

BLUE RIDGE

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From My Heart

Easter is coming! Before March ends we will have observed Palm Sunday and had our Easter Egg Hunt, believe it or not. No fooling, Easter is on April 1st so you had better get ready. Easter is a lot of wonderful things: trees in bloom, new spring clothes, kids hunting eggs, and most of all Christ's resurrection from the grave. The resurrection changed everything for you and me. Because of the resurrection you can have peace and confidence.

Do you know what "a sure thing" is? It is something that you can put your total confidence in; you know you will not be disappointed. There are not many "sure things" in this life, but I know of a few. One "sure thing" is a spinning lure. My dad was a big time fisherman and hand-made hundreds of flies that he used to catch lots of trout. Flies are great, but they are not a "sure thing", a spinning lure is.

One fall my Dad took me along with some of his professor buddies to fish in Southern Colorado. It was a great weekend, but I did not get a bite the whole time. My Dad could tell I was disappointed and so on the way home we stopped just as we crossed the border into New Mexico. Dad was giving me one more chance to catch some fish. We stopped at the border because you can only fish with flies in Colorado, but in New Mexico you can fish with spinning lures too.

As soon as my Dad pulled out those shiny lures and tied one on to my line I knew the fish did not stand a chance. I climbed off the side of the road down to a little stream and within five minutes I had a big one on the line. We only stayed 30 minutes, but I caught my limit. Fish cannot resist those shiny lures and that is why they are a "sure thing".

What in your life are you sure of?
What do you have confidence in,
believe in, and trust in completely?

What gives you peace and the power to live in victory despite the day to day struggles of life? For me it is the resurrection of my Savior Jesus. The day He rose from the grave everything changed. Because He rose I will rise some day, too. Because He rose, His crucifixion counted and my sins are forgiven. Because He rose He now lives with me and will walk with me all the days of my life on earth and will lead me to His throne in Heaven.

Hebrews has a lot to say about being confident in Christ's victory over the grave, check out these two verses:

"Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need." (Hebrews 4:16)

"So we say with confidence, The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can man do to me?" (Hebrews 13:6)

Jesus' resurrection is a **sure thing!** It gives me peace at night knowing my future is sure and hope every morning knowing that everything I do for the Lord makes a big difference in this world.

Those without Christ are filled with uncertainty about everything. They can't count on anything. You know what they need? They need the message of the cross and the empty tomb, they need Jesus. Let's all pray for someone who needs Jesus this month and then let's invite them to sit next to you on Easter Sunday. (No fooling!)

In His Love,

Bro. John







Thank you to everyone who helped with our Mixtec Church project! They dedicated the church on the 10th of February and God is already doing great things.

Big things are coming in March! Kite Day, our Easter Egg Hunt, a Breakfast for Ladies, a Fellowship Lunch, our Annie Armstrong Offering, and much more. My prayer is that you will be with us every Sunday.



Marvelous March at Blue Ridge

Spring Arrives. Palm Sunday, and Great Church Family Activities All Take Place!

-  March 4 Everyone is invited to a Church Security Conference with Bro. John
-  March 4-11 Week of Prayer for North American Missionaries & Annie Armstrong Offering
-  March 11 Fellowship Lunch with James and Renee' Miller hosting, then Kite Day
-  March 11 Women of Faith Hat Decorating Class led by Emily Roney
-  March 18 Ladies Breakfast at Shoney's, Wetumpka
-  March 25 Celebrate Palm Sunday

Invite Friends and Neighbors to Church and to These Great Events!



Palm Sunday is March 25

The next day the large crowd that had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, crying out, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel!" And Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, just as it is written, "Fear not, daughter of Zion; behold, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt!" His disciples did not understand these things at first, but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written about him and had been done to him. John 12:12-19
Come see the children bring in Palm branches at the beginning of the service. Bro. John will bring a wonderful Easter message.



"On Mission Here & Now"

"We must not love with words or speech, but with truth and action." 1 John 3:18

Your Annie Armstrong Easter Offerings are needed to support our missionaries here in the U.S. and beyond. Pray for them and your personal missions.



CHURCH SECURITY MEETING ON MARCH 4 AT 4:00 PM

Come hear and share measures we can take to secure out church building and congregation. Bro. John will share the latest recommendations he has received.

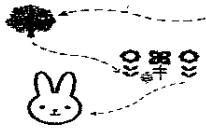
NO DATE

Mark Your Calendar for March 11!
Bring your favorite Spring Sunday dinner dish and/or dessert to share at our Monthly Fellowship Dinner. The Millers are our hosts.



You are invited to a Ladies Breakfast On Sunday, March 18 at 8:30 a.m. at Shoney's. You may eat from the buffet or from the menu. Wear your Easter hat if you like or meet with Emily Roney at 4 pm on March 11 to decorate a pretty or crazy hat—just for fun and your choice. All ladies and girls are welcome—supplies provided on the 11th.

THE GREAT EASTER EGG HUNT



Right after a Youth Fundraiser Lunch on March 25, we will have our annual Easter Egg Hunt. We will have areas for the Preschoolers and one for the older children. We will be receiving plastic eggs from our church family for the Great Hunt.

Kite Day is March 11th.



Help our Youth!

Our March Youth Fundraiser Meal will take place on March 25, prior to the Easter Egg Hunt.

Please pray for our Youth and chaperones who will take part in our Summer Youth trip.

Don and Emily Roney will lead a Youth Bible study for Youth Boys and Youth Girls this month...date TBA.



Sympathy

Our Christian love and sympathy are expressed to James and Jody Mallonee and family in the passing of Jody's younger brother, Mark.

Our Easter Morning Schedule on April 1, 2018



Invite Everyone!

9:00 am Courtyard Service
 9:30 am Easter Breakfast
 10:00 am Bible Study for all ages
 11:00 am Easter Celebration

Love offering Thank You



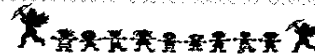
During the month of February, our church family received a Love Offering. Among those who gave offerings were James and Jody Mallonee, Jack Cunningham, Kelly Tyler, and Ryan Manni. We are very grateful for your expressions of love and generous financial contributions.



Thank You, Friends

We at Blue Ridge thank Don and Joyce Cheatham and James and Jody Mallonee for their faithful remembrances of our church-their other home church- for faithfully giving their tithes and offerings to our church. They truly allow our church ministries to continue to serve our Lord at Blue Ridge.

Remember the Mallonees as they look toward returning to the States next year.



February Children's Ministry

- 4: Nursery & Toddlers: Bennett & Carney; CC: Aldridge
- 11: Nursery & Toddlers: Amy Brown & Carney; CC: Hansen
- 18: Nursery & Toddlers: Janet Johnson & Carney CC: Christena
- 25: Nursery: Bennetts; Preschool: Carney; CC: Hansen & Miller



March Birthdays

- 4 Fay Milton
- 6 Joyce Cheatham
Eric Aldridge
- 24 Don Cheatham
- 28 Keith Pendley
- 30 David Brown



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 or \$17.50 for a double stem and Hydrangeas \$16.50.

Your name: _____
 In memory of: _____
 In honor of: _____
 How many _____ Amount _____

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Fellowship Lunch & Kite Day March 11th
Ladies' Breakfast March 18th
Youth Fundraiser & Easter Egg Hunt March 25th

MARCH 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
	Counting and Lock Up David Brown			1	2	3 Jesus Among Secular Gods Sundays at 5PM	
4 Annie Armstrong Offering March 4-11 Discipleship 5:00 PM	5 Visitation 7:00 PM	6 Ladies Hat Making with Emily Sunday March 11th 4:00 PM	7 Prayer & Share 5:00 PM Youth and Mission Groups 7:00 PM	8	9 Bring your Kite this Sunday, March 11th	10 5 Love Languages Sundays at 10:00 AM	
11 Fellowship Lunch and Kite Day Discipleship 5:00 PM	12 Visitation 7:00 PM	13	14 Prayer & Share 5:00 PM Youth and Mission Groups 7:00 PM	15	16	17	
18 Ladies Breakfast 8:30 AM at Shoney's Discipleship 5:00 PM	19 Visitation 7:00 PM	20	21 Prayer & Share 5:00 PM Youth and Mission Groups 7:00 PM	22	23	24 Youth Lunch Fundraiser and Easter Egg Hunt Sunday, March 25th	
25 Palm Sunday Lunch Easter Egg Hunt Discipleship 5:00 PM	26 Visitation 7:00 PM	27	28 Prayer & Share 5:00 PM Youth and Mission Groups 7:00 PM	29 Visit us on the web at blueridgebaptistchurch.net	30	31	
		February 2018 S M T W Th F Sa 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		April 2018 S M T W Th F Sa 1 2 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		Notes: Coming Up! Easter Courtyard Easter Celebration	April 1st at 9AM April 1st at 11AM
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Daylight Savings Time Begins Sunday, March 11