

from front cover

We do not know at what time Jesus arose from the dead on the first day of the week, but it must have been very early. The earthquake and the angel opened the tomb, not to let Jesus out but to let the witnesses in. **“Come and see, go and tell!”** is the Easter mandate for the church.

Keep in mind that these women did not expect to see Jesus alive. They had forgotten His resurrection promises and went to the tomb only to finish anointing His body.

Luke has explained how Jesus went to Jerusalem and accomplished the work of redemption. His book begins and ends in Jerusalem. But his next book, The Acts of the Apostles, would explain how the Gospel traveled from Jerusalem to Rome.

Is the Gospel going out to the ends of the earth from your Jerusalem? Jesus died to pay the penalty for our sins; and He arose so that we might have eternal life in His glory!

Prayer: Pray together with Fran and me. Heavenly Father, thank You so much that You do not punish me according to my transgressions. Your kindness exceeds my ability to comprehend, and I cannot thank You enough for all the good You have done and continue to do for me. I praise and glorify You for forgiving my sins when I sincerely ask You to; please help me to please You more. In the name of Jesus I pray, Amen!

Peace and blessings,

Pastor Jim & Fran



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April 2025

The Herald

HE IS RISEN

April is a transitional month, with warmer weather and longer days of spring. It is often associated with “April showers bring May flowers.”

The month of April gets its name from the Latin word *aperio*, meaning “to open (bud),” because everything begins to grow. Let’s not forget April 1st: **April Fool’s Day!** I can’t forget it, I was born on that day! Who started fool’s day anyway?

This year, April 12 is the start of **Passover**, which begins at sundown; April 18 is **Good Friday**; and April 20 is **Easter Sunday, “He Is Risen!”**

*Suddenly two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning stood beside the women. In their fright the women bowed down with their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, “Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; **HE HAS RISEN!**” (Luke 24:4-6).*

continued inside



BLUE SUNDAY: A DAY OF PRAYER

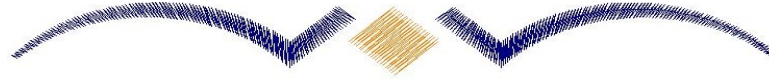
April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month, and on **April 27** churches across the nation will unite in prayer for children experiencing abuse and neglect.

Here at First Baptist, our worship service that Sunday will focus on praying for these vulnerable children.

In addition to prayers, CASA for Kids is looking for volunteers to serve as court appointed volunteer advocates so that every child in Franklin County has an advocate by their side. To learn more, contact the local office at 205 Bailey Lane, Benton, 618-438-0608 or visit the CASA website at casa4change.org.



Come join the fun and fellowship at Sing 'n Share on Wednesday, **April 16**, at **4 P.M.** in the Fellowship Hall. Mark your calendar now and plan to attend!



12 Words That Can Transform Your Life

“Please” and **“Thank you.”** When you use these three words, you are treating others like people and not things. You are showing appreciation.

“I’m sorry.” These two words have a way of breaking down walls and building bridges.

“I love you.” Too many people read romance into these words, but they go much deeper than that. As Christians, we should love one another and even love our enemies. “I love you” is a statement that can carry tremendous power.

“I’m praying for you.” And be sure that you are. When you talk to God about people, then you can talk to people about God. Our private praying for people helps us in our public meeting with people. Of course, we never say “I’m praying for you” in a boastful way, as though we are more spiritual than others. We say it in an encouraging way to let others know that we care enough for them to meet them at the throne of grace.

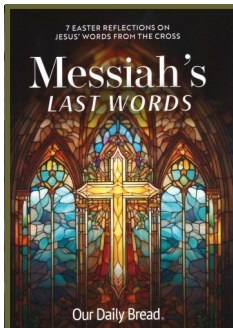
If you use these 12 words and sincerely mean what you say from your heart, you will find that God will use you to be a blessing and encouragement to others.

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|------------------|------------------------|
| 1 Jim Jenkel | 12 Steven Sanders |
| 4 Carmen Lynch | 18 Barbara Whittington |
| 9 David McCollum | |



Spend Holy Week, April 13-19, looking at everything Jesus said on the cross leading up to His last words. This new booklet explores what these words tell us about who He is and what He did for us. Pick up your free copy on the back pew in the church sanctuary.



THIS MONTH

Apr. 2	9:30 A.M.	Ladies' Coffee at The Buzz
Apr. 3	9:00 A.M.	Pack Brown Bags
Apr. 4	10:00 A.M.	Ministry at Heritage Woods
Apr. 8	9:00 A.M.	Trustee Board Meeting
Apr. 9	10:00 A.M.	Bible Study
Apr. 16	4:00 P.M. 5:00 P.M.	Sing 'n Share Deacon Board Meeting
Apr. 18	10:00 A.M. 11:30 A.M.	Ministry at Helia Healthcare Good Friday Lenten Lunch First Christian Church
Apr. 23	10:00 A.M.	Bible Study
Apr. 30	10:00 A.M.	Bible Study

WEEKLY

Sun.	9:30 A.M. 10:30 A.M.	Sunday School Worship Service
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**April Offering
Canned Fruit**

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

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