

The Cross & Steeple



Collinsville Baptist Church
P.O. Box 558
Collinsville, AL 35961
Dr. John Morgan, Pastor
www.collinsvillebaptistchurch.com
www.cbckidsgo.com

April 2013

From John

This choir year's end will be harder for me than usual. It will mark the end of a magic time. Mark and Glenda have let me pick up Elijah, Isaiah and Sarah, bring them to choirs and then carry them back home most of the year. About twenty minutes in each direction.

Sometimes there is talking about what they have been doing at home and at school. Sometimes there is busy eating of snacks. Lots of giggles. And, yes, sometimes there is fussing.

And especially most every week there was the magic. Storytelling magic. You know the magic words. Once upon a time.

And for a few minutes some of the nights we were in another world. A happily ever after world. The three of them on the back seat. Me up front. Telling stories.

Sometimes they told me stories. But it was mostly me doing the telling. Trying to find stories they did not yet know. But never ignoring the old ones. They're the best, aren't they?

The Three Little Pigs (we did variations of that story more than one night. Elijah had one with Three Alligators. Isaiah had one with Three Elephants, if I am remembering right. And Sarah listened to all of them. Especially if she had a sucker in her mouth). Rapunzel. Snow White. The Happy Prince. Rumpelstiltskin.

It took me back to listening to my grandmother tell me some of the same ones. Little Red Riding Hood. The Three Bears. Sitting in her lap and listening. Sometimes with my cousin Ellen. Learning about Happily Ever After.

So I have treasured this time with them. Knowing that they will learn all too soon about the real world. And how rare happily ever after is. And become too grown up to want to hear fairy tales.

A few precious minutes of magic. In a car on Highway 11. In a magic chariot. "Take the long way home, Papa John", Elijah would say. And I would.

Wouldn't you like a happily ever after world again? A place with no cancer. No family problems. No R or X rated. Innocence.

Isn't that what we as Christians have been promised? No matter the pain, hurts, sin of this world, God made a way for us to have a happily ever after. Just when things looked the worst – the magic apple was bitten, the creature showed up to claim the baby, the wolf was at the door – Jesus arose. Death defeated. Evil and the Evil One banished. Life eternal for all who follow Jesus. Eternity in a place with no pains, no tears.

A place with the innocence of children. Listening to stories. Becoming princes and princesses – children of the king. For real.

A true story for Christians – And they all lived happily ever after.

~ April 2013 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Birthdays Jeremy Kasinger Anniversary John & Susan Morgan	2	3 Anniversary Josh and Allie Jones	4	5	6 Anniversary Joey & Terri Bobo
7 Flowers Vanessa Chambers	8	9 Birthdays Riley Edwards Russ Beene	10 Birthdays Bill Delk	11 Birthdays Vanessa Chambers Anniversary Phil & Vanessa Chambers	12 Birthdays Cheryl Hulsey Anniversary Rick & Jennifer Wilkins	13 Birthdays Jack Blanton
14 Lord's Supper Phil & Vanessa Chambers Birthdays L.D. McReynolds	15 Birthdays Margaret Myers Anniversary Marty & Marilyn Borntreger	16 Birthdays Karen Reed	17 Birthdays Keith McKee	18 Birthdays Ronald Smith	19 Birthdays Brandon Jones	20
21 Flowers Sandra Killian	22 Birthdays Kelsay Sanchez	23 Birthdays Bryan Hornbuckle Bianca Mills Jonathan Roberts	24 Birthdays Kaleb Jones	25 Birthdays Stacey Mackey	26	27
28 Flowers Martha Barksdale	29	30 Birthdays John Morgan	Notes:			

Holy Week Activities

Maundy Thursday Service
March 28
6:00 P.M.
Communion Will Be Served

Easter

Sunday, March 31
Sunrise Service – 6:30 A.M.
Front Steps of Church
Breakfast in Fellowship Hall
Immediately Afterward

Sunday School 10 A.M.
Worship 11 A.M.
No Evening Service

The Greatest Rescue Ever

Children's Choirs End of Year
Program
5:00 P.M.
Sunday, April 7

Covered Dish Dinner
Sunday, April 14
Noon

Ministry Meeting Afterward

Whatever It Takes

**Annie Armstrong Offering for
North American Missions**
Church Goal: \$2350
Given by March 17: \$650
Last Day to Give: April 7

Praying Across Alabama

February 24 – May 2
Praying for Revival and Spiritual
Awakening for Our State
Regional Service at Albertville
April 12

Disaster Relief Training

Shocco Springs
April 5-6
Training for Volunteers to Work
With Southern Baptist Disaster
Relief Efforts

Last Day of School for Students

May 23

Prayer Meeting

We want to encourage everyone to
come to Prayer Meeting
Wednesday nights from
6:00 – 6:45.

In addition to prayer time we will
have a devotion and a short Bible
Study.

A Practical Guide To ESTATE PLANNING

From a Christian Perspective
If you were unable to attend this
seminar, you can contact The
Alabama Foundation of Alabama
for information.
334-394-2009 or tbfa.org

National Day of Prayer

Thursday, May 2
Collinsville Observance
Noon – 12:30
City Hall Steps

Martha Willis Golf Tournament for Missions

Saturday, May 4 at 8 A.M.
Guntersville State Park
\$240 Per Team Before April 26
Register by Calling Dekalb Baptist
256-638-4441

All Money Goes to Support
Mission Trips and Mission Work
by DeKalb Baptist Churches

Mother's Day

Sunday, May 12
Afternoon Service at Collinsville
Cemetery

Collinsville High School Baccalaureate

Sunday, May 19
First Methodist Church
6:00

Pentecost

Sunday, May 19

Vacation Bible School

Tentative Dates – June 16-22
Let Us Know What You Think

Mix Music Camp at Shocco

For Our Children
July 15-19

For Our Leaders
July 12-13

Community Revival

Sunday, September 8 –
Wednesday, September 11

Thank You Notes

Thank you all so much for the
Christmas gift. We really
appreciate your generosity. Clyde
and Sandra Killian

Thank you for the money you
gave me for the Mission Trip to
Portugal. I will give a report when
I get back. Riley Edwards

Thank you so much for all of your
prayers and support! We have felt
it all! We thank you for the love
and kindness we have received in
our time of grieving. God has
truly blessed us by placing you all
in our lives!. Love, The Killian
Family We love you all – Brent,
Stasha and Jeremiah Killian



Shocco Summer Camp Fundraiser

Church T-Shirts
for sale \$10
to help send

ALL of CBC 4th - 6th Grade
Children's Choir to Shocco
Summer Music camp!!

Let us know if you would like to
buy one!

Collinsville Baptist Church
P. O. Box 558
Collinsville, AL 35961

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Devotion: Allowing Jesus to Spring Clean Our Hearts

“Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.” (Psalm 51:10)

My home is filled with clutter. Some areas I try to keep neat, yet others, such as our guest room, remain an embarrassing mess. I have made excuses for this disaster, but a deeper reason besides laziness exists that allowed this room and others to fill with junk. Keeping this room full of useless things and shutting the door was seemingly less painful than facing the harsh reality: the reality of an empty room never to be filled or used by a child.

My survival tactic for battling countless years of infertility remained the same: hide the mess behind closed doors and pretend it doesn't exist. The scar tissue that blocked my fallopian tube gradually began to block my heart as well. Though I thought I had surrendered this area to the Lord, committing to enjoy my life and look for other blessings, the truth is after years of unending heartache I shut the door and gave up.

It was not enough for me to know that God would hear my prayers of anguish. I wanted—even demanded of God— a prompt fix to the situation. When it didn't happen, I finally began to simply pray for strength for the journey instead of healing and restoration. Jesus was allowed to work in other areas of my life, but the issue of having children was hidden, “safe” behind unbreakable walls.

As a result, my heart and mind were filled with cluttering thoughts of negativity, worry, and finally bitterness. The harsh reality of constant battles with illness can fill our lives with discouragement and doubt. It is difficult to commit an uncertain future while blaming the one seemingly responsible for our failing health. Yet we cannot fully trust God until we totally surrender the deep pain of hidden wounds underneath mounds of clutter.

Prayer: God, You are the only one who can completely handle the pain of our struggles. Give us grace in those hopeless situations. Teach me how to break down the walls and invite You in.

Tracey Brown