

Please mail all correspondence to:P.O. Box 30954, Raleigh, NC 27622Church location: 4408 Lead Mine Rd Raleigh, NC 27612Phone: (919) 781-5345Email: cvbc@crabtreevalleybaptist.orgWebsite: www.crabtreevalleybaptist.orgChurch Office hours: Monday-Thursday 9am-3pm (closed on Friday)



Pastor Johnny will be in the office this week on Tuesday and Thursday 6:00-7:30pm.

Annie Armstrong Easter Offering Our church goal: \$600.00

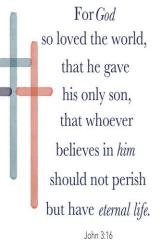
If you have these envelopes in your boxed set, you may use them. If not, just note on your check Easter offering. We will receive this offering through the end of April.

-STAYING-CONNECTED Tune in weekly for our Virtual Worship

Service at 11am on Sunday https://www.crabtreevalleybaptist.org/ser mons/ You can also find current and past sermons on Youtube. https://www.youtube.com/results?search query=crabtree+valley+baptist+church

Church office information:

Interim Pastor • Rev. Johnny Richards Music Director • Risa Poniros Secretary • Peggy Utley Youth Director • Anna Clark Website updates/maintenance webmaster@crabtreevalleybaptist.org



From the Pastor's Heart...

Salvation. The process of asking Jesus to come and live in our hearts (my definition). Salvation: preservation or deliverance from harm, ruin, or loss. (Dictionary definition) As I read and reread our passage of scripture for this past Sunday, each time it amazed me that the thief on the cross was able to be saved at the very last second of his life. He did not have to talk to a preacher, though he did have to ask Jesus to not forget him. He did not have to attend church, or go to Bible study, or do any of the things other people may have told him he needed to do to "gain" salvation.

While it is true he did not have to do any of those things, the fact is, we have the opportunity to do those things in order to help us grow in our relationship with God. I am glad the thief made the decision to ask Jesus to help him enter into paradise. But I am a little sorry that he did not get to experience any of the things we get to experience in our relationship with Christ. As I think back over the years of my life, I can remember some great experiences.

I think of homecoming services complete with "dinner on the grounds". It was great seeing friends who are living in different areas coming back to church to laugh and fellowship together. I think of Revival services. Hearing a visiting preacher share about the love of God and how we can make our relationship with God what it needs to be was exciting. I think of Sunday school and Discipleship training (Training Union) where we would pray for friends and family and study God's word. There are so many things I am thankful to God for the opportunity to experience.

While I am a little sad the thief did not get the chance to experience any of these things, I am amazed at the grace of God to allow salvation at the last second of the man's life. He was on the cross, about to die at any minute, when he decided to take a step of faith and cry out to Christ (in a weak voice) and Christ answered his prayer. What Christ did should not really surprise any of us. We all have experienced that "last minute" salvation. You may wonder what I mean. After all, I accepted Christ at the age of 9. I am now 58 so my salvation was not last minute. Or was it? Was I promised my next breath? No. Was I sure I would be alive at the end of that day? No. So, in a way, I had, and we have all had, a last-minute salvation experience. None of us are promised our next breath. "None of us are guaranteed tomorrow". We have heard this time and again. However, the thief on the cross proved that we need to take advantage of the time we have to enjoy a relationship with Christ. Until next week...

Peace and Blessings... Johnny



SHARE THE SONSHINE

Share the Sonshine is an outreach ministry. We can all be a part of this ministry by praying for these individuals, sending cards or making phone calls.

Person of the Week for Mar 13-19

Catherine Mullins 4505 Woodbury Dr Raleigh, NC 27612

Deacon for this week: 3/13 Sue Edwards **Deacon for next week:** 3/20 Barbara Goodson

Properties for March: Gene Sherwood



There was a lot that took place in the 40 days before Easter. Make plans to watch the weekly recorded Wednesday night Bible studies as we journey the road to the cross and the empty tomb.

Wednesday Evening Bible Studies for March (to be recorded and posted on website)

March 16: (John 6:53-66) Understand Following Jesus is Hard

> March 23: (John 7:16-18) Learning from the Master

March 30: (John 19:28) Seven Last Words of Christ: Thirst

Sunday Morning Worship Focus for March:

March 20: (John 19:26-27) Seven Last Words of Christ: Relationship

March 27: (Matthew 27:46; Mark 15:34) Seven Last Words of Christ: Abandonment



Next Deacons Meeting Sunday, March 20 at 12:15pm

Prayer Concerns:

HOME

Jean Glosson Donnie Haag (Cheryl's brother) Brittany Allen Sandi Robinson Walt Switzer Catherine Mullins Jane Williams Jetta Lewis Marci Phelps – Charlotte's daughter (friend of Jean Glosson) Charlotte Phelps (Jean's friend) **REHAB & CARE FACILITIES:** Anne Barden – Oak Hill Asst Living in Angier

Anne Jenkins – Morningside on Dixie Trail

Bonnie Wright – The Reserve at Mills Farm in Apex **OTHER:**

Sonshine Person of the Week The Price family – Missionaries in Wales

PRAYER REQUESTS

While we are not meeting weekly for Wednesday Night Prayer and Bible study, please keep in touch with Pastor Johnny and/or your Deacon about any concerns you may have. If you want to be added to the prayer list, you may call or email the church office directly.



Business Meeting Highlights

The following items were voted on and approved:

- To resume the 5th Sunday Benevolent Offering collection. Next 5th Sunday offering will be May 29.
- To collect for the Church World Services Hygiene Kits (collection dates to be announced).
- Church van to be used to assist to transport Welcome House refugee families to various trainings. It will only be used when number of people is too many to fit in cars. Insurance was checked and approved.
- Welcome House is BUSY! Septic tank has been replaced. Afghan refugees and potential for Ukrainian refugees.

\$400 was raised by Crabtree Café! Thank you to all who helped, and for all the hard work to make this possible.