



The Way

April 2015

NEWSLETTER OF THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF HOMESTEAD, FL

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Spring is an exciting time of year. Everyone loves spring. But the best part of spring is that day we place special emphasis on the resurrection of Jesus Christ. I say “special emphasis” because truthfully, we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ all year long. But this is a time when we can stop and reflect on the meaning of the death, burial and resurrection of Christ. It is a time to remember why we have “living hope” because of the empty tomb.

It is also a time when seekers are most curious. Last year, I estimate there were over 500 people who visited our campus for the Easter services. This is more than a typical Sunday ser-

vice. Sure, some of these guests are believers who should be here year round. But even more are nonbelievers who are here because they are considering the claims of Christ. As a result, extra help is needed. I would like to ask every member of FBCH to do four things to help us this weekend.

1. “Choose your service intentionally.” For whatever reason, more Easter visitors have a way of appearing at the 11:00 service. As a result, space will be at a premium. For some of you, there are reasons why this is the service you can attend. If that’s you, know that the youth room will be available at 11:00 for overflow seating with a live video feed. We need committed members who do come at 11:00 to make use of this room, free-

ing up space for first time guests. or, if you come at 11:00, come early and sit up front, leaving rear seating for late comers. If possible, attend the 8:15 service instead. Yes, the music is contemporary, but the choir will be singing the same selections at both services and the handbell choir will also be performing.

2. “Sit one, serve one.” Plan on attending one service simply to sing, pray, and be fed from God’s Word. But rather than make that your only service this Sunday, consider being present during the other service in order to serve. For example we need some to work during the 8:15 service by cleaning the kitchen and fellowship hall and preparing it for Sunday School.

3. “Be a greeter.” Whether or not you are officially a part of the First Impressions team, be a greeter. See someone you don’t know sitting nearby? Introduce yourself and welcome them! And if you are an official part of First Impressions, consider Easter Sunday “all hands on deck.” We need greeters in the front, back, at the welcome center, posted at the nursery, and in the parking lot. Let’s make sure all of the blanks are filled.

4. “Be a servant, not a spectator.” Every member should be able to identify some way they are serving. We need those who can cook breakfast casseroles for our Easter breakfast. We need parking attendants who can instruct incoming cars where to park as the lot becomes full. We need some of you to help hide Easter eggs by coming at 8:30 Saturday morning. The ushers need extra helpers, particularly those who are willing to work an entire service. Nursery workers are at a premium. I’m sure Greg could use help with children’s church. (Background checks and training are required for nursery, just background checks for children’s

church.) I would like to personally request that the prayer room be occupied during both services. There is additional power to everything we do when the prayer room is occupied by those praying for God’s anointing during the worship service in progress. We need volunteers to come early and help set up chairs before the sunrise service at 6:45 am. The bus may need help picking up extra people.

You’ll notice I am using the word “need” a lot this month. Yes, there are a lot of things we need this weekend. And yet, I remember when Jesus sent two disciples to fetch the colt upon which He would ride into Jerusalem. Jesus told them what to say when asked why they were untying the donkey. “The Lord has need of it” they were to reply. If Jesus had no qualms saying he had “need” of something, I certainly don’t mind doing so! Find a need and meet a need.

If you haven’t noticed, the new educational building is almost closed in. The stucco is applied, the doors are installed and the roof is complete. We are waiting for win-

dows and to close in the rest of the underside of the pavilion. At that point, we will paint it. Within weeks, it will be externally complete. At our April business meeting, we will be discussing the financial aspects of moving forward and completing the task so that we can actually put this tool to use for God’s Work. Be in prayer about this important step. Pray for wisdom and for unity. I’m praying for a ribbon cutting in the next year. Just imagine what Easter 2016 could be like if we have use of the new facility!

Don’t forget to be inviting your friends to the Good Friday service, Friday at 7:00 pm, the Hunt for the Easter Story Saturday at 10:00 am and the services on Easter. Better yet, don’t invite them, actually *bring* them.

Thank you for the privilege of being your pastor.

Pastor Howard



Happy Birthday!

- | | | | |
|---|---|--|---|
| 4/01 - Daniella Knott
4/01 - Stephanie Torres
4/01 - Kevin Zelman
4/02 - Billy Ader
4/02 - Steven Breivogel
4/02 - Ryan Lott
4/02 - Jasmine Martin
4/03 - Isaiah Cornelius
4/03 - Levi Harden
4/03 - Hannah Mills
4/03 - Karina Toirac
4/04 - Joshua Jordan
4/05 - Genady Sanchez
4/06 - Patricia Avalos
4/07 - Noah DeJohn
4/07 - Maria Macerllas
4/07 - Jim Polles
4/08 - Ricardo Barrera
4/08 - Michael Canady | 4/08 - James Holland
4/08 - Hilda Patterson
4/08 - Jessica Porco
4/08 - Melissa Pound
4/08 - Jenny Waggoner
4/09 - Alex Toirac
4/10 - Fabian Hernandez
4/10 - Stefanie Lugo
4/11 - Ryan Accursio
4/11 - Ileana Dickson
4/11 - Blake Dorman
4/11 - Rose Harmon
4/12 - Michelle Cordova
4/12 - Susana Lugo
4/14 - Amya Sepukleda
4/16 - John Messenger
4/17 - Shari Breivogel
4/17 - Jesse Ochoa
4/17 - Dayna Perez | 4/17 - Hailey Zaldivar
4/18 - Aisha Christen
4/18 - Kayla DeLeon
4/18 - Lyla Irizarry
4/18 - Elisha Kinkade
4/18 - Raphael Pagan
4/18 - Peter Quinones
4/18 - Terrance Walker
4/19 - Robert Carnell
4/19 - Danielle Lamb
4/19 - Tyler Sangbush
4/19 - Raul Sarduy
4/19 - Emilee Vasquez
4/20 - Mayra Bladford
4/21 - Giselle Lucio
4/21 - Marilyn Padron
4/22 - Steven Diehl
4/22 - Joel Guilfoyle
4/23 - Curt Schmidt | 4/24 - Lupe Berrones
4/26 - Monica Alvarez
4/25 - Thais Christian
4/25 - CJ Ramos
4/26 - Brunilda Nieves
4/27 - Donna Bell
4/27 - Korey Cayford
4/27 - Bridget Lopez
4/28 - Margaret Clason
4/28 - Hanah Vakke-Lopez
4/29 - Austin Diehl
4/29 - Carlos Flores
4/29 - Kevin Orosa
4/29 - Maria Perez
4/29 - Alejandro Perez-Morell
4/29 - Marco Romero
4/30 - Neftali Guzman
4/30 - Devin McGuire |
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Music Ministry



Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! What a wonderful time to celebrate our risen Savior, although we celebrate Him year round. We serve a living and awesome God. Come hear our sanctuary choir sing of wonderful works Friday night, Good Friday, at 7:00 pm, and Sunday morning at both services. Our handbell choir and Little Melodies are anxiously waiting to perform for our "One and Only" as well. Invite your family and friends to celebrate with us.

crew on Easter Sunday. The "church mice" are going to be very busy, the two legged kind. Too many names to mention, for fear of leaving someone out. From the set up, tear down, parking attendants, ushers, greeters, kitchen, breakfast, choir, praise team, sound technicians, media. And don't forget about the people who helped with our children's Hunt for the Easter Story. That is a tremendous job filling and hiding numerous eggs.

extra seating. If any of our church members would like to sit in this room it would be greatly appreciated, that way our visitors can have plenty of choices to sit. What an awful feeling to come for a worship service and then have to leave because there isn't enough seats. We do not want to turn anyone away, especially on Easter!

Special thanks to our set up

For those that do not know, the youth room will be set up for an overflow room. This is for

Singing for HIM,
Pam



Stewardship

March 2015

Contributions for March 2015:	\$ 62,439.89
Monthly budget requirements:	\$ 58,113.95
YTD Contributions:	\$ 317,977.88
YTD Budget:	\$ 302,192.54

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES



Available Parking

Due to the construction on the west parking lot, available parking has been decreased. If you are able, consider parking in the field south of the entrance by our church sign or on the other side of the construction site. We will be using golf carts in order to transport folks to the sanctuary on Easter Sunday.

Senior Adult Luncheon

Thursday, April 9, 10:45 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.



Please make reservations with FBCH
305-247-1662.
\$7.00 Per person.



28205 SW 125th Ave, Homestead, FL 33030

Join us April 14, 11:30 a.m., as we serve meals and distribute Bibles to the homeless.

Easter Sunday Schedule

April 5, 2015

Sunrise Service 6:45 a.m.

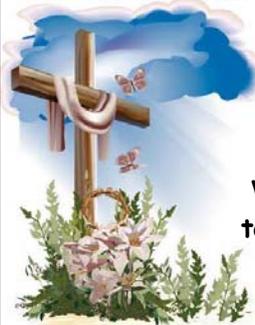
Breakfast 7:15 a.m.

Services 8:15 & 11:00 a.m.



No evening service

The Hunt for the Easter Story



April 4, at 10:00 a.m.
Ages 0-12 years

We are in need of volunteers to help hide eggs, serve lunch, setup and clean up.

Easter Breakfast

Volunteers needed to bring breakfast casseroles, clean and help setup the Sunday School Classes.

Mother's Day Tea



Women on Mission

All ladies are invited to our

Mother's Day Tea

May 9th 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Wear your favorite hat!



ONLINE:
WWW.FBCHOMESTEAD.ORG

NEWSLETTER OF THE
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**Building bridges...empowering
people...changing lives!**



I have to begin this month's newsletter article with a huge "thank you" to the students who gave up portions of their Spring Break to serve in various ministry projects that were lined up for the week. We did everything from painting a house to yard work and playing games with senior adults at Sunny Hills Assisted Living Facility. We had a **GREAT** week of ministry and I was tremendously blessed to see how well our students stepped up to the plate and served! I am so proud to be a part of a Student Ministry that has students and volunteers who have such hearts to serve!

Here's a look at what's taking place in our Student Ministry during the month of April:

First, on Wednesday nights at **ENCOUNTER** we're going to continue our message series called

A Season in the Minors. We've been taking a look at various sections of Scripture from the Old Testament minor prophets and what they teach us for living today. Our study so far has been a blessing to me personally and I am thrilled to see our students engage these oft-neglected books of the bible. If your teenager hasn't been to **ENCOUNTER** in a while, I'd love to take this opportunity to invite them to reconnect with us!

Second, our big spring event is right around the corner! Renew Weekend will be taking place on April 10-12. Year after year, this has been one of those events that is just a highlight for the year for many students! I love to see how God moves and works in the hearts and lives of both students and adults. Please be praying for our students and our volunteers who will be participating this year. Pray that God would use this weekend to transform all who participate!

Finally, this month I'm highlighting the core value of **Worldwide Evangelism**. This core value highlights the truth that God has commanded us to take the gospel to our community, the ends of the earth, and everywhere in between. We want our students to understand that they are **always** on mission—no matter where they are or what they are doing! We want to do everything we possibly can to equip them to live out that mission of making disciples of **all** peoples!

As always, thank you for the opportunity to serve you and to serve with you for the glory of God!

For His Glory,

Joe

