




First Family News

**Love GOD.
Love Others.
Change The World.**

April 2026



HE IS NOT HERE
FOR HE IS
RISEN
AS HE SAID

matthew 28:6



April 2026

Worship Opportunities

Sundays

- 9:00 AM Bible Study
- 10:00 AM Worship
- 4:00 PM Adult Choir
- 5:00 PM Children's Choir
- 6:00 Children, F3, G2 Activities

Wednesdays

- 11:00AM Bible Study
- 6:30 PM Bible Study
- 7:30 PM Choir Practice

ADDITIONAL APRIL ACTIVITIES

- 4/5 Easter Sunday
- 4/6 BMW @ 6:30 p.m.
- 4/7 Men's Ministry Meeting @ 6:30 p.m.
- 4/12 Fundraiser Lunch for HVAC
- 4/13 Prayer Warriors @ 11:00a.m. & 6:30 p.m.
- 4/19 Deacon's Meeting @11:30 a.m.
- 4/26 Graduate Sunday

**OUR FINANCIAL RECORDS
March 29, 2026**

General Fund Needed Weekly	\$8,001.02
General Fund Needed	\$104,013.26
Given to Date	\$127,760.00

March 1	Bible Study	97
	Worship	140
March 8	Bible Study	97
	Worship	164
March 15	Bible Study	85
	Worship	164
March 22	Bible Study	81
	Worship	137
March 29	Bible Study	86
	Worship	203

APRIL MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS

Children's Church Workers

****Please remember to sign up in the Welcome Center****

4/5

TBD

4/12

Tammy Crim & Katie Williams

4/19

TBD

4/26

Terry & Amy Strickland

Safety Teams

4/5 Team 1

4/12 Team 2

4/19 Team 3

4/26 Team 4

Deacon of the Week

April 5

Dale Wiggins

April 12

Dave Reese

April 19

Neil Cato

April 26

Terry Strickland

**Ever wanted to
be apart of an
amazing team
that's making a
dynamic
difference in
the life of a
child?**



**Volunteer for Children's
Church!!**

April Birthdays

4/2 Edie Gambrell
4/3 Jimmy Shirley
4/5 Tony Hair Jr., Ali Troutman
4/7 Preston Smith
4/11 Ansley Crapps
4/13 Brianna Smith Metts
4/14 Betty Addy, Preston West
4/15 Harper Goff
4/17 Simon Buzhardt
4/19 Donald Hall, Patricia Mitchum
4/21 Jalen Moore
4/23 Myra Davenport, Frances Hyman
4/25 Maddox Long, Dylan Robertson
4/27 Pat Watkins
4/28 Elizabeth Ricard, Dale Robertson

April Anniversaries

4/2 Alex & Danielle Shealy
4/4 Bryan & Krista Parrish
4/8 Will & Victoria Berry
4/12 Eric & Paula Gambrell
4/14 Jonathan & Sherry Gunter
4/16 Greg & Heather Gambrell
4/18 Leon & Betty Addy
4/20 Corey & Carly Stamper
4/23 Dale & Tara Leaphart



From the first office on the left...

Spring is best known for the reappearance of plant and animal life. Flowers such as Tulips, Daffodil, and Cherry Blossom bloom in brilliant colors. My son Jace has recently hatched 20 quail, about 20 chicks, and his bunny just birthed 5 baby rabbits! Spring is a breeding season at our house right now. Spring is associated with renewal and celebration! Spring to me represents fresh starts and new beginnings! I love to spring clean the house and put out fresh pine straw and plant new flowers with my children! Spring cleaning represents fresh starts, reorganization, and renewed energy! I enjoy the warmer and longer days! It is often associated with God's faithfulness, spiritual rebirth, and the fulfillment of promises. Spring is my favorite but the only thing I don't enjoy is the pollen that comes with it! My mornings consist of my daily allergy pill to help minimize the 500 sneezes that I have! Just as the earth comes back to life after winter, the Bible uses natural imagery to illustrate spiritual awakening.

In Song of Solomon 2:11-12, it says:

"See! The winter is past; the rains are over and gone. Flowers appear on the earth; the season of singing has come..."

This beautifully shows what spring says to me-pure joy and worship!

His resurrection symbolizes victory over death and the promise of eternal life!

Love in Christ!

Always,

Laken

Beverly's Blessing Blog from the Office Upstairs!

March was a quick and busy month as we prepared for Easter. Both the Adult choir and the Kids choir faithfully practiced and their hard work was evident. Thank you all for your willingness to share your gift of music with all of us this wonderful Easter Season!

I am looking forward to continuing working with the kids as we will hopefully have a summer musical drama this year. If you have a child or know a child grades K5-6th grade, please invite them to come and join us, we will meet, Sunday afternoons at 5.

Our adult choir would like to welcome our newest member to the choir family, Jessica Becerra, she is very talented and I hope she will be able to share her gift of playing the cello more often in the near future. If you would also like to join our choir we have room for you too! Come talk to me or just come to practice at 7:30 on Wednesday evenings; we would love to have you join us!

Easter has always been one of my favorite holidays to celebrate. It's a time of renewal and reflection of Jesus and His magnificent, marvelous, matchless love for each and every one of us. I am so grateful for Jesus and His willingness to give His life for me and for the world. I am even more amazed and thankful for the third day when He rose up from the grave! He is Risen! My Redeemer Lives! Hallelujah to the King of Kings!

Job 19:25 For I know that my Redeemer lives, and at the last He will stand upon the earth.

Acts 4:33 And with great power the apostles were giving their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all.

May we be a church family who shares our testimony of the love of Jesus, His amazing grace and the power of His resurrection with those who are within our reach so that the gospel, the good news of Jesus, will fill every heart, every business, every home, every school and every church in our community.

May God be praised; Great things He has done!

Many Blessings and Much Love,

Beverly

Welcome Team Schedule for April, 2026

<u>Date</u>	<u>Team A--Welcome Center</u>	<u>Team B--Foyer</u>
April 5	John & Van Gantt	Earle & Tammy Burgess
April 12	Vaughn & Kathy Ernst	Ray Cockrell & Dale Robertson
April 19	Stephanie Koellner & Krista Parrish	Gary & Lynda Smallen
April 26	Paula Buzhardt & Rhonda Dority	Judy Fox & Donna Padgett
Subs: Tricia Mitchum, Cheryl Paulling, Dave & Allison Reese		

From the Senior Group (O.W.L.S)

A group of 22 seniors met at the church, Friday, February 13 to share a time of fellowship, delicious food and a visual tour of Spain & Portugal. Mable Robertson shared a DVD of her pictures from a 14-day trip to Spain & Portugal in August 2025.

The group enjoyed the beautiful scenery and the fantastic architecture of a number of buildings dating back to the 11 th century. The cathedrals are works of art which is a puzzle and makes us wonder how men built these ornate buildings with 40- or 50-foot ceilings, without our modern construction tools. Mable answered questions about her trip with her 2 children.

She brought a traditional Spanish dish, “Paella”, pronounced Pai ay uh, which is rice with chicken & shrimp. The dish originated in Valencia, Spain. Many recipes there use rabbit, pork, mussels, etc, but Mable chose shrimp and chicken. Everyone else brought their favorite dishes & desserts and the tables were laden, no one left hungry. Billy Gantt brought his gumbo, which was also delicious!

Several people had other commitments and had to leave early so Mildred allowed Mable to do her presentation first.

Mildred Long, chairperson for the OWLS, brought an inspiring devotional from Psalms 46:10. “Be still and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth. She then asked Randy Fox to have prayer and a blessing for the food.

Thanks, Mildred, for your leadership and devotion, to Pastor Henry, Randy Fox, Kelly for their assistance. Thanks to each person that brought so much good food and to Kathy for handling the kitchen detail, to all others, thank you!

The OWLS will be planning other activities as Spring approaches. Watch for updates in the bulletin. Please make plans to participate in our next event! We need you and I believe you will receive a blessing!



From the Middle Office

If you stopped by my office on March 26, you probably saw the sign saying I took the day off for Opening Day. In my world there are really only two seasons: Baseball and everything else. Even here in football country, nothing beats the energy of that first spring game on the diamond.

Thinking about baseball always gets me thinking about ballparks. Some are brand new and flashy, others are old and full of stories. And honestly, newer doesn't always mean better. Just compare the giant new stadium in Arlington with the classic feel of Wrigley Field. No contest.

Churches are kind of like that too. Some people love old school sanctuaries with stained glass and hymns. Others love modern worship with lights, screens, and loud music. Some like quiet. Some like hype. Some like tradition. Some like energy.

But here's the important part: If our hearts are focused on the right things, we're all worshipping the same God. The Bible puts it this way: "For we are all one in Christ Jesus." Galatians 3:28 and "We are many parts of one body, and we all belong to each other." Romans 12:4-5. Different ballparks, same game. Different churches, same Savior.

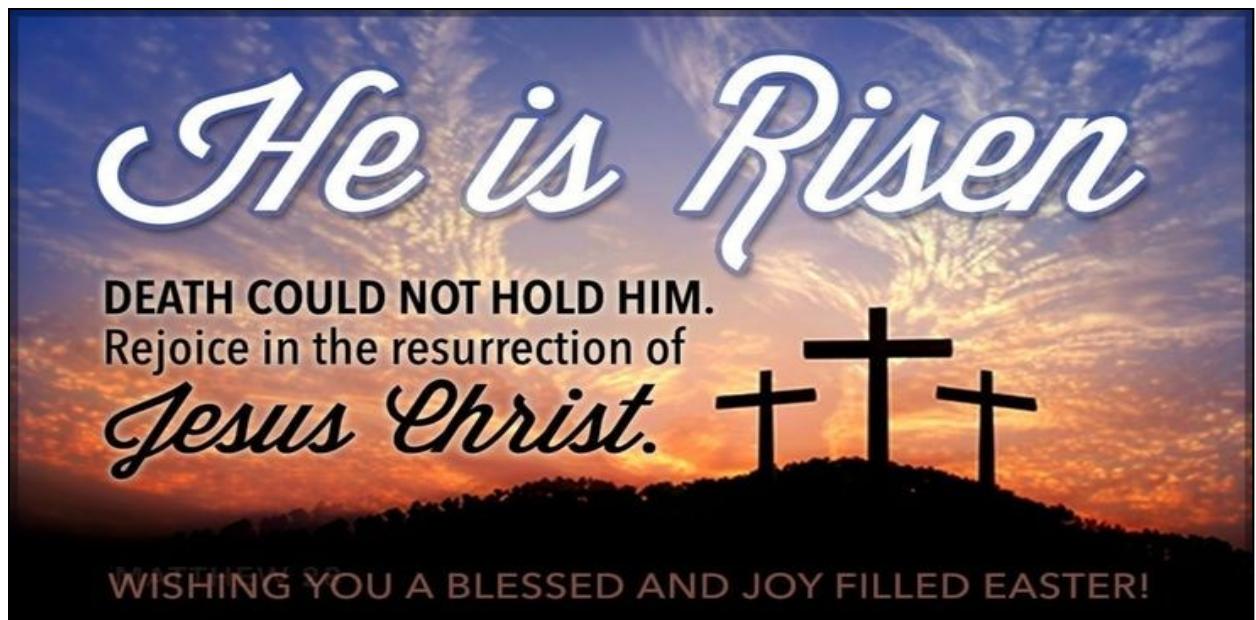
God isn't checking whether the building has stained glass or LED lights. He isn't impressed by fog machines or pipe organs. He's looking at hearts that want to know Him and lives that want to follow Him. No matter what the "stadium" looks like, the Spirit shows up when we show up with honesty and hunger.

Young people, you don't have to wait until you're older or "more spiritual" to step up. Just like in baseball, you learn by playing, not by sitting in the dugout. Older people, you have so much to give. Your skills and wisdom can't be replaced, only passed on. Think of the team captains and coaches who use their experience to lift up younger, less experienced players. We need that same spirit in the church. We are a team.

All there is left to say is, "Let's Play Ball!"

In Christ Love,

Kelly





Camp Longridge

2026

KIDS WEEK #1

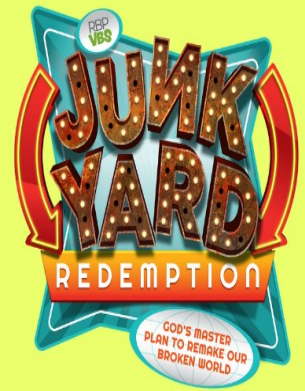
JUNE 8-12

TEEN WEEK

JUNE 22-26

IT'S GOING TO BE A BLAST!!

Mark your calendars!!



VBS will be
July 27-31st
9:00am-12:00pm

PEACHTREE 23

YARD SALE!!!!!!

\$25/Spot per day

This year the FBCB Youth and Children's Dept. will be offering spots to individuals to rent for the Peachtree 23.

Our locations to rent will consist of the West Church Street Parking Lot(HWY23 Frontage area), the Fox Street Parking Lot(HWY23 Frontage area) and the closed portion of Fox Street.

Contact the church office 803-532-3896 to reserve your spot today.

No food or beverage sales. No promotion of alcohol, tobacco, or recreational/medicinal products or paraphernalia.

FBCB AFTER PROGRAM SCHOOL

2026-27

WHAT WE OFFER

- Homework Support
- Snack
- Free Time
- Trusted Supervision
- Safe, Christian Environment

\$80 per week
\$300 per month
Discounts available

Sign up before March 31st and receive one week free in August!!

Monday-Friday
2:30 pm - 6:00PM

803-604-2136

www.fbcbbatesburg.org/child-care





Ridge Spring – Monetta Middle / High School June 15-18, 2026 – 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Ages: 1st Grade-6th Grade • Camp Fee: \$35
Daily Schedule: Morning sports program, lunch (provided),
and afternoon Vacation Bible School program (Mon-Thurs.)

Have you completed 7th grade and want to help? We have
room for you! 7th grade and up can volunteer below!



Scan for
Camper Registration
1st grade-6th grade

Scan for
Volunteer Registration
7th grade-12th grade and
adults 18 and older*



For more info email or call
Kevin Hinton (843) 560-0239 / pastorkah@gmail.com

*Adults 18 years or older will be required to complete a background screening.

Calling all Graduates



We will have Graduate Sunday on April 26,

2026 during the morning service.

If you have a graduate that would like to participate on this day,
please let us know by April 18th.

We suggest providing 8-10 digital photos of your graduate to be
used in our slideshow presentation.

RISE AND SHINE
IT'S POULTRY FESTIVAL TIME!!!

WE NEED WATER AND SNACKS FOR
THE KIDS TO SELL!! DONATIONS
CAN BE LEFT IN THE
FELLOWSHIP HALL

Easter Word Search

G S N O I T P M E D E R Y Y M
J J U Y K I R Y T T F X E O L
R L K F W E E C I O J E R C K
X Y N G Q C U W V U P C M C K
R C R O S S H R E D P H M N E
I F V A I B Q U I R G P Q R N
S A Q Z M T M I R A C L E T S
E I A O I R C H R C O Y I U E
N T T P R C G E Y O H S S R L
I H H S O O C A R K I E P V K
N W O R C S D U B R J V R G T
O H T N G N T E S F U L A M I
D P V O U Q F L D K A S Y S H
Z M E S B Z Z W E M L Y E D F
E T G L M E G K B S L T R R U

APOSTLES
CROWN
LAMB
PRAYER
RESURRECTION
SON

CHURCH
FAITH
MARY
REDEMPTION
RISEN
SUNDAY

CROSS
JESUS
MIRACLE
REJOICE
SAVIOR
TOMB



F i r s t B a p t i s t C h u r c h B a t e s b u r g

**436 West Church Street
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FBCB Staff

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Jessica Sullivan: Pianist, 864-200-9029, jess.corley@yahoo.com

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fbcmmmo@gmail.com

Office Hours

Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Phone: 803-532-3896

Website: www.fbcbatesburg.org

Wifi: godisgood

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

The True Easter

"God made Him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God."

For far too many in our secularized world the message of Easter is not a cross and an empty tomb, it's about a bunny, baskets, and eggs. Just go into any retail store around and you will be bombarded with items for sale based on those same themes: bunnies, baskets, and colorful eggs. What you won't find is shelves filled with images of a cross or an empty tomb. Of course, this shouldn't be surprising for those of us who are Christians, it's simply the world acting like the world. It's lost people who either reject the Jesus of Easter or lost people who lack the knowledge of the Jesus of Easter.

But what this difference highlights is the FOCUS of Easter. The PRIORITY of Easter. For Christians the focus of Easter centers around one singular source: Jesus Christ! Without Jesus there is no Easter just like there is no Christmas. All the secular celebrations, with all their slick advertising and fancy marketing, can never replace the real thing. Comparing the Easter bunny to Jesus Christ is like comparing the artwork of a preschooler to that of Rembrandt or Michelangelo. It doesn't come close. There is no comparison.

The true meaning of Easter is found in the Christian symbols of the holiday. For us, the cross and the empty tomb symbolize what Christ accomplished for us. Without the cross there is no victory over sin and without the empty tomb there is no defeat of death. It was the death and resurrection of Jesus that made salvation possible and eternal life in Heaven a reality. That, dear friends, is the Gospel message. It is the "good news" that a lost and dying world so desperately needs to hear. And Easter is a reminder of just that truth. That we live in a world that seeks to fill the spiritual void of their life with anything and everything except Jesus Christ. Granted, many flat-out reject the truth of Jesus but many more have never heard the real meaning of Easter.

May God's people and God's church continue to exalt the Christ of Easter for the hope of bringing the lost to Christ. May we never forget that our celebration of Easter is the celebration of a Savior who gave His life so that all who come in faith may find true life.

Wishing you all a happy and joyous Easter!

In Christ's Abundant Love,

Pastor Henry