

You may have noticed over recent years Easter has become just as commercialized as Christmas. On your next trip to Wal-Mart just take a glance at the toys, baskets, eggs, decorations and lights designed to help our families enjoy the Easter season. My barber asked me last week, "Do you know which holiday—Halloween or Easter—that has the most candy sales?" The answer was surpris-

ing; it's Easter. Don't get me wrong I'm not condemning Easter candy. I thoroughly enjoy Reese's Peanut Butter-filled eggs! And, of course there's nothing wrong in and of themselves with any of the other things I mentioned. The problem, as I see it, is when all of the "trappings" of Easter garner more of our attention than the reason we celebrate Easter. On East-

er we celebrate and rejoice in our Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who died on the cross for our sins and rose from the dead after laying three days in a tomb guaranteeing to all who believe in Him victory over death and eternal life. St. Athanasius wrote: "Death used to be strong and terrible, but now, since the sojourn of the Savior and the death and resurrection of His body, it is despised; and obviously it is by the very Christ Who mounted on the cross that it has been destroyed and vanguished finally. When the sun rises after the night and the whole world is lit up by it, nobody doubts that it is the sun which has thus shed its light everywhere and driven away the dark. Equally clear is it, since this utter scorning and trampling down of death has ensued upon the Savior's manifestation in body and

His death on the cross, that it is He Himself Who brought death to naught and daily raises monuments to His victory in His own disciples." To borrow a cliché from Christmas: "HE IS THE REASON FOR THE SEASON." Therefore, this Easter let our focus be finely honed onto our Savior, who He is and what He has done for us! Pastor Randy



Breakfast following the Sunrise Service in the Fellowship Hall

No pm activities at the church on Easter Sunday, April 16th



Support North American Missions

Annie Armstrong Easter Offering

Give anytime during the month of April



Every second Wednesday of each month is C.A.R.E.
Night. C.A.R.E. is an acronym for "Christians

Actively Reaching Everyone." We have a meal each C.A.R.E. Night beginning at 6:00 pm and ministry opportunities follow at 6:30 pm. This month C.A.R.E. Night is April 12th. Everyone is invited to join us for this night of fellowship and ministry.



Tuesday, April 11th—6:30 pm We will help decorate the

different rooms for "Road to Resurrection"



"By All Means" is the theme for the SFBA Women's Meeting Tuesday, April 4th @ Pearl Baptist Church Registration begins at 6:15 pm



Baptist Men's Breakfast Saturday, April 22nd 7:00 am in the **Fellowship Hall**

Come join us for a light breakfast, fellowship, mission updates and a brief Bible study.



Men's Ministry Fishing Trip April 18th—22nd

Children's Church is worship designed especially for children 3 years - 6th grade. They will meet this month on April 2nd, 9th, & 23rd during our morning worship service.



AWANA – Approved Workmen Are Not Ashamed – 2 Timothy 2:15

Awana Clubs reach kids through energetic game activities, Biblebased teaching. Bible memoriza-

tion and small group time with friends.

AWANA Clubs meet Sunday evenings at 6:00 pm in the Worship Center 3 years through 6th grade



AWANA Derby Sunday, April 23rd, 6:00 pm Hello Macedonia,



Spring is here and I'm excited about all the fun outdoor activities that start this time of the year. I'm most excit-

ed about Easter coming this month. Easter is such a special time of reflection. I think about what it must have been like to be a disciple in Jesus' inner circle during that week. It's at Easter that I am reminded of Jesus' sacrifice on the cross and the power of His resurrection. I am amazed that He would die for me, in my place and then rise in victory over sin and death. Easter is a wonderful time to stand in awe of what Jesus has done, but I hope it's not the only time we celebrate His resurrection. When I think about what He did for me. I am overwhelmed just as much as when He first saved me. I pray that is your testimony as well. This Easter, let's start a celebration that will continue all year long. ~ Pastor Jeremy



Saturday, April 15th 1:00-3:00 pm



At Road to Resurrection you'll step back in time and follow Jesus' footsteps through the week leading up to his death and resurrection. Along the path you'll encounter people who've met Jesus and become part of an incredible experience. Draw closer to Jesus at this memorable event.



Regional Bible Drill **Parkwood Baptist Church** Concord Saturday, April 29th

Weekly Youth Bible Study

Wednesday @ 6:30 pm

Wednesday Night Study is geared to teach our youth how God's Word applies to our everyday lives.



Sunday Evenings

@ 6:00 pm

This is a service for our students to worship in song and hear preaching that directly addresses issues they face daily. It is a great time of fellowship and an opportunity for real spiritual growth. We hope to see all of our youth there!

TeamKID is designed for Kids in Discipleship! It fea-



tures Bible memory games and application of Bible truths, engaging missions videos and activities, and fun activity-based learning all while helping your kids grow to be more like Je-

sus. Kids Pre-K through 6th grades are invited to TEAMKID on Wednesdays at 6:30 pm



April Schedule

Ministry

JOY Bible Study each Thursday morning at 10:30 am

Monthly Lunch—Thursday, April 6th at Noon in the Fellowship Hall

Monday, April 3rd—<u>SFBA Senior</u>
<u>Rally</u> 11:00am—2:00 pm
Mt. Ruhama Baptist

(We will leave the church at 10:00 am)

Friday, April 7th—<u>Dinner &</u>
"Easter Celebration 2017" Woodlawn
Baptist Church

(We will leave the church at 4:00 pm)



Isn't it wonderful to be alive at the beginning of spring! Flowers are blooming, birds chirping, days are longer, spring break, early va-

cations. There is so much excitement, unless you are starting to feel the aging process. Someone in the aging process, but not admitting to it put it this way: Times are changing. The material in my clothes I have noticed are shrinking in certain places. Shoe laces are so short they're next to impossible to reach. Even the weather is changing. It's colder in the winter and hotter in the summer than it used to be. People are changing too. For one thing everyone is younger than they use to be when I was that age. On the other hand people my own age are much older than I am. I ran into a college roommate the other night and he had changed so much he didn't recognize me. "You've put on some weight Bob" I said. "It's this modern food" Bob replied. "It seems to be more fattening." I got to thinking about poor Bob this morning while I was shaving. Stopping for a moment I looked at my own reflection in the mirror. You know they don't use the same kind of glass in mirrors anymore. Someone once said that youth is such a wonderful thing that it's ashamed to waste it on young people. But think about it again. It is a wonderful time to be alive. Flowers are still blooming, birds are still chirping, days are still longer, spring breaks are still given & vacations are still happening. There is still so much excitement unless you have been overcome by the aging process. Don't be! Remember according to James 1:17 you are His prized procession. Trade in the attitude of aging for the attitude of Christ! Here's to Life! ~ Pastor Joe

