

from front cover

**Second, ask Him for renewed life.** New life is not something we manufacture ourselves; new life can come only from the Holy Spirit of God. When we ask, the Holy Spirit will blow the wind of “new life” upon our lives and homes.

**Third, listen for God’s message to you.** *“For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not harm you, plans to give you hope and a future”* (Jer. 29:11). God’s righteousness will go before us and our way will be prepared.

The little shoot that bloomed into those beautiful flowers stands glorious in triumph...until the cold winter winds extinguish its beauty. But the story does not end. In season, spring will once again come and the sun will warm the earth. Its hope restored, the little shoot, waiting beneath the soil, begins a new journey again.

In many ways, our lives are as fragile as that tiny plant; but then God shines His light on our lives and once again, we blossom. **Note:** God’s will shall be done on earth just as it is now done in heaven.

**Pray with us:** God, help us push through the crusty soil of heartache and bloom again in the springtime of your love. Amen

Peace and blessings,

*Pastor Jim & Fran*



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April 2024

# The Herald

## THE SPRINGTIME OF GOD’S LOVE

Spring is here!

*“Faithfulness springs forth from the earth, and righteousness looks down from heaven”* (Psalm 85:11).

A tiny shoot thrusts itself through the crusty soil and pushes up into the sunlight. With determination, it presses on until one day it is covered with beautiful flowers.



This psalm was probably written after the Jewish people returned to their land following their 70 years of captivity in Babylon. They did not always obey the Lord or show kindness to each other, but they made a new start.

The Scottish preacher George H. Morrison said, “The victorious Christian life is a series of new beginnings.” And, he is right. It is a sin to disobey God and fall, but it is also a sin to stay fallen. God will give us the determination needed to make a new beginning. How does He do that?

**First, we must give thanks to the Lord.** The exiled Jews “thanked” the Lord; He forgave their sins and gave them a new beginning. **Note:** When we turn back to God, repent and confess our sins, He turns back to us and restores us.

*continued inside*



## BOARD OF TRUSTEES UPDATE

Ken Whittington, co-chairman

- ❖ We extend our gratitude to the Lucy Helm Mission Circle for their wonderful Christian work over the years. We also thank them for their donation to the General Fund.
- ❖ The Conference Room ceiling is finished. Our sincere appreciation to Mike Jenkel, Jordan Jenkel and Clay Jenkel for their **volunteer** work on this project. Also, thanks to Pastor Jim, Danny Joplin and Brad Berrong for their assistance.
- ❖ Volunteers are needed for the security alarm notification list. Please let Annette know if you are willing to serve.



Come join the fun and fellowship at Sing 'n Share on Wednesday, **April 17**, at **5 P.M.** in the Fellowship Hall. Bill Carter will share his testimony, and those with April birthdays will also be recognized!

### APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- |                  |                        |
|------------------|------------------------|
| 1 Jim Jenkel     | 10 Gene Davis          |
| 4 Carmen Lynch   | 12 Steven Sanders      |
| 5 Danny Joplin   | 18 Barbara Whittington |
| 9 David McCollum |                        |



### THIS MONTH

- |         |                        |   |
|---------|------------------------|---|
| Apr. 3  | 9:30 A.M.<br>4:00 P.M. | Ladies' Coffee at The Buzz<br>Bible Study |
| Apr. 4  | 9:00 A.M.              | Pack Brown Bags                           |
| Apr. 5  | 10:00 A.M.             | Ministry at Heritage Woods                |
| Apr. 9  | 9:00 A.M.              | Trustee Board Meeting                     |
| Apr. 10 | 4:00 P.M.              | Bible Study                               |
| Apr. 16 | 10:00 A.M.             | CE Board Meeting                          |
| Apr. 17 | 5:00 P.M.<br>6:00 P.M. | Sing 'n Share<br>Deacon Board Meeting     |
| Apr. 19 | 10:00 A.M.             | Ministry at Helia Healthcare              |
| Apr. 24 | 4:00 P.M.              | Bible Study                               |

### WEEKLY

- |      |                         |                                  |
|------|-------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Sun. | 9:30 A.M.<br>10:30 A.M. | Sunday School<br>Worship Service |
|------|-------------------------|----------------------------------|

### In Our Community

#### All-You-Can-Eat Pancake Palooza

April 7

9 A.M. to 12 P.M.

St. Joseph Church

For tickets: 618-438-9941

#### Franklin Hospital Auxiliary Scholarship Fundraising Dinner

April 9 at 6 P.M.

Featuring *The Sons of Bitches* from Branson  
Benton Civic Center

For tickets: 618-218-7051

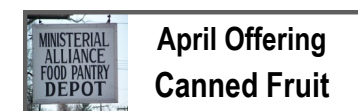
### THE SEDER EXPERIENCE

Doug Carmel, from Rock of Israel Ministries, will give a Seder Meal demonstration **here at FBC** on Sunday, **April 28**, at **5 P.M.** This presentation will give you an up-close look at the Passover Meal as celebrated by the Jewish people for centuries, including Christ himself!



Doug is an exceptional presenter who has traveled throughout the United States teaching believers about the Jewishness of Jesus.

This presentation is being sponsored by the local Ministerial Alliance. The program is free, but reservations are needed to insure adequate supplies. If you plan to attend, please call the church office, 618-438-7661, or email bentonfbc@gmail.com.



### FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

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Danny Joplin, Maintenance/Custodian