

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)

## PASTORS

Pastor Johnny will be in the office this week on Saturday, April 2 from 9:00am-12:00pm.



**On Wednesday, April 6<sup>th</sup>, we will resume our in-person prayer time and Bible studies on Wednesday evenings at 6:30pm.** There are a couple of Wednesdays in April we will not be meeting due to Holy Week and our pastor's vacation. On those Wednesdays, the Bible study will be recorded and posted to the church website for viewing. In May, we will be gathering on a normal schedule. Thank you for your patience and faithfulness during this time.



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...

Have you ever felt abandoned? Have you ever felt all alone? Sure, you have. We all have. From time to time things happen and we feel as if we are left all alone to deal with the situation we are facing. It really starts when we go to school. Our parents take us to school, and then leave us there. Sure, there are

teachers and other students, but to us, we have been left all alone to figure this thing called school out.

Then, we go off to college, and a time may come when we feel alone. We feel as if our families are a long way off and we are left alone. Sure, we can make a phone call and we can talk to our families but it is not like them being there with us. We feel as if we are facing the journey alone.

Finally, we get older and we start to face health issues. Maybe a spouse dies and you feel you are left alone in life, to figure things out. You remember the feeling in school when you felt alone to figure it out. But this is harder. There are no teachers, there are no other students. It is just you to figure life out. Sometimes it causes us to just sit, unable to move. The word we think about in these three scenarios is a word Jesus felt while on the cross, **abandonment**. I talked about this word this past Sunday.

Abandonment is such a tough word. Being alone, no one to talk to and no one to help us. It is literally like being on an island, no one around. The words of Jesus help us hear that He felt His father had abandoned him. "Why have you forsaken me?" That is hard to hear. It is also hard to experience. We may actually think, or say, the same words when we are experiencing difficulties and we feel as if God has left us. "God, why have you left me here alone to deal with this?" The good news for us today is this, He has not left us. He has not abandoned us. He has not turned His back on us. He didn't do that to Jesus and He does not do that to us. But how do I know that is the case?

If you feel He has abandoned you, or you know someone who feels this way, let me give you a verse of scripture to remember and share with someone. **Hebrews 13:5** says this: "...because God has said, 'Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you." You can read the beginning of the verse and it talks about not loving money and being content with what we have. The point is, God does not, and will not ever leave us. What a great word today. Jesus knew it and felt it. I want you to know it today. You are not alone. God is, and will always be with you. Until next week...

Peace and Blessing... Johnny



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 27-Apr 2

Anne Barden – Suite 330 Oak Hill Assist. Living 9767 NC 210 North Angier, NC 27501

Deacon for this week:3/27Keith HarrisDeacon for next week:4/3Gene Sherwood

Properties for April: Whitt Stallings



April is a very busy month as we move closer to Easter Sunday. Please look at the events, messages and Bible studies coming up and take advantage of the opportunities to focus your minds and hearts upon this season.

> April 3: Seven Last Words of Christ: Victory (John 19:30)

**April 6: Wednesday study: Seven Last Words of Christ:** Transition (Luke 23:46)

April 10: (Palm Sunday) From Cheering to Death (Luke 19:28-39)

> April 13: Wednesday study recorded: The Events of Holy Week No in-person prayer and study

April 15: Good Friday Service with Communion 7:00pm

April 17: Easter Sunrise Service 6:30am Raleigh Memorial Park

Easter 11:00am Worship: The Real Meaning of the Empty Tomb (1 Corinthians 15:12-19)

> April 20: Wednesday study recorded. No in-person prayer and Bible study

April 24: Morning worship. Marc Wyatt will be the guest speaker

## **Prayer Concerns:** HOME

Jean Glosson 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 Betsy Shaw – Sunrise of Raleigh on Edwards Mill Rd. **OTHER:** 

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



Anna Clark, our youth director, has experienced some significant losses during the past few weeks. Due to storm damage to her and her daughter's home, a lot of things they owned had to be thrown away. She is now in the process of trying to replace those items. Our deacons have asked the church to help them with this process. If you would like to make a donation to help her, you can bring a check to give to the benevolent fund. Any amount will help. If you would like to help with staple items for their kitchen, you can purchase a gift card from Harris-Teeter or Food Lion and put it in a card. Monetary donations can be made on Sunday (just note benevolent on your check/envelope) gift cards can be dropped in the offering plate or at the church office. Thanks so much!



The ladies of the Faith Sunday School Class will hold a bridal shower for Peninah Brown on Saturday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> from 2:00-4:00pm. All the ladies of the church are invited. Peninah has requested that instead of gifts, please make a donation to CVBC in her name.