

BLUE RIDGE

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From My Heart

Easter is coming! It is late this year on Sunday, April 21st. You can always tell it is coming because your car starts looking a light shade of yellow (I don't think we had pollen in New Mexico.) and everything starts turning colorful in Blue Ridge. Take a moment and look around, God has given us a beautiful place to live and worship Him! Our God is good, which is why we have Easter.

My memories of Easter have a lot to do with Easter baskets that Mom hid in the living room and awkward pictures of me and my sisters in our Sunday best. Easter is family, candy, hunting eggs, but it is so much more. I always got a chocolate bunny, but we were also in Bible Study and worship celebrating the risen Savior. As a pastor my memories are of Courtyard Services, Doughnuts in our fellowship hall, dramatic presentations of Jesus' life and resurrection, and folks declaring their faith through baptism. Easter is the day to proclaim the Good News!

Many have bought into a great big lie that nobody cares about Jesus and that people have all they need and want in their lives. That is not true.

Our little world is filled with empty people who live in nice homes. There are tons of angry people out there and even more folks who have lost all hope and then there are the people whose lives are out of control because of substances, abuse, poverty, and more. We live in a miserable world with sad people looking for hope.

I have been reading about the first moon landing whose 50th anniversary will be celebrated this coming July 20th. Most have forgotten that for a long time we were losing the space race. The Russians were the first to put a man-made satellite in space, Sputnik and the first man in space, Gagarin. Not only were we behind,

but most of the rockets that were supposed to send our astronauts into orbit were blowing up on the launch pad. One famous film footage showed this mighty rocket preparing to blast off. As the countdown reaches 5 4 3 2 1 Blastoff, nothing happened. After a moment of silence the top of the rocket just pops off. Failure upon failure and a lot of it on live TV.

It was all discouraging, but not just the space race, it was the world in general. We were in the cold war, the age of nuclear bombs where every school age child knew to duck and cover when the big one was coming. Everything changed in 1962 when John Glenn, aboard the Friendship 7, blasted into space behind an Atlas rocket. Those three trips around the earth and his safe return did something for our country. It was a big deal; he was given a medal, spoke before a joint session of Congress, and was given a ticker tape parade in New York City. That parade was bigger than any had been before. It was said that people cried that day when Glenn passed by, even tough New York cops. Why the reaction? It seemed Americans dared to hope again because of Glenn.

People then and now are looking for hope. *If a man orbiting the earth can bring people to tears can you imagine what the story of the Son of God who came to earth from Heaven did mighty miracles among us, died for our sins on the cross, and rose again three days later offering forgiveness and eternal life to everyone who believes will do!* We have the greatest story of hope ever told and it is a story everyone including everyone in your world longs to hear.

My prayer is that you will invite someone to Blue Ridge this Easter, it just might be the best thing that ever happened to them and to you.

In His Love,

Bro. John



Jesus



The Blue Ridge Easter Celebration

Palm Sunday, April 14

Palm Branch Procession during Morning Worship

The Easter Story Musical at 11:00 am

Fellowship Lunch at 12:00

Easter Egg Hunt and Inflatable Fun at 1:00 pm

Easter Sunday, April 21

Easter Beautiful Outdoor Courtyard Service at 9:00 am

Easter Breakfast at 9:30 am

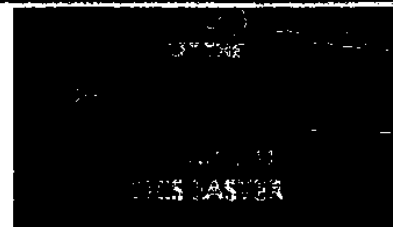
Bible Study for all ages at 10:00 am

11:00 am Easter Morning Worship Celebration



We begin our Easter Celebration at Blue Ridge on Palm Sunday, April 14. The children will begin our Service with a Palm branch procession. They will sing a happy song to honor Jesus on this day of his triumphant entry. We will enjoy an Easter musical, "The Easter Story" featuring our Blue Ridge Drama Team. Remember to invite your friends, neighbors, family, co-workers, and those who need to know Jesus to our services this month.

We will have our April Fellowship lunch on this day, April 14 and everyone is invited, including your guests. Then on to the Great Egg Hunt!



REJOICE!

On Easter morning, we will have our beautiful Courtyard Service followed by our Easter Morning Breakfast. Please bring your favorite breakfast food, casserole, biscuits, etc. to share with everybody. We will have coffee and juice ready, along with some doughnuts.

After Breakfast, we will have Bible Study for all ages. Then we rejoice through praise and worship at 11:00. Hallelujah! He is Risen!



**The Great Easter Egg Hunt and More Fun
On April 14!**

Call the neighbors, kids, and grandkids to come to Blue Ridge for a big Egg Hunt, inflatable fun—a giant whale, and some refreshments. We encourage our members to bring plastic eggs so that we have plenty to hide. Let's make a fun childhood memory for them to have.

WELCOME

Welcome New Members

By Baptism:

Catarina Elliott
440 Price Road
Wetumpka, Alabama 36093

By Letter:

Scott and Tammy Stevenson
8 Jackson Road
Wetumpka, Alabama 36093



Easter Lilies



If you would like to give an Easter lily in memory of or in honor of someone special to you, please fill in the following form. Lilies cost \$9.00 for a single stem or \$18.00 for a double stem. Hydrangeas are available for \$17.50.

Your name: _____

In memory of: _____

In honor of: _____

How many _____ Amount _____

Please order by April 7.



Calling Our Members!



Please share plastic Easter eggs, candy, and prizes to give to the children for our Easter Egg Hunt.

We thank God for a successful roof repair completion! Thank you to Jim Harris for overseeing the day-to-day work. Thank you to Jim Harris and Terry Graydon for repairing the men's sink. It is good to see the House and Grounds Committee working to repair and update our house of worship.

Thank you to Shelly Bennett for the very beautiful rose arrangement she made for the Sanctuary in honor of hers and Vincent's 23rd Anniversary.

Kid's Korner

This is the month you will return to school after Spring Break. Be a great witness of your faith as the school year closes. Be looking for other kids who need Jesus and invite them to church. We have great times of celebrating the Risen Savior this month. On Palm Sunday we will lead out the Morning Service with a palm branch procession. Then we have an Easter Musical, a delicious lunch, and then the Great Easter Egg Hunt. On Easter morning, we have a pretty Courtyard Service outdoors, a Breakfast, and then our Easter Celebration Service. We will be celebrating your graduations to the next level of school in May, so get your pictures and info in to Mrs. Jackie.



Youth News and Views



We had a great Bible Study time in March, and we look forward to Celebrating Jesus' resurrection in April. We studied at church, at Mc Donald's, and outside at the Roney's home- yum! S'mores! We rejoice with Catarina Elliott as she was baptized. Congratulations to Don Roney for winning Company Grade Office of the Year for all of Alabama Air Guard!



Thank You to our Out-of State Friends



We want to express our deep appreciation to James and Jody Mallonee and to Dr. and Mrs. Don Cheatham as they share their tithes and offerings with Blue Ridge. They allow our ministries to remain ongoing at Blue Ridge. Please pray for Jody as she begins treatment for cancer this month.



Children's Ministry in April



- 7: Nursery & Toddlers: Bennett & Carney; CC: Renee' Miller
- 14: Nursery & Toddlers: Shirley Davis and Susan Bass; CC: Susan Hansen and Renee' Miller
- 21: Nursery & Toddlers: Barbara Harris CC: Christena Aldridge
- 28: Nursery and Preschool: Lorrie Serenels; Children's Choir: Susan Hansen and Renee' Miller

Blue Ridge Baptist Church
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 Wetumpka, Alabama 36093
www.blueridgebaptistchurch.net

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 Wetumpka, AL
 36093



Family Fun Day at Gold Star Park April 6th
Fellowship Lunch April 14th **Easter Egg Hunt April 14th**
Court Yard Service April 21st **Easter Celebration April 21st**

APRIL 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Counting and Lock Up Terry Graydon	2	3 Prayer & Share 5:00 PM Youth and Mission Groups 7:00 PM	4	5	6 <i>Family Fun Day Gold Star Park 10AM to 1PM</i>
7 7 Letters to 7 Churches 5:00 PM	8 Visitation 7:00 PM	9	10 Prayer & Share 5:00 PM Youth and Mission Groups 7:00 PM	11	12	13
14 <i>Palm Sunday</i> <i>Easter Musical</i> 11:00 AM Fellowship Lunch Easter Egg Hunt	15 Visitation 7:00 PM	16	17 Prayer & Share 5:00 PM Youth and Mission Groups 7:00 PM	18	19	20
21 Easter Courtyard 9AM Breakfast 9:30 AM Bible Study 10 AM Celebration 11AM	22 Visitation 7:00 PM	23	24 Prayer & Share 5:00 PM Youth and Mission Groups 7:00 PM	25	26	27
28 7 Letters Bible Study 5:00 PM	29 Visitation 7:00 PM	30			Visit us on the web at blueridgebaptistchurch.net	
		March 2019 S M T W Th F Sa 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31		May 2019 S M T W Th F Sa 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31		Notes: Coming Up! Easter Musical April 14th Courtyard Service April 21st