

## Pastor's Piece

"BOUGHT WITH A HIGH PRICE!"

"Or don't you know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit, who lives in you and was given to you by God! You do not belong to yourself, for God bought you with a high price. So you must honor God with your body." (1 Corinthians 6:19-20, NLT.)

Purchases...we make them on a daily basis...don't we? Here's a laundry list of things: homes, cars, clothing, food, cleaning supplies, office supplies, medications...and the list goes on and on! Some 'purchases' are more important than others. Webster defines 'purchase' as: "to buy, to obtain by labor, the acquisition of anything by money." when you 'purchase' something it follows suit that you then 'own it.'

The biblical term for 'purchase' is the concept of 'redemption.' To 'redeem' means 'to buy something back.' Slavery was a common practice in the first century. Slaves would be auctioned in a public market and people would 'pay a price' to have the 'rights' or 'own' that slave...it became a legal transaction. Jesus Christ came to the cross for the primary purpose of purchasing us from a life of slavery to sin. You may feel like you are a 'moral' or relatively 'good' person. No matter how 'moral' a person you may be, every human being has a sin nature (Romans 3:10, 23). In fact, we are born with a 'sin nature.' David admitted, "For I was born a sinner-yes,

from the moment my mother conceived me" (Psalm 51:4).

To set us free, a price had to be paid. What could that be which would satisfy Almighty God? Only Jesus could 'pay the price' which could atone for the world's sin. He was 'the lamb of God who took away the sin of the world' (Jn. 1:29). Him (Jesus) who

knew no sin, became the perfect, spotless, without blemish, sacrifice that was acceptable to God. Sin separates us from a relationship with a 'holy' God. Ezekiel 18:20 emphatically states, "The person who sins will die!" The cost of our redemption was the precious blood of the Lord Jesus Christ. The familiar hymn asks the question, "what can wash away my sin?" Then answers rhetorically, "Nothing but the blood of Jesus!" "But no! He came once for all time, at the end of the age, to remove the power of sin forever by his sacrificial death for us!" (Heb. 9:26). Peter put it this way, "For you know that God paid a ransom to save you from the empty life you inherited from your ancestors. And the ransom he paid was not mere gold or silver. He paid for you with the precious lifeblood of Christ, the sinless, spotless Lamb of God" (1 Peter 1:18-19, NLT). Jesus did this voluntarily (He willingly laid down His life for us) and vicariously (He died in our place!).



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The Father accepted this 'sacrifice' by Jesus Christ as 'full payment' for the world's sin. Therefore, we have been set free from the bondage to sin and have been given the gift of the Holy Spirit who dwells in the heart of every believer. The Holy Spirit gives us the strength to overcome sin's control in our lives as we yield control to Him. Paul put it this way, "You do not belong to yourself...!" Many believers often feel defeated, discouraged and disappointed in their lives, because they have not learned how to live the victorious 'spirit-filled' life. IT IS ALL ABOUT YIELDING CONTROL TO THE SAVIOR, NOT SELF!

During this 'Resurrection Season' stop and thank God for His wonderful sacrifice in Jesus Christ. Praise God for the precious blood of His Son!

LIVING AS AN 'OVERCOMER'  
BECAUSE OF HIM,

Pastor Paul

## Jessica's Spot

"April showers bring May flowers..." April has arrived! I hope and pray that April will bring you showers of blessings as we grow together in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ!

### Special Announcements:

Please join us for a special Holy Thursday service on Thursday, April 1st, at 7pm. All are invited and welcome!

(Childcare will be provided for children birth to age 4).

The Easter Egg Hunt is coming!! Sunday, April 4th, there will be an Easter Egg Hunt for all of the children during the Sunday School hour. It is going to be so much fun, so make sure to bring your Easter basket and join us as we hunt Easter Eggs throughout the church!



Tina Houser is coming! Tina Houser brought us a wonderful message in February and she is coming back! If you were in attendance on that Sunday, you know first-hand that Tina is a dynamo who has a huge passion for children and their spiritual growth! She will be doing two (2) workshops for us: "Going Live in 3...2...1 With Creative Storytelling Techniques" and "Making Scripture Sticky." (These are the workshops we had planned for February but had to cancel due to inclement weather). **The workshops are now scheduled for Saturday, April 17th, from 9am to noon.** All materials will be provided for you at no cost along with a light snack in between sessions. So grab a pen and mark this fun day on your calendars!!

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Kids!! What are your plans for this summer? Thinking about going to camp? If so, there may be scholarships available to help with the cost of camp! If you are planning on attending camp this summer, then please see one of the ladies on the Christian Education Committee **by May 17th** and let them know!

Vacation Bible School...yes, it's only April, but plans for Vacation Bible School 2010 are already in the works! From July 19th to July 23rd, we will be going "Backstage with the Bible!" On July 25th, join us for Celebration Sunday as the share all that they have learned throughout the week!



More information will be coming your way, so stay tuned!!

### Main Event Kids' Club

Don't forget that Kids' Club happens right here at First Baptist every Wednesday night from 6 to 7:15 pm! There's music, games, crafts, Bible stories, snacks, and of course lots of fun! Even if you haven't been before, you can always join us!! Special note: We will NOT have Kids' Club on Wednesday, March 31st because of Holy Week, and we will NOT have Kids' Club on Wednesday, April 7th, because of Spring Break. We will resume Kids' Club on Wednesday, April 14th!!!



## CHM Congregational Health Ministry

Dear Family and Friends,

This month, I want to discuss the topic of Financial Health with you. April 15<sup>th</sup> isn't a liturgical feast, but tax day is a logical time to focus on the stewardship of our treasures, and what we can do to more fully live a peaceful and fulfilling life.



The Bible has quite a bit to say about this important topic and in Matthew's gospel, we are encouraged to not store up treasures in our possessions, but rather to be rich in our relationships with God (Mt. 6:19). God's balance sheet is presented to us in Phil. 3:7, and this is an interesting ledger for comparing our family budget. Other helpful scriptures include Luke 16:11 and 2 Corinthians 8 & 9. In all of these passages, the Bible accurately shows the folly of accumulating earthly things at the expense of our salvation (see also Luke 12:14-21). It seems to be important to remember that we need to take charge of our finances, or they WILL take charge of us, and all other areas of our life.

I pray you will be blessed abundantly as you seek God's will for your family in this important area.

- Have an agreement with your spouse/best friend about the problem and impact it has on your emotional, physical and spiritual well being and a commitment to work together to keep it in your past
- Consider a budget for an attack to success
- Build in rewards along the way

In order to be successful, you will likely need to be willing to make some sacrifices and change in your lifestyle. Very few worthwhile goals can be achieved without sacrifice.

In your plan of attack, you may want to think about the following:

Recognize that all we have is from our generous God; He only asks for 10% and allows us access to the other 90%!

Seek the support of other Christians or a financial planner who is committed to Jesus Christ as his/her Lord and Savior.

May you be blessed abundantly!

## Missions Updates

We had a successful Missions luncheon on Sunday, March 14th.

All Food Costs Donated  
Total food cost \$175.00



We raised \$822.00 that was divided and distributed to Bridges and Kokomo Urban Outreach.

Total raised including food donation was \$997.00.

Thank you for your generous giving! God Bless!

## FBC Daycare Ministry



Spring is Here!!! The children have been able to go out on the playground and get fresh air!!! We are excited about the beautiful sunny days!!! The teachers have many fun activities planned for the upcoming Easter holiday. Easter egg hunts and dyeing Easter eggs are among the activities on the agenda. The most important subject on our agenda is reminding and teaching the children what the holiday is all about. Celebrating the resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!!

In the Spring time everything feels so fresh and new. It feels like a great time for a new start. We are hoping for a great new start, as the daycare and the preschool are both undergoing some changes.

Michelle and I are going to start planning the activities for this summer. Last year, we had many great field trips. For example, we were able to take the children to the Tipton Pool, Great Times, the Peru Circus, among other activities. We are hoping for another great summer. In the meantime, we will be enjoying the beautiful spring weather, and the peace in knowing that our Lord has paid the ultimate price, so that we may be saved.



Cherie Wilson  
Co-Director



## FBC Preschool Ministry



Preschool Family Night was a big success! The gym was full of families having fun with their children and visiting with each other. Amanda and I enjoy this kind of extra activity so much. It gives us a chance to visit with parents too and share the funny things their children do and say in class.



We were so thrilled to have local author, Susan Snyder, come and share her book, "What Will I be When I Grow Up?" with our Pre-K class. We appreciate how she shared her faith in God throughout the entire story and her testimony. Thank-you, Jessica, for setting up this special event.

Jessica has also been having chapel with our Preschool kids once a month. Every month, we tell a Bible story using several different media, picture books, Bible story books, flannel graph, video clips, puppet shows, but the kids specially look forward to chapel with Miss Jessica.



In this Easter season, it's important to Amanda and me that the children hear the Easter story and understand it's not all about eggs and bunnies. One morning, after Amanda had shared the story of Jesus, the gift of salvation, and how we can ask Jesus into our hearts, one little girl raised her hand and said. "I want to say that prayer". One by one, other children raised their hands to and wanted to ask Jesus into their hearts.

What a wonderful way to begin the Easter season!

Blessings to you!  
Lenora Burtch

## ALESIA'S AREA

### Peanut Butter Bunnycakes



#### Ingredients:

- PEANUT BUTTER EGG BUNNIES (recipe follows)
- TINTED COCONUT (recipe follows)
- 1/4 cup (1/2 stick) butter or margarine, softened
- 1-1/2 cups REESE'S Creamy Peanut Butter
- 2/3 cup granulated sugar
- 2/3 cup packed light brown sugar

- 2 eggs
- 2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- 2-1/4 cups all-purpose flour
- 1-1/2 teaspoons baking soda
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1-1/2 cups milk
- VANILLA FROSTING (ready-to-spread or your favorite recipe)

#### Directions:

1. Prepare PEANUT BUTTER EGG BUNNIES and TINTED COCONUT.
2. Heat oven to 350°F. Line muffin cups (2-1/2 inches in diameter) with paper or foil bake cups.
3. Beat butter, peanut butter, granulated sugar, brown sugar, eggs and vanilla in large bowl until well blended. Stir together flour, baking soda and salt; add alternately with milk to butter mixture, blending well. Spoon batter into prepared cups, filling about 3/4 full.
4. Bake 20 to 25 minutes or until wooden pick inserted in centers comes out clean. Cool completely on wire rack. Frost with VANILLA FROSTING. Sprinkle TINTED COCONUT over frosting and garnish with PEANUT BUTTER EGG BUNNY. About 27 cupcakes.

#### PEANUT BUTTER EGG BUNNIES:

1. Unwrap REESE'S Peanut Butter Egg. Using sharp knife cut away about 1/4 inch of the top curved egg section creating a level edge. (This will be the top of the bunny.) Do the same thing for the bottom of egg if planning to attach to hard surface such as a cookie.
2. Using icing and decorative candy pieces add facial features to egg bunny. Allow features to harden slightly before continuing.
3. To make bunny ears, cut large marshmallows crosswise into 4 to 5 sections. Take each section and using wet knife cut through center to within 1/4 inch of edge; separate and shape to look like bunny ears. Press one side of ears into pink sugar and if other side is sticky, press that side into untinted sugar. Attach ears to top of bunny with frosting. Allow frosting to harden slightly before finishing bunny.
4. Attach miniature marshmallow to backside of bunny for tail and to help bunny stand up on cupcake or cookie base. Press bunny into cupcake frosting or glue with frosting to cookie base.

TINTED COCONUT: Combine 1/2 teaspoon water and few drops of food color in small bowl or small jar with cover or re-sealable plastic food storage bag. Add 1 cup MOUNDS Sweetened Coconut Flakes. Toss with fork or shake closed jar or plastic bag until coconut is evenly coated; store in airtight container.

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4th: Beth Martin & Mindy Luttrell  
 11th: Amy Cunningham & Lesa Boyce  
 18th: Jean Johnson & Deb Johnson  
 25th: Jay & Debbie Breisch



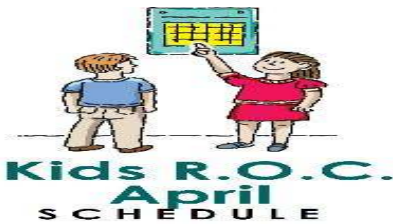
April  
Nursery Schedule

4th: Emily Gamblin & Jane Sparlin  
 11th: Whitney Moon & Jean Johnson  
 18th: Mel Bozard & Judy Helms  
 25th: Jessica Boyce & Debbie Stapleton



April  
Children Church  
Schedule

4th: Jessica Boyce & Greg Wohlford  
 11th: Adam & Emeline Hunt  
 18th: Whitney Moon & Amy Hueston  
 25th: Mark & Mel Bozard



4th: NO KIDS R.O.C.  
 11th: Jessica Boyce & Patti Elliott  
 18th: Karen Featherston & Debbie Breisch  
 25th: Patty Boyd & Steve Woodall



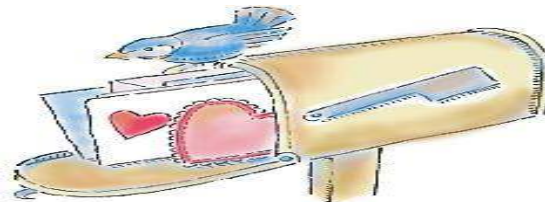
**LOCK-UP**

**4th ~ Ron Spray**  
**11th ~ Art & Mindy Luttrell**  
**18th ~ Dave & Ree Moon**  
**25th ~ Ross Smith**

**If you are not able to be in attendance on your assigned date please find a replacement or call Adam Hunt: 765-395-6081**

Card Care Writers

April meeting will be Tuesday, April 27th at 6:00 pm. We meet each month to send Birthday and Anniversary Cards. We often send notes of encouragement, and thinking of you cards when special needs or circumstances are brought to their attention.



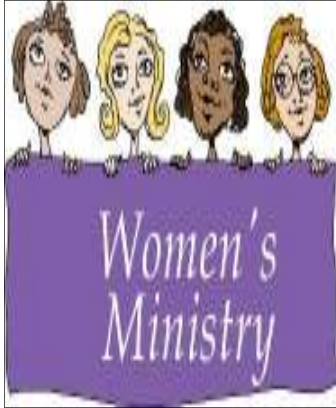
*Card Care  
Writers*

This ministry is another fabulous entity of the CHM (Congregational Health Ministry)



# CHURCH NEWS

## Women's Ministry



Mary Martha will be meeting on Tuesday, April 6th at 6:30 pm. The circle will be meeting at FBC. Hostess is Barbara Lake. All women are welcome.

Ruth & Naomi will be meeting on Tuesday, April 13th at 7 pm. The circle will be meeting at FBC. Hostess is Karen Featherston. Program will consist of you visiting your shut-in's and meeting back at the church at 7 pm. All women are welcome.

Ladies mark your calendar for Friday, May 14th. This will be a "Be Good To Yourself Day". All FBC women are welcome.

## Main Event and Bible Study/Prayer Meeting



Main Event and Bible Study has started back up every Wednesdays. The topic for Main Event will be changing to "Agents In Action". The topic for Bible Study is Heaven. They both start at 6pm.



## FBC Preschool Start Up Luncheon



On Sunday, April 25th there will be a freewill giving luncheon.

We will have a taco/potato bar.

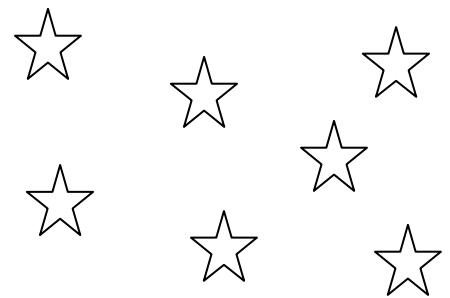
All monies will go toward starting up our FBC Preschool this fall.



On Easter morning there will be an Easter Egg Hunt for all the children sponsored by the Christian Education Committee. It will begin at 9:00 am and run concurrently during Sunday School. Come and join us that morning for breakfast at 8:00 am sponsored by the Social Committee.



# MORE CHURCH NEWS



**\*Maundy Thursday--we will remember that Upper Room time with Jesus and His disciples the night before His crucifixion. We will meet in the fellowship hall and sing songs, share testimonies and celebrate the Lord's Supper. This service will begin at 7 p.m. and child care will be provided.**



**\*Resurrection Morning--we will have a continental breakfast beginning at 8 a.m. Come and join us and stay for Sunday School. The children will have an Easter Egg hunt on that morning sponsored by the Christian Education Committee of our church. We will celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord on that glorious**



If you are in grades 6 through 8, this is just for you! Indiana Wesleyan University in Marion, Indiana, is hosting a special weekend, Never 2 Young, for middle-schoolers just like you on May 7th through May 8th! There will be bands, special speakers, lots of fun activities (swimming, climbing wall, and more), food, and new friends! And, we get to stay in dorm rooms! If you are interested in attending, please see Miss Jessica by April 14th for more information!

Kids! What are your plans this summer? Are you thinking about going to camp? If so, then please let one of the ladies on the Christian Education committee know by **May 17th** because there may be scholarships available to help with your camp costs!

