

# Macedonian Call

## April 2022

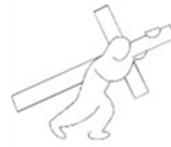


### A Note From Pastor Randy

In the 2020 State of Theology from Lifeway Research, it was discovered that two-thirds of American adults (66%) say they believe in the biblical accounts of the physical resurrection of Jesus Christ. One in 5 (20%) disagreed and 14% are not sure. Adults who attend church services at least once or twice a month are more likely to say they believe in the resurrection (89%). Even among those who don't attend as frequently if at all, however, almost half (48%) agree Jesus' bodily resurrection happened just as the Bible describes it.<sup>1</sup> At first glance the percentages of those who believe in the resurrection of Jesus are encouraging. But, when we consider the impact that the greatest miracle and the most significant event in human history should have on the daily lives of His followers, we ask, "So, you believe in the resurrection, but how has does it influence your life?" Henry & Melvin Blackaby have written: "The resurrection . . . is not a doctrine to be pondered but an invitation to experience the living Christ in your life. . . . If you don't appropriate all that God has provided through the resurrection, it's of no value to your life. . . . For the resurrection is not just an event that occurred in the first century, it continues to impact lives to this day. In reality, not only was Christ resurrection—you too are raised to new life when you're in Him."<sup>2</sup> As you consider Jesus' resurrection this Easter season, I encourage you to think about how that miraculous event has shaped your life. It is more than a doctrine to be pondered. It is a life to be lived. The Apostle Paul wrote that he wanted to "know Him and the power of His resurrection" (Phil. 3:10). That should be the desire of every believer. ~ Pastor Randy

1. "What Do Americans Actually Believe About the Resurrection?" Aaron Earls, 03/26/21, research.lifeway.com, accessed 03/23/22.

2. Henry & Melvin Blackaby, *Experiencing the Resurrection: The Everyday Encounter That Changes Your Life* (Colorado Springs: Multnomah, 2008), 2.



**CROSSWALK ADULT  
SMALL GROUPS**  
Beginning Wednesday,  
April 13<sup>th</sup>  
6:30 pm

***Wonderstruck: Awaken to the  
Nearness of God (Women's Study)***

***Intentional Choices: Discovering  
Contentment in Stressful Times***

***Game Plan for Life***



The first Wednesday of each month is CARE Night. CARE is an acronym for Christians Actively Reaching Everyone. We have a meal at 6 pm and ministry opportunities follow at 6:30 pm This month CARE Night is April 6th.

**You are invited to join us  
for Sunday School each  
week at 9:45 am.**

**Classes are available**

**nursery through senior adults!**

**BIBLE  
STUDIES  
FOR LIFE.**



**Churchwide Workday  
Saturday, April 2nd  
@ 8:00 am**



### A Note From Susan

“Christ the Lord is Risen Today”

This beloved hymn was written and published by Charles Wesley in 1739. Originally, there were 11 stanzas (without the “Alleluia”). The “Alleluia” was added in later so that there would be better flow with the musical composition. “Alleluia” simply means “praise the Lord”. I don’t know about you, but I’m thankful that this word was added. The resurrection is central to our faith. As 1 Corinthians 15:17 states: “And if Christ is not risen, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins!” This month, as we celebrate our risen Lord, (which, by the way, we should do on a daily basis) let’s lift our voices and victoriously sing **“Christ the Lord is Risen Today! Alleluia!”**



**Choir Rehearsal each Sunday  
@ 5:00 pm**

*Embrace*  
Women's Ministry

**“Ladies Night”**  
Thursday, April 7th  
@ Crystal Alley's house  
Devotion, games and dinner!  
All Ladies are invited to join us!!  
Sign up at the Welcome Center



**Monthly Meeting**  
Saturday, April 23rd @ 7am  
in the Fellowship Hall  
Join us for a light breakfast, mission & ministry updates, a brief Bible study and prayer.



**MBC Annual  
Men's Fishing Trip  
April 25th—29th**



### A Note From Ashley

As we continue our look at how we can grow the kingdom of God through various avenues, we can now move to a topic that often comes to mind when we think of growth: missions. This can be done on a local or global scale. Building the Church through missions helps believers understand the importance of missions as a part of their church and as a part of their own lives. Matthew 28:19 charges us to, “... go and make disciples of all nations...”. It does not include a section or footnote that says “only applies to missionaries, or non-profit organizations”; it just says go and make disciples. We are all called to do this. Missions can be done on a local, regional, national, or international level. Within those levels you also have the option between short-term and long-term projects. Mission work can and should be done more frequently on a local scale.

I think healing our nation would be more beneficial at this point in history. We are at a crossroads as a country. Church attendance and following Christ are both becoming rarer occurrences especially with young people. We have to be able to support and disciple our youth once they leave our homes and go off to college or begin working. There are three things we can do to help them before they leave our communities for another. The first is that we need to change the question. We need to change the question from how do we sustain them to how can we teach them to be self-sufficient? Part of the discipleship process mentioned before has to do with accountability. We have to show the generations below us how to maintain their relationship with their Creator and hold on to the love they have for His creation.

The second part of producing self-sustaining youth or young adults is giving them training and experience. Taking them to a food bank and having them serve meals. Helping them learn to pray for strangers and listen to that person’s individual needs. That way they will be fully equipped to serve God’s kingdom and grow it through missions. The third aspect of this methodology is changing their attitude about it. For a lot of young people, church is not something they fully enjoy. Usually their parents drag them there or they have other motives for going. We have to help students realize that church is not about checking something off your list. It is not about pleasing others, it is about pleasing God. Mission work is not something that should be done to be seen, it should be done to help others see. Students need to understand that God’s glory and grace are the greatest gift someone can receive. But the hands and feet of Christ need to be there to be the instruments of the Holy Spirit if we want to have lives transformed. As we go through this month I would encourage you to continue to disciple and pour into the lives of the young people around you. They are not only the church of tomorrow, they are the church of today. ~ Ashley



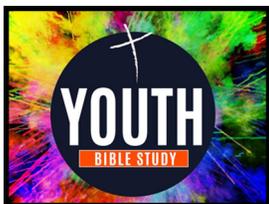
AWANA - Approved Workmen Are  
Not Ashamed - 2 Timothy 2:15  
Wednesdays @6:30 pm  
3 Years—6th Grade

Bible Drill - 4th—6th grade  
Sundays @ 5pm in the  
Fellowship Hall



4•2•4

4.2.4 is worship designed for children 4 yrs.—4th grades. The goal of 4.2.4 is to help children know Jesus and grow in loving fellowship with Him. 4.2.4 meets during worship service at 11 am



Wednesdays @ 6:30 pm  
7th—12th Grades



### A Note From Pastor Joe



If you will please take your mind off of, (just for a few minutes,) all the negative and bad things going on in our world and in some of our lives. As you take your mind off those things read Psalm 103. In this Psalm David shares in verse 2 that we should never forget the good things, things of grace, that God has done for us. Things such as, forgiveness of sins and healing (V.3,) redeems, crowns, fills, renews (V.4.) And he is just getting started. Basically David is writing down his praise to the Lord! Have you ever done that? Join me and let's all try it. Maybe we can share our words of praise with each other and make our own Psalm, poem or song. If we can allow our Lord to fill our minds and hearts with thoughts of what He has done in our lives, maybe we can continue to have, know and emulate to others how great our God is to us! Here is to keeping the love of our precious Lord in our hearts, minds and voices.

God Bless ~ Pastor Joe

P.S. Now if you really want you can put your minds back on the bad negative stuff if that is possible after reading of His goodness!

### Ministry Activities



JOY Ministry Bible Study  
Each Thursday at 11:00 am

Tuesday, April 12th Serving at East  
Lincolnton Christian Ministry. Meet at the  
church @ 8:30 am  
Lunch following at a local restaurant



**Narrowway  
Production Trip**  
April 9th  
10am-4pm

Trip to Surfside Beach &  
Vocal Band Concert @  
Carolina Opry  
April 23rd-25th

