

Pfafftown Baptist Church is on mission to serve God by sharing joyful life and displaying love with our greater community.

Pfafftown

Baptist Church



April 2015

PBC Connections

Ready or Not

Sit down. In fact, find a comfortable place to sit down before you read another word of this article. Don't ask why; don't peek down the article. Just find a comfortable place to sit down and then start again. I'll wait...

I hope you took my advice because this is an article like I've never written, and I'll bet you've never read. And despite my usual restraint, this month I'm not holding back, hence this last warning to sit down.

Recently I was asked by the **night WMU group** to help them with their monthly mission effort, this time to feed a group of homeless men in a church shelter downtown. My part was to smoke some BBQ for the men and I can't say "no" when asked to smoke Q.

The event was a **Friday night**. I showed up with the Q and we waited for the men to show up for supper around 8 pm. In they came and the men were mostly what you would expect: ragged, unkempt, dirty, struggling. Some of the men clearly have mental challenges. The men followed the shelter rules. **Each man** was called by name, received a container with nightly supplies, was scanned for metals,



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HOLY WEEK CALENDAR

- Palm Sunday Worship..... March 29, 10:25 **AM**
- Maundy Thursday Service Apr 2, 7:00 pm
- Good Friday Tenebrae Service Apr 3, 7:00 pm
- Resurrection Service..... Apr 5, 7:30 **AM**
~Breakfast will follow in the Fellowship Hall~
- Easter Worship..... Apr 5, 10:25 **AM**

Ready or Not ... (continued from page 1)

selected a mat on which to spend the night, and returned to their table and chair. Then supper was to begin.

The director of this group asked for a volunteer to pray for supper. Many of the men volunteered and one was chosen. I bowed and listened, and his prayer was nice, yet somewhere in the middle he said, and I paraphrase, "**God, thank you for the many blessings of my life.**" I stopped listening to the man at that moment because God was very clearly speaking to me.

A homeless man, in a shelter, dependent on the kindness of strangers and the love of a church, saw his life as blessed and thanked God for it. I was and remain dumbstruck. It was one of the clear moments in my life I have no doubt I heard the voice of God, and I was humbled.

Easter arrives soon for us. **How is the scene any different?** Not much. In God's eyes we will arrive to the celebration ragged, unkempt, dirty, struggling, and all of us clearly have spiritual challenges. We will follow the rules, stay in line, and generally be respectable. And we may even be honest enough and sufficiently self-aware to recognize the irony of celebrating Easter the way we do for a homeless man bum-rushed to a cross to save the world. **Will we see ourselves a wholly dependent on the kindness of strangers and the love of God? Will we be selfless enough to thank God not for the material comforts we have so passionately sought but for the salvation stragglers like us have received?**

Here's the kicker. What better month than Easter month is there to do something remarkably faithful in return for the remarkable love God has shown us? I challenge everyone, everyone, everyone to tithe this month to make a bold statement of faith to God.

Tithe every penny. Tithe every bonus. Tithe every gift. Tithe every inheritance. Tithe everything with joy as thanks to God for the gift of salvation found in Christ.

As humbled as I was hearing a homeless man pray with thanks I'll be equally humbled watching a church bring all the tithes into the storehouse in thanks at Easter. And we can then all say we saw God at work among us twice this Easter, once in the remembrance of the cross, and then in our joyful reply.

You can breathe now. I am already praying for your support of this miracle. many people.

I didn't hold back this month. You don't need to either. Contact me any way you want and let me know what's on your mind.
pbcpastor@windstream.net



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- | | | | |
|-----------------------|--------|-------------------------|--------|
| Kelly B. Allen | Apr 1 | Dalton Caffey | Apr 16 |
| Dylan Dameron..... | Apr 4 | Marissa Johnson | Apr 16 |
| Anne DeHart..... | Apr 5 | Ed Fowler..... | Apr 17 |
| Vermell Salmons..... | Apr 5 | Lindsay Carpenter | Apr 18 |
| Mike DeHart | Apr 6 | Owen Bounds..... | Apr 19 |
| Shorty Morgan | Apr 8 | Josh Caffey | Apr 19 |
| John Holbrook | Apr 13 | Marie Jackson | Apr 20 |
| Gracie Sizemore | Apr 14 | Tom Bos | Apr 29 |

Spring Revival

April 26 - 28 @ 6:30pm

Dinner preceding Worship on Sunday

Dessert Fellowship after worship on Tuesday



Evangelist, Dale Riddle, will bring the message each night.
Special music by our Worship Choir and other groups.

Please make every effort to attend and bring a friend!



Change of Date

Due to our Revival, the Quarterly Business Meeting and Covered Dish Lunch will be **April 19** following Worship.

Please make plans to attend and celebrate the good things that are happening in our church and enjoy a time of fellowship.

Billy Graham Library Trip



A trip to the Billy Graham library in Charlotte, NC is planned for **Wednesday, April 29th.**

If you are interested in going on this trip, please contact the church office **OR** put your NAME with LIBRARY TRIP on the tear-out flap of the bulletin and put it in the offering plate.

The group will leave around 8:30am, tour the library and get lunch before returning home.

STUDENT MINISTRY



Faith through Music: This month, the youth will be studying ways to bring their relationship to God to life! **April 19** several of our youth and parents will be attending "K-Love radio station's The Bible Tour". This is a one night event including performances by well known artists Steven Curtis Chapman, Danny Gokey, Brandon Heath, and Francesca Battistelli! What an opportunity to grow and explore faith through music.

Faith through Taste: This month the children will be exploring the stories of missionaries in **Korea**. Each week they will explore a story of a family serving God as full time missionaries who plant churches, build schools, and share the love of Christ with the people of Korea. Bible stories will explore what it means to answer God's call. **April 29 the children will have the opportunity to taste a bit of the Korean culture in their Bible study with a special Korea-themed snack!**

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Coming in May

Mark Your Calendars!

Shred and Bleed Weekend

May 2 - Shred your documents from 9am to Noon

May 3 - Share your blood @ the Red Cross Blood Drive
1:30 - 5:30pm



Are you on the Phonetree list?
Do you need to update your number?

Please contact the church office and give this information so you can stay in the loop.

Church Calendar

- April 1 - Deacons' Vision Group
- April 2 - Maundy Thursday Service
- April 3 - Good Friday Service
- April 5 - Easter Celebration
- April 11 - Baptist Men's Breakfast
- April 12 - Deacons' Meeting
- April 13 - Night WMU Group
- April 14 - Day WMU Group
- April 16 - Single Senior's Lunch
- April 19 - NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
- April 19 - Quarterly Business Meeting w/ Covered Dish Lunch
- April 26 - 28 - Revival
- April 29 - Billy Graham Library Trip

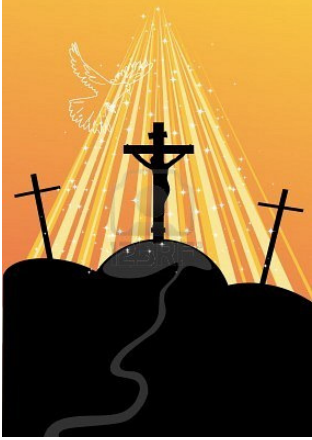
WMU NEEDS U!

Night Group meets on April 13 @ 7pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Day Group meets on April 14 @ 9:30am in the Fellowship Hall

Baptist Men Breakfast and Fellowship is April 11 @ 8:00am

Make a Joyful Noise



Easter Sunday is April 5th, and the choir will be presenting the cantata ***Awake, My Soul, and Sing!*** This is one of the most challenging works we've done in the past several years, and I am very proud of the effort and faithfulness. This will occur during the 10:25 morning worship.

With not much else to report, I wanted to acknowledge a person who does so much to help with worship nearly every week, a job that nobody asked him to do but one that he does well. The person is **Dalton Caffey**.

One of my favorite projects with the church since I arrived in 2001 was the *Real Friends of Jesus* series I did with Randy Pulliam. This series used humor and hyperbole while acknowledging some of the tasks that people forget actually need doing, but are very important (such as changing the church sign, decorating for VBS, cooking for a church breakfast, etc).

What Dalton does wouldn't fit in the 60-second songs Randy and I used to do. You've probably noticed him running the sound once or twice a month, but as far as I can tell here is what he does just before Sunday School: He turns on the lights in the sanctuary. He sets the thermostats. He opens the sound board, turns on the sound equipment, secures bulletins for the sound operator, tests Thomas' lapel microphone and places it where it can be found and used for service. He uncovers the piano, opens its lid, places the lamp and (in the summer) air conditioning guard on the piano, opens the organ, and places worship bulletins on both instruments for our accompanists. He turns on the light for the cross. He makes sure all our window shutters are open and neatly arranged. He also makes sure the bulletins are arranged for our members and visitors to grab just in case any arrive before our door greeters.

After the worship, he puts away any sound equipment and closes the board, he makes sure the piano is covered, and he turns off all the lights. And this doesn't count the days when the Praise Band or other groups with extra sound needs are rehearsing and need sound checks.

There's probably more, but I'm writing this here because of two reasons. The first is that I don't think we've ever acknowledged this, and I doubt Dalton would ever tell you himself. The second is that on a recent Sunday, he wasn't able to be here, and I had to do it myself. It took me at least 12 minutes to do everything he does. And he does that every Sunday he's here, and without even asking for a thank you. Well, I would ask that you tell him how much you appreciate what he does when you see him. And I think it's a reminder of how great our church can be when people just dedicate themselves to a task or a few small things. They all add up, make the job of the staff easier, and touch the lives of each other.

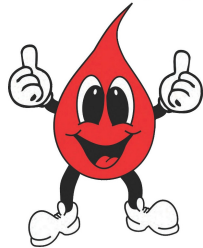
In Christ, *David*



PRAISE THE LORD! We had a wonderful winter! A lot of rain which brought the Kenneret (Sea of Galilee) up. Snow on Mt Hermon and the Golan in the north and in Jerusalem in the south, even in the desert!!! there was snow. He has blessed us richly! Spring is here, it's warming up and we're getting ready for summer. We have work teams scheduled for several major projects. Just had one that worked on a porch that needed retiling, so they tore up the old and poured a lot of concrete and it sits waiting for new tile. The next project will be to do the same to the adjoining dining room area all before summer camps. A lot of work, but it's a constant here, because the ground keeps shifting and the buildings are so old. We just had a couple from New Zealand leave after volunteering for 3 months. Ray and Margaret were a delight! She was an excellent seamstress and made new curtains for the dining rooms and one of the duplexes. Again **PRAISE THE LORD!!!** He supplies all our needs! Happy Resurrection Day to all of you. He has **RISEN!** He has risen indeed!

~Anne

**WHEN DID YOU
LAST
GIVE BLOOD?**



PBC Blood Drive

Sunday, May 3

1:30 pm - 5:30 pm

The Baptist Women's Night Group will be hosting a Blood Drive as one of our monthly Mission projects.

Visit **americanredcross.org**, click on "**Donate Blood**", enter **Pfafftown's zip code** to find our blood drive to schedule your appointment.

You may also call/text **Becky Parker at 413-1633**, or email her at **bbparker@windstream.net** to schedule your appointment.

Youth and adults that are interested in helping on the 3rd, please sign up in your Sunday School rooms during the month of April.

Thank you for your support and your prayers!

Exam Care Packages



Please support our college students by donating small snack items, pens, pencils, chapstick, notes of encouragement, etc for **Exam Care Packages**.

Please have all items to the church by April 19 so the boxes can be assembled and mailed before exam time. Monetary donations for items to be purchased are also appreciated.

Any questions, please see Becky Parker, Debra Rierson or Amy Stinson.

****See the flyer in the bulletin for a more comprehensive list of items.****

College Students of the Month

Chloe Sizemore – UNC at Charlotte

348 Wallis Hall

9201 University City Blvd

Charlotte, NC 28223

e-mail: cbellsbs@gmail.com

Will Rierson - UNC at Chapel Hill

450 Ehringhaus Drive

Ehringhaus Room 560

Chapel Hill, NC 27514-2055

e-mail: wrierson@live.unc.edu

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