

First Word

RFBC Mission Statement: To glorify God by loving Him with our whole heart, telling others the good news about Jesus, loving our neighbors as ourselves, growing to become like Christ, and obeying all He taught.



“The Fruit of the Spirit is...peace”

Galatians 5:22

When you think about Easter, imagining Christ on the cross and envisioning the discovery of the empty tomb, what emotions are stirred? The death and resurrection of Christ for us evoke powerful responses: sorrow, anguish, awe, hope, and ultimately the joy of all joys. But one of the most blessed benefits of the cross for us is peace.

Ever since sin entered the human race, peace has been an elusive thing. The

enemy who tempted Adam and Eve to rebel against their loving God continues to work hard alienating their offspring from their creator. The world in which we live is filled with the turmoil of sin, sorrow, pain, and suffering. And our own minds and hearts divert us from paths of peace, riddling us with division and strife and internal confusion.

But on the cross, Jesus purchased our peace. He died and was raised “to reconcile to Himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of His cross” (2 Corinthians 13:11). There is now nothing that can separate us from the love of God because “we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ” (Romans 5:1). Our peace is secure because our relationship with God is secure.

On the cross Jesus also defeated Satan, rendering powerless the enemy’s terrible weapon of death. And at Christ’s return we will share in His victory over the enemy as “the God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet” (Romans 16:20). Greater is He who died for us and who is in us than he who is in the world!

We still live in this troubled world, of course, but we no longer live as orphans and enemies alienated from God. We have been saved, forgiven, adopted, and raised with Christ in His resurrection power. Because of the cross, we have peace even in the face of the world’s troubles: “I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world” (John 16:33).

And the peace that is given to us in Christ is now ours to share with others: “Aim for restoration, comfort one another, agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you” (2 Corinthians 13:11). Blessed are the peacemakers, indeed.

This is the message of Easter: “He himself is our peace” (Ephesians 2:14). I look forward to celebrating this peace with all you on that special Resurrection morning. “Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times in every way. The Lord be with you all.” With peace and love,

Pastor Eric

Volume 20, Issue 4

April 2024

First Baptist Church
Ringgold

HOMEBOUND MEMBER
OF THE MONTH

Margie Doss

402 Tennessee Street
Ringgold, GA 30736

Sunday, April 21st
4:00 PM

Deacon Meeting
Sanctuary

Ladies' Prayer Time
Ruth Classroom



A Word on Worship from Eric...

Recently I was involved in a conversation with fellow church music leaders as they were talking about what creating worship services and what to involve or not involve. As the conversation was going, we entered a discussion about the purpose of choirs in worship services.

Before talking of choirs, let me remind you, the congregational and choir music used in worship services at Ringgold First Baptist Church is carefully selected and crafted into an order of service to be a testament to God's glory and love. It is not a warm up to the sermon. It is an integral part of our worship service (as is scripture reading, prayer, preaching, and responding). I would argue that the congregation is the most important choir in a worship service. It is important for all people to sing of their faith in God through Jesus Christ through songs whose subjects vary from praise, thanksgiving, hope, encouragement, confession, and aspiration among others.

Choirs (or any group that performs while others listen) share songs with similar subject matter to congregational singing, but it is our hope that the congregation listens to the texts inspired by the scriptures as they would listen to a sermon. These "performances," like congregational singing, are sung as an act of worship and devotion directed to God and act as an encouragement and reminder of His blessings for those who listen to the sung message. Unlike congregational singing, however, these are often songs that are not as accessible or suitable for the larger body to sing. They are often presented with different musical textures and settings that can prompt a different kind of listening that penetrates the soul.

The music we sing and listen to has an impact. It is a vessel by which we can deliver the word of

God into people's hearts as they contemplate who He is and who they are. It is found in worship services dating back at least to the tabernacle. As we bring music into the church, It is important to remember that each song, congregational or not, contributes to the "story-line thread" that runs throughout the service - God's love and salvation through Jesus Christ. Remember this each Sunday.

SATURDAY, APRIL 27TH
AT 12 O'CLOCK NOON

Ladies' Spring Tea

at BEYOND THE GARDEN GATE TEAROOM
Mercantile at the Ridge
6725 Ringgold Rd, Chattanooga, TN

Cost: \$20 * RSVP Required

Senior Adult Outing
April 25th

Park Place & Marsh House

Leave from the church at 11:15am

RSVP: Name _____ How Many _____

Yes I/we need transportation!

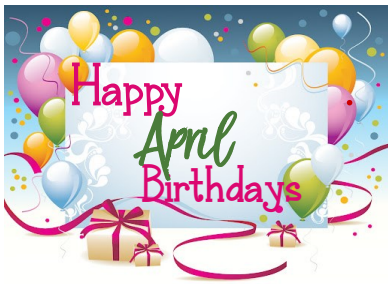
Ladies' Social
April 9th at 6pm

We will socialize, make a Sugar Scrub to take home, and talk about the vision and focus of our Women's Ministry.

Bring a snack to share



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 31	1	11 AM 1:00PM at Caffeine Addicts 2	3 NO Churchwide Activities 7PM Choir Practice	4 6:00PM Praise Team	5	6
*Regular Sunday Services 7	8	11 AM 9	10 **Regular Activities	11 6:00PM Praise Team	12	13
*Regular Sunday Services 14	15	11 AM 6PM Building & Grounds 7PM Finance Committee 16	17 **Regular Activities	18 6:00PM Praise Team	19	20
*Regular Sunday Services 4PM Deacons Meet/ Ladies' Prayer 21	22	11 AM 23	24 **Regular Activities	25 6:00PM Praise Team	26	27 at Beyond the Garden Gate
*Regular Sunday Services 6pm Betterman Graduation & Banquet 28	29	11 AM 30	*Sunday Services Schedule: 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Traditional Worship 11:10 AM Contemporary Worship		**Wednesday Regular Schedule: 5:30 PM Supper 6:00 PM Prayer/Bible Study; Kid's Choir; Student Activities 7:00 PM Sanctuary Choir	



If we are missing someone, please call the church office to update information.

1st	Justin Painter	14th	Jerry Smitherman	24th	Tyson Bomar
2nd	Anna Leigh Watson	15th	Carol Blankenship		Pat Crawford
3rd	Susie Burns	16th	Joshua Martin		Win Long
4th	Tyler Hamilton	17th	Theresa Adams	25th	Marie Chancey
5th	Todd Callaway	18th	Bill Smith		Eric Kennedy
7th	Sharron Amis	19th	Karen Crawford	26th	Tori Reed
	Robert Read	20th	Sara Bryant	27th	Goose Fortenberry
8th	Kevin Silvey		Jan Jay		Janice Watkins
9th	John Abney		Mitchell Watson	28th	Norma Babcock
	Jo Anne Vincent	21st	Jane Bailey		Millie Cheek
10th	Earline Templeton	22nd	Nancy Davis	29th	Joyce Whitaker
12th	Henry Eves	23rd	Tom Smith	30th	Linda Clark

First Baptist Church Ringgold

www.ringgoldfbc.org

7611 Nashville Street
Ringgold, GA 30736

Non - Profit Organization

U.S. POSTAGE - PAID

Ringgold, GA

Permit No. 34

**RETURN SERVICE
REQUESTED**



Holy Week Schedule

Holy Week Service

Wednesday, March 27th at 6:30PM
In the Sanctuary

March 31st at 7:15AM

RFBC Parking Lot

Easter Sunrise Service

Easter BREAKFAST

March 31st at 8:00AM

Fellowship Hall

