilson 04/05  
 Carrie Brown 04/10  
 Brad Brown 04/12  
 Samantha Dies 04/15  
 S.J. Jackson 04/15  
 Leigh Anne Clary 04/16  
 Fran Broome 04/18  
 Donna Clark 04/19



Gary Franks 04/22  
 Larry Baldwin 04/24  
 Tim Broome 04/24  
 June Brown 04/25  
 Jean Taylor 04/25  
 Don Clardy 04/26  
 Mattison Paige 04/27





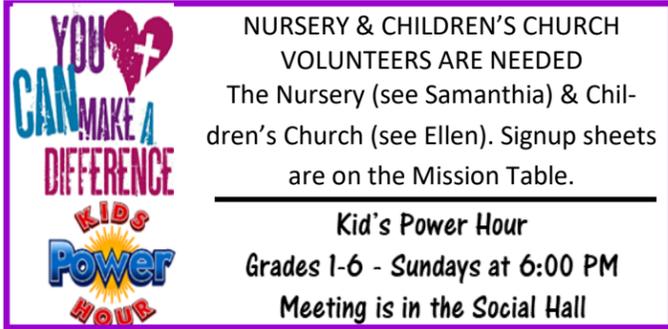
**Happy Anniversary**

Tom & Lisa Foster	04/02
Donald & Joyce Clark	04/05
Don & Mary Ann Bunton	04/10
Doug & Tammy Rumsey	04/17
Jackie & Connie Turner	04/20
John & Tammy Smith	04/21
Jody & Sheila Albert	04/23
Rob & Brittney Holden	04/25
Robbie & Melanie Luffman	04/25
Mike & Jane Ashmore	04/28
Justin & Samantha Dies	04/29

## UPCOMING EVENTS & BIBLE STUDY



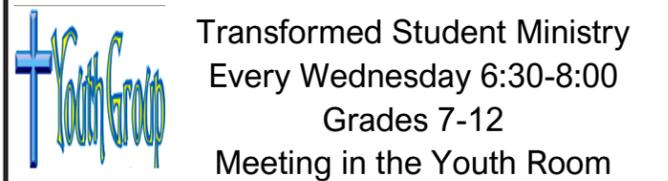
**SUNDAY SCHOOL**  
New Permanent Time!  
Beginning April 4<sup>th</sup>  
Nursery Available  
Sunday School 9:00 AM  
Worship Service 10:00 AM  
Classes for All Ages



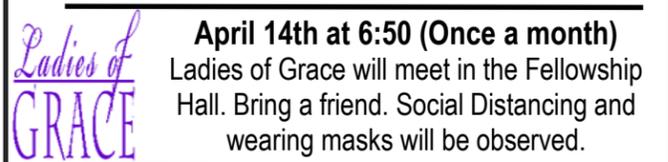
**YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE**  
KIDS POWER HOUR  
NURSERY & CHILDREN'S CHURCH VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED  
The Nursery (see Samantha) & Children's Church (see Ellen). Signup sheets are on the Mission Table.  
**Kid's Power Hour**  
Grades 1-6 - Sundays at 6:00 PM  
Meeting is in the Social Hall



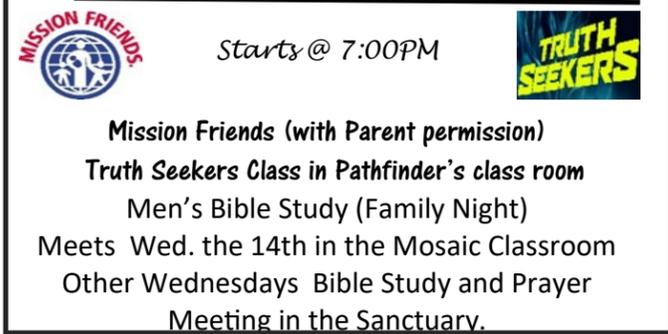
**FAMILY NIGHT**  
Wednesday, April 14  
Starts @ 6:00 PM  
GAs Every Wednesday (Girls 1st-6th Grade)  
Meeting in 3rd/4th classroom



**Youth Group**  
Transformed Student Ministry  
Every Wednesday 6:30-8:00  
Grades 7-12  
Meeting in the Youth Room



**Ladies of GRACE**  
April 14th at 6:50 (Once a month)  
Ladies of Grace will meet in the Fellowship Hall. Bring a friend. Social Distancing and wearing masks will be observed.



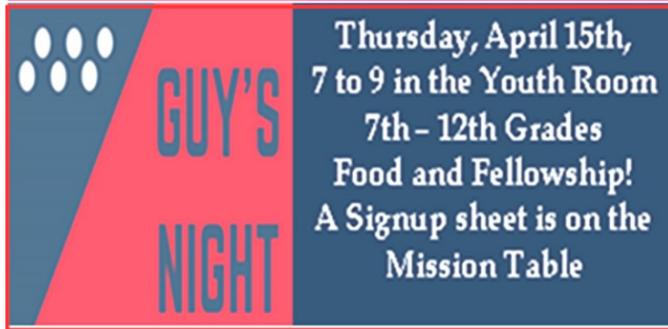
**MISSION FRIENDS**  
Starts @ 7:00 PM  
**TRUTH SEEKERS**  
Mission Friends (with Parent permission)  
Truth Seekers Class in Pathfinder's class room  
Men's Bible Study (Family Night)  
Meets Wed. the 14th in the Mosaic Classroom  
Other Wednesdays Bible Study and Prayer  
Meeting in the Sanctuary.



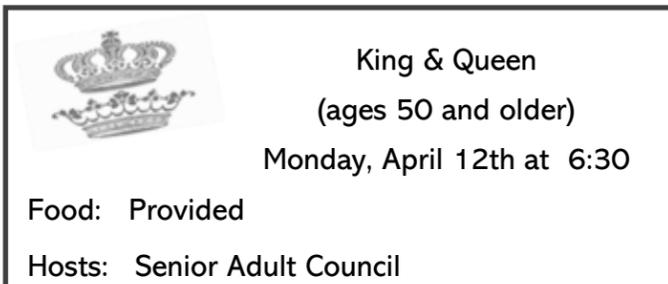
**Men's Bible Study**  
Thursdays Beginning April 15th at 7:30  
Join us in the Fellowship Hall  
For a Men's Chronological Study of the Bible by Chapter.



**GIRL'S NIGHT**  
Monday, April 12th  
7-9 in the Youth Room  
7th-12th Grades  
Food and Conversation  
A signup sheet is on the Mission Table



**GUY'S NIGHT**  
Thursday, April 15th,  
7 to 9 in the Youth Room  
7th - 12th Grades  
Food and Fellowship!  
A Signup sheet is on the Mission Table



**King & Queen**  
(ages 50 and older)  
Monday, April 12th at 6:30  
Food: Provided  
Hosts: Senior Adult Council

A signup sheet is on the back bulletin board. Please signup by Wednesday, April 7th if you plan to attend.  
Activity: We will be honoring those who have passed away this past year with a picture slide show. Bring your tissues.  
We will be social distancing and masks are suggested.  
If you have pictures of Lloyd Crowe, Delores Harrison, Maggie Childs, Pete Alewine, Mary Newby, Preacher Landrum Reece or Lucille Mitchell, please get them to Sherry Clardy, Adam Clardy or Linda in the Church office by Wednesday, April 7th.



- ◆ The Church Office Will Be Closed Good Friday, April 2nd
- ◆ Information for the May Newsletter is due Sunday, April 25th.

## Church Outreach and Serving Opportunities

**Phase 2 Sunday Church Activities**

- ❖ 10:00 AM Morning Worship Service
- ❖ 4:45 PM Choir Practice
- ❖ 6:00 PM Evening Worship Service
- ❖ 6:00 PM Kid's Power Hour
- ❖ Sunday School starting April 4th at 9:00 (in designated areas)
- ❖ Children's Church starting April 11th at 10:00
- ❖ No Van Service
- ❖ We will continue to have online Sunday Worship Service for those who can not attend service.
- ❖ Non-church activities/events: Social distancing is required and responsibility for clean up and sanitation of spaces used.

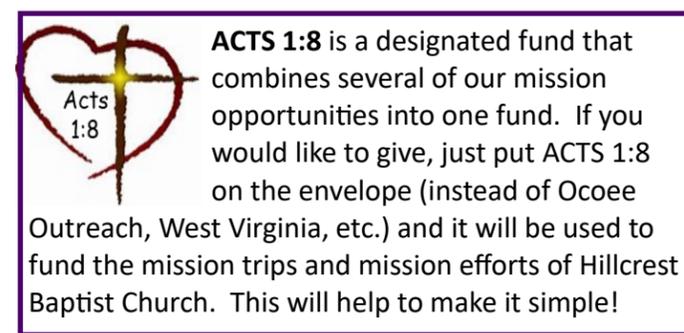
**Phase 2 For Individual Safety and until notified of changes:**

- ❖ We request strict social distancing.
- ❖ If you feel sick, have a fever, or have been in contact with someone with Covid19, please stay home.
- ❖ There will be spaced sanctuary seating. Families can sit together.
- ❖ Bulletins will be at the entrances.
- ❖ Masks recommended
- ❖ Temperatures will be taken
- ❖ Sanitizer Stations available
- ❖ No handshakes
- ❖ Nursery and Sunday School starts April 4th
- ❖ Children's Church starts April 11th
- ❖ No passing of offering plate. Offering on Sunday can be dropped in one of the Tithe Boxes.
- ❖ Other giving options: Online, Dropped off to the Church Office, placed in the Outside Drop Box or Mailed In.
- ❖ There will be intense cleaning during the week.

**APRIL OPERATION CARE FOOD MINISTRIES**

Thank You For Supporting The Needs Of Our Local Communities

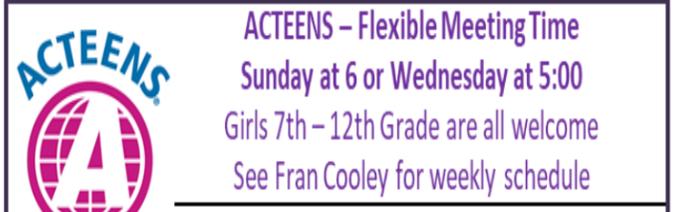
Canned Vegetables, Dried Beans, Peanut Butter  
Jello and Fruit Cups



**ACTS 1:8** is a designated fund that combines several of our mission opportunities into one fund. If you would like to give, just put ACTS 1:8 on the envelope (instead of Ocoee Outreach, West Virginia, etc.) and it will be used to fund the mission trips and mission efforts of Hillcrest Baptist Church. This will help to make it simple!



**Ocoee Outreach**  
Summer Missions  
Ocoee Outreach July 25-31  
Restore, Renew, Reach  
Join us on this Mission Trip to Tennessee. The cost is \$250 per person.  
A signup sheet is on the Mission Table.



**ACTEENS - Flexible Meeting Time**  
Sunday at 6 or Wednesday at 5:00  
Girls 7th - 12th Grade are all welcome  
See Fran Cooley for weekly schedule

\*\*Acteens are asking for Scholarship help for 5 of our Acteens to attend Camp LaVida in June. The cost is \$155 for each girl. There are 5 scholarship envelopes on The Great Adventure Bulletin Board in the Mission Hallway. Team up as Individuals, Couples, Groups or Classes to help our girls enjoy this time of prayer, learning, worship and fellowship at Camp. Scholarships are due April 28<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*We will be collecting for Ministry Health Kits in the month of April. Our goal is 50 kits. A container will be in the Mission Hallway. The first week of April we are asking for bath towels.