

The Baptist Bulletin

April 2022

What Does Easter Mean to You?

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War in Ukraine
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Virginia Hudson

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VBS planning
Sparks
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Moms in Prayer
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Monthly Youth Gathering

What does Easter mean to you? "It's not about the 'Easter Bunny' or getting candy and presents," says Kendall, 11. "God is the greatest person in the universe. He died for our sins and for us so we could be saved."

Here's the scoop from Hannah, 9: "Easter is really a pagan holiday with all the bunnies and chicks. If you celebrate in the right way about Jesus, it is a good holiday. Easter is named after a pagan god."

Great job, Hannah! Your parents are doing a lot more than hiding Easter eggs.

The word "Easter" is derived from the Anglo-Saxon "Eostre," the name of the goddess of spring, writes scholar D.W. Burdick. The ancient Saxons celebrated the return of spring with an uproarious festival in honor of the goddess of offspring and her symbol, the rabbit.

In many cultures, the egg was the symbol of rebirth. The custom of exchanging eggs in springtime was already in place when second-century Christian missionaries encountered Saxon tribes in northern Germany.

The pagan festival was altered to become a Christian celebration of Jesus' resurrection.

Easter is a time to "celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ our Lord, and a day to remember his pain and suffering," says Ama, age unknown.

Not only do we remember the past, but Jesus' resurrection gives us hope that our mortal bodies will be transformed into immortal ones. But that's not all. Christians are exhorted in Scripture to live by the power of Jesus' resurrection, or newness of life by the Spirit of Jesus (Holy Spirit) living in and through them.

If Jesus didn't rise from the dead, then the faith of Christians is "useless" and "pitiful," wrote the Apostle Paul. If there's no resurrection, he told Christians in Corinth, it's party time: "Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die" (1 Corinthians 15:32).

But if Jesus rose from the dead, every day is resurrection day for Amanda, 11: "He is always with us."

"Easter means God has risen from the dead and was walking around the city and went to talk to the disciples and went back to heaven," says Marce, 11.

Marce, remember the disciples before the resurrection? Scared, scattered and stressed. Three times Peter denied he even knew Jesus.

After seeing the resurrected Christ, all of the disciples dedicated their lives to proclaiming Jesus' victory over death. Most died as martyrs. Why would the disciples risk persecution and death to perpetuate a hoax?

"Easter means the death of Christ for our sins so we could go to heaven because one perfect person had to die for sinners to go to heaven," says Anna, 11.

We like to imagine that God grades on the curve. Have you ever noticed how easy it is to feel good about yourself when compared to murderers, thieves and derelicts?

As long as we're better than most, we assume heaven's gates will open wide for us. Nice theory, but God's entrance exam for heaven is either pass or fail.

Jesus is the only one who passed the test. He lived a perfect life before his Father and people. He offered his perfect life as a sacrifice for imperfect people. Now, the resurrected Jesus offers his righteousness and life to all who trust him as their savior.

Don't substitute sucking candy eggs and chasing rabbits for a risen savior.

For Kayce, 9, the true meaning of Easter is summed up in three words: "Jesus is alive!"

Point to ponder: Jesus is alive and indwelling his people. Scripture to remember: "I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me" (Galatians 2:20a). Questions to consider: Have you entered into the realm of resurrection life by believing in Jesus? Do you know the exhilaration of living by Jesus' life instead of your own?

Missionary of the Month—Dan & Sandra Wahlgren (TWM)

Ministry Update for TWM

We took a team of 24 into Tijuana and were able to take welding supplies food, medicine to various locations—refugee camp, orphanage, hospice and men’s rehabs. Saw God’ hand in so many ways and wer also heartbroken at the suffering. The team preached, prayed, cooked, encouraged and served.

Winter was packed full at camp and the team did an amazing job running camps while the Tijuana team was out.

Well house addition is just about complete and already housed extra large groups.



March 13th we celebrated three young people following the Lord in baptism.

Gracie White
Nathanael Urman
Titus Coleman



Financial Report ~ ~ ~

Budget for the Year: \$166,528.52
 Fiscal Year ends 2/28/23
 Offerings Received for 1 months:
 \$12,466.25
 Expenditures Paid for 1 months:
 \$13,797.61

Nursery Volunteers ~ ~ ~

April 3 Marsha Weeks
 April 10 Kelly Peterson
 April 17 Alisa Crown
 April 24 Jody Nelson
 May 1 Connie Schweitzer
 (See Cor or Kelly Peterson to volunteer)

Birthdays ~ ~ ~

Jake White April 10
 Mossy White April 15
 Velma Schriver April 22
 Larry Schweitzer April 26
 Tucker Keith April 26

Greeters ~ ~ ~

1st week Virginia Hudson / Jim Flesch
 2nd week Marsha Weeks / Joyce Sabin
 3rd week Kim Crisman / Kelli Beck
 4th week Val Parsons / Connie Sitorius
 5th week Sara Coleman & boys
 (See Kelli Beck or Marsha Weeks to volunteer)

Faith is deliberate confidence in the character of God whose ways you may not understand at the time.

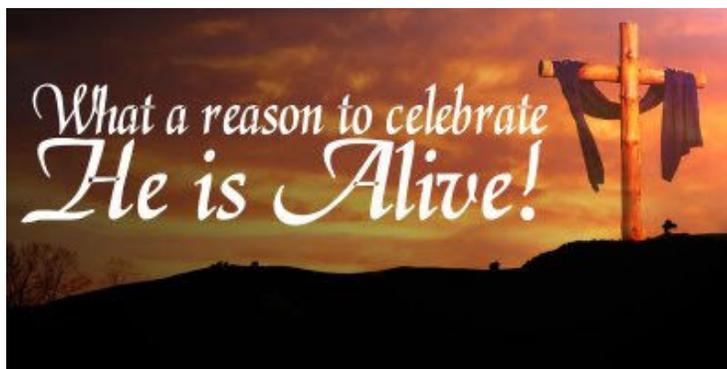
Oswald Chambers

Women's Resource Center
21st Annual Walk for Life!
 Saturday and Sunday
 April 30th and May 1st, 2022

This year we are going to have a First Baptist Church Walk for Life Team. This is for everyone in the congregation. Even if you don't feel like you can walk the course, you are invited and encouraged to join the team. We would love to have everyone who would like to be on the team at Ehmens Park at 10:00 AM on April 30th to show our support for life. There are plenty of ways to be a part of the event that morning. There is a signup sheet at the Welcome Center. Please signup if you are interested in being a part of the team.



1002 Ave C
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MONTHLY SCHEDULE

April 7 Woman's Council—1:30 pm
April 9 Ladies Brunch—9:30 am
April 11 Management Finance—6:30 pm
April 11 Elder Board—7 pm
April 15 Good Friday service—7 pm
April 17 Easter
April 24 Fellowship Outreach meeting
April 24 Youth Gathering—6:30 pm
April 30 Walk for Life—10 am

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Sun. Worship Service—9:45 am
Sunday School—11:00 am
Mon. Moms in Prayer—8:30 am
Ladies Bible Study—6:30 pm
(Acts Precept Study)
Tues. Moms2Moms
1st Tues @ 9:30-11:30 am
3rd Tues @ 6-8 pm
Ladies Bible Study—6:30 pm
(Through the Bible)
Wed. Men's Bible Study—6 am
Ladies Bible Study—1:30 pm
(Galatians)
Awana Sparks—6:30-8 pm



Ladies Birthday
Brunch
Saturday, April 9
9:30 a.m.

Come celebrate your
physical and your
spiritual birthday.
Sign up on the
bulletin board &
include any guests
you invite to join you.

Good Friday Community Service
April 15 at 7 p.m.
Cornerstone Commons

