



THE VISION

April 2024

"Rooted in Christ, we equip disciples and leaders for tomorrow's challenges with grace and truth."

Living the Resurrected Life



"Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?" **John 11:25-26 ESV**

If only we could capture the excitement of Resurrection Sunday and live that each day of our lives. On Resurrection Sunday, we woke up early, braved the chilly weather to gather and waited for the first light from the rising sun. We anticipated a great day of worship, fellowship, food, and time with family. We understand that Resurrection Sunday marks the greatest moment in history—the Resurrection of our God and King, Jesus the Christ. It is a profound moment that proves Jesus is indeed who He says He is.

Everything about the accounts of that day shows real human responses. The women approached the tomb with the intention of applying spices to the body; they were looking for a dead body in a tomb. It would be as if we went to bring clothes for a dearly departed loved one, took them to the funeral home, for that is where the deceased body would be. But imagine their surprise when they found the stone had already moved away, and two angels stood before them, asking a perplexing question—"Why do you seek the living among the dead?"

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***PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE AT
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

GLoucester Point Baptist Church
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Deacon's Devotional

Cast your burden on the Lord, and he will sustain you; he will never permit the righteous to be moved. (Psalm 55:22) ESV

As many of you know, our family was shocked by a sudden and tragic loss. With broken hearts, we are working every day to recover and move forward given the many changes and challenges ahead. The storm may be over, but the recovery will be long.

Amidst our grief, it is sometimes difficult to see God's hand. But we can feel the presence of God in all His Glory if we open our hearts to His truth. Throughout this ordeal, He has opened my eyes and revealed many wondrous blessings. I saw our entire family instantly converge and support one another without exception and without question. I witnessed my wife, Connie, bravely face dozens of difficult decisions with prayer, grace, humility, and unwavering faith. We have felt the uplifting prayers of our church family and friends. We have felt Christ's love through our Pastor. Many times over, helpers were provided right when we needed them the most. He has a plan for all of this. I hoped I might get just a glimpse of God's plan, but He instead asked me to walk through this darkness in faith and His light alone. We have seen His handiwork. He will sustain us, and our faith in Jesus Christ is ever strong. We know Connie's mom is singing and worshiping in her true home now. And we know we too will join her in our own time. We are truly blessed!

A few days ago, a terrifying thought struck me. If our strength comes through Christ, how do nonbelievers work through such pain and grief? Where is their comfort? Where is their strength? Do they try to rely on their knowledge and understanding alone? Is this why so many cry out to God in anger for their loss? If they do not believe in salvation, where is their hope? The sense of loss must be crushing for those without faith. When I feel sadness suddenly wash over me, I have Christ to walk beside me. They do not.

My heart aches for those lost souls who mourn without hope and suffer without faith.
(cont. on page 3)

Our family has much work to do as we navigate difficult times ahead. Our power to prevail lies in Christ alone. Our faith endures all, and Christ will guide us every step of the way. In all of this, let us remember how much our community needs the same hope we hold in our hearts. I pray that we, as a Body of Believers, steel our resolve to make disciples as we are commanded to. This we must do, so that they too may come to faith with the peace and comfort that only Jesus Christ can provide. May God continue to shower us with the joy and peace that comes from Christ alone.

And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. (Philippians 4:7) ESV

Blessings,

Brian Stewart

WMU—MISSIONS MOMENT

Please pray for missionaries, and their specific requests, as they spread the gospel of Jesus.

Kody and Lindsey Aten: Church Planter—Gloucester, MA.

"Pray God gives us favor with the city and as we further establish our meeting location."

Josh and Cherish Wilson: Church Planter—St. Louis, MO.

"Pray for God's strength and favor as we reach people with the gospel, disciple them into a relationship with Jesus and multiply in St. Louis and around the world."

Kay Bennett: Send Relief—New Orleans, LA

"Pray human trafficking victims can escape the exploitation they are experiencing and that God will protect the homeless as they are most vulnerable to being trafficked. Also, pray our staff will remain encouraged and strengthened as we minister to hurting people."

Paul and Aprile Hyder: Chaplain, U.S.Navy—Oceanside, CA.

"Pray for my wife's ongoing health issues as she recovers from breast cancer. Pray for my adult daughters, one of whom has severe health challenges. Pray for our ongoing ministry to our nation's Marines, Sailors, and their families."

CHURCH WORKER'S

Deacon of the Week

4.7—Brian Stewart
4.14—Bill Breeden
4.21—Leslie Belvin
4.28—Jamie Moore

April Ushers

Leslie Belvin
Jimmy Diggs
Amy Martin
Gus Saunders



April Tellers

Judy Cahoon
Lynn Walton

Nursery Workers & Sun. Sch. Nursery

4.7—A. Crummett
4.14—J. Worth & E. Evans
4.21—S. Warren
4.28—M. McNeil

Younger Children's Church

4.7—N. Dyson & S. West
4.14—Theresa Svoboda
4.21—S. Saunders & B. Keller
4.28—Theresa Svoboda

Older Children's Church

4.7—A. Smith & E/ Owens
4.14—M. Wagner & B. Wagner
4.21—D. Gandee & M. McNeil
4.28—J. Sanford/Brody/Shyann

Sacred Harmony

Concert

Sunday, April 28 at 6p



With over 20 years in music ministry, Sacred Harmony is singing to sold out crowds and garnering attention all across the nation with their own unique sound. The Tennessee based trio has captivated crowds with their stage performance while ushering them into a place of worship through the message they deliver. Janet Weaver, Brian Scott and Therese Bellamy have taken their collective talent can combined it with numerous musical styles to create a progressive sound that is truly their own. Sacred Harmony's music is truly "relevant" to the hearts and lives of the people they minister to night after night.

Whether they are performing at sold out theatres or ministering at a small country church, Sacred Harmony continues to make fans and impact lives everywhere they go and are sure to be a group to watch on the Gospel Music Scene.

Even if the disciples saw the miracles, they were meaningless without the resurrection. They were hiding, not understanding that Jesus would rise again to life. The ladies tried to tell them, but they would not believe it. We'd love to think we are not that way, but we are.

How many times did someone have to tell us about what life was like as disciples of Jesus, how much God transformed their lives before we believed? Resurrection Sunday marks a beginning, a new reality that the old way has been overthrown, that Jesus is God in the flesh, and He calls us each uniquely to serve in His Kingdom. It's a call not to worry as the world does but to see life through His eyes. We are called to walk together in this, and we should have joy, excitement, and anticipation every day.

Jesus is as much resurrected today as He has ever been. Let us live the Resurrected Life. Let us show others the tomb is still empty; too many are still looking for answers among things of the world that are dead. Let us help point them to the One who is the Resurrection and the Life. Would you join me in calling each other and our community to be part of this Resurrected Life.

For His Glory—Pastor Dillon



Sometimes it's hard
to let go and say goodbye;
Sometimes it's hard
to accept new leadership and change;
Don't run after what God has removed;
Don't ask for permission
unless you're prepared to obey;
Don't waste time on fruitless endeavors.

*Submitted by
Pearl Goude*



Sunday Schedule

Sunday School (All Ages)—9:45a
 Worship Service—11a
 C.A.R.E. Ministry—2p

April 2024

Wednesday Schedule

5:30p—CYM Supper
 6p—Children's Choir
 6p—Youth in Action
 6:30p—TeamKID
 6:30p—Bible Study & Prayer Meeting
 7:30p—Choir Practice

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 6p AHG—Troop	2	3 Regular Activities	4	5 6:30p Men's Bible Study 7p Serenity Grp.	6 Daffodil Festival 
7 Daffodil Festival 11a COMMUNION 2p C.A.R.E.	8 6p AHG—Leaders	9 9:30a Community Morning Out 6:30p B&G Mtg.	10 Regular Activities	11	12 6:30p Men's Bible Study 7p Serenity Grp.	13
14 <i>Sunday Breakfast</i> 9:15a Breakfast-Koinonia 2p C.A.R.E.	15 10a WMU Leader's Mtg. 6p AHG—Troop	16 VISION Articles Due 6:30p Armstrong Circle	17 Regular Activities	18 10a Acree Circle	19 6:30p Youth Event Night 6:30p Men's Bible Study 7p Serenity Grp.	20 9a Quilting Grp.
21 2p C.A.R.E.	22	23	24 5:30p Children's Choir 6p Family Night Supper 7p Qtly Business Mtg. <i>(No Adult Activities)</i>	25	26 6:30p Men's Bible Study 7p Serenity Grp.	27
28 2p C.A.R.E. 6p Sacred Harmony Concert	29 6p AHG—Troop	30	1 Regular Activities	2	3 6:30p Men's Bible Study 7p Serenity Grp	4

April Birthdays:

Johnny Miller	4.6
Bill Swindeck	4.7
William Hogge	4.8
Dean Short	4.10
Declan McNeil	4.11
Stewart Wood	4.15
Pearl Goude	4.18
Samantha West	4.19
L.T. Wells	4.20
Shyann Sanford	4.21
David Strickland III	4.23
Paul Greggs	4.24
Linda Mitchell	4.27
Barry Milligan	4.29
Benjamin Greggs	4.29
Jeff Breaks	4.30
Rebecca Joyce	4.30



Anniversaries:

Gus & Sarah Saunders	4.3
Donnie & Jo Green	4.22
Gordon & Alice Smith	4.25