

# The Federated Messenger

April 2026

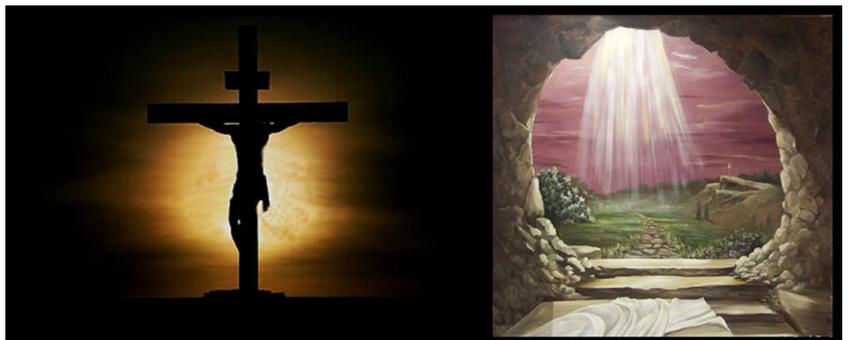
## “It’s Friday...But Sunday’s Comin’”

by Pastor Malcolm Beall

As we approach the celebration of Easter this year I have been reminded of one of my personal favorite segments of an Easter Message, from a pastor I don’t know much else about besides this. I forget where I even first heard it, but it made a lasting impact. SM Lockridge, a long-time pastor of Calvary Baptist Church in San Diego, CA first spoke the message, speaking about the despair of Good Friday, but the overwhelming hope of Easter Sunday!

“It’s Friday - Jesus is praying - Peter’s a sleeping - Judas is betraying - But Sunday’s comin. It’s Friday - Pilate’s struggling - The council is conspiring - The crowd is vilifying - They don’t even know - That Sunday’s comin. It’s Friday - The disciples are running like sheep without a shepherd - Mary’s crying - Peter is denying - but they don’t know - That Sunday’s a comin. It’s Friday - The Romans beat my Jesus - They robe Him in scarlet - They crown Him with thorns - But they don’t know - That Sunday’s comin. It’s Friday - See Jesus walking to Calvary - His blood dripping - His body stumbling - And His spirit’s burdened - But you see, it’s only Friday - Sunday’s comin. It’s Friday - The world’s winning - People are sinning - And evil’s grinning. It’s Friday - The soldiers nail my Savior’s hands to the cross - They nail my Savior’s feet to the cross - And then they raise him up- Next to criminals. “It’s Friday” - But let me tell you something” The congregation shouts, “Sunday’s comin.” It’s Friday - The disciples are questioning - What has happened to their King - And the Pharisees are celebrating - That their scheming has been achieved - But they don’t know - It’s only Friday - Sunday’s comin’ It’s Friday - He’s hanging on the cross - Feeling forsaken by His Father - Left alone and dying - Can nobody save Him? It’s Friday - But Sunday’s comin’ It’s Friday - The earth trembles - The sky grows dark - My King yields His spirit. It’s Friday - Hope is lost - Death has won - Sin has conquered - and Satan’s just a laughin’ It’s Friday - Jesus is buried - A soldier stands guard - And a rock is rolled into place - But it’s Friday - It is only Friday.” Sunday is a comin”.

May you be reminded today of this truth, our hope is in the resurrection of Jesus! This is what makes salvation possible! I am excited as some of our youth have done a video of their retelling this message, with a slight change at the end. I look forward to seeing it and how God will use it! No matter what you are walking through in life, no matter the pain or sorrow, we still have the hope of Christ to cling to!



# Meanwhile, Back at the Ranch

By Joseph Preston

What a joy it is to celebrate the grace of God and the hope of eternal life as we remember the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ this month! At the Ranch, we always love the opportunities God gives us to share the hope of Jesus with our campers and guests. During the spring, this includes opportunities through horse lessons, horse retreats, and retreats like the Married Couples Retreat to share about the grace of God and the hope we have in Jesus. During Field Days as well as these other programs, or even during Open House, we are always looking for ways to let the light of Jesus shine through our lives in how we interact with our campers and guests. And then summer camp comes when we get to invest in the lives of campers and staff every week and continue to point each person to the truth of Jesus as our Savior and risen Lord who gives us hope for this life and for eternity. Pray this month for amazing opportunities for the hope of Jesus to be seen and proclaimed through the ministry of WLD Ranch.

As we reflect on the death and resurrection of Jesus this month, I'd like to share with you something I wrote about how amazing our gracious God is in sending His Son for us. I pray that it is an encouragement to you. (If you enjoy singing, you can sing it to the tune of "This Is My Father's World.")

### OUR FATHER'S GRACE ABOUNDS

*Once dead in sin and guilt, we had no hope, no peace.*

*Apart from God's redeeming love, from death there's no release.*

*Our Father's grace abounds; He sent His Son to die*

*That, by the Spirit, we have life; our God we glorify. Delivered from sin's debt, we're reconciled in peace.*

*And graciously God's love for us does not and will not cease.*

*Our Father's grace abounds; He sent His Son to die*

*That, by the Spirit, we have life; our God we glorify. Now living new in Christ – alive, no longer dead – So may we walk as worthy of the grace shown in our stead.*

*Our Father's grace abounds; He sent His Son to die*

*That, by the Spirit, we have life; our God we glorify.*

# Springfield Senior Center



## Tuesday, April 14

Pastor Lamech Marsh, Girard Alliance Church will have devotions.



We will have special guests from "Therapy Dogs United". The dedicated team of Therapy Dogs is committed to bringing joy and inspiration to every human life they touch.

Senior Center begins at 9:45 a.m. and concludes at Noon with a wonderful, home-cooked lunch, all for a \$3 donation.

*Bring a Friend!*

## Are you interested in learning about quilting?

The Tabitha Team is considering offering basic quilting classes sometime this summer, depending on levels of interest. If interested, please contact the church office at 814-922-3655 or Debbie Rogers at 814-460-4442 by May 1<sup>st</sup>. Thanks.



## Thank you, thank you to all of you faithful Funeral Dinner Ministry Workers!



This last year, 2025, we served 11 families in their time of loss. When I call I get wonderful responses like, "What do you need", "Time and Date", "Sure, I can serve", "Sorry but call me again". That's music to my ears and helps me so much! This ministry is a needed ministry, to show love, caring hearts, servant's hearts to those who are grieving.

Anyone interested in joining this wonderful ministry, call Sally Roseski 922-3964 or Janice Payne 922-7488.



## OCC SHOEBOXES

by Beth Rigden

One of the joys I have had as an Operation Christmas Child shoebox packer is receiving notes from children who have received a shoebox that I have packed at home. I always include a note in each box I pack and in that note I put a special email address I created just for shoeboxes.

It is so exciting to actually hear that these boxes are making a difference from a child who received my box!

This month I want to share a few excerpts from some of these emails.

**Colombia** - A 12 year old girl - *my box was filled with much love and it filled me with much joy!*

**Cerro de Hula Honduras** - A 3 year old girl-her mother wrote *Gracias for Su Caja (thank you for your box)*

**Tegucigalpa, Honduras** - *Today I want to thank God and you for the great work you do, which allows many children to be happy. Today I learned how much Jesus loves me and I also really loved my gift.*

**Cartagena de Indias, Colombia** - A mother wrote: *I want to tell you that you made many children happy and it was also lovely that you taught them about God.*

**Colombia** - *What I liked most about everything is your letter, because it made me feel very special. I also want to thank you for preparing boxes for children like me. It is very nice to know that there are people who want to share the love of Jesus with us. It was a beautiful blessing. Thank you, I heard about Jesus and what he did for me on the cross, He came into my life.*

Here we are in another year of preparing to pack boxes here at the church.

We have an opportunity to touch more children with the Gospel! Will you join us as we begin to prepare items for the shoeboxes? Our first work session will be on Thursday, April 9th from 1-3 PM in the church dining room.



We are collecting the following items this month: Balls, Marbles, Yo-Yos, Slinkys, Jump Ropes, Matchbox/Hot Wheels Cars



Picture of an OCC Outreach in Honduras sent to me



## Holy Week Services

- ✚ **Thursday, April 2** - Maundy Thursday Worship, 7 PM
- ✚ **Friday, April 3** - 9 AM-12:30 PM, "The Seven Last Words of Jesus" Prayer Time 7 PM Good Friday Worship, Grace Methodist Church, Albion
- ✚ **Saturday, April 4** - Easter Eggstravaganza in the Family Center from 10 AM to Noon (for infants through 5<sup>th</sup> Grade)
- ✚ **Sunday, April 5** - Resurrection Day Worship Services (Sanctuary) 9 & 11 AM, 10:45 AM Baptism (Sanctuary) 8 AM-10:30 AM, Breakfast in the Family Center (Proceeds will benefit the Alaska Missions Trip)



*Congratulations to Edwin and Katie Elvir on the birth of their son, Daniel Eleazar, born February 26 weighing 7*

*lbs. 0 oz. Daniel is welcomed by brothers Caleb and Jonathan and sister, Olivia.*

*Congratulations to Donovan and Courtney Roberts on the birth of their son, Archer Lee, born March 18 weighing 9 lbs. 12 oz. Archer is welcomed by sister Everly and brother, Nolan.*

## Monthly Bow Shoot & Fellowship Sunday, April 12, 3:00 PM

Join the local Christian Bowhunters of America for an afternoon of archery, fellowship, and faith, held the second Sunday of each month at the Federated Church Pavilion. All skill levels welcome. Bring your bow, invite a friend, and enjoy good shooting and great conversation.



◆ **Celebration Class**

– This class is for people celebrating their “mature” years in the church dining room, studying the scriptures on the current sermon series.

- ◆ **Men’s Class** – Studying the book of Mark, led by Pastor Rick, Bob Pettis and others. Meet in the Church Basement Room 32.
- ◆ **Ladies Class** – Studying the book, “Your Story Has a Villain” by Jonathan Pokluda, led by Suzanne Barton, Room 10 in the church basement.
- ◆ **Faith Chapel Ladies Class** –following an inductive study on Romans led by Christina Corbett. All ladies welcome!
- ◆ **Sanctuary Class** – a verse by verse study of the book of Proverbs, led by Jerry Hills in the sanctuary.
- ◆ **Everyone’s a Theologian** - What do Christians believe and why? This series on Systematic Theology is designed for new believers and anyone wanting to grow in their understanding of God’s truth. Meet in **Room 29**, Church Basement
- ◆ **College & Young Adult Class** – Room 28 in the Church Basement, exploring what the Bible says about topics relative to life, led by Mike and Cheryl Anderson.
- ◆ **Good News Class** – Family Center Office Room, studying the book of Galatians with Seth Huntley and Sam Ring leading.
- ◆ **Couples Class** – for married and engaged couples, led by Rick Fails and Jamie Greig in Room 31 in the church basement, studying the book of Revelation.
- ◆ **Heart and Soul Class** – led by Paul Burgess in Room 19/20 of the church basement, studying Biblical Covenants.
- ◆ **The Upper Room Class** – led by Pastor Mal Beall and Paula Adams. Open to Young Adults both single and married. Meeting in the big room upstairs in the church and studying a variety of topics.



**Kids Church** is for children 4 years old thru 5<sup>th</sup> grade in the Family Center. The children should be signed in at the Family Center desk by a parent/caregiver before services and promptly picked up afterward.

**Infant and Toddler care:** During the 8:15 a.m. service, unsupervised Infant/Toddler rooms are available for families to use. Also, there is a nursing mother’s room available during both services at the back of the sanctuary. Infant and Toddler care *is* available during the 11 a.m. service in the Family Center. **MORE VOLUNTEERS** are needed to care for the children. If you can help, please contact the Church Office



**WISDOM + OPPORTUNITY = WELL-BEING**

The WOW Grief Group will begin a new session on **Tuesday, April 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.** in Faith Chapel. Led by Dave and Debbie Wehr, this group will meet for 9 weeks and is open to anyone who has lost a loved one. **For questions or more information, you can contact Dave Wehr (814-897-5569) or Debbie Wehr (717-283-6329).**

Thank you to those who have contributed your pill, vitamin or supplement bottles to the Recycling Program this first month! If you are not sure where to drop off your bottles, the collection box is located in the Family Center, by the stage steps. Please ensure the lids are attached and, if possible, wash off the label, or cross out personal information with a black marker. If you are interested in being part of the cleaning / packing work team, please contact Amy Bovaird at 814-431-4266 or Suzanne Barton at 814-392-4383. The times for the recycling operation will be as follows:

- April 14** 6 PM - 9 PM
- May 12** 1 PM - 4 PM
- June 9** 9 AM - 12 PM
- July 14** 1 PM - 4 PM
- August 11** 6 PM - 9 PM
- September 8** 9 AM- 12 PM
- October 13** 1 PM - 4 PM
- November 10** 1 PM - 4 PM
- December 8** 1 PM - 4 PM





Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<b>1</b> 10 AM Golden Circle NO Journey or Prayer Meeting	<b>2</b> 9:30 AM Ladies Study 7 PM Maundy Thursday Worship	<b>3</b> 9 AM-12:30 PM, Jesus' Seven Last Words 7 PM Good Friday Worship, Grace UM Church, Albion	<b>4</b> 10 AM Eggstravaganza 
<b>5</b> Resurrection Day 9 & 11 AM Worship 10:45 AM Baptism 8-10:30 AM Pancake Breakfast for Alaska Trip	<b>6</b> 7 PM Men's Bible Study	<b>7</b> 6 PM WOW Grief Group (Wisdom + Opportunity = Well-being)	<b>8</b> 10 AM Golden Circle NO Journey 7 PM Prayer Meeting	<b>9</b> 1-3 PM OCC Shoebox Workday 6:30 PM CR	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> 8:15 & 11 AM Worship 9:45 AM Sunday School 3 PM Bow Shoot, Pavilion 4 PM Praise Choir	<b>13</b> 7 PM Men's Bible Study	<b>14</b> 9:45 AM Senior Center 6 PM WOW Group 6:30 PM Elders & Deacons	<b>15</b> 10 AM Golden Circle 6:30 PM Journey 7 PM Prayer Meeting	<b>16</b>  6:30 PM Celebrate Recovery	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 9 AM Women's Training Conference
<b>19</b> 8:15 & 11 AM Worship 9:45 AM Sunday School 4 PM Teen Ensemble 5:45 PM Ignite	<b>20</b> 7 PM Men's Bible Study	<b>21</b> 6 PM WOW Grief Group	<b>15</b> 10 AM Golden Circle 6:30 PM Journey 7 PM Prayer Meeting	<b>23</b> 6:30 PM Celebrate Recovery	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 12 PM Wayne Augustine Memorial Service
<b>26</b> 8:15 & 11 AM Worship <b>COMMUNION</b> 9:45 AM Sunday School 4 PM Praise Choir	<b>27</b> 12 PM Food Pantry 7 PM Men's Bible Study	<b>28</b> 6 PM WOW Grief Group	<b>15</b> 10 AM Golden Circle 6:30 PM Journey 7 PM Prayer Meeting	<b>30</b> 6:30 PM Celebrate Recovery		