

**First Baptist Church of Oakville**  
 6741 Telegraph Road,  
 St. Louis, MO, 63129



**REMINDER FOR PALM SUNDAY**

*Bring your kids and grandkids for the Easter Egg Hunt, Palm Sunday, April 14<sup>th</sup>. after the morning service.*



**He is Not Here . . . He is Risen!**

**APRIL Birthdays**



- Jo Sitzes.....1
- Mary Ann Bennett.....8
- Rich Townsend, Noah Jacobi.....9
- Victoria Allen.....11
- Forrest Buchanan.....12
- Brandon Cockrill.....13
- Becky Bradham, Jo Ann Cornish.....14
- Bernice Westrich.....17
- Sam Gacem.....21
- Lucas Parshall.....24
- Teresa Farrow.....25
- Helen Cook, Dean Goodman,  
Nadine Weir.....29

*God Bless You on Your Birthday!*

**Happening In April**

- P.E.P. Club Fellowship.....4
- Vision Committee Meeting (tentative.....4
- Fellowship Breakfast.....7
- Church Council Meeting.....7
- Building and Grounds Meeting.....9
- W.M.U. Meeting.....13
- Palm Sunday.....14
  - Easter Cantata (10:45 service)
  - Easter Egg Hunt (Noon)
  - Deacon's Meeting (5 pm)
  - Annie Armstrong Candlelight Service (6 pm)
- NO Adult Bible Study/ Kidz Kollege.....17
- Maunday Thursday Service (7 pm).....18
- Good Friday.....19
- Easter Sunday.....21
  - No evening service
- Kite Flying Day (3-5 pm).....27
- Game Night (5-10 pm).....27
- Vision Committee Meeting.....28



**JOHN'S JOIS**

*Easter is a time of such HOPE.* Each year, we celebrate the reality that Jesus is alive—and that brings us HOPE. We celebrate that we will be with Him for eternity.

And our HOPE is that those loved ones who have preceded us will be there, too. What a blessed reunion! Plan to join us on Easter Sunday morning as we reflect and rejoice. Of course, we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord Jesus every week (that is why we worship on Sunday instead of the Sabbath on Saturday), but Easter Sunday is a very special time of reflecting and rejoicing. Our celebration of Easter abounds in the wonderful discovery that **HE IS RISEN--RISEN INDEED!!**

*In anticipation of Easter*, two very special celebrations are planned for **Palm Sunday**, April 14<sup>th</sup>. That morning, our choir will present the musical message **It Happened on A Sunday**. (See Johnny's article inside.) Our choir has been rehearsing and preparing for several weeks to share this wonderful message with our church family. Invite others to join us for this memorable worship.

**Palm Sunday evening**, our WMU will lead in a candlelight prayer service for **The Annie Armstrong Easter Offering**. The theme this year is **Sending Hope**, and the national goal for North American missions is \$70 million dollars. Our FBCO goal is \$2300. By giving a special offering this Easter, we are supporting the work of over 5000 area missionaries, some right here in St. Louis. Please give as generously as you can—special offering envelopes are available in the sanctuary.

*And, don't forget the Easter Egg Hunt.* The hunt is an annual tradition that happens right after the morning service—rain or shine! **THANK YOU** to our Youth for preparing and distributing the “eggs” each year for our hunt. Your donations of candy and the youths’ donation of time and energy assure that our younger children and guests have a great time gathering the eggs, and their parents get to enjoy the aftermath of their “sugar highs”!!

**Our Maunday Thursday service** is April 18<sup>th</sup>, at 7 pm, in our Worship Center. We will share the symbolic memorial meal that Jesus shared with His disciples in the Upper Room the night before He was crucified for our sinful condition. That night, Jesus gave the Passover symbols a whole new meaning and offered the cup of the **New Covenant** with us. *Let us eat that bread and drink that cup in remembrance of Him.*

**On a technical note**, our rebuilt website is finally online. You can access [www.firstbco.net](http://www.firstbco.net) or [www.firstbco.church](http://www.firstbco.church). My thanks to Ryan Stanley for his work in building our new site. Also, I am grateful to Tony Pezzo for giving new life and a greater exposure to our Church **Facebook** page. Tony is posting both our morning and evening services on **Facebook**, as well as regular updates. The number of visitors to our page, and the number of viewers of our services has expanded greatly. This gives us just one more valuable way to communicate with our Church family and the Oakville community. Thanks, Tony and Ryan.

*Pastor John*

**Welcome To Our Newest Members:**  
**Donnie & Linda Robbins**

## GWEN'S Gallery

### Looking Into You by Chris Fabry

Every day, Paige Redwine is haunted by a choice she made when she was only seventeen. Now, just past forty, still single, she lives a tidy, controlled life as a well-respected English professor at a college in Nashville. Nothing could prepare her for the day Treha Langsam—the daughter she secretly placed for adoption—walks into her classroom as a student, unknowingly confronting Paige with both her greatest longing and her greatest fear.

As Treha sets aside the search for her birth mother to concentrate on her education, Paige summons the courage to reach out to her daughter, never dreaming her actions will transform them both as she faces a past she thought she'd laid to rest.

### Things Left Unsaid by Courtney Walsh

Lyndie St. James is thrilled that her best friend, Elle, is getting married but is unprepared for the emotional storm of the wedding week and returning to her childhood summer home of Sweethaven. The idyllic cottage community harbors some of her best—and worst—memories. It's not only the tragic death of her childhood friend, Cassie, that has haunted her for ten years, it's the other secrets she's buried that have kept her from moving on.

But Lyndie isn't the only one with secrets.

Cassie's mother, father and brother, still struggling with the loss, have been drifting further and further apart. And Elle herself, the last to see Cassie alive, carries an impossible burden of guilt. Now reunited, each of them has a choice: to reveal the truths of that night or continue to live in its shadow. That means embarking on a personal journey of the heart—to escape the darkness and all its regrets and to finally come to terms with the past and, especially, with each other.



## Kidz Kollege

Spring has sprung! Kidz Kollege still has lots of stuff going on. There's no Kidz Kollege on Wednesday, April 17, otherwise we're on every Wednesday at 6:30-8 P.M. through May 22<sup>nd</sup>. May 22<sup>nd</sup> is also our **Commencement celebration** and also our world famous, one-of-a-kind, stupendous, Talent Show!

All the families of our Kidz Kollege kids and all our church family are invited. Then, to cap off the school year, we're going fishing at **Busch Wildlife** on Saturday, May 25<sup>th</sup>. Every kid going will receive their very own fishing rod to take home with them!

Kidz Kollege is for ALL kids ages 4 years old through 5th grade. All you gotta do to get into this Kollege is just COME!!!

*Pauline and Ed Maness*

## Kidz Praise . . . & Children In Action

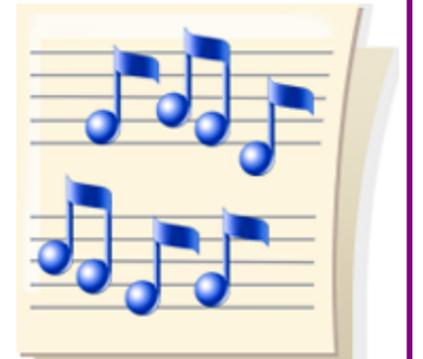
We are continuing our quest to grow closer to God. In April, we will be focusing on our quest and faith. Our focus verse is Matthew 7:8. We are talking about recognizing and following through with God's plan. For Easter, we plan to have an Easter party in celebration of the resurrection of Jesus.

We praise God by loving one another, and we show that love through RESPECT.

*Cyndi Harmon*



## Minister of Worship John Gorse



Greetings Everyone (GROW),

Last Sunday morning, Brother Ed Maness declared Spring is here (GROW) and I'm going with that. One thing that Spring reminds us all of is renewal, rebirth, and new growth. I believe God is all about renewal, rebirth, (GROW) and new growth. In the first chapter of the Bible we find these words: And God blessed them. And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth." Genesis 1:28.

We live in (GROW) exciting times here at First Baptist Church of Oakville as we seek God's leadership in expanding our facilities with a multi-purpose building. As we do this, I feel one thing that must happen—that we grow. We all desire to grow Spiritually but we need to grow numerically as well. That takes an active Outreach Program and we have Rich and Shelba Townsend that do an excellent job providing opportunities for FBCO to reach out (GROW) to the community but they can't do it alone. They need anyone and everyone's help. This needs to be a church-wide focus as we strive to do God's work here.

My thought is if we (GROW) had 130 people in service on a Sunday morning and each one of them asked 1 person to come to FBCO the following week, and 10 people came the next week and 1 person joined out of the 10 that week, and then we repeated that procedure every week for a year, we could theoretically grow by 52 people in a year. But it would take all of us doing our part in inviting people. That bank teller, that neighbor, that family member, that gas attendant, that co-worker, that store clerk all need to know that exciting things are going on at FBCO. Invite folks to like our Facebook page and watch our (GROW) services.

We have many great tools to get the message out, and if you need some help coming up with ideas, contact Rich and Shelba. They would be glad give you some suggestions. I hope you have all made plans to come (and bring someone with you) to the Easter cantata that will be presented on Palm Sunday, April 14<sup>th</sup> at 10:45. God's Choir at Oakville will be singing ***It Happened on a Sunday***. It promises to be a great day in the Lord.

May God Bless Abundantly and I LOVE YOU ALL,

*John*

P.S. I am told subliminal (GROW) perception works. I hope so.