

# APRIL 2022 NEWSLETTER

## APRIL THEME: DECONSTRUCTING FAITH

### WHAT IS DECONSTRUCTION?

Deconstruction is taking a hard critical look at the ideas, practices, traditions, and beliefs of the contemporary Christian faith and determining whether or not they line up with the practices, traditions, and beliefs of Jesus.

### April Fighter Verse — Hebrews 11:6

And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

## OUR WORSHIP

**IN-PERSON**  
**LIVESTREAM, FACEBOOK & YOUTUBE @ 11:00AM**  
**Www.centralbaptistnyc.org**  
**Adult Sunday School 9:45AM via Zoom**  
**Dial in phone number: 646-558-8656**

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**Newsletter Staff** — Oversight: Pastor Robert Casteline  
Sharrata Hunt, Paulette Igharo with Special Thanks to Tanya Glenn

## Lent - Season of Revival



**CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH**  
LOVING • LEARNING • LEADING • LIVING

JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE

*Lent*  
Season of Renewal

**REVIVAL CONCERT**  
Featuring - Michelle Bradley  
(courtesy of the Metropolitan Opera)  
APR. 13 - 7:00PM

**MAUNDY SERVICE**  
Pastor Charlie Dates- Guest Speaker  
APR. 14 - 7:00PM

**GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE**  
Pastor Charlie Dates- Guest Speaker  
APR. 15 - 12:00PM

**EASTER WORSHIP SERVICE**  
Pastor John Fila-Aime-Senior Pastor  
APR. 17 - 11:00AM

166 West 92nd Street New York, NY 10025

**See full Season of Revival &  
Holy Week Schedule on Page 3.**

Sunday, April 17, 2022

*He is Risen*

*He is not here; He has risen, just as He said.  
Matthew 28:6*

*He is Risen Indeed!*

**Blessed  
Resurrection Sunday!**

## MINISTRY HIGHLIGHT

### Volunteerism

Paulette Forbes-Igharo

As followers of Christ, we all have a calling on our life to serve as we are led. "Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it. And God has placed in the church first of all apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, of helping, of guidance, and of different kinds of tongues." 1 Corinthians 12:27-29 NIV.

National Volunteer Week is April 17-23, 2022 so we are highlighting volunteerism and service. National Volunteer Week was established in 1974. Although volunteering is not new, today, probably more than ever, people strive to lead lives that reflect their values through the expression of civic life. Since the formal establishment of National Volunteer week, thousands of volunteer projects are scheduled during that period, all with the intention of improving the life of others. President George H. W. Bush established Points of Light in 1990 with the mission - to inspire equip and mobilize people to take actions as volunteers that change the world; to encourage everyone to discover the power of making a difference in creating vibrant healthy and participatory communities.

Volunteerism is as beneficial to the receiver as it is to the giver. Gordon Hinckley said, "One of the great ironies of life is this: He or she who serves almost always benefits more than he or she who is served." There are innumerable capacities in which one can serve and everyone can serve. One can serve remotely (on line or on the telephone) or in person; individually or as part of a group; in small projects and in large ones. Examples of ways you can help:

- Help a neighbor with errands such as picking up mail, reading and responding to mail, reading magazines or books
- promoting events
- registration and attendance for events
- elder care and child care
- after school activities
- at food banks
- graphic design
- building websites
- as greeters and waiting room attendants
- giving directions and handing out literature

- helping to organize conferences and workshops
- leading small group activities.

Volunteerism enriches your own life by providing you with a purpose; giving you a sense of belonging through a community; helps you to meet new friends; helping you to increase your social skills; teaches you new skills and providing you with job opportunities. It also combats depression and provides a happiness effect. As the saying goes, "Life is a matter of give and take." When we give we also get. Also, regarding the need to serve, Muhammed Ali said, "Service to others is the rent you pay for your room here on earth" and we serve out of gratitude because the price has already been paid. Look for opportunities to volunteer service to a person or a cause.

### THE MONTH OF MAY

During the month of May, Central will be focusing on service with three special events. In your times of Silence and Solitude (see page 3), when your mind starts to wander, ask the Lord how you help with Central's Service Events. We will need your time and your hands to help with the preparations and distributions.

SERVICE EVENTS	
May 8	MOTHER'S DAY CELEBRATION Join us as we honor our mothers with care packages.
May 14	SOUL FEEDING Join with us as we prepare bagged lunches with a prayer card to give out to the community.
May 28	SERVING OUR VETERANS Today we honor our veterans by distributing bags of toiletries.

**SOLITUDE AND SILENCE READING**  
**APRIL 6 – APRIL 15**

**Discernment**

Seeking God's will in our decision-making process. It is not merely the ability to decide what is right and wrong, or to determine what is best and worst. It is the ability to distinguish between what seems good and what is God's absolute best. It is the process by which God aid his people through His spirit to make the best possible decision. Solitude and silence is a practice often associated with spiritual discernment because God often speaks to us when we have shut ourselves up from other voices.

**DAILY READINGS**

April 6 James 1:5-7	April 11 1 Kings 3:3-9
April 7 Romans 12:1-2	April 12 John 16:13
April 8 Psalm 119:105	April 13 1 Thessalonians 5:19-21
April 9 Proverbs 3:5-6	April 14 Philippians 1:9-11
April 10 1 Corinthians 2:14	April 15 1 John 4:1



**OFFERING ENVELOPES  
ARE AVAILABLE**

Retrieve your offering envelopes from the church lobby or you can stop by the church during the week.

Please call before you come.

You can also give online via the church website.



**CENTRAL  
BAPTIST CHURCH**  
 LOVING • LEARNING • LEADING • LIVING

Tithe \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Building Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Missions Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Deacons Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Scholarship \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Youth Ministry \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Capital Campaign: Building Facade \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

2022

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**SEASON OF REVIVAL  
HOLY WEEK  
SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

**REVIVAL CONCERT**

Featuring  
**Michelle Bradley**  
 (courtesy of the Metropolitan Opera)

**APRIL 13—7:00pm  
IN PERSON**

**MAUNDY THURSDAY  
SERVICE**

Guest Speaker: Pastor  
 Charlie Dates

**APRIL 14—7:00pm  
STREAMING VIA  
LIVESTREAM,  
FACEBOOK & YOUTUBE**

**GOOD FRIDAY  
SERVICE**

Guest Speaker:  
 Pastor Charlie Dates  
**April 15—12:00PM  
STREAMING VIA  
LIVESTREAM,  
FACEBOOK & YOUTUBE**

**EASTER  
(RESURRECTION)  
SUNDAY SERVICE  
Pastor John Fils-Aime  
APRIL 17—11:00AM**





**Mark 16:1-3** — *When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices so that they might go to anoint Jesus' body. Very early on the first day of the week, just after sunrise, they were on their way to the tomb and they asked each other, "Who will roll the stone away from the entrance of the tomb?"*

It is now early morning on the first ever Easter Sunday, and a group of women wake up to complete a task that had been left undone, to do one last thing on behalf of Jesus before they move on to wherever life will take them next. Joseph of Arimathea rushed to bury the body of Jesus before the start of the Jewish Sabbath on Friday and had no time to anoint the body for burial. So, with fragrant spices and ointment in hand Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome set out to honor Jesus' body by giving him a proper burial. These were among the women who had traveled with Jesus and supported his earthly ministry. They were there at the foot of the cross when Jesus took his last breath and now as a final tribute, they wanted to pour oil and fragrances over his body to keep the smell and the stench of death away.

As they were walking, the women realized that there was an obstacle in the way that would prevent them from completing the task they wanted to do, a dead end on top of an already dead end. There was a large stone that had been placed at the entrance of the tomb and the presence of the stone gave rise to this deflating question that the women asked themselves in the beginning of verse 3, "Who will roll the stone away from the entrance of the tomb." The women had prepared for everything. They had purchased the spices needed to anoint the body of Jesus ahead of time, they knew that the intense Palestinian heat would make their job more difficult by causing the body to sweat and stink, so they prepared in advance for that by arriving at the tomb

in the cool of the early morning. The women had seemingly prepared for everything. But the stone was an obstacle that they hadn't prepared for, nor were they equipped to deal with. The very nature of the question they ask *who* will remove, rather than *how* will we remove, seems to suggest that the women knew that dealing with this stone was something beyond their strength.

This is the very challenge of life; you can prepare all that you want to, draw up detailed plans, but life has a way of placing obstacles in your path that you can't prepare for and that you are not equipped to handle. You can prepare for your financial future planning for financial freedom and stability, but no one ever prepares for the day that you lose your job and run out of savings. Your preparations for spending a lifetime together can be deterred by the unexpected obstacle of divorce or death. Our plans are no guarantee that we will be prepared for any and all obstacles that we will face in life. There is no way to plan and prepare for life's dead ends.

But even in times that life hits us with obstacles and dead ends that we are not prepared for, know that God can still meet you with a miracle. Knowing that the stone that lay in front of the tomb was a dead end to their intended plans, not knowing if there would be anyone there to help them with their efforts to remove the stone, the women decide to do something remarkable they continue to the tomb anyway. They don't know who or how, but they walk in faith believing there is a way. And often God reserves his greatest miracles for those who continue in faith despite the obstacles that they believe stand in their way.



*Continued on the next page*

Sometimes what determines whether or not we will see God move in our life, what controls whether or not we receive the blessing or the miracle that we are asking God for, is our determination to move forward in spite of the obstacles that stand in our way.

There is an old legend of a benevolent king who had his men place a great heavy stone on a certain roadway over which all his subjects would be forced to travel. The stone was so large that it was impossible to navigate around, and the citizens of the land would be left with one of two decisions, either they could turn around and take a more indirect route to their destination or they could struggle to try to move the stone. The king then hid himself to see what his subjects would do when they encountered the stone. One by one people came to the stone and, intimidated by its size and perceived immovability, they turned around, often cursing loudly and blaming the king for not keeping the roadway clear. Finally, a poor peasant farmer on his way to town with a load of vegetables to sell in the marketplace for a profit to feed his family, came to the blocked roadway. In haste, he laid down his load and with considerable effort and loss of time he managed to move the great stone to the side of the roadway. Then, turning to leave, the farmer saw a purse which had been place under the stone. When he opened the purse and found it to be filled with pieces of gold, and a note from

the king indicating that it was to be the property of the one who would removed the stone.

And for those of us who determine to move forward who won't turn back because of the obstacles that lie ahead, if you just press on, if you just push through you will discover that God has a miracle and a blessing on the other side. The threat of a potential obstacle should not challenge our faith or cause us to turn around, there is a blessing for those who are determined to move forward in spite of the obstacles that we may encounter.

### SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

For those of us who continue to pray day after day even when we don't see any tangible results; stay in a troubled marriage even when our spouse gives no indication that they will ever change; continue to serve without experiencing the results of our service, keep walking in faith believing that God is and that He rewards those who earnestly seek him (Hebrews 11:6).

"Because of the LORD's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness."

**The Good News:** With each sunrise, God teaches you that He is great and that He can guide you through the darkness of the night.

<https://www.womansday.com/life/g30336719/motivational-bible-verses/?lide=7>



## April Birthdays



Chris Gee	Apr. 4
Eddie Sims	Apr. 4
Erica Winn	Apr. 4
Jermaine Bolden	Apr. 5
Jacqueline Santiago	Apr. 5
Ronald Pusey	Apr. 6

Phillip Jones	Apr. 12
Lauren Phillips	Apr. 12
Alexis Phillips	Apr. 13
Azalee Evans	Apr. 14
Rhonda Marshall	Apr. 17
Iyanna Rivera	Apr. 18

Eleise Menjivar	Apr. 20
Julissa Bordon-Marcelin	Apr. 23
V. AnnDenise Brown	Apr. 24
Betty Johnson	Apr. 24
Gwendolyn Barns	Apr. 27
Julie Harris	Apr. 29
Sandra Richardson	Apr. 29



# Bible in a Year Reading Calendar

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Date	OT Reading	NT Reading
4/1/2022	1 Chronicles 15 - 17	John 10:22-42
4/2/2022	1 Chronicles 18 - 20	John 11:1-17
4/3/2022	1 Chronicles 21 - 23	John 11:18-46
4/4/2022	1 Chronicles 24 - 27	John 11:47-57
4/5/2022	1 Chronicles 28 - 2 Chronicles 3	John 12
4/6/2022	<b>Catch Up &amp; Reflect</b>	
4/7/2022	2 Chronicles 4 - 6	John 13:1-17
4/8/2022	2 Chronicles 7 - 9	John 13:18-38
4/9/2022	2 Chronicles 10 - 12	John 14
4/10/2022	2 Chronicles 13 - 16	John 15
4/11/2022	2 Chronicles 17 - 19	John 16
4/12/2022	2 Chronicles 20 - 24	John 17
4/13/2022	<b>Catch Up &amp; Reflect</b>	
4/14/2022	2 Chronicles 25 - 27	John 18:1-23
4/15/2022	2 Chronicles 28 - 30	John 18:24-40

Date	OT Reading	NT Reading
4/16/2022	2 Chronicles 31 - 33	John 19:1-22
4/17/2022	2 Chronicles 34 - 36	John 19:23-42
4/18/2022	Ezra 1 - 2	John 20
4/19/2022	Ezra 3 - 7	John 21
4/20/2022	<b>Catch Up &amp; Reflect</b>	
4/21/2022	Ezra 8 - 10	Acts 1
4/22/2022	Nehemiah 1 - 3	Acts 2
4/23/2022	Nehemiah 4 - 7	Acts 3
4/24/2022	Nehemiah 8 - 10	Acts 4:1-22
4/25/2022	Nehemiah 11 - 13	Acts 4:23-37
4/26/2022	Esther 1 - 4	Acts 5
4/27/2022	<b>Catch Up &amp; Reflect</b>	
4/28/2022	Esther 5 - 6	Acts 6:1 - 7:19
4/29/2022	Esther 7 - 10	Acts 7:20-60
4/30/2022	Job 1 - 3	Acts 8:1-25

## Bible Study, Prayer Meetings & Announcements

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY**  
Join Zoom by Phone: 646-558-8656  
Facebook

**Prayer Meetings by Phone**  
**Conference Call**  
**Connection**  
**(712) 770-4711**  
**Access Code: 667293#**  
Monday & Thursday  
6-6:30 AM

**Mid-Week Prayer:**  
**Wednesday**  
12:00-1:00 PM  
**Join Zoom Prayer Meetings**  
**by Phone: 646-558-8656.**

**NO WOMEN'S MINISTRY "POWER HOUR"**  
**MEETING IN APRIL**

**EVENING PRAYER,**  
Evening Prayer will meet  
**Friday, APRIL 29 @ 7:00PM**  
Dial into the Zoom Meeting with your phone  
number: 646-558-8656

**All Senior Ministry Activities are cancelled  
until further notice.**

## Pray For Our Missionaries

**Our missionaries who serve with  
Missions Door:**

Francklin and Nerlie Alexis, Haiti  
Felix and Amnerys Abreu, Dominican Republic  
Edwin and Liz Colon, Brooklyn, NY  
Herode and Edline Guillomettre, Haiti  
Duane and Miriam Mansveld, Montreal, Canada  
Luis and Azucena Matute, Panama & Costa Rica  
Vincent and Maryam Morgan, Brooklyn, NY & Middle East  
Ray and Valerie Ramos, Brooklyn, NY  
Marvin and Denise Robinson, Rochester, NY

**Our missionaries who serve with  
World Venture:**  
Barry and Peggy Owen, Asia

**Our missionaries who serve with United World  
Mission:**  
Matt and Nicole Paschall, Hungary

**MISSIONARY OF THE MONTH**  
**DALE BELLI**

**Our missionary who serves with**  
**Urban Life Source Connection, New York City**

**Our missionaries who serve with COMINAD**  
*(Cooperative Mission Network of the African Dispersion)*  
Brian and Ruth Johnson,  
Europe, Africa, and the Caribbean