

SATURDAY APRIL 28

AT 10 am

VBS Work Shop

At First Baptist Gainesville

All are invited to prepare stage and back drops for our VBS June 25-29th



**WEDNESDAY
PRAYER AND
DISCIPLESHIP
CLASS 6:30PM**



GROW OUTREACH

Help us reach people for Jesus by joining one of our GROW teams. Meetings each Tuesday, at 7:00 PM in the Prayer Room.

Missions Trip

Puerto Rico

Application deadline Sunday

April 8

Mission Team Meeting

Sunday April 15th at 4 pm



SAVE LIVES!

Blood Drive

Sunday April 15TH

8:20 am - pm at Parkview

Class 101

New Members Class

Sunday April 8 at 12:30 pm

lunch will be provided

THE JOURNEY

FAMILIES & CHILDREN

are invited to our **Easter Egg Hunt** in the Park behind the church



Saturday March 31

at 11:00 am

Bring Your Own Basket



The Pastor's Letter



No Foolin'

April Fool! Gotcha! We love to play practical jokes on people on April Fool's Day. The tradition of catching someone off guard on April 1st and playing a prank on them is often good fun and provides a lot of laughter. We enjoy a good joke and mischievous tricks especially when we are able to fool someone else. We may not like to be the "fool" however. But where did all this good fun begin? Why do we even celebrate April Fool's Day?

There are many theories on the origin of April Fool's Day but the most common explanation has to do with a calendar change. The celebration of April Fool's Day goes back over four hundred years - to 1564 to be exact - when the French government, under King Charles IX adopted a reformed calendar which moved New Year's Day back from April 1st where it had been for centuries to January 1st where it has been ever since.

When the western world employed the Julian calendar, years began on March 25. Festivals marking the start of the New Year were celebrated on the first day of April because March 25 fell during Holy Week. The adoption of the Gregorian calendar by King Charles IX during the 1500s moved the New Year to January 1st. That led to the origin of our April Fool's Day custom. Those who could be tricked into believing April 1 was still the proper day to celebrate the New Year earned the title of April fools. That is why French peasants would unexpectedly drop in on neighbors on that day in an effort to confuse them into thinking they were receiving a New Year's visit. Out of that one prank grew the tradition of testing the patience of family and friends on April Fool's Day.

This year Easter Sunday falls on April Fool's Day. No joke. Easter is the most important day on the Christian calendar. It is the celebration of Jesus rising from the dead and claiming victory over death! Paul said, "Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised... And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins" (1 Corinthians 15:12-17). The Resurrection of Jesus Christ is no April Fool's joke. He has risen from the dead and now has the power to give us eternal life. Christ's resurrection is fact and has been verified by numerous witnesses. Paul declared the good news with these words, "For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time..." (1 Cor. 15:3-6).

Add to that the countless number of lives that have been changed by those who put their faith in Jesus as Lord and Savior down through the years. Their lives testify to the power of his resurrection and his living presence. Don't be fooled.

The Easter season reminds us of death and resurrection. The Easter story is the story of hope when there appears to be no hope. The Easter story affirms that God is in control and that God always provides a way. The Psalmist wrote, "Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me" (Psalm 23:4). Death casts a deep shadow over those who are living. The fear of death continues to plague the hearts and minds of many (Hebrew 2:14-15). Death can be physical but it also can be emotional, mental and spiritual. Divorce is a separation and loss, a form of death. Alzheimer's is a gradual deterioration that robs the memory of a loved one. The Bible tells us that "the wages of sin is death" (Romans 6:23). Loss is a form of death: loss of health, loss of income, loss of employment, and the loss of relationships. These can be deep shadows for those who walk through the valley of death.

But the Psalmist reminds us that evil and death do not have the final word, "for you are with me." When we go through the dark valleys, God is with us. Jesus Christ has overcome evil and overcome death. Easter reminds us that death is not the end. Jesus rose from the grave and conquered death. He is alive! He is a living Lord! We have the assurance that God will make a way when life seems to bring us only defeat, trouble and loss. The angels asked the women at the tomb, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen" (Luke 24:5 NRSV). God is with us. Jesus is risen. Every loss and every death can be resurrected for God's purposes. What seems hopeless now becomes an opportunity for life. No foolin'.

Pastor Greg

Mission Statement

The Mission of Parkview Baptist Church is to lift up Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord, and to obey His Great Commission. *Matthew 28:18-20*

Our Purpose Statement

The purpose of Parkview Baptist Church is raising the family of Jesus Christ by leading every member to:

-MAGNIFY HIS LORDSHIP IN WORSHIP
-MULTIPLY HIS FAMILY THROUGH EVANGELISM/MISSIONS
-MATURE HIS CHILDREN THROUGH DISCIPLESHIP
-MODEL HIS LIFE THROUGH SERVICE/MINISTRY
-MINISTER HIS LOVE THROUGH FELLOWSHIP

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY - 9:30 A.M.

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP - 10:45 A.M.

SUNDAY MORNING CHILDRENS SERVICE 10:45 A.M.

Motto for Mission 2018 : Share His Love

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CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 22, 5:30 PM
QUARTERLY BUSINESS
APRIL 22, 7:00 PM MEETING

March Greeters

- 1 Connie Baker
- 8 Julia Keene
- 15 Kathy Perry
- 22 Jean Gough

March Ushers

- Charles Lawson
- Jean-Paul Calixte
- Andrew Magruder
- Henry Keene