

NEWS2USE

April 2, 2009-April 22, 2009

PASTOR'S CORNER "Raised with Christ"

"If you have been raised with Christ ..." (Col. 3:1); what a thought! When I baptize someone, I do the following: as I lower the person into the water, I say "Dead in sin" and as I bring the person up out of the water, I say, enthusiastically (sometimes almost as a shout of victory), "Raised to new life in Jesus Christ". Of course the Baptism is but a symbol of what's happening in the person's heart. The Baptism is that individual's testimony to the people of the church that she or he is acknowledging sin and that sin leads to death and she or he is alive (spiritually, eternally) because Christ is Lord – Lord of all.

"If you have been raised with Christ ..."

Perhaps this line and the teaching that follows is what led Dallas Willard to state in *Divine Conspiracy* that Paul's letter to the Colossian believers functions as an appropriate manual for living as a disciple. The idea of *being raised with Christ* evokes thoughts of Heaven. We hope those we love and who have died are in Heaven, *raised with Christ*. But, Paul has a more immediate thought in mind.

"If you have been raised with Christ ..." Paul is talking about how we live today. We are born again today, not the moment our earthly body stops working. We live as resurrected ones today. All around us, those who do not know Jesus, are dead men and women. They may be wonderful neighbors, conscientious citizens, productive people, and good friends. But, without Jesus, they have 80-90 years, and then eternity apart from God. Those who put their trust in Him, are raised with Him and living in Christ right now, today!

This means, right now, today, those in Christ "*seek things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God*" (Col. 3:1). Where do we look? If we want to live the disciple life and "seek things that are above," where do we seek? The accompanying instruction in verses 2-3 is "*set your mind on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, for you have died and your life is hidden with Christ in God.*" This is baptism language — so where do we look and on what do we set our minds as baptized people?

Mental and spiritual intake is worth considering. Watching TV, we consume ads that tell us how to make \$1000 while only working 2 hours a day; they tell us how to grow hair if we are bald, have enhancements for body parts we want bigger and operations and medications for body parts we want smaller. We see commercials for beer. These ads show how fun beer is, but they never show the puking that comes with a hangover or the ambulance at the scene of an accident caused by drunken driving. All these ads comes between scenes of TV programs that depict wanton sex, marital infidelity, sophisticated deceptions, glorified violence, potty humor, and materialism.

Here's a guarantee. The "things that are above" (that which we are supposed to seek and set our minds) is not going to be found in all that TV stuff we consume. But, consume we do, and when we do, there's precious little room left in our psyche, our emotional reservoir, our spirit, and our soul. We are so filled with crap, we have no energy for "things that are above," and no room

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(*'Pastor's Corner' continued from page 1*)

for when we find those Heavenly things.

So, where do we look? In quiet places; turn off the TV, put down the paper, tune out the million thoughts that assault the mind. Go for a morning walk, early, when the world is quiet. Where do we look? In rest; forget the show that runs from 10-11. Actually get 7 or 8 hours of sleep. Where do we look? In relationships; if you are young, focus on a friendship with someone who is old; if you are old, seek out someone who's young (I leave it to you to define 'young' & 'old'). Look for God in the eyes of the other person. Where do we look? In worship; when the people of God gather for Sunday church, set your heart emotionally to love the people you greet (especially the ones you kind of don't like). Listen intently when passages from the Bible are read. Sing with all your heart on the worship songs. Pray for new people that you see. When the sermon is being delivered, think about what you would say about that Bible passage if you were the preacher.

Quiet; rest; relationships; worship – if we take in more of this than the stimuli our world throws out in waves, trying to flood all of our senses, then we'll be drawn in the spirit heavenward. Doing that, our perspective will be Christ's perspective, even in our encounters in a world that is far from him. Paul assumes disciples already have a Heavenly perspective in Col 3:1: "If you *have been* raised with Christ". By grace we *have been* "raised up in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus" (Ephesians 2:6). Assuming Paul is right and we have access to Jesus' view of things, wouldn't it make sense to consume more of Him, and less of the junk our world tries to produce? There isn't room in us for both.

Rob Tennant



**INTERESTED IN
MISSIONS?
WANT TO LEARN
MORE?**

There will be an informational meeting Sunday afternoon, May 2nd at 2pm, for anyone at HillSong interested in participating in missions. Michael Bond, Mission coordinator for Yates Baptist Association will come to talk with us about short-term mission opportunities with the Baptist Men (for men and women), Yates Baptist Association, as well as the Baptist State Convention of NC. We will talk about how to prepare, what is involved in going, what is done at the location, guidelines for those going, timeframes, funding, etc. This is an opportunity for EVERYONE at HillSong who is thinking about being involved in missions – whether you go on a trip or not.

**Financial Snapshot
February 2009**

General Fund

2/1/09	Beginning Balance	\$ 63,613.54
	Receipts:	
	Offerings	27,815.12
	Parking	100.00
	Building	1,040.00
	Expense Offsets	309.25
	Expenses	(32,038.61)
2/28/09	Ending Balance	\$ 60,839.30

Specials Fund

2/1/09	Beginning Balance	\$10,151.76
	Receipts	1,460.26
	Expenses	(1,546.19)
2/28/09	Ending Balance	\$10,065.83

**Savings Account (Long Range Fund,
CD, Ministry & Missions Reserves)**

2/1/09	Beginning Balance	\$ 143,251.20
	Receipts	180.22
	Expenses	
2/28/09	Ending Balance	\$ 143,431.42



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY NOTES

It's here! The Spring Eggstravaganza - April 4th!!!

It's time for our annual Spring "Eggstravaganza". Hope to see you on Saturday afternoon!! Our "Eggstravaganza " will have a bit of a new look this year. We have changed our time to 2:00 - 3:30 and will serve a snack at the end . .There will be crafts and perhaps a "Story Center". There will also be the traditional cookie decorating as well as an opportunity to participate in a service project in two different ways.-one before and one after the Egg Hunt. **Children are encouraged to invite and bring friends!!** Our Egg Hunt will be outdoors (weather permitting.) Sunshine is in the forecast! See you there !

VBS is just around the corner

It's VBS time once more. The Children's Ministry leadership team has looked at several possibilities and have chosen Gospel Light's **SonRock Kids Camp**. We've calendared our dates: **June 14-18 in the evenings** (as always).

Remember Summer Camp?...the fun, the games, the new friends, the memories and stories to tell for years after?? "Bring your kids to SonRock Kids Camp and give them memories that will last a lifetime!" There are great possibilities here.

"Gospel Light VBS provides evangelism opportunities and the salvation message in every lesson." With daily Bible lessons from Matthew's gospel (**Jesus Chooses Peter, Jesus Walks on Water, Peter's Confession of Christ, Peter Denies Jesus**), and from Acts 3 (**Peter Helps a Lame Man**), the children learn daily truths: I am Accepted by Jesus, Protected by Jesus, Saved by Jesus, Forgiven by Jesus, and I can Live for Jesus.

Our theme verse will be 1 John 3:1- "How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God."

Co-Directors needed! In order to have the best VBS possible, we need to start our planning now. Maybe God is speaking to you about stepping out and taking a leadership role in VBS this year? Maybe you're the "Camp Counselor" that kids remember into adulthood? **Please start praying for HillSong's VBS now — for children who will come and for workers. Please pray about what your role you might fill this year. There is a place of service for everyone.** Please see Faye on a Sunday morning to talk more about this . Email @ fayetony@att.net; or, call at church : 967-3056 or at home in the evenings - 967-8694.

Check out the ministry table under the children's bulletin board for family ideas on celebrating Lent and Easter.

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(‘Children’s Ministry Notes’ continued from page 3)

Upcoming Events

- * Saturday, April 4—Spring “Eggstravaganza”
- * Maundy Thursday Worship, Apr. 9 - 7pm, childcare provided for babies to 5 yrs.
- * Good Friday Worship, Apr. 10 - 7pm, childcare provided for babies to 5 yrs.
- * Easter Sunday Worship, Apr. 12 - 11am

Give a Helping Hand This Sunday



On the first Sunday of each month, you have the opportunity to give to the Helping Hand Fund. This fund is used to give financial assistance to people in our church and in the surrounding community who are in need. You are welcome to make donations to this fund at any time, not just on the 1st Sunday. However, your donation should be in addition to your normal tithes and offerings. The Helping Hand fund is not part of the general budget, so please make out a separate check to “HillSong” and designate “helping hand” on the memo line or on the offering envelope.

Thank You

HillSong Family for your great response to helping restock the Yates Association Food Pantry. Your generosity reflects your love and care for those in need.

If our greatest need had been information, God would have sent an educator. If our greatest need had been technology, God would have sent us a scientist. If our greatest need had been money, God would have sent us an economist. But since our greatest need was forgiveness, God sent us a Savior.

— Max Lucado —

Youth Bake Sale Sunday, April 19th

@ HillSong

Support the Youth Group as they continue to raise funds for their World Changers summer missions trip. In addition to baked goods, prepared dinners will once again be available for sale. Please pre-order dinners by contacting Cathy Asbill (casbill@nc.rr.com) no later than Friday, April 17th. Dinner choices: Pasta Bake, PoppySeed Chicken & Chicken Divine.

A note from Dana Brower:

My thanks and from my family to all of you for your prayers, cards, phone calls, meals, and visits during my recent surgery and recovery. I consider myself fortunate and blessed to have you as my church family. Many thanks from the heart.

-Dana Brower-

From the Deacons

An Opportunity for Outreach

We are interested in exploring a potential source of outreach (and revenue) from a company called Online Church Stores, based in Raleigh. This company can assist our church set-up and operate (at no cost to us) an online store via the church website to market products (t-shirts, mugs, etc) imprinted with the HillSong logo/message. We need a member to volunteer to do more research about this opportunity. If anyone is interested in taking this on as a project please see Pastor Rob.

Baptist Children's Homes



You make the difference! Please check the list of needs on the round table in the foyer and contribute as you can. Gift cards (Walmart, Sams, Food Lion, Lowes) are appreciated. You can learn more by clicking on the "Support Us" link at www.bchfamily.org. HillSong's contributions will be taken to the Yates Association for pick-up on Friday, April 17th. We will be collecting donations for 2 more Sundays.

BIRTHDAYS IN APRIL

3	Tom Timmons
4	Faye Johnson
12	Jonathan Elwing
14	Joshua Asbill
23	Paula Morris Christopher Hollingsworth
24	Tamara Baker
27	Chris McKeever Carina Phillips
29	Lynn Giddens

The Children of Pine Knolls *Need Your Help*

Dear Faith Community,

The children of Pine Knolls Learning Center need your help to keep their after school program alive. PKLC is housed at Pine Knolls Community Center, located behind Lincoln Center, in the historically African-American neighborhood of Pine Knolls. It operates under the sponsorship of Pines Community Center, Inc., a 501(c)3 Charitable Organization, which recently celebrated its 40th anniversary.

On school days, Monday – Thursday, 3:00 – 6:00 p.m., Pine Knolls Learning Center provides homework assistance, snacks, socialization, supervised play, and supper for students in kindergarten through high school. These services are provided by volunteers and paid staff, at no charge to the families.

A grant received last fall from Chapel Hill/Carrboro schools for salaries and operating expenses has been exhausted and we can no longer pay our staff. Anointed Christian Church will pay salaries through April 3, 2009. To open after Spring Break, the center needs the community's help.

In addition to financial assistance, we also would appreciate fundraising and grant writing advice, and donations of food, school supplies, cleaning supplies, and paper goods. Of course, volunteers are always welcome! We invite you to call or visit to learn more about our program.

If you would like to make a tax-deductible donation, checks may be made to Pines Community Center with "After School" in the memo section.

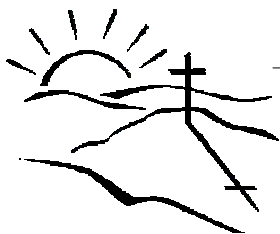
No amount of a love offering is too small. With your help, we can continue to provide this haven for our community's most precious assets.

Ms. Joyce Head, Director - Pine Knolls Learning Center
www.pineknollslearningcenter.org
119A Cole Street, Chapel Hill, NC 27516
(919) 933-0415 pineknollcenter@aol.com

APRIL 2009

"THE HILLS WILL BURST INTO SONG!" ISAIAH 55

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 6:30pm ConnecXion 6:30pm Choir 7:30pm Worship Team Rehearsal	2 7:00pm Troop 45	3 7:00pm Narcotics Anonymous	4 2:00pm Egg- stravaganza
5 <i>Palm Sunday</i> 9:45am Sun. School 11:00am Worship 2:00pm Drama Team 3:30pm Busy Hands 4:30pm Grace CC	6 6:00pm Dartball Banquet 6:30pm God & Family Class	7 7:00pm Elders Meeting 7:00pm Narcotics Anonymous	8 6:30pm ConnecXion 6:30pm Handbells 7:30pm Worship Team Rehearsal	9 7:00pm Maundy Thursday Service	10 7:00pm Good Friday Service 7:00pm Narcotics Anonymous	11
12 <i>Easter</i> 9:45am Sun. School 11:00am Worship 2:00pm Drama Team 3:30pm Busy Hands 4:30pm Grace CC	13	14 7:00pm Narcotics Anonymous	15 5:45pm WNSupper 6:30pm ConnecXion 6:30pm Handbells 7:30pm Worship Team Rehearsal	16 7:00pm Troop 45	17 7:00pm Narcotics Anonymous	18
19 <i>Youth Bake Sale</i> 9:45am Sun. School 11:00am Worship 2:00pm Drama Team 3:30pm Busy Hands 4:30pm Grace CC	20 6:30pm God & Family Class	21 7:00pm Worship Planning 7:00pm Narcotics Anonymous	22 6:30pm ConnecXion 6:30pm Handbells 7:30pm Worship Team Rehearsal	23 7:00pm Troop 45	24 7:00pm Narcotics Anonymous	25
26 9:45am Sun. School 11:00am Worship 2:00pm Drama Team 3:30pm Busy Hands 4:30pm Grace CC	27 1:30pm Mushana Food Distribution 6:30pm God & Family Class	28 7:00pm Deacons Meeting 7:00pm Narcotics Anonymous	29 6:30pm ConnecXion 6:30pm Handbells 7:30pm Worship Team Rehearsal	30 7:00pm Troop 45		



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