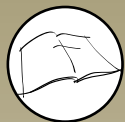


the Lamp



... as a light shining in a dark place. 2 Peter 1:19

In This Issue



Book of the Month
The Lamp makes some humble reading suggestions ...



Ministry Highlights
Our Youth Group is the focus of this month.



Calendar of Events
A calendar highlights special dates along with listings of special events and birthdays for the month of April.

MINISTERS

MIKE ROSS, PASTORAL CARE
JUSTIN BRUNER, YOUTH & FAMILY

ASSEMBLY SCHEDULE

SUNDAY
BIBLE CLASSES 9:00 A.M.
WORSHIP 10:15 A.M.
CARE GROUPS 6:00 P.M.

WEDNESDAY
BIBLE CLASSES 7:00 P.M.

THURSDAY
LADIES CLASS 10:00 A.M.

Surrendering



Mike Ross

Monday, April 2 is an opportunity to participate in a program with Jews for Jesus, "Christ in the Passover". This program is a reminder of the common Elements of the Jewish Passover and Jesus' Last Supper. The "Christ in the Passover" presentation enhances our understanding and appreciation of Christian Communion.

"Father, into your hands I commit my spirit"
(Luke 23:46)

The winning shout, "It is finished!" blended into this prayer. One who prays in death has prayed in life. One who gives God the credit each day in life has no hesitation committing his spirit to the Father in death. Remember, it was a commitment, not an accident. Jesus chose to die rather than to step down from the cross. He had told his disciples, "The reason my Father loves me is that I lay down my life – only to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again" (John 10:17, 18).

Neither was the timing an accident. Jesus was crucified during the observation of the highest Jewish holy day, The Passover, commemorating Israel's deliverance from Egypt. The Pascal lamb was eaten to commemorate the deliverance from death. In Egypt, every home not marked by blood had a funeral for the firstborn of the family. So on this Passover in Jerusalem, on the evening Christ died, thousands of lambs were being slain in the outer court of the temple – one for every household – so their blood might be offered to the same God who was about to receive the spirit of his Son. Thousands of Jews, celebrating their history, did not understand that God was piercing history in the form of a man – the Lamb of God – who was dying for them right then. Do I fully understand that he died for me? He willingly surrendered his all for me and you.

As I celebrate Jesus, my Passover Lamb, I will take more seriously that he died by his own choice, allowing me the choice of committing my spirit to God the Father. We have the choice to surrender our life to live for him. Celebrate "Christ in the Passover". God has delivered! Do I surrender? What choice do you make?

April 2nd / Jews for Jesus present CHRIST in the PASSOVER at 7:00 PM. Admission is free and child care is provided.



Jeff Kovitz

FUSION Student Ministries

Another year has gone by and it is time once again to highlight our Youth Ministry. A lot of things have changed over the past year and more recently our church body is undergoing a transition period and eventually the welcoming of a new pulpit minister. Part of the Transition Committee's directive was to more clearly identify our church's demographics and try to better understand where our church body would like to go. Most if not all of us completed a survey that attempted to cover every facet and ministry that our church body is made up of. As will be clearly noted in the Transition Committee's report the number one item that our church body indicated as being the most important was our youth (including elementary education as well) and I could not agree more, for God's Word says "Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it", Proverbs 22:6. Now comes the easy part (or is it?), **How are you involved?**

the Youth Group

What is **FUSION** Student Ministries? The word **FUSION** as used by our Youth Ministry is actually an acronym that stands for **F**orm, **U**plift, **S**erve, **I**nform, **O**wn and **N**urture. Why does **FUSION** exist? **FUSION** exists to **F**orm mentoring relationships with adults and peers, **U**plift God in prayer, **S**erve others, **I**nform the lost of Jesus' love, to **O**wn my faith and to **N**urture loving relationships with God and others. This really describes what our Youth Ministry is all about, bringing Junior High and High School teenagers from various backgrounds together to worship, encourage, pray, teach, mentor and disciple others for the purpose of knowing the Lord Jesus Christ. **Are you involved?**

Over the past year as with our church body our youth numbers have dropped due to various reasons, but instead of dwelling on the past we are now in the process of encouraging, revamping, refocusing and rejuvenating this ministry. **How can you get involved?**

There are many activities used by **FUSION** to further God's kingdom and create growth. Some of these have changed since last year and some have stayed the same. Activities include Sunday Morning Mosaic Coffee House, Sunday Evening 316, Uplift, Retreats, Work Camp, Cell Teams, Summer Mission Trip, Elementary Summer Camp, etc. **Are you involved?**

While I would like to describe all of our activities in more detail, there is just not enough space or time to do each the justice they deserve. One of the big events coming up during the remainder of this calendar year includes a summer mission trip. Since this event is coming fast and has not yet had much publicity, I would like to focus on this one item. **How can you get involved?**

Currently Justin is finishing up the planning stages for a summer mission trip to Eureka Springs, Arkansas. **FUSION** will be coupled with other church youth groups and families from across the US. This effort is being coordinated and planned through a group named TEAMeffort. You can read more about their organization and programs on their web site at www.TEAMeffort.com. This trip will give our youth and those of you who choose to join us a chance to serve side by side with other fellow Christian brothers and sisters to better someone else's life, listen to their stories, be encouraging, witness, etc. Many chaperones, workers, drivers, servants, etc. will be needed to make this a successful trip. It is our intent to invite anyone from the church body to also consider going with us. Work is being planned by Team Effort and will include painting, roofing and home repair for those less fortunate in Arkansas mountain communities. **Are you involved?**

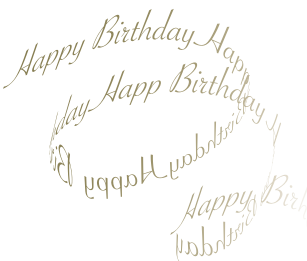
Justin and I both hope that you will be part of this great upcoming event! If you cannot be part of this particular event consider helping us in some other area (making coffee, driving teens, leading a Cell Team, etc.) as we have many openings and could use all the help we can get. Blessings on you and your families this month!

How are you involved?



APRIL 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 CHRIST IN THE PASSEOVER 7 P.M.	3	4	5	6 <i>Fusion</i> RETREAT	7 2:00 PM ELIZABETH VOWELL BABY SHOWER
8 <i>Easter Sunday</i> BLOSSOMING OF THE CROSS	9	10	11 SERVE LUNCH FOR UH CAMPUS MINISTRY	12	13	14
15 <i>Fusion</i> PARENT LUNCHEON	16	17	18	19	20 LADIES CONFERENCE	21 PRAYER BKFAST @HERITAGE PARK BAPTIST 7:10 - 9:00 AM
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29 CHURCH FAMILY PICNIC	30					



4 - Scott Mitchell, Jared Veatch
 5 - Lorena Counterman
 7 - April Meadows
 10 - Esther Speck, Matthew Berger
 11 - Bette Thompson, David O'Brien
 19 - Megan Taliaferro

21 - Carl Kovitz, Jake Watson, Lindsay Kirklín
 23 - Beverly Dement, Doris Kovitz
 25 - Spencer Vowell
 26 - Ted Debner, Derek Hollingsworth
 30 - Pat Boggs, Brian Main

Announcements

April 6 - 8th / FUSION Spring Retreat at Gulf Coast Christian Youth Camp Columbus, TX. Theme: "Fill It Up" Having a God Filled life.

April 7th / Baby Shower Ladies, please plan to attend a baby shower honoring Elizabeth Vowell and baby girl Saturday, April 7th at 2:00 PM. in the Fellowship Hall. Proud grandparents are Melissa and Wayne Vowell. Elizabeth is registered at Target and Babies R Us. See Donna Simpson for more information.

April 8th / Blossoming of the Cross

April 11th / Serve lunch for the UH Campus Ministry. See Melissa Vowell to see how you can help.

April 15th / FUSION Parent and Youth Luncheon to discuss and plan Youth Ministry goals, activities and scheduling. Please RSVP to Debbie Kovitz.

April 21 - 22 / Ladies Conference / Dr. Jackie Halstead, Marriage and Family Therapy Department, ACU / Theme: Humility, as it relates to God, Family, Children and the Faith Community / Sat. 9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., Sunday 9 - 10 a.m.

April 21st / Prayer Breakfast @Heritage Park Baptist / Theme: Honoring our Military "Supplied to Survive" / Speaker: Steven Schultz. Call Ed Hoskins to reserve your spot.

April 29th / Church Family Picnic

Garage Sale Benefiting Homes of St. Mark / Friendswood Church of Christ on Friday, May 11 and Saturday, May 12 @ 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. each day. Storage is now available for sale items. Donations will be received between 4:00 and 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 3. Remember, sooner is better. Volunteers are needed to help price the donations on this day. Call Susan Khonsari (281-482-8431 or cell 713-539-3944) or Peggy McCullum (281-482-7620 or cell 281-793-5857) to arrange to drop off items, to volunteer, and for more information.



Contribution Counters
 Esther Scott & Betty Dillon

Communion Preparers
 the Feezel's

WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

Humility—The Journey in Experiencing God

Sign up to attend the Women's Conference featuring Jackie Halstead at our church building.

Saturday, April 21, 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Sunday, April 22 9:00 a.m. combined ladies' class.

\$15 registration (includes light breakfast, snacks, and lunch) is due April 15.

Donors provide scholarships for those who want to attend but are short on cash.

Jackie Halstead, Ph.D.

- Chair of the Department of Marriage and Family Therapy at Abilene Christian University.
- Therapist and director of the Highland Counseling Center for the Highland Church of Christ.
- Born in Canada and reared in Montana.
- Married to Randy 25 years and has two teenage daughters, Eryn and Ashley.
- Speaks frequently on spiritual formation and its influence on one's personal relationships.



Elementary Camp - It's time to mark your calendars again for Summer Elementary Camp. Camp will be held June 18th - 21st at Camp Mohawak in Alvin. Contact Debbie Kovitz or Carol McDaniel for details.

On Easter Sunday the Fellowship Ministry Group asks that all families participate in the ceremony of "Blossoming the Cross." This event requires each family stop to pick up a bouquet of flowers from home or the store and bring them to church. Before or after class, spend a few minutes as a family attaching your flowers to the cross. We pray that this event will be a meaningful time of worship that will allow each family a time for reflection on the personal nature of our Lord's sacrifice.

Book of the Month • Book of the Month • Book of the Month

How about dusting off some good old classics from your bookshelves and give them a fresh reading, or perhaps you could read them for the first time? Anything by C.S. Lewis would qualify (Mere Christianity, The Problem of Pain, The Grand Miracle). Basic Christianity by John Stott or More Than a Carpenter by Josh McDowell are excellent resources for Christian essentials. The same goes for Know What You Believe and Know Why You Believe by Paul Little. Have you just seen the movies and never read the Lord of the Rings trilogy by J.R.R. Tolkien? Not really "Christian" books per se, but they certainly depict the ultimate triumph over good and evil wrapped up in a classic tale. All are highly recommended!



THE CHURCH OF CHRIST
IN FRIENDSWOOD

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