

**APRIL
2006**

UPBEAT

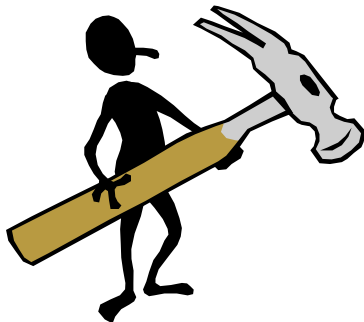
a ministry of First Baptist Church, Sun City West
linking lives with God and others

CALENDAR

- 2 5:00 p.m. Organ and Piano Concert
- 3 9:00 a.m. Sewing Group (ea. Mon.)
9:30 a.m. Outreach (ea. Mon.)
- 4 8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast
9:00 a.m. Deacons Meeting
- 5 9:30 a.m. Samaritan Visitation (ea. Wed.)
- 6 9:30 a.m. Bldgs. & Grnds. Com.
- 9 6:00 p.m. Choir Concert

- 10-14 A Week Called Holy
12:00N—1:00 p.m.
Mon., Tues., Wed., & Fri.

- 13 6:30 p.m. Maundy Thursday
Lords Supper Service
- 16 10:00 a.m. Easter Worship Serv.
- 18 10:30 a.m. Church Council
- 19 6:30 p.m. Church Conference
- 20 10:00 a.m. Partners On Mission
2:00 p.m. Samaritan Com.



WORK DAY AT CHURCH

**APRIL 6
8:00 A.M.—12:00 N**

EVERYONE IS INVITED

SPECIAL EVENTS OF NOTE

**WANDA BAKER, ORGAN and
VIRGINIA EGLI, PIANO**

In concert

Sunday April 2 5:00 p.m.

THE SEVEN LAST WORDS

By Theodore DuBois

Presented by

The Sanctuary Choir

Sunday April 9 6:00 p.m.

**MAUNDY THURSDAY
LORD'S SUPPER SERVICE**

In the Sanctuary

April 12 6:30 p.m.

CELEBRATION OF EASTER

APRIL 16 10:00 A.M.

Worship in the Social Hall of the R.H. Johnson Recreation Center, Sun City West. Worship will feature soloists, choir, and brass in a magnificent celebration of the Resurrection of Jesus and the power of God at work in his people.

Happy Birthday

- 2 Ruth Smith
- 4 Andy Anderson
James Clark
John Smith
- 5 Norma Nelson
- 8 Betty Johnson
- 12 Betty Hoffman
- 16 Bob Lewallen
Brian Smith
Marilyn Whitehead
- 20 Vi Sabo
- 21 Mildred McNicol
- 22 Jim Hopp
Larry Skye
- 23 Norma Kinnison
Linda Lessard
- 27 Jack Kelley
- 28 Glema Weaver
- 29 Shirley Winsor
- 30 John Hannah



WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

- 2 Bill & Norma Salsman (57)
- 10 Ed & Jeannine Olive (56)
- 11 Wilbur & Gladys Leach (64)
- 12 John & Jackie Elam (21)
Betty & Bill Hoffman (37)
- 13 Michael & Lori Hulen (10)
- 14 Frank & Betty Johnson (50)
- 17 Guy & Liz Inman (35)
- 19 Lewis & Stella Taylor (27)
Carl & Lenore Cardinael (59)
- 21 Warren & RoseMarie Isbell (16)
- 24 Dwight & Ruby Brown (9)
- 25 Ray & Shirley Fann (8)
- 26 John & Peggy Crawley (48)
- 27 Don & Mildred Bertrand (60)
Larry & Marge Skye (17)
- 29 Charlie & Doris Moye (52)

() number of years married



**Condolences and Christian
love are expressed to**

**Earl Welch and family in the death
of his wife, Mildred**



**Danny and Janice Lane
10015 W. Thunderbird Blvd.
Sun City, AZ 85351
623-815-1279**

**Reggie and Barbara Bethea
16611 N. West Point Pkwy., C110
Surprise, AZ 85374
623-975-1064**



**We will not be collecting items for the Baptist Village
Intergenerational Program during the summer months. Please
bring whatever items you have to the JOY classroom not later than
April 15, 2006. Should you have any questions, please call
Virginia Eoff at 623-584-5006.**

Thank you.

FROM THE PASTOR

Imagine a shingle hanging outside your business that looks like this:

HOPE, INC. A Partnership

That idea isn't farfetched. The Christian faith is the gospel of hope and the church reverberates with the message of hope. When we do talk about Christian hope, we are talking about a partnership.

"Hope does not burst forth from a solo do-it-yourself kit," someone said. God's people are many things, but we are uniquely the bearers of hope.

Paul started me to thinking in these terms with his words, "Christ in you, the hope of glory" (Colossians 1:27). *The Message* paraphrases the verse like this: "The mystery in a nutshell is just this: Christ is in you, therefore you can look forward to sharing in God's glory. It's that simple." Think about it: people can look at us, see Christ alive and at work, and know that there is a bright future for God's people. We are partners in the sharing of hope. Through the likes of us:

- The power of hope becomes real.
- Hope is personified.
- Others come in touch with hope.
- Others catch a glimpse of God's future.

People will sometimes hear the words, "Christ is our only hope," and that is true. In worship, we sing, "My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus. . . . "Both are on target; hope crafted from anything less or other than Christ is either inadequate or false.

But, we need to hear another word. People like us carry the meaning and message of hope. Others have to see hope walking and talking, living and breathing before they have an inkling of what the hope of glory looks like. When they see hope take shape in people like us, they are drawn toward it. When our lives point to the power of hope and to the promise of hope, others see the way to the One who is bright hope for tomorrow.

To a degree greater than at any other time, the days ahead are the **season of hope**. Our culture tags this as the Easter season and April 16 as Easter Sunday. Christians around the world have called it Resurrection Sunday, and for good reason: we celebrate the most

profound declaration of hope the world could ever see or hear – the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ!

Our pre-Easter worship continues with its theme, **Journey to First Light: Traveling with Hope**. Morning worship on April 2 and 9 will resonate with the message of hope. On those two Sunday evenings, we shall be blessed by music – first, that of Wanda Baker and Virginia Egli at the organ and piano; and, then, that of our Sanctuary Choir as they present *The Seven Last Words*.

During the final week leading up to Resurrection Sunday, we shall:

- **Take part in special worship times on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday.**
- **Gather for our Maundy Thursday Lord's Supper.**
- **Worship in the Social Hall of the R. H. Johnson Recreation Center on Easter Sunday at 10:00 for a magnificent celebration of our Lord's Resurrection.**

During "The Week Called Holy," we shall look again at the tragic events of the last week of Jesus' life, recall the night in which he was betrayed, and remind ourselves that even in the darkest hours, the light of God's hope never dies. In Easter worship, we shall hear again that the light breaks and life comes even at graveside when our eyes well with tears and our hearts break with grief.

FROM DR. PAUL

Our “season” is coming to an end as many of you begin your final preparations to leave for cooler ground. We have had a great year and we are looking forward to the future and all God has for us!

This month will be full of exciting events and experiences as we continue the Journey to First Light. If you weren't with us last Easter at the Social Hall let me encourage you to come this year. We have “relocated” the choir out of the cubby hole so they will be heard clearly and joyfully. We are inviting the surrounding communities to come and worship with us. It will be a wonderful experience for us to share as a family!

On that day and each Sunday, the Greeters and Ushers are asking that you wear your name badge. It assists them in identifying the visitors. If you are greeted in the future as a visitor, please let that be a reminder for you to wear your name badge. By doing so, more people will become familiar with who you are and we will all be more attentive to our visitors. If you have misplaced your badge, there is a sign-up sheet in the Christian Life Center for you to order a replacement. All regular attendees are encouraged to have one.

Although we say we slow down in the summer months, those of you who tough it out in the Valley of the Sun will have plenty to do. We will look forward to worshipping together and being in Bible study each Sunday morning. The choir will continue blessing our life and the pastor will continue leading us to the throne of God as he shares God's word for us to hear. We will continue visiting the newcomers and visitors as well as those on our Samaritan list. Y'all come and be a part of one or both of our visitation programs.

OUR STAFF

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Virginia Hagel, Pastoral Assistant
Jean Smith, Ministry Assistant

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Wanda Baker, Organist
Virginia Egli, Pianist

Paul Barnes, Minister of Music
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