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# The Link - April 2024

"You visit the earth and water it; you greatly enrich it; the river of God is full of water; you provide their grain, for so you have prepared it. You water its furrows abundantly, settling its ridges, softening it with showers, and blessing its growth." Psalm 65:9-10

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## ***From the Pastor***

Greetings Ridge Spring Family! You've probably heard the expression, "April showers bring May flowers." This saying originated because April is traditionally a rainy month that provides the nourishment for flowers to grow in May. Do you like rain? Many people look at rain as an inconvenience that disrupts their plans. We tend to not like rain. It gets in the way of our comfort of a dry day.

In the Bible, rain is seen as a gift from God that provides an element necessary for nature to bloom and grow. Few of us look out the window on a rainy day and say, "What a blessed day!" But, that's exactly what God's people in the Bible did. They didn't have all the modern conveniences of irrigation that many people have today. And, their climate was dry and desert-like in many places. So, a rainy day was a good day for them.

The next time you look out the window on a rainy day, look out with a grateful heart because of God's blessings coming down. Look at the rain as God's faithfulness on full display. It's often even used as a metaphor for God's blessings. Throughout April, pray that God rain His blessings down on each of us, to nourish our lives and bring forth growth for His glory!

In Christ,  
Pastor Wesley

## ***Joyful Sounds***

If you had the chance to be at church on Palm Sunday, you were blessed with the sight of children who came down the aisle with their palms singing "Hosanna!" When Jesus made His triumphal entry into Jerusalem, I have no doubt that there were children there with their parents. Imagine them seeing the Son of God and being a part of Jesus' triumphal entry! I read an article recently that made the following statements:

1. Jesus welcomed children.
2. Jesus empowered children.
3. Jesus served children.
4. Jesus commended children.

Let's make an effort to continue to follow in Jesus' footsteps. Let's welcome, empower, serve, and commend children just like Jesus did! Our RSBC children along with all of our community children are such a gift from God! -Leah

## **Some of the children that participated in the RSBC Egg Hunt on March 30th**



**It was the perfect day for an Egg Hunt! We had 27 children participate and numerous adults attend. Everyone enjoyed the day! Thanks to all who helped make this community fellowship possible. (Additional picture on front cover)**



## **Ridge Ramblers**

The Ramblers met for a Pot Luck Lunch in March and had a wonderful time of fellowship. We played Name That Tune gathered around the piano with Phillip playing. We kept guessing songs until “It is Well with My Soul” was played, at which time Pastor Wesley segued into an encouraging message. On April 9th, we will be exploring Edgefield and the Turkey Federation. A dutch lunch is planned at Park Row Market on the square. Pastor Wesley will be driving the bus for us. We will meet at the church at 10:30 am. Please join us for a great time!



The Gift Packing Party on March 17 for WMU Easter Hat Parade at Saluda Nursing Center was a great success. THANK YOU to the volunteer Sunday School Classes. Many Hands Made Light Work!



Thank you to all who made the **WMU NAOMI TEA** event so special by giving of yourself to prepare food and minister to these wonderful ladies. It was a delightful time for all in attendance! Our special guest speaker, Christy Perry, brought a wonderful devotional on the different types of bitterness that one can experience in life. We had a variety of Teas served with sandwiches, pastries and cookies. We played Tea Bingo for a prize of a special box of tea. There was a Prize Drawing for a beautiful enamel tea pot. Fun & Fellowship was enjoyed by all. We look forward to serving you, our widows, in the future!

## **FELLOWSHIP HALL—EROSION & DRAINAGE ISSUES REPAIRED**

A project has been completed to correct the water drainage problem along the back wall of the Fellowship Hall. Soil had eroded from the foundation along the wall. Guy & Vonnie Rutland provided and delivered the clay needed to reinforce the eroded area. Dray Wannamaker and Jerry McGee moved the clay into place along the wall then built a flashing to divert rain away from the wall.



Also, the ditch across the driveway in front of the Fellowship Hall was completely clogged up. Jerry McGee and Brian Derrick, with the help of Mike with the Town of Ridge Spring, cleared out the ditch. These repairs will make a big difference in the future!

**MANY THANKS TO ALL INVOLVED!**



## Intercessory Prayer List

Jean Gregory and Carl & Frances Storey @  
 Saluda Nursing Center  
 Mary Ann Burton, JF Hawkins Nursing Home  
 The people of Ukraine  
 Betty Ann Cone  
 Oneal Fallaw  
 Wendel Duncan  
 Pauline Berry  
 Kathleen Gibson  
 Nate Williams  
 Keith Cleveland  
 Gail Cockrell  
 Helen Greene  
 Rudy Stoddard  
 Brooke Corley

Vonnie Rutland  
 Thomas Butler  
 Kent Perry  
 Larry Hendrix  
 T L Coleman  
 Paul Metts  
 Tracy Price  
 Daisy Rutland  
 Randy Thomas  
 Margaret Berry  
 James Fulmer

## Upcoming Events

**Mission Focus—Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for North American Missions**

Apr 3: Wed. 6 pm Meal, Bible Study, Children's Activity  
 Apr 3: NO Choir Rehearsal  
 Apr 4: Building & Grounds Committee meeting 7 pm  
 Apr 7: Deacons' meeting 4:00 pm  
 Apr 9: Ridge Ramblers to Edgefield meet@church 10:30  
 Apr 10: Wed. 6 pm Meal, Bible Study, Children's Activity  
 Apr 10: Adult Choir Rehearsal 7:10—8:00 pm  
 Apr 11: Ridge Spring Community Blood Drive 2—6 pm  
 Apr 14: Church Council meeting 4:00 pm  
 Apr 17: Wed. 6 pm Meal, Bible Study, Children's Activity  
 Apr 17: Adult Choir Rehearsal 7:10—8:00 pm  
 Apr 21: Choir Special  
 Apr 24: Wed. 6 pm Meal, Bible Study, Children's Activity  
 Apr 24: Adult Choir Rehearsal 7:10—8:00 pm  
 Apr 27: CIA Prayer Walk  
 Apr 28: Quarterly Business Meeting  
 May 1: Wed. 6 pm Meal, Bible Study, Children's Activity  
 May 1: Adult Choir Rehearsal 7:10—8:00 pm  
 Jun 2: VBS Community Registration & Cookout 4—6 pm  
 Jun 3—7: Vacation Bible School 6—8 pm

## Breaker Rock Beach Vacation Bible School

"Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind; so that you may discern what is the good, pleasing and perfect will of God." Romans 12:2

Vacation Bible School 2024 is going to ROCK – at Ridge Spring Baptist's very own Breaker Rock Beach.

We are excited to share details about our June beach themed VBS! Please pray that hearts will be led to Jesus through our Vacation Bible School this year and that God will guide us through it all.

Preparations are underway to host children, youth and adults for a rockin' great opportunity to learn, teach, sing and grow in God's word. Please mark your calendars for June 2 – June 7, 2024.

Sunday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> from 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm, we will host our VBS kickoff/registration cookout and everyone is invited!

Monday June 3<sup>rd</sup> through Thursday, June 6<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm – a meal will be served followed by a Worship Rally, VBS classroom time and a closing message from Pastor Wesley. (Pickup of children is expected to be complete by 8:15 pm each evening.)

Friday June 7<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 pm – 7:00 pm will be our VBS graduation program with some social time planned after.

We need YOU! Willing hearts make all the difference in the world for Vacation Bible School. Won't you be a volunteer this year? If so, blessings await - we are sure of it.

A list of VBS volunteer opportunities and a sign-up sheet will be placed in the vestibule shortly, but we would love to speak with you personally about serving in some 2024 VBS capacity. Our contact information is provided below to make getting in touch with us by phone, text or email easy — or even better, catch us on a Wednesday night or Sunday morning!

Please be in prayer for how you might involved – as a member of the prayer team, a teacher, an assistant teacher, an organizer, a meal prep- per, a music helper, a crafter, a member of the safety team, or a member of the outreach team -- there is something for EVERYONE!

We will have VBS information training sessions in April and May for those interested in hearing more details or who are willing to participate. (And teacher materials should be distributed in early May.)

Get ready to get excited and to share God's love!

Blessings,

Tanya Butts  
 803-480-1256  
[tanyabsc@gmail.com](mailto:tanyabsc@gmail.com)

and

Diedra Derrick  
 803-730-0417  
[d72716@me.com](mailto:d72716@me.com)



# April Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 1 Mandy DuBose
- 1 M/M Kyle Richards
- 2 Randy Thomas
- 2 Rudy Stoddard
- 3 Leah Smith
- 4 Miranda Nance
- 5 M/M Martin Crouch
- 7 David Sawyer
- 9 Mildred Webb
- 11 Libby Bostian
- 12 Trenton Cromer



- 14 Corbin Yon
- 14 Josie Layne Webb
- 19 Martin Crouch
- 19 Diedra Hall
- 20 Dena Mayfield
- 22 M/M Drake Yon
- 23 Ellore Yon
- 24 Bob Boatwright
- 27 Pastor Bobby Jackson
- 27 Helen Greene
- 30 Lydia Yon

	<b>Offertory &amp; Deacon's Prayer</b>
<b>April 7</b>	Kyle Richards
<b>April 14</b>	Jerry McGee
<b>April 21</b>	Ken Fulmer
<b>April 28</b>	Brian DuBose
	<b>Mission Friends</b>
<b>April 7</b>	Will Boatwright
<b>April 14</b>	Shannon DuBose
<b>April 21</b>	Will Boatwright
<b>April 28</b>	Shannon DuBose
	<b>Flower Calendar</b>
<b>April 7</b>	Mr. Andrew Rutland
<b>April 14</b>	Gerald & Judi Taylor
<b>April 21</b>	Mr. & Mrs. Wayne Fulmer
<b>April 28</b>	Mr. & Mrs. Brian DuBose

	<b>Children's Sermon</b>
<b>April 7</b>	Leah Smith
<b>April 14</b>	Lydia Yon
<b>April 21</b>	Kyle Richards
<b>April 28</b>	Kevin Yon
	<b>Church Greeters</b>
<b>April 7</b>	Judi Taylor
<b>April 14</b>	Billy & Miriam Rodgers
<b>April 21</b>	David Sawyer, McKenzie & Drayton
<b>April 28</b>	Vicki Pierce

*"Just as our bodies have many parts and each part has a special function, so it is with Christ's body. We are many parts of one body, and we all belong to each other."*  
Romans 12: 4-5

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