



# The Visitor

MARCH 2016

## Resurrection Sunday

*Wade Allen*

The month of March is a special month for me. For one, I celebrate my birthday during this month. I guess we all enjoy our birthday months. Another benefit of March is the beginning of spring. The snow melts, the grass begins to green a bit (at least most of the time; we do live in Indiana). In recent years, I have anticipated the beginning of track season as my children have become involved in the sport. It is a great month. This year, the month is even more special. It includes the highest Sunday of the year, Resurrection Sunday.



Resurrection Sunday (or Easter) comes early this year. The date is determined by the March Equinox and can fall as early as March 22 or as late as April 25 (for those who observe the Gregorian Calendar). This Sunday marks the most significant event in all of history, the Resurrection of Jesus. This year, we will gather in two services, at normal times for our Sunday worship. In between the services, a special brunch will be provided (from 10 AM to 10:45 AM). I hope that you will plan on joining us on this special Sunday.

## Worship in March

The March schedule is:

- March 06 - Lost and Found (Luke 15)
- March 13 - The Barren Fig Tree (Luke 13:1-9)
- March 20 - Palm Sunday (Luke 19:28-40)
- March 27 - He Lives (Luke 24:1-12)

## Salvation Army Pantry

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The Salvation Army food pantry is in need of volunteers. First Baptist Church has been assigned certain dates to supply volunteers. There is a signup sheet in the lower hallway on the bulletin board, along with a sheet that explains what the Salvation Army is requiring. Please consider signing up individually or as a small group, no more than four please, to help fill those dates listed. If you have any questions, please direct them to James Martin, Outreach Coordinator, at baronjlm@aol.com.

## America for Christ Offering 2016

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The America for Christ Offering is an annual American Baptist USA offering. It is a response to the needs of home missions, and donations go directly to projects in the United States. Gifts go to fund home mission, education, and local community ministries. Collections of gifts will be throughout the month of March. America For Christ envelopes can be found in the pews to make it easy to donate. Please consider giving to this important ministry.

## Children's Ministry News

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**Easter Egg Hunt** – On \*\*Sunday, March 13, each room will have their own Easter egg hunt/party. (Please note that there may be differences in times according to age.) The elementary age children will do theirs during the Sunday School hour (early service). Pre-K will have something special planned for both hours. Birth-Two Years will do their hunt during the late service, but will have a special treat and Easter story during both hours. It's always a great time! Save the date!

**Kid's Sunday** – **Sunday, April 3** will be Kid's Sunday!!! The children of the church will be helping in a variety of ways with the early and late service, as well as with doughnut hour. They are excited for this opportunity to serve!

## Missional Community Update

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The spring session of missional communities is underway. There are two in-home life groups meeting this session along with a men's and two women's life groups.

**Men's Ministry** – The Men's Ministry continues to meet on select Saturday mornings at **8 AM**. Just to remind you of the schedule, the first Saturday is a breakfast. Everyone is invited, even if you do not participate in the Bible study. The second and fourth Saturdays are a Bible study. The third Saturday of the month is off. If you have any questions, please contact Wes Russell at 765-480-9500. The response so far has been tremendous. We hope you will consider joining this group.

**Ladies Lunch Group** – Downtown Ladies of FBC will be meeting at noon at Two Johnny's for lunch and a time of sharing on **March 7, March 21**, and every-other Monday thereafter. If you live or work in the downtown area or just want to meet for lunch, feel free to join us! If you have any questions, call Julie Kirklin, (765) 744-2814.

## White Cross

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It's that time. This year White Cross donations go to the Edna Martin Christian Center, Indianapolis. See the bulletin board in the lower hall to sign up for donations. Items are due by **April 3** and may be left in the designated box in the office. For any questions see Dana Davis or Jane Patton.

## Kitchen Team

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The kitchen has been cleared, cleaned and organized. Revised guidelines are posted above the sink and on and in the refrigerators. Donna Fouch has volunteered to order all paper and cleaning supplies. Please contact Donna for any needs or concerns in this area. We are currently focusing on repairs, replacing needed utensils and labeling cabinets and drawers. Please feel free to contact any of our team regarding use of the kitchen or moving, deleting, donating or replacing supplies or equipment. Thank you, Dana Davis, Edith Ford, Sharon Jackson and Jane Patton.

## Lenten Services

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Christian Ministries is hosting Lenten Services on Wednesdays at **12:00 PM (Noon)**, and continuing each Wednesday for six weeks leading up to Easter. Shaffer Chapel AME, 1501 E. Highland Ave., Muncie will be hosting our community wide Lenten Services for 2016.

Wednesday Lenten Services culminate with a Good Friday service on **Friday, March 25** to be held at High Street United Methodist Church, 291 S. High Street, Muncie at **12:00 PM**.

Everyone is invited to our community-wide services each week. During each service an offering will be taken for CMDC programs & services. Donations received at community events helps Christian Ministries to reach more people in need. See below for a listing of the services in March:

- March 2, Rev. Kathleen Wright (Bethel AME)
- March 9, Pastor Bill Bruneau (The Compass Church-Yorktown)
- March 16, Rev. Jonathan Mitchell (Kirby Ave. Church of God)

## Scripture Engagement Workshop

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Mark your calendars for a special workshop presented at First Baptist on **Saturday, March 5** from **9:00 AM to noon**. Phil Collins, Ph.D. (A Taylor University Professor) will be presenting a highly interactive workshop, helping participants to:

- Develop their thinking (theology) and skills (practice) in engaging the Bible.
- Learn from Scripture about reflecting on God's Word.
- Practice different methods of reflecting on Scripture (e.g., praying Scripture, "storying," journaling, hand copying, Lectio Divina, memorizing, visual arts, singing, etc.) both as an individual and in small groups.
- Encounter landmark research about Scripture engagement.

Participants will receive a workbook that equips them to reflect on Scripture (the workbook explains the foundation of Scripture engagement, provides training on a variety of Scripture engagement practices, and includes numerous resources for further study).

Dr. Collins will be preaching at First Baptist on Sunday, February 28 (the week before the workshop). Look for registration forms in the coming weeks.

## Operation Christmas Child

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This year, we are going to do things a little differently for the shoeboxes we fill for Operation Christmas Child. In March and April, we are going to collect washcloths, soap, toothbrushes and toothpaste. In May and June we're going to collect small toys, dolls, books, or soft toys. You can bring your donations to the church office. If you have questions, you can contact Jane Patton at 765-759-8276.

## Camp-In

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All elementary aged children and their parents are invited to take place in a special evening of games and camp-like activities on **Friday, April 1** from **6:00-8:00 PM**. The evening is designed as an introduction to summer camp at Tippecanoe Baptist Camp in North Webster, Indiana. Read more about Camp Tippy at <http://camptippy.org>.

## Visitor or Bulletin Information

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If you would like to place an announcement in the church bulletin please email it to [wade@fbcmuncie.org](mailto:wade@fbcmuncie.org). If you have an article for the April newsletter, please email it to [wade@fbcmuncie.org](mailto:wade@fbcmuncie.org) by **Sunday, March 20**.

## Calendar

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**Sundays** – 9:15 AM Early Gathering/Early Sunday School (Intergenerational Class, K-5th grade), 10:15 AM Fellowship Time (enjoy coffee, donuts, and fellowship), 10:45 AM Late Gathering/Late Sunday School

**Tuesdays** – 7:00 PM Friendship Class at Riverside

**Wednesdays** – 6:00 PM Praise Team (Sanctuary) and Children's Choir (Second Floor), 6:30 PM Handbells (Choir Room), 7:40 PM Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

**March 2** – Lenten Service

**March 5** – Men's Breakfast and Scripture Engagement Workshop

**March 6** – Children's Ministry Team Meeting

**March 9** – Lenten Service

**March 12** – Men’s Bible Study

**March 15** – CCT Meeting

**March 25** – Community Good Friday Service

**March 26** – Men’s Bible Study

**March 27** – Easter Brunch and Services

## **March Birthdays**

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We would like to say Happy Birthday to the following people in the month of March. Please let them know that you are thinking of them on their special day.

3/1 - Justin Earls  
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3/3 - Luke St. Myer  
3/6 - Adalyn Cummins  
3/6 - Kaleigh Sheahan  
3/8 - Renee Pierce  
3/8 - Emma Thurston  
3/9 - Andrew Dawson  
3/12 - Nina Oisten  
3/13 - Ray Bayer  
3/13 - Julie Kirklin  
3/14 - Lisa Earls  
3/15 - Louise Head  
3/16 - Shala Pugh  
3/17 - Alaina Reed

3/19 - Mason Sims  
3/19 - Mavery Sims  
3/21 - Wade Allen  
3/21 - Adam Fink  
3/21 - James Petroviak  
3/22 - Matthew Fink  
3/22 - Bob Ratchford  
3/24 - Jan Armstrong  
3/24 - Cindy Hershman  
3/24 - Susan Randolph  
3/24 - Ian Reid  
3/26 - Alexis Johnson  
3/26 - Dan Lemen  
3/27 - Christian Chamboneth