

Encouragement from the Pastor

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PITTSBORO BAPTIST CHURCH

The Spiral - "Keeping the people informed"

"The Road to the Cross"

What have been some of the most difficult roads that you have traveled in life? I am sure that we have went to certain places that we absolutely dreaded. Perhaps you're thinking about the road to a hospital for a procedure that you knew would result in a painful recovery. Or maybe you're thinking about a



time when you had to travel to a car accident that involved one of your children. You could be thinking about the ride home after you were given the difficult news that you had cancer. Maybe your mind goes back to childhood, and you're thinking about the road home with your mom and dad knowing that you were going to be punished for your misbehavior at school. Or you thought about the road that led to the grave of a loved one that passed away.

On the final Sunday of Jesus' earthly life and ministry, Jesus came into the city of Jerusalem and He was greeted with great celebration and praise. The city was packed with people who welcomed Him as the Messiah. They cleared the way for Him as He arrived, shouting "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest" (Matthew 21:9)! They waved palm branches, which were symbols of victory and celebration. They laid their garments on the ground, an action of submission and honor to the king. He rode into the city on a donkey's colt, a perfect way for Jesus to communicate "I am the long-expected King, but not the King you expect."

As Jesus traveled this road, I imagine there would have been tens of thousands of people filling the city for the Passover, a time where many lambs would have been purchased and sacrificed as a memorial to the day that God rescued His people from bondage in Egypt. As Jesus made His way through the city, the true Passover Lamb had come as He made His way closer to the place where He would give His life for the forgiveness of all sin. I wonder what was going through Jesus' mind that day as throngs of people celebrated Him. Surely, He knew this would be a difficult, but necessary road to travel as He looked toward the end of the week. The road Jesus was on was the road to the cross.

(Continued on next page)

Encouragement from the Pastor *(continued)*

The Cross was God's Purpose and Plan for Jesus, but also for the world.

The crowds who received Jesus that day as He entered the city were all celebrating the arrival of Whom they thought would be their political deliverer – someone who would overthrow Roman rule and restore Israel's prominence and power in the world. Yet the Gospel of Luke tells us that Jesus wept over the city's misunderstanding, unbelief, and ultimate rejection of Him as their Savior and Lord. He understood that the road He was traveling would have to be traveled alone. No one would be celebrating Him on Friday morning as He was betrayed, falsely tried, accused, flogged, beaten, and hung on the cross. He knew that before He could claim the throne, He must carry a cross. The cross was never meant to serve as a backup plan due to our sin, but it was part of God's redemptive plan from the beginning (Isaiah 53:10). Jesus knowingly and willingly stepped onto the road that would lead to His suffering and death.

Later in the week, the road led to the upper room where Jesus gathered with His disciples for a final meal. During the Passover meal (the Lord's Supper), Jesus gave powerful and new purpose to familiar elements as they ate. Taking bread, He said "This is My body given for you." Then He took the cup and declared, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is poured out for you" (Luke 22:19-20). Jesus was explaining to His disciples that the road He was on was leading to a painful, bloody, and sacrificial death. His body would be broken, and His blood would be poured out. The cross would be the vessel that a new covenant would be made – a covenant that was made in grace, forgiveness, hope, and salvation.

The Cross was God's Passionate Cry for the Hearts of Sinful People Everywhere.

That very next day, the road to the cross led Jesus to a place called the Skull, where He was crucified alongside criminals (Luke 23:33). There, mocked and wounded, Jesus endured unimaginable pain. *"He was pierced for our transgressions. He was crushed for our sins. The punishment that brought us peace was upon Him. By His stripes we are healed"* (Isaiah 53:5).

The cross reveals the depth of Christ's love for us. The cross shows us a Savior who did not retaliate, condemn, or turn away. Instead, He cried out for our pardon and forgiveness. He remained on the cross not because He was powerless, but because He was faithful to the Father's will and to humanity's need for redemption. I am forever thankful that Jesus stayed on the cross to die, finishing the assignment that the Father had given Him (John 17:4). The passion of the cross reminds us that God's love is not mere lip service, but deeply costly, personal, and sacrificial.

The Cross was Ultimately an Opportunity to Declare the Power of God Over Sin, Death, and the Grave.

One would have thought that the road Jesus was on ended in death, but three days after Jesus was laid in the tomb, women came to complete burial preparations. But instead of finding a dead body to tend to, they were met with a startling announcement: *"Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen"* (Luke 24:5-6)! The road to the cross led to resurrection victory for not only Christ, but for you as well! The Bible declares that everyone who believes in Him has life in His name (John 20:31).

When we consider the road to the cross, we learn that it was not only a path that Jesus took, but it's also a powerful example for us to follow in and a sure foundation that we can stand upon. The Book of Hebrews calls us to *"look to Jesus – the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God"* (Hebrews 12:2).

Jesus did not avoid the road to the cross. He embraced it for our future, hope, and salvation, and He invites you to join Him in this journey of faith. With a grateful and worshipful heart, we can be sure that no matter the long roads that await us in life, we can be confident that He is with us and will be sure to finish what He has started in us.

You are loved!



Peter

PBC Youth Updates

On March 15, we had an incredible time of worship for our **"No Other Name" Youth Night of Worship**. We were overwhelmed by the support shown for this evening focused on worship and praise to Jesus! We had 8 youth groups represented from across Chatham County in addition to two school clubs. We planned for nearly 100 students, but God just kept bringing them in! The sanctuary was filled with youth and their leaders! Praise God!

We sang songs of worship like "Holy Forever," "Praise," "I Thank God", and "Nothing Else." We heard two powerful student testimonies from Kelsie Houston (Woods Charter & PBC student) and Anna Grace Bollinger (Seaforth) as they shared about how God is bringing students together in God's Word during the school week too study, fellowship, and pray.

We also heard a strong and challenging message from Philippians 2 from Pastor PJ Cuba (Conway, SC). PJ taught faithfully from the Scriptures about how Jesus shows us what real life walking with God looks like. Even though Jesus is God, He chose humility, served others, and gave His life to save us. Because of what He did, He is now Lord over everything. The sermon challenged us to stop treating faith like a checklist of rules and instead live with hearts fully shaped by Jesus, hearts that are trusting Him, following His example, and surrendering control of their lives to Him. True joy, purpose, and salvation aren't found in anyone or anything else but Jesus alone!

After service, we shared some good food together in the Fellowship Hall. There's a lot that goes into planning for a special evening like this, and it doesn't happen without great people serving behind the scenes. **To everyone who helped make this evening happen - THANK YOU! Thank you for being there for our youth, but also for our community. You are amazing and we could not have held this evening without your support.** I'm reaching out to student pastors and the consistent thing I hear is "We don't do what we did on Sunday near enough." May God use this one night of worship to spark many more.

In less than three months our youth group is headed to **Crossroads Summer Camps**, and we are seeking to raise some extra financial support for our trip. We have close to 50 students and leaders headed to camp – so every dollar we can raise is a blessing! We are serving alongside of our children's ministry to host a **Parents Night Out on April 11th**. The cost for childcare will go to our camp fund.

We are also putting together an opportunity for our youth to serve in ministry and mission with the **2026 Chatham County Special Olympics**. We will communicate details about this opportunity as we gain more information. As always, thank you for your ongoing support and prayers for our youth group.

The PBC Youth Council





For God So Loved Pittsboro Event

PBC Hosts the National Day of Prayer Service in Downtown Pittsboro

Thursday, May 7th

Location TBA

Time: 12:05pm – 12:30pm

Join us for a special **National Day of Prayer Service** as we come together to seek God for our community, our nation, and our churches.

The Bible reminds us in 2 Chronicles 7:14 that when God's people humble themselves and pray, He hears from heaven and brings healing. On this National Day of Prayer, we want to do just that.

This will be a meaningful time of worship and guided prayer as we pray for our leaders, our families, our schools, and our nation. Everyone from our church and the surrounding community is invited.

Let's come together in faith and lift our prayers to the Lord.

We hope you'll join us!



**Next *Book Club* meeting:
April 27, 7:00p.m.
Church Fellowship Hall**

***All ladies are invited to join us to discuss
A Weekend on Allyson Island
by Susannah B. Lewis.***



Senior Celebration Service

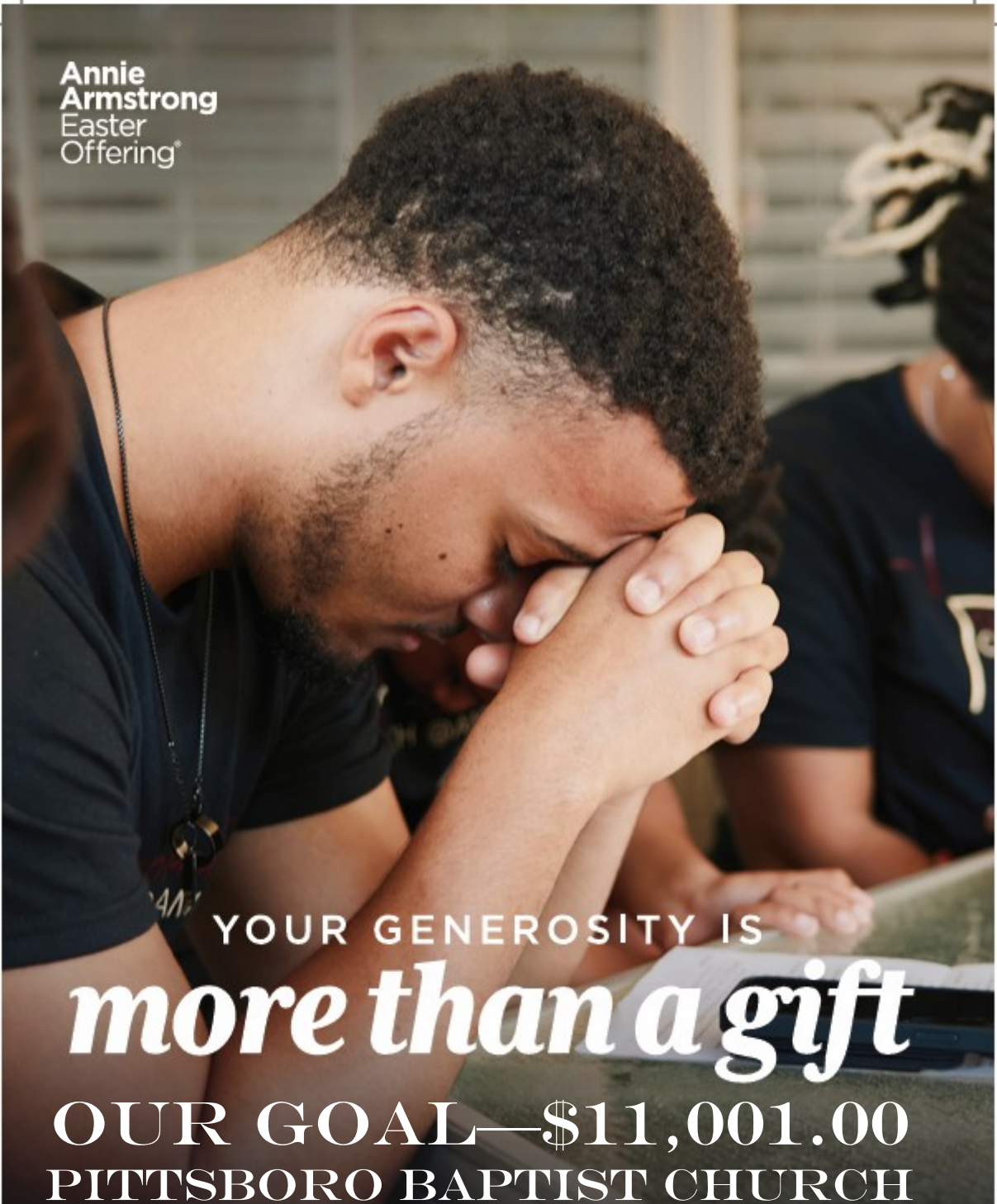
April 14th

10:30 – 12:30pm

PBC Sanctuary, Lunch to Follow

All PBC Seniors are invited to join us for a time of worship, fellowship, and encouragement for a morning designed just for you! Invite someone to join you!

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GOOD FRIDAY
— WORSHIP SERVICE —

Join us Friday, April 3, 2026 at 6:30pm.



Easter Service AT
Pittsboro Baptist Church

Sunday, April 5, 2026
9:30am—Sunday School
10:30am—Worship Service



Baptist Children's Home holds their annual Food Roundup each April. Churches are asked to collect non-perishable food, supplies and gift cards from the needed items list BCH provides - Many of the NC foster care boys and girls served by BCH have gone without food, love and hope—when children learn that

churches are collecting tons and tons of food so they don't go hungry, cottage parents and foster parents are able to share that they are doing this to share the love of Christ.

The Lunch Break Mission Group will be collecting baking mixes (cake mix, brownie, muffin, Bisquick, pancake) for the Baptist Children's Homes Annual Food Roundup during the month of April. A box will be set up in the Fellowship Hall for donations April 1- April 26.

By participating in the Food Roundup we are helping to provide meals and snacks to the children and families served by the Baptist Children's Home.

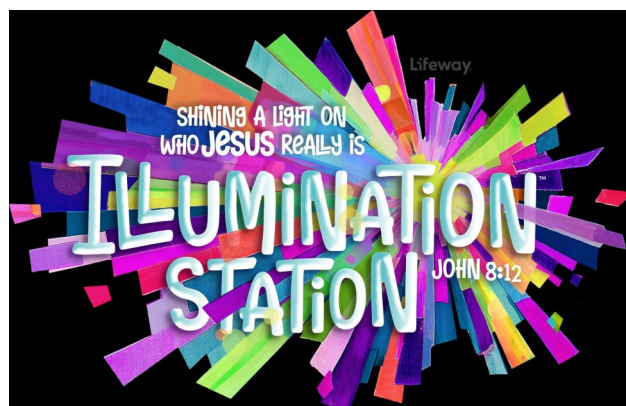


**NEW
MEMBERS
LUNCHEON**
Pittsboro Baptist church

Are you and your family interested in joining our church family? Have you recently joined and need to know more about our church? Pastor Peter will lead a new members luncheon on Sunday, April 12, 2026 following church service. Enjoy lunch and learn more about our PBC family. To sign up go through our subsplash event calendar on your phone app. or contact the church office at pbcontactus@gmail.com or call 919.542.2986.

QUARTERLY CHURCH CONFERENCE

**April 15, 2026
at 6:30pm
In the Fellowship Hall**



Save the date!
June 15-19, 2026
9:00am-12:30pm

**Vacation Bible School
Pittsboro Baptist Church**

Registration opens April 15th.

**All children age 4 (entering 4 year old PreK) to those who
just completed 5th grade**



Parents Night Out

We are excited to announce our upcoming Youth Fundraiser: Parents Night Out, taking place on April 11! This special event gives parents a chance to enjoy an evening to themselves, while their children participate in fun, supervised activities. All proceeds will go directly toward supporting our youth as they go to camp. Plan to drop your child off at 5:00pm and pick will be at 8:00pm. Please sign up through our Subsplash event calendar on your phone app or contact Jennifer Cashion at jennifer.h.cashion@gmail.com.



- | | | | |
|----|-------------------|----|--------------------------|
| 1 | Cole Kivette | | Eliza Smith |
| 5 | Sylvia Jackson | 19 | Brenna Dietrich |
| 7 | Carson Cashion | 22 | Jimmy & Jennifer Davis ♥ |
| | Joan Lisenbe | 25 | Susan Truesdale |
| 8 | Brooks Batcheller | 27 | Caroline Cashion |
| 11 | Jonathan Harshman | 30 | Tara Smith |
| 13 | Debra Lasater | | |
| | Connie Goin | | |
| | Julia Christian | | |
| 15 | Roderick Parker | | |
| 18 | Kelly Smith | | |



Birthdays & Anniversaries



Ushers

Frank Jurius, Don Dodson, Aaron Kivette,
& Percy Crutchfield

Greeters

Katherine Parker & Ken Haynes

Infant



April 5

Jessica Vrvilo & Brooke Smith

April 12

Ashley Batcheller & Sunny Allen

April 19

Jon & Melissa Harshman

April 26

Tara & Jenna Smith

Toddler



April 5

Tara, Micah & Mali McDonald

April 12

Kelly Smith & Meredith Tetterton

April 19

Amber Kilpatrick & Darby Powers

April 26

Hunter & Hannah Brown



April 6

Hannah & Jay Weatherington

April 13

Hannah & Jay Weatherington

April 20

Hannah & Jay Weatherington

April 27

Hannah & Jay Weatherington

checkitout

News from the Pearle Johnson Memorial Library

Sunday Library Schedule

9:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

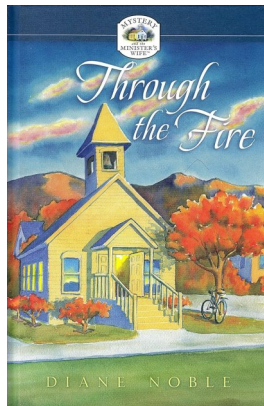
10:00 a.m. – 10:25 a.m.

Last fall, Kathleen Braxton's family generously donated to the PBC Library her collection of Guidepost novels, numbering over a 100+ books. There are several series in the collection but what is unique about the Guidepost series is that each book is written by a different author. It will be interesting to see each author's take on their particular book. The Guideposts books can be found on the shelves underneath the library display window and are grouped by series and in order. It will take a while to get all the books processed but there are a couple of dozen ready to be checked out. Come to the PBC Library next Sunday.

Below is an overview of the first book in three of the series.

Series: *Mystery and the Minister's Wife*

Book #1 - *Through the Fire* by Diane Noble



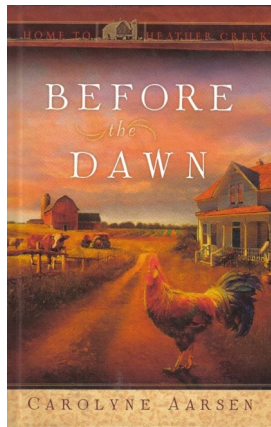
Escape to the charming town of Copper Mill, Tennessee. Nestled in the foothills of the Great Smoky Mountains, Copper Mill is a place of tradition and tranquility, where neighbors work together and life moves at a slower pace. But when Kate Hanlon and her husband Paul, the new pastor of Faith Briar

Church, move in, they quickly find out that small town life is anything but boring. The mysteries that Kate discovers in Copper

Mill are puzzling, but she always uses her quick, curious mind and the help of her friends to figure out the answer. Come see how faith can solve life's mysteries in *Mystery and the Minister's Wife* series. --The Hanlons are settling into Copper Mill, but already Kate has stumbled onto another mystery. A condolence call to a grieving widow, Patricia Harris, uncovers a long-buried secret. When she was seventeen, Patricia gave birth to twins; one was given up for adoption. Now the daughter she kept is in desperate need of a bone marrow transplant. With no matching donors, her only real hope is to find her twin sister. With a life on the line, can Kate track down her missing twin before it's too late?

Series: *Home to Heather Creek* Book #1 - *Before the Dawn* by Carolyne Aarsen

Charlotte Stevenson's world is turned upside down by the death of her daughter Denise. Denise ran away from home as a teenager and Charlotte has never forgiven herself. Now, Denise's three children are coming to live on Heather Creek Farm. Is this Charlotte's chance to make things right?

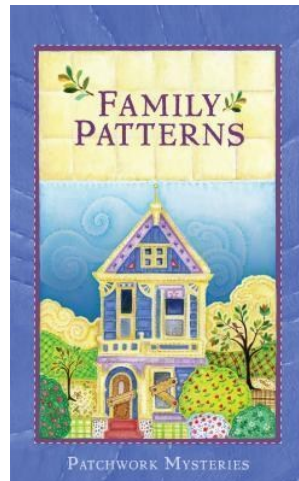


The three kids arrive on the farm: Sam fiercely protective of his younger siblings; Emily, desperately missing her friends; and young Christopher, a sweet soul who wants to fit in. While Charlotte helps the grandchildren she barely knows adjust to their new life, she also wrestles with her own grief. Well-meaning friends offer heartfelt advice but what if Charlotte makes the same mistakes this time around?

(Continued on next page)

But small joys remind Charlotte that God gives grace freely, even in trying times, when Emily discovers her mother's horse in the midst of a difficult birth, the whole family comes together to save the animal that Denise loved. The miracle of new life, along with God's healing touch, reminds all of them that it's always darkest just before the dawn.

ry ago, and Noah was the prime suspect. But no one ever learned the truth. Now Sarah's granddaughters have found a forgotten passageway in their old house, and an antique quilt with a hidden message.



Series: Patchwork Mysteries

Book #1 - Family Patterns

by Kristin Eckhardt

Sarah Hart couldn't be happier. Her son is moving home to Maple Hill with his wife and twin daughters, into the Victorian house that once belonged to Sarah's grandfather, Noah Drayton. Noah's wife Molly disappeared without a trace a centu-



	<u>9-9:30a.m.</u>	<u>10-10:30a.m.</u>
April 5, 2025	Judy Beaver	Sue Devinney
April 12, 2025	Cindy Springle	Susie Griffin
April 19, 2025	Ann Mills	Roderick Parker
April 26, 2025	Kathy Shaffer	Kathy Shaffer

April 2026

A prayer for April

Lord, we are so grateful for this time of cleansing and refreshment as we enter into this month of April Help us to have a heart like David who prayed, "Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin." We lay the sin and iniquity at your feet and thank you for cleansing our hearts and soul! In Jesus Name, Amen

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	GOOD FRIDAY 3	4
			8:00am—Men's Bible Study at Bojangles 10:00am—Prayer Quilters		6:30pm—Good Friday Worship Service (Lord's Supper)	
EASTER SUNDAY 5	6	7	8	9	10	11
9:30am—Sunday School 10:30am—Worship Service (Baptism)	OFFICE CLOSED 10:00am - Women's Monday School 7:00pm - Deacon's Meeting		8:00am—Men's Bible Study at Bojangles 10:00am—Prayer Quilters 6:30pm- Dinner, Parent Connect, JD's & Youth 7:00pm—Ignite your purpose			5:30pm—BLAST 5:00pm—8:00pm Parents Night Out
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
9:30am—Sunday School 10:30am—Worship Service Noon—New Member's Luncheon 2:30pm - Griefshare	9:30am— Staff Meeting 10:00am - Women's Monday School	10:3am—3L's Celebration 7:30pm—Finance Meeting via zoom	8:00am—Men's Bible Study at Bojangles 10:00am—Prayer Quilters 6:30pm- Quarterly Church Conference			
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
9:30am—Sunday School 10:30am—Worship Service	9:30am— Staff Meeting 10:00am - Women's Monday School		8:00am—Men's Bible Study at Bojangles 10:00am—Prayer Quilters 6:30pm- Dinner, Parent Connect, JD's & Youth 7:00pm—Ignite your purpose			5:30pm—BLAST
26	27	28	29	30		
9:30am—Sunday School 10:30am—Worship Service	9:30am— Staff Meeting 10:00am - Women's Monday School 7:00pm—Book Club		8:00am—Men's Bible Study at Bojangles 10:00am—Prayer Quilters 6:30pm- Dinner, Parent Connect, JD's & Youth 7:00pm—Ignite your purpose			



Easter Story

Word Search

S C B M N E J E S U S C H R I S T
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CAVE
CHURCH
CROSS
CROWN
CRUCIFIXION
DISCIPLES
FAITH
GOOD FRIDAY

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