

Knowing God
Growing in relationship to Him
Going into the world in His name and with his message
Showing others how they can do the same.



MESSAGE FROM PASTOR

The restoration company SERVPRO has a slogan which speaks to the thoroughness of the job they seek to do, “Like it never even happened.” Fortunately, I’ve never needed their services so I can’t speak first-hand about their capability to fulfill such a tall order. What I can speak to from first-hand knowledge is the fact that, when I make a mess of things in my own life or relationships, I wish it was like it never even happened. However, as is the case with damage to our homes, damage in these areas requires a process of restoration. And no matter how good they may be at cleaning up water damage, SERVPRO can’t help us when sin is at the root of the problem.

So where do we turn for that kind of restoration? The answer is to the Living Word of God, Jesus, and the written word of God, the Bible. Of course, there’s no way to unpack every possible facet and factor of this truth in a brief newsletter article. Consider though that there are no less than ten words in the Greek language of the New Testament which have to do with God’s work of restoration, with a range of meanings such as “to give back”, “to set straight again”, “to renew”, “bring to completion”, “to mediate”, “to arrange in order”, etc. Suffice it to say that our God is a God of restoration. In both the Old

and New Testaments, there are numerous ways in which the Lord covenants with His people to restore them or to restore something to them.

We should recognize that the end of all such restoration may not be “like it never even happened” on this side of eternity. That’s the reality of living in a sin-cursed, fallen world. This is why we as Christians look not only to that which is seen but also to that eternity beyond compare and comprehension that awaits all who are in Christ. Nevertheless, we must remember that there is always the opportunity for the Christian to experience the process (2 Chronicles. 7:14) and the promise (1 John. 1:9) of restoration with our Lord. And, when we have sought the Lord in light of this truth, we can say like David, “He restores my soul” (Psalm 23:3).

For His Glory: Pastor Brandon

*Trust in the Lord with all your heart
And do not lean on your own understanding.
In all your ways acknowledge Him,
And He will make your paths straight.*

Proverbs 3: 5-6

Let’s Celebrate

Anniversaries

- ◆ Charlie & Melissa Leatherman 4/13

Birthdays

- ◆ Ethan Stamey 4/03
- ◆ Nathan Stamey 4/03
- ◆ Eleanor Sprinkle 4/04
- ◆ Sandra Breedlove 4/05
- ◆ Emmerson Shuler 4/06
- ◆ Kelsey Hahn 4/07
- ◆ Bob Lundberg 4/08
- ◆ Jean Sanders 4/12
- ◆ Kim Hedden 4/14
- ◆ Pete Penland 4/16
- ◆ Sue Hedden 4/21
- ◆ Terry Christensen 4/23
- ◆ Christy Mathis 4/23
- ◆ Macie Bennett 4/25
- ◆ Chris Dove 4/27
- ◆ Ryan Rowland 4/28
- ◆ Kelton Gibbs 4/29

Iotla Ambassadors

The student’s at Iotla Baptist have been discussing the parables of Jesus, focusing on the thirteenth chapter of the Gospel According to Matthew. As we move into the spring we will continue learning about the teachings of Jesus. As we prepare for the upcoming seasonal changes, we will be hosting a meeting for the students and parents/guardians on Wednesday, April 10 at 5:30 PM in the youth room. Also, we will be participating in another Love Serves Day on Saturday, April 27. This is a great opportunity to fulfill the commands of our Savior in Acts 1:8 and to serve God by serving others. –

Pastor Trevor



The Children’s Easter Egg Hunt was held at IVE School on Wednesday, March 28th. The weather was perfect and eggs plentiful. We had 17 kids participate with 38 total involved.



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Wed. Night Supper and Meal Delivery

- April 3**.....No Supper or Services
- April 10**.....Chicken Wings, Mashed potatoes, Cole Slaw
Tony & Wanda Ledford
- April 17**.....Hamburgers and Hot Dogs
Bill Tippett
- April 24**.....Meat Loaf & Mashed Potatoes
Evelyn Houston and Chris Dove

5 Christian facts that hit deep

GOD DOESN'T TELL US TO UNDERSTAND. HE TELLS US TO TRUST HIM.
Proverbs 3:5-6

IF YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT IT, THAT'S A SIGN YOU NEED TO PRAY ABOUT IT.
Philippians 4:6-7

EVEN IF OTHER PEOPLE LEAVE YOU, GOD WILL NEVER ABANDON YOU.
Hebrews 13:5

GOD'S TIMING IS BETTER THAN YOUR TIMING.
Isaiah 55:8-9

GOD KNOWS WHAT'S BEST FOR YOU. TRUST THE PLAN.
Jeremiah 29:11



Ask the Father to capture your heart, breaking it for what breaks His, and helping you avoid silence at all costs. Ask Him to prompt you daily to remember the lost in your prayers...

Thank you for your generous giving to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering. We were able to reach our goal and a little bit over it with \$4560. Thank you for a job **WELL** done! While the offering is over... the needs of missionaries located throughout North America and the ones they serve continues. **They need our prayers.** Continue to pray for the missionaries and especially the work Jesus has sent them to do. **There are still prayer calendars available in the vestibule that will help you as you pray!**

Upcoming Mission Opportunities

- **LOVE SERVES** - Once again youth and adults will be serving the community all over Macon County on **Saturday, April 27th**. There will be a team from lotla participating in this and you are invited to be a part of this team! If you would like to participate, please let either the church office know or Melissa Leatherman.
- Let's fill those **BABY BOTTLES** for Smoky Mountain Pregnancy Care Center! Smoky Mountain Pregnancy Care Center provides a safe and confidential opportunity for women in Macon County who are pregnant. Services offered include free pregnancy testing and ultrasounds, counseling and baby supplies. **Fill your baby bottle with change, bills or checks during the month of April!** Bottles are available in the church vestibule.

Prayers

- Pray for **missionaries** listed in each Sunday's bulletin.
- Pray for the **churches and pastors** in Uspantan, Guatemala.

Submitted by: Melissa Leatherman, MS/CI Co-chairman

SUN RISE

3/31/2024



GUATEMALA TEAM

LOVE

Love never asks how much must I do, but how much can I do.

Frederick A. Agar

PRAYER LIST

Church Members

- Lucille Allen
- Virginia Fickling
- Jim Hedden
- Geraldine Henderson
- Edna Huggart
- Charlie Leatherman
- Emma Lovett
- Pete Penland
- Pat Smith
- Charles Swafford
- Janis Wilson
- Barbara Wilson

Family and Friends

- Fred & Carolyn Atkins
- Alan Bailey
- Eddy Bateman
- Marlene Barham
- Donna Bell
- Dan Cansler
- Barbie Clute
- Greg Crow
- Fred & Pam Goldsmith
- Ken Morgan
- Richard & Bea Perry
- Steven Reeves
- Ann Wood