



**Collinsville
Baptist
Church**

*A Light
On A Hill*

April 2017



Palm Sunday April 9

Join Us As We Wave Palms

Join Us As We Go Again to the Cross

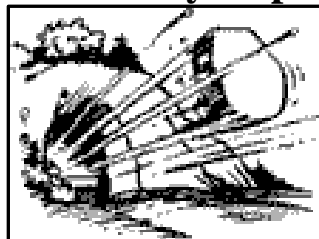
Quarterly Ministry Meeting and Covered Dish Dinner
Sunday, April 9

Maundy Thursday April 13 6:00 Service at Church

Join Us for a thirty minute service that will include music, prayer, Bible readings and Lord's Supper

Good Friday April 14

Easter Sunday April 16



6:15 A.M. Sunrise Service and Breakfast

10:00 Sunday School

11:00 Worship



Youth Mission Trips
Arizona June 1-10 Native American Missions
For Youth Leaders

Destin **Florida** Mission Church Planting July 3-7 For All Youth
This trip will be with several other nearby churches. Lodging at Laguna Beach Christian Retreat Center. Work with King's Crossing Church at their Santa Rosa Beach campus on a church plant – pass out flyers, provide information, help get the building ready.

Feed My Starving Children Saturday, April 29, Rainsville Civic Center (DeKalb Schools Center) The goal this year is to have 600 volunteers pack at least 120,000 meals and need to raise \$26,400 to pay for the food to prepare the meals (22 cents per meal). Last year's efforts had 501 volunteers, 531 boxes packed, 114,696 meals and 314 kids fed for an entire year!
See Luke to volunteer or donate.



“Have the daffodils already come and gone?” I asked my wife.

“Yes, Honey, they’ve already come and gone.” She sweetly replied. As a flower lover to a person who was not sure if her daffodils had bloomed. In spite of the lines of yellow flowers on both sides of the front sidewalk. Now just green stems.

The question came about because of a picture our son Matthew texted from his back yard in Connecticut. It was still covered in snow. There were a few pitiful sprigs of green sticking through the white snow. He said that he hoped this was a sign of spring.

So I decided to send him a picture of what he was missing back in his home state. I went and snapped a picture or two of flowers around town. Then I thought that he and his two kids would like to see something from our house. And I thought, what better to show spring is coming than daffodils by the sidewalk. Oops.

I looked on around the yard. And then I saw it. The sign that always tells me that spring is coming. Next to our garage. A Redbud tree in all its glory. Its beautiful pinkish purple blooms up and down its branches. The blooms highlighted by the white wall of the garage.

Redbuds have those blooms while all the other trees are still completely bare, their branches black against the sky as if reaching out for a little sunlight. You see that pinkish color splattered all around Lookout Mountain. Still no green, no leaves. Just the pink flowers shouting, “Spring is coming”. I know that means that in a week and a half, the Dogwoods will be white and the trees will have new green leaves on their now bare branches.

My parents loved Dogwoods. Me, too. But it is the Redbuds that really herald spring. Dogwoods are just the proof that the Redbuds were right.

So I snapped a few shots and texted them to Matthew. Hey, up there in frozen New England. Quit looking at your slushy snow. This is what spring looks like in Alabama.

I like the changing of the seasons. Spring flowers, summer heat, fall leaves, winter cold. I like them all. But always thoughts of what’s next. I get tired of the heat here in the summer. If I lived in New England I would get tired of the snow. But mostly I just enjoy what is and what’s next.

The Redbuds tell us what's next. Like the fall leaves falling. They remind us of cycles in this world. And in our lives. Each season of Redbuds means my birthday is almost here, and I will be a year older. A reminder of life's cycle – birth, teens, married, children, grandchildren, old age, death. A cycle that cannot be broken. We live, we grow, we die. Can be kind of depressing.

Most religions recognize this unending cycle. Death awaits everyone. You see hints of that in Ecclesiastes. "There is nothing new under the sun. It is all vanity. All empty."

But we Christians believe there is something new under the sun. Oh, we celebrate Easter this time of year. Redbuds and Easter baskets. Marshmallow bunnies. Jelly Beans.

But most importantly we celebrate new life. That the cycle is broken. That Jesus brought something new to us. Life.

On Good Friday, Satan cackled as Jesus died. "I win," he must have said. "Death had come even to God's Son." But by Easter morning there was a new message for Satan. "You lost." Jesus won the victory. The cycle of death is broken. Jesus is alive. And so am I because I follow Jesus. I will live with him forever. How do I know? The empty tomb. Redbuds assure me that spring is here yet again.

The empty tomb tells me that the cycle, the curse of death is broken. It is finished. The battle is over. And Jesus is Lord. *Death has been swallowed up in victory...The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. I Corinthians 15.*

AWANA concludes for this school year on Wednesday, April 26. There will be a supper at 5:30 and then program at 6:00. Come and join us for this celebration of the year.

Sunday Afternoon and Night for next two months

Regular Sunday night Bible Study is slated to return the first Sunday of June. During April and May, join us for special afternoon and/or evening events. April 9 Covered Dish Dinner at noon, Ministry Meeting after; April 16 – Join Us at 6:15 for Easter Sunrise and Breakfast; May 14 Mother's Day Join Us at Collinsville Cemetery at 2:30 for Decoration Day Service; May 21 Collinsville High School Baccalaureate 6:00 at Harvest Center



Annie Armstrong Offering for North American Missions
Church Goal \$2,000
Given as of March 28 \$720
Concluding on Easter, April 16

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We will never forget your kindness. We want to thank all of you for your love and for the compassion we have received. We have been so blessed by so many friends and family. We love all of you. God Bless, Donny, Judy and the Jones family.

Congratulations to Clyde and Sandra Killian on the birth of a grandson, Josiah Quinton Killian. He was born on February 14, and he weighed seven pounds and three ounces, 21 inches long. Brent, Stasha and Josiah are doing great. Most importantly, Clyde and Sandra proclaim the baby the best Valentine's present ever.

Thank you to all who helped with the CLC retreat: those who prayed, donated items, attended, led prayer groups or assisted in other ways. God blessed the day, and we thank you. Christian Ladies of Collinsville

We rejoice with Brody Barksdale and his family over Brody's profession of faith as a Christian. He plans for his baptism to be in April 2, his birthday

Found at the church – a pocket knife. Let us know if it might be yours.

National Day of Prayer Thursday, May 4
For Your Great Name's Sake!
Hear Us Forgive Us Heal Us!

Mother's Day Sunday, May 14

Collinsville High School Baccalaureate Sunday May 21 6:00
Harvest Center

Collinsville High School Graduation Monday May 22 6:00
Gadsden State Coliseum, Centre

Last Day of School May 25 or 26
Memorial Day Weekend – May 27-29

Pentecost June 4

Lord's Supper Volunteers for April –None – Maundy Thursday Service will include a Lord's Supper observance.

DeKalb Association also has a **Christian counselor**, Michel Bozeman, who comes to the Associational office every Wednesday. Contact at 256-504-9752.

Operation Christmas Child – April Gift Suggestions – Boys' Toys

Regular Wednesday Night Schedule for April Supper 5:20 Awana 5:50-7:00
Youth Group 6:00 Youth Praise Team 7:00 Sanctuary Choir 7:00
Youth WOW on First Wednesday Night at 6:00