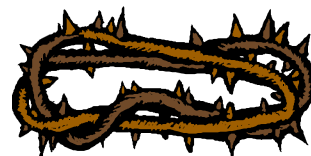


# BETHANY HIGHLIGHTS

APRIL 2014



## *Ben's Pen*

I am ready for Spring to get here. I know what the calendar denotes, but the cold weather and snow seem to be at odds with my calendar. I am ready to work in my yard and garden without a snow shovel. I am looking forward to many of the events of the coming months. I am ready for Spring. The big question is: am I wishing away a part of my life by rushing to the next part. Do you and I dismiss opportunities to serve God and minister to others because we are rushing to someone or something else? God has placed us in this place to serve Him. The psalmist wrote "Serve the Lord with gladness..." not argue with God about our schedule. Maybe I need to slow down and "Know that the Lord is God" not my appointment secretary. Let us not speed our lives away. Let us serve him in every season, even when the calendar promises that different days are ahead.

Serving the Risen Christ,

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Easter is always a time of celebration in the church and has been since Mary and the disciples understood exactly what the empty tomb meant. We try to observe and celebrate at Bethany as well. This year we will have music for the season on Palm Sunday during worship. On Good Friday we are observing a service of darkness again beginning at 7:00 p.m. The focus of the service is to re-examine the reality of the price God paid in Christ on that Friday. Our annual Easter Egg hunt for our youngsters begins at 4:00 p.m. on April 19<sup>th</sup>. We will share Easter Sunrise with our brothers and sisters from Wallers and County Line Baptist churches. County Line will serve as host this year. The service begins at 8:00 a.m. and will be followed by a breakfast. (County Line has a new pastor, Rev. David Williamson, who will lead us for the first time.) Then at 11:00 a.m. following our Sunday School we will gather for a time of celebration and worship. Easter is the critical time in the life of the Christian church. Let us celebrate the living Christ with our time and efforts this year.

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The annual Spotsylvania Relay for Life walk and celebration will be on Saturday, April 12 from 11:00 a.m. until 11:00 p.m. at Spotsylvania High School. Everyone is invited for a time of fun, fellowship, fundraising and remembering. If you have any question contact Mike Johnson or the other Relay volunteers in our church family.

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We are in the process of tweaking the appearance and format of the *Highlights*. We would be happy to hear any of your ideas or suggestions. Not every idea will be implemented, but we will definitely listen. Contact the pastor with your suggestions.

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As we enter the Spring season and Easter approaches the Cemetery Committee asks that you please remove your Christmas arrangements and decorations from our cemetery.

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The May *Highlights* article deadline is April 22<sup>nd</sup>.

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## **BETHANY BAPTIST CHURCH**

Rev. Ben Thomas, Pastor

5001 Arcadia Road

PO Box 408 Thornburg, VA 22565




(804)448-3508 email: [bthomas@bethanybaptistwoodford.org](mailto:bthomas@bethanybaptistwoodford.org)

[www.bethanybaptistwoodford.org](http://www.bethanybaptistwoodford.org)

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Bethany Baptist Church  
PO Box 408  
Thornburg, VA 22565

# APRIL 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 Bible Study 10:00 am	3	4	5
6 Sunday School 10:00 am Worship 11:00 am Choir Rehearsal 12:30 pm	7 Men's Meeting 7:00 pm	8	9 PRIME TIMERS 12:00 pm	10 Deacons 7:00 pm	11	12 Relay for Life Celebration @ SHS 11:00 am-11:00 pm
13 Sunday School 10:00 am Worship 11:00 am Choir Rehearsal 12:30 pm <b>PALM SUNDAY</b>	14	15	16 Bible Study 10:00 am	17  <b>Maundy Thursday</b>	18 <b>Good Friday Service</b> 7:00 pm 	19 Easter Egg Hunt 4:00 pm 
20 Sunrise @ County Line BC 8:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship 11:00 am <b>EASTER</b>	21 <i>Office Closed</i>	22 Business Mtg. 7:00 pm <i>Newsletter Deadline</i>	23 Bible Study 10:00 am	24	25	26
27 Sunday School 10:00 am Worship 11:00 am Choir Rehearsal 12:30 pm	28	29	30 Bible Study 10:00 am			

## April Birthdays

1 – Wyatt Newman      21 – Chelsea Mills  
 3 – Lynn Mills      21 – Janna Roland  
 9 – Debbie Marshall      22 – Thomas Orrock  
 10 – Lindsey Williams      23 – Abigail Thomas  
 13 – Linda Kidd      24 – Danny Marshall  
 17 – Aaron Faulconer      29 – John Thomas

## April Anniversaries

12 – Joanne & Danny Lee  
 26 – Linda & James Stanley

## Healthcare Center Prayer List:

Scarlett Blanton      Nell Durrett  
 Ruby Bullock      Violet Henshaw  
 Brenda Cannon      Douglas Jones  
 Bobby Carnahan

## Deacons

Alice Allen      (804) 448-3292  
 Al Baker      (804) 448-3345  
 Mike Johnson      (540) 582-6788  
 Danny Lee      (540) 582-8213  
 Emmitt Marshall      (540) 582-5381  
 Harry Newman      (804) 448-1502

## Deacon of the Month:

Alice Allen

**The mission of Bethany Baptist Church is to make a positive impact for Jesus Christ with people who live in our community by sharing the message of eternal life through Jesus Christ and by growing together as the family of God.**

**Just a thought...** We celebrate Easter with new clothes, egg hunts, chocolate bunnies, a big meal and flowers. The first Christians celebrated the resurrection by risking their lives and sharing the news of a Living Christ. My, how priorities have changed.