

## Newsletter: April 2024

### Our Mission Statement:

*Our purpose is to be a unified body seeking to reach up to God, out to people, and down within ourselves to expand God's Kingdom for God's glory.*

### Mark Your Calendars

- 4/3 Wednesday Night Activities
- 4/6 Sabine Assoc. VBS Training at Zwolle FBC 9 AM - lunch
- 4/10 Wednesday Night Activities
- 4/13 Church Clean Up Day Day 8 AM
- 4/14 Church Council @ 4 PM  
Finance Comm. Mtg @ 5 PM
- 4/16 WMU Meeting @ 9:30 AM
- 4/17 Business Meeting @ 6 PM  
Wednesday Night Activities
- 4/24 Wednesday Night Activities
- 4/26 Fourth Friday Fish Fry @ Clara Springs
- 4/28 Toledo Bend Bapt. Resort Min.  
Building Dedication @ 2PM

### Sunday Service Schedule

Sunday School @ 9:30 a.m.  
Worship Service @ 10:30 a.m.

### Wednesday Night Activities

Meal @ 5:30 PM  
Prayer Meeting & Bible Study @ 6 PM  
Join us weekly for this time of study and prayer. The adults will meet in the fellowship hall. Youth and Children meet in their Sunday School rooms. We have a great time of food, fellowship, and study so come join us!

### *Easter Sunday Services*

*Sunday, March 31st*

*Morning Worship Service will include a presentation by our Children & Youth Departments, Special Music by a Women's Ensemble, and the Lord's Supper. Invite family and friends to join us for Sunday School and services on Easter Sunday!*



### Church Clean Up & Clean Out Days

Starting April 1-April 13<sup>th</sup> during office hours

Clean Up Day = Saturday, April 13<sup>th</sup> @ 8 AM

*There is a Sign Up Sheet located on the Bulletin Board outside the office where you can sign up for a specific area. We encourage everyone to become involved.*



### *Announcement from the Church Office*

*Just a reminder the Church Office will be closed for the next several Monday afternoons. This will allow the office staff to do some records work, cleaning, and maintenance with minimal interruptions. If it is an emergency, of course we will be there to take care of that. Thank you for your help and understanding about the office closure.*

### Church Business Meeting

Wednesday, April 17<sup>th</sup>

@ 6 p.m.

**There are several important item to discuss. Church members are urged to attend. Come be a part of the discussions and decisions of the church.**

### Finance Committee

Meeting

Sunday, April 14<sup>th</sup> @ 5 p.m.

Members of this committee are urged to attend. There are several important items to discuss. If you cannot attend, contact Paul Morris or the church office.

### Church Council Meeting on Sunday, April 14<sup>th</sup> @

**All church leaders and committee chairpersons are asked to attend. We plan to set and discuss activities for the rest of 2024. Contact the church office if you have any questions on this or have items to place on the church calendar & agenda.**

## ANNIE ARMSTRONG EASTER OFFERING FOR NORTH AMERICAN MISSIONS

*CHURCH GOAL = \$ 3,500      RECEIVED TO DATE = \$ 1,001*

The Annie Armstrong Easter Offering (AAEO) is the primary way Southern Baptists fund missions in North America. One hundred percent of gifts given to AAEO go to the field to support more than 2,900 missionary families serving across the United States and Canada. Please be in prayer about your part in helping and supporting missions and missionaries in North America. For more info on NAMB, log on to [AnnieArmstrong.com](http://AnnieArmstrong.com).



### Sabine and North Sabine Association VBS Clinic

Zwolle FBC Saturday, April 6<sup>th</sup> @ 9 A.M. - Lunch

If you are interested in helping out with VBS or would like to attend this clinic, please contact Ginger Jordan as soon as possible. Dates for our VBS are June 17 -21. The theme for this year is "Breaker Rock Beach".

### WMU Meeting on Tuesday, April 16<sup>th</sup> @ 9:30 AM

Ladies interested in learning and participating in various mission projects are encouraged to attend. See Shirley Salley for more details.

### Ways to Give Your Tithes & Offerings

- Place in offering plate as you enter or exit the Sanctuary on Sundays.
- Mail to Church (P.O. Box 239, Many, LA 71449)
- Come by the church during office hours.
- Log on to [www.fbcmany.org/giving](http://www.fbcmany.org/giving) or Text FBCMANY to 73256.



It's almost time to honor our graduates. If anyone in our church family is graduating High School or College, please contact the church office by phone or email no later than Monday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>. We will honor these graduates during the Morning Worship Service in May. Date will be announced soon.

Come one, come all!  
**SUMMER CAMP 24**  
"His signs are great. His wonders are mighty.  
His kingdom will last forever. His rule will never end." Daniel 4:3

**REGISTER NOW:**

- JULY 1-4---BLOOM CAMP (GIRLS 1ST-6TH)
- JULY 5-6-----PRECAMP (PREK4-1ST)
- JULY 7-9-----GRIT CAMP (BOYS 1ST-6TH)
- JULY 11-13-----KIDS CAMP (1ST-6TH)
- JULY 15-18----KIDS ON MISSION (1ST-6TH)
- JULY 21-24---JOURNEY YOUTH (7TH-12TH)
- JULY 25-27----IMPACT YOUTH (7TH-12TH)

WWW.CLARASPRINGS.COM

Please join us

## Toledo Bend Baptist Resort Ministries

### Building Dedication

Sunday, April 28  
2:00 PM  
Reception to follow

3840 Carters Ferry Road, Zwolle



On Thursday, March 28<sup>th</sup>, Mrs. Dovie Tarver went to be with the Lord at the age of 100. She reached this milestone in September 2023. Our deepest sympathies and continued prayers to her daughter, Mrs. Shirley Salley and the entire family. Mrs. Dovie will be greatly missed by many family, friends, and our church family.

Several upcoming dates for the Sanctuary flowers are available. If you have a special day in mind to place flowers or want to know what dates are available, please call the church office. These dates are on a “first come, first serve” basis so if you have a special date in mind, please call soon and reserve. Thank you to everyone for putting flowers in the Sanctuary. They added so much beauty to our Sanctuary and worship experience.



**Louisiana Baptist Convention**  
**Disaster Relief Training**  
 2024 Disaster Relief Training  
 April 13<sup>th</sup> = Ruston  
 April 20<sup>th</sup> = Sulphur  
 Log on to the State Convention website for more details and to register. [labaptists.org](http://labaptists.org)



**It has been decided that XYZ Bible Study will temporarily suspend meeting every week for a little while. We will revisit restarting XYZ in the next several months. The Church Office will keep you informed when the group will resume.**

Does the church have your correct email address, mailing address, and phone numbers? Recently we have had occasion to contact church members but the numbers and contact info we have is outdated. PLEASE - Email us your correct information so that we can make sure we have your records up to date. If you would like to sign up for our e-newsletters and/or our email, please let us know as well. We sincerely thank you for your help!



At Business Meeting on February 21<sup>st</sup>, our church voted to adopt the following statements as our church's Core Values. These Core Values will be added to our church website, monthly newsletter, visitor packets, and bulletins, etc. so that visitors and prospective members will know what Many FBC is about. Please be in prayer on ways to make sure we are adopting these in our church life and personal lives.

## Our Core Values

**Live like Jesus.** - Jesus is the living Word of God and when we live like Jesus, people will want to know more about God.

**Follow God's Word.** - Jesus reveals himself to us through the Bible, so we aim to saturate our lives with the wisdom and teachings found in the Bible.

**Talk with God.** - To draw closer to God, we must talk with God and listen to God as God speaks to us. The attitude and action of prayer is essential to everything we do.

**Live authentically.** - Jesus' love transforms the whole person. God does not require perfection from us but desires us to live transparently in obedience to God.

**Live in community.** - We encourage each other to live life together in small groups so we can encourage, teach, challenge, and love each other as God loves us.

**Practice generosity.** - God is infinitely generous and calls us to regularly give of our time, talents and resources.

**Share God's love with the world.** - It is our responsibility as followers of Jesus to love others by meeting the physical and spiritual needs of people locally and globally.



## A Word from Bro. Mark –

### I Saw the Light

At the end of a dusty and remote dirt road just a few miles from Interstate 30 around Gurdon, Arkansas there is a walking path that leads to an old railroad track. Beginning after dark, you would walk west down that track a little over two miles of rocky terrain, crossing five to seven railroad trestles or bridges, you can find a place to camp out for a while and wait for the spectacle of light so many people have journeyed to witness for 90 years. The Gurdon light is a source of great interest and speculation. It appears, usually around midnight, as a colorful floating sphere above the railroad tracks. The television series Unsolved Mysteries broadcasted an episode about this phenomenon back in 1994. Many people travel to see this light every year and it can be observed currently. Local university researchers have postulated that the light is caused by intense compression on a quartz deposit caused by the New Madris fault line. “Seeing the light” was a tradition for my college students when I served as the Baptist Collegiate Director at Henderson State University. People would make great effort for the experience.

Today, several of my co-workers and I prayed for someone making a similar journey. A Louisiana State University student, Jesse, has heard about Jesus from one of his friends that is a leader at the Baptist Collegiate Ministry. He wants to understand what he has heard. He is asking more questions and researching what it means to know and follow Jesus. Jesse is searching for the “light” of the world.

In John 8:12 Jesus says “I am the light of the world. Anyone who follows me will never walk in Darkness.”

This coming Sunday is Easter. We will observe Jesus’ sacrifice for the sins of the world on the Cross good Friday. For some folks it’s a day off work or school. For others it’s a sober occasion of recollection. Then Sunday will come. Many people will dress up in their finest spring clothes and head to a church to celebrate the resurrection of Christ and worship together. Join me in praying for many people who may not fully understand the difference between religion and knowing Jesus will travel to church to celebrate and will see “the Light” in Jesus. All this talk of light reminds me of an old hymn that is not often included in contemporary worship.

*Well might the sun in darkness hide  
And shut his glories in,  
When Christ, the mighty Maker died,  
For man the creature’s sin.  
At the cross, at the cross  
Where I first saw the light,  
And the burden of my heart rolled away,  
It was there by faith I received my sight,  
And now I am happy all the day!*

I want to encourage you to bring others with you this Easter Sunday as you take a journey to the Light!  
Pastor Mark Robinson



1 David Snodgrass  
2 Jay Booker  
6 Christine Littleton  
10 Cathy Kelly  
13 Kristi Leach

19 Maressa Brant  
21 Jeb Ross  
24 Corley Jackson  
25 Pete Abington  
26 Abby Hinds

28 Jim Hembree

## Members in Service :

	Greeters	Deacon of the Week
4/7	<i>Nancy Wright, Cathy Kelly</i>	Danny Warmack
4/14	<i>Kathy &amp; Danny Warmack</i>	Charles Mains
4/21	<i>Dorothy Alford, Shirley Salley</i>	Paul Morris
4/28	<i>Shirley Salley, Delores Geoghagan, and Rocky Wright</i>	Don Burkett

**Deacon Counters for April –  
Danny Warmack & Mark Jordan**

### Bulletin & Newsletter Deadlines

Bulletin for 4/7 = Thursday 4/4 @ 9 AM  
 Bulletin for 4/14 = Thursday 4/11 @ 9 AM  
 Bulletin for 4/21 = Thursday 4/18 @ 9 AM  
 Bulletin for 4/28 = Thursday 4/25 @ 9 AM  
 Newsletter for May = Thursday 4/25 @ 9 AM  
*To have announcements to be placed in publications,  
 have them to Karen or Phyllis by these deadlines.*

### Look Ahead at Upcoming Activities in May:

- Wednesday, May 1<sup>st</sup> – MHS Baccalaureate
- Thursday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> – National Day of Prayer
- Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup> – T. Bend Resort Min. Child Fishing Event
- Thursday, May 9<sup>th</sup> – Adult Day @ Clara Springs
- Sunday, May 12<sup>th</sup> – Mother’s Day
- Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup> – Finance Meeting @ 5 PM
- Wednesday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> – Business Meeting @ 6 PM
- Sunday, May 26<sup>th</sup> – Church Memorial Day Picnic

Vital Statistics	
Financial March 2024	
Monthly Budget Needs:	\$ 26,100.97
Gifts Received thru 3/24:	\$ 30,820.00
Budget Needs exceeded:	\$ 4,719.03

**Watch our Sunday Morning Worship Services live on our Facebook page. If you cannot join us in person, please use this way to worship with us each week.**



### Emergency Contact Numbers

**First Baptist Church of Many**

**Church Office = (318)256-5655**

**M – F from 8 AM – 4 PM**

**(closed 1 hr. for lunch)**

**AFTER HOURS CONTACTS:**

Karen Sepulvado = (318)508-1138

Phyllis Horton = (318)602-5062



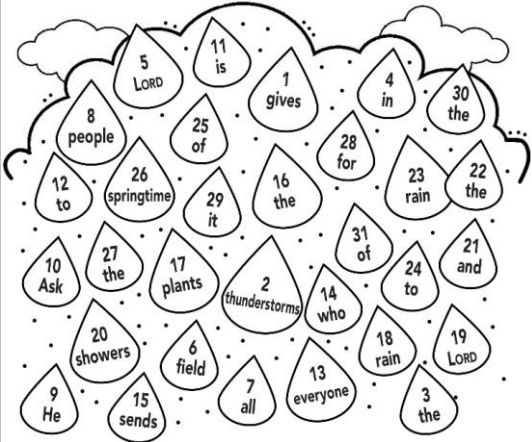
Interim Pastor – Rev. Mark Robinson

Church & Financial Secretary – Karen Sepulvado

Church Secretary – Phyllis Horton

# Puzzle!

Complete a Bible verse about spring by writing the word from each raindrop on the correct numbered line below.



10      16      5      28      18  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 4      22      26  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 29      11      3      19      14      15  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 27      2  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 9      1      20      31      23  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 12      7      8      21      17      25  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 30      6      24      13

Zechariah 10:1, NIV

Answer: Ask the LORD for rain in the springtime; it is the LORD who sends the thunderstorms. He gives showers of rain to all people, and plants of the field to everyone. Zechariah 10:1, NIV

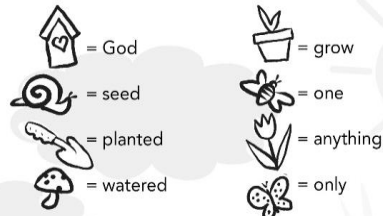


# PLANT, WATER, GROW

Building a faith community takes work. How did the church in Corinth come to be?

Directions: Use the code to fill in the words and complete a teaching of the apostle Paul.

KEY



I \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_, Apollos \_\_\_\_\_ it,  
 but \_\_\_\_\_ has been making it \_\_\_\_\_.  
 So neither the \_\_\_\_\_ who plants nor the  
 \_\_\_\_\_ who waters is \_\_\_\_\_,  
 but \_\_\_\_\_, who makes things \_\_\_\_\_.

1 Corinthians 3:6-7, NIV

Answer: planted, seed, watered, God, grow, one, anything, only, God, grow, one, one, grow, God, God, God, God

## Superimposed love

Maybe you've heard how salvation is like a total solar eclipse: God doesn't see our sins because Jesus' holiness covers them completely. Or maybe you've heard how trials can cause an "eclipse of faith."



At WorldChallenge.org, Pastor Gary Wilkerson explains that in Greek, *eclipse* means "I am absent" or "I cease to exist," because people once thought the gods temporarily extinguished the sun. "For Christians, a 'spiritual eclipse' is a dark hour when God seems to be absent from our lives," Wilkerson writes.

Wilkerson points to Peter being sifted like wheat, Elijah and Jeremiah facing extreme discouragement, and David collapsing morally. Amid Satan's attacks, "God seems completely absent," writes the pastor. "In that dark moment of eclipse, the devil has created such chaos we can't possibly see a way out." During times of testing, Christians must cry out to God and trust his faithfulness.

Completing the eclipse analogy, Wilkerson shares Titus 3:4, the "love of God our Savior appeared" (NIV). The Greek meaning of *appeared* here is *superimposed*, he writes. God looks on our fraught-filled times of eclipse and "superimposes his divine love over us."