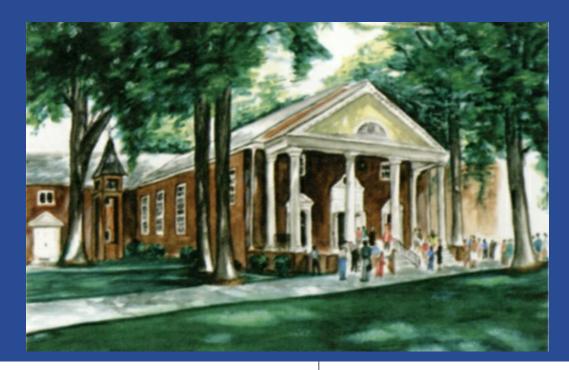
Cook's Church Weekly E-News

March 31, 2024 *Easter Sunday*





Grace and peace to all of you from our Lord and Savior,

Revelation 21:5 – "And He who was seated on the throne said, 'Behold, I am making all things new.' Also, He said, 'Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.""

As we stand at the threshold of *Easter*, this powerful promise from Revelation speaks to the heart of what Easter means to Christians everywhere. It is a time of profound renewal, a celebration not just of Jesus' resurrection, but of the promise of new life for all who believe in Him. *Easter* is the cornerstone of Christian faith, a day that commemorates the ultimate victory over death. It's a reminder that life, in all its fullness and



Prayer Requests: Cook's Church/Playschool, Charlie (recovering from 3/21 surg) & Debbie McCrary, Bev Weldy (recovering from 3/22 surg), Matt Thompson (recovering from 3/19 surg), Ginny Dunn (now @ The Laurels, 6101 Clarke Creek Pkwy, Charlotte, 28269, Rm #<u>B202</u>, 704/249-0374c), Dale Luckey (postponed knee surg ?4/11), Jill Griffin, Tom McClure (STLC, Rm 502 {please sign guest register in his room when visiting}), Jack McClure, Steve Self, Sara Yarbrough, Allyne Gant, F.D. & Pat Hager, Sarah Justice, Dennis & Debbie Abernathy, Jerome Abernathy, Jimmy McClure, Steve (@ Univ Rehab & welcomes visitors!) & Sharon Gilmore, Nancy & Richard Smith, Debbie White, Nicolas Wilson (teenage grandson of Ed & Nancy w/brain tumor), Andy Burge, Judy &

complexity, does not end at the grave. Jesus' resurrection is not just a historical event but a preview of what awaits all who trust in Him—a life that transcends death, a hope that outshines despair. In our journey through Lent, we've reflected on the themes of sacrifice, repentance, and renewal. Now, as *Easter* dawns, we embrace the joyous realization that our journey doesn't end with the cross. The empty tomb stands as a powerful testament to God's love and power, a declaration that death has been defeated, and eternal life is within reach. This *Easter*, let us come together to celebrate the miraculous resurrection of Jesus Christ. Let's remember that through Him, we are offered a "do over"-a chance to start anew, forgiven and free from the past's chains. It's an opportunity to live out our days in the light of His love and grace, carrying the hope of resurrection in our hearts. Easter is a time of celebration, a time to rejoice in the promise of new beginnings. It's a reminder that no

matter what we face in this life, we have the assurance of God's eternal love and the hope of resurrection. This *Easter*, let us hold fast to this promise, letting it inspire and guide us in the days ahead. May the joy of the resurrection fill your hearts and homes this *Easter* season. May you experience the renewing power of Christ's love in every aspect of your life. And may we all move forward with the confidence that, in Jesus, we are indeed made new. Happy Easter to all! In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, Pastor Jason

{Join us this Sunday at 10am for a message from Pastor Jason on 'The Ultimate DO OVER - RESURRECTION' (John 20:1-18)!}

Richard Bogan, Angie Ross, Kurt Hollar, Lisa Roth, Colette Roberts, Gloria Ricker, David Luckey, Jane Jones, Cindy Little, Gary Hayes, Robert Wood, Brian Zuercher, Clay Hodge, Garrett Michel, Debbie Cole, Jake Turner, Melody Mathews, Judy Rozzelle, Ann Drake, Baby Carson, Betty McClure, Jo Price, Jack Byers, John Park, Michael Matrone, Bruce Cole, Steve Johnston, Dinah Riggs, Jerry Hunter, Frances Lancaster, Mark Lackey, Dr. Jeff Ruskusky, Nancy Mummaw, Ned & Carolyn Beatty, Nancy Brammer, Chrissy Hart, Bobby Hotaling, Joe Picard, Jim & Dawn Thompson, KCH/Kenya, NC School System/Students/Teachers/ Administration, victims of natural disasters, those suffering from longterm illnesses, families who grieving the recent loss of loved ones, and all those in need of our prayers of intercession {*Names are left on for 4 weeks, so if they are still in need of 'extra' prayer after that,

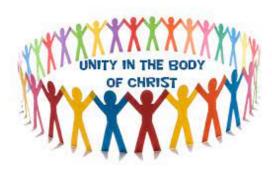
"Names listed above in *italics* will be removed this week unless someone notifies the church office that they still need 'extra prayer'...which we're *MORE* than glad to keep praying for them if needed!"}

<u>Homebound List</u>: Jill Griffin, Steve Gilmore, Tom McClure, Sara Yarbrough, Allyne Gant, Jack Parker

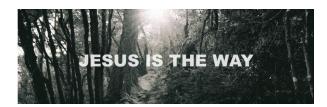
<u>Soldier List</u>: Austin McCrary, Clara DeFeo, Turner Salm, Anne Ledford, Eddy Self, Andy Dula, Chris Dula, Seth Seal, John Makahilli Jr., ALL Vets & families.

Please pray for all daily; to make changes to any of these lists, contact the church office @ 704/399-7735.

* WE NEED YOUR HELP TO BE ABLE TO MINISTER TO YOU! Please don't hesitate to notify the church office (704-399-7735 / office@cookschurch.org) or Pastor Jason Bryant (704-607-4162 / Thank you to all that have graciously made an additional contribution to our church since the first of last year. It is very much appreciated. Please note, <u>our financial need remains this</u> <u>year</u>. If you have available funds, please consider making an overand-above contribution to our general fund. Thank you for considering this request.



****Our "FELLOWSHIP ON THE LAWN" will be set-up in the lobby of the Education Building if it's too cold and/or rainy on Sunday. Join us there (or outside in front of our sanctuary if it's pretty weather) after worship to fellowship with your brothers & sisters in Christ and enjoy a quick treat while you do!



NOTE: we will <u>not</u> have this Bible Study this coming Sunday, March 31 - enjoy Easter Sunday time with your family!

"IT'S ALL ABOUT JESUS!" NEW Adult Bible Study!

This study is being led by Pastor Jason and Fred Cox and they would love for <u>ALL Adults</u> to join them each Sunday at **6pm** in our Jason@cookschurch.org or jaydbryant@gmail.com) of any deaths, sickness, surgeries, births, etc. that you and/or a family member may be experiencing so that we can let our Elders and Deacons know so that they can minister to you and/or your family.



Looking for a class that will help you grow in your knowledge of what God's Word is saying to each of us? You are always invited to join us at one of our Sunday School classes (for all ages!) each Sunday at 9am to study His Word and what it means for our daily living! For more info, contact Paige Benson at 704/488-7417.



We will be collecting <u>non-</u> <u>perishable food items</u> for 'Nourish...formerly Loaves & Fishes' THROUGH THIS SUNDAY, <u>March 31</u>! sanctuary! So please make plans now to join them 'each Sunday' because let's face it, our life mantra should be: **'IT'S ALL ABOUT** JESUS!'



HOLY WEEK Events @ Cook's:

1) We are having a 'special event' during our 'Maundy Thursday' service this year on **TONIGHT**, March 28 from 7-8pm in our sanctuary – Join us for a "Messiah in the Passover" Demonstration brought to you by Word of Messiah Ministries. This is a unique visual experience as we gain a better understanding of what Jesus was referring to on the final night of Passover with His disciples. Learn how every element of this ancient Biblical feast points to Jesus and discover how we as believers in Him can rejoice in its celebration today! We hope all of you will be sure to join us for this meaningful service! (We will receive a 'love offering' for them during this service.)

<u>ALL children</u> of all ages (Parents-toddlers will probably need your assistance) are invited to participate in our *"Easter Egg Hunt"* that will be held this Saturday, <u>March 30</u> at <u>2pm</u> on the

{Items most needed: peanut butter, jelly, cereals, canned meats/fruit/vegetables, 100% fruit juice & powdered milk.} Collection boxes are in the Narthex and Ed Bldg entranceway.



FYI – we will <u>not</u> receive the '10 *Cents-A-Meal' offering* this month due to the food collection and other 'special' events that are happening this week – it will resume the last Sunday in April, the 29th.



'2024 Flower Calendar' dates that are <u>AVAILABLE</u>:

If you'd like to supply our sanctuary flowers in honor and/or in loving memory of a loved one, these dates are available at this time: <u>April 14;</u> <u>June 2; June 30; Sept. 15;</u> <u>Nov. 3; Dec. 29</u>. Contact the church office if you'd like to reserve a date! lawn near the playground and we'll have crafts, the Egg Hunt, (candy!) and a visit from the Easter Bunny! **Kids/parents: please be sure to invite your friends, family & neighbors to come with you! **<u>NOTE</u>: We need donations of 'bags of candy' that will fit inside an Easter egg for our Easter Egg Hunt on 3/30 - if you haven't done so

already but would like to still, please bring all *donations* to the church office by <u>5pm</u> on Thurs, <u>March 28</u>!

 We will have our 'Easter Sunrise Service' Easter morning, March 31, at 7am in our sanctuary! Doughnuts/coffee/juice will be served afterwards.

4) We ask that you bring 'flowers from home if you have some available' to help in "flowering the small cross" on our front steps before worship on Easter Sunday, March 31!

5) You & your family are invited to join us as celebrate our Risen
Savior on Easter Sunday, March 31 at 10am! **Our Youth will be presenting an 'Easter Play' during our worship service!



We will collect the 'One Great Hour of Sharing' offering this week, Easter Sunday, March 31, during our morning worship service! 'Every time we set a table where all hungry hearts can eat; every time we welcome neighbors and we add an extra seat; and every time we live as



****ATTENTION PLEASE**

if you have a loved one that is buried in our **cemetery** and still have "Christmas flowers/poinsettias" on their graves, please remove them by <u>March 31</u>...we will have a clean-up day of the cemetery on <u>April 1</u> and all old flowers will be removed. Thank you!

, ______



THREE FUTURE DATES TO PUT ON YOUR <u>CALENDARS!</u>

Playschool Sunday – Sunday, <u>April 21</u> – we want to be sure to let our Playschool parents know that we are thrilled to have them with us at Cook's – at Playschool and at our worship! Queen City Ringers Spring

Handbell Concert –

Tuesday, <u>April 23</u>, 7pm, in our sanctuary – don't miss it and spread the word to our surrounding community so we servants, free to wash each other's feet, in our living, in our giving, we are there. We are there with the Middle East Council of churches, repairing damage to alleviate the suffering of the Syrian people following a devastating 7.8 magnitude earthquake. We are there with Caridad Gardens, a Las Vegas-based nonprofit dedicated to 'humanizing the homeless, and repairing what's broken due to trauma and destitution.' We are there with Kasupe ministries in Malawi, helping women who are repairing their world to overcome challenges made worse by a cyclone that destroyed crops and the ongoing impact of the HIV/AIDS epidemic that has decimated their community.'

"Please give what you can – IF WE ALL DO A LITTLE, IT ADDS UP TO A LOT!"



Cook's MONTHLY MEETINGS:

Cook's **SESSION will meet on the <u>2nd Sunday</u> of each month at <u>7pm</u> in Rm #113.

ALL LADIES are invited to join our Presbyterian Women's CIRCLE meeting on the second Tuesday of each month at 10:30am or 7:00pm in Rm #113 in the Ed Bldg. Contact Pede Self with questions at 704/516-1753.

Cook's **MEN OF THE CHURCH** will have their monthly breakfast meeting on the <u>third Sunday</u> of each month at <u>7:30am</u> (Ed Bldg lobby) and <u>ALL MEN</u> at Cook's are invited to attend! can have a huge turnout again! Cook's **'Car Show @ Shuffletown'** - Saturday, <u>June 8</u>, Registration 8:30-12; Show 9am-2:30pm - please be sure to come 'stroll down memory lane' with us!



*Anyone who would love to "make a joyful noise unto the Lord" is invited to join Cook's Adult Choir! Contact Clayton for questions at claydeacon@gmail.com. **Cook's NURSERY is available each week (for SS at 9am & worship at 10am) for our youngest members, ages birth thru 4 yrs old!



...that <u>IF</u> your picture is posted in our online church directory (to access go to ww.cookschurch.org and

at the very bottom of that page you will see "Church Directory"...click on that button), you can go into your information and make changes such as address, phone #'s, if in military past or present, the different groups you have been a part of at the church, etc. If you have any problems and/or questions on how to do so, please contact Gaye List at gayelist@gmail.com. Also, if your picture (or families') is not currently in our directory, please send a photo to the church office (office@cookschurch.org) and we'll see about getting it and your information included asap!

NEWS FROM FINANCE MINISTRY

The Finance Committee would like you to know that we now have another way to donate Contact Dale Luckey with questions at 704/309-0798.

Cook's **PROPERTY Ministry** normally meets on the <u>second Thursday</u> of each month at <u>6:30pm</u> in Rm #113 check with Neal Hager to see when they will meet again.

Cook's **MISSION Ministry** meets on the <u>first Friday</u> of each month at <u>10:00am</u> in Rm #113...contact Fred Cox with questions at 980/288-3307.

Cook's **WORSHIP Ministry** meets on the <u>first Thursday</u> of each month at <u>2:00pm</u> via Zoom and/or in the church office...contact Denise Vead for details at 704/564-8030.

Cook's **FINANCE MINISTRY** meets on the **fourth Sunday** (March 24) of each month at <u>11:15am</u> in Rm #113. Contact Joe Thompson if you have any questions at 704/399-8837.



We wish a Happy & Blessed Birthday to the following: April 1 - Max Love; April 2 - Mary Thompson; April 3 - Diane Black; April 7 - Neil Thompson; April 10 - Dwight Black; April 12 - Jill Lucas; April 13 - Jack Parker funds to Cook's Church...you can use your debit/credit card and the "app" is available to download from our website... www.cookschurch.org. If you have any questions, call Ginger Thompson, Treasurer @ 704/562-7558.



The Digital Ministry of Cook's is working on all things that you need to stay connected with Cook's as well as resources to grow in your faith. Check out our *REFRESHED* website -<u>CooksChurch.org</u>. Join us today and be a part of our online community! ** We're *now* on 'Instagram' so be sure to check it out and "Like" and share!



Cook's Church has a FACEBOOK page! Come check us out and stay connected! www.facebook.com/pages/Cooks-Memorial-Presbyterian-Church



SERMONS:

Did you miss worship this past Sunday? Do you ever want to listen to a recent sermon again? Recent sermons from Sunday morning worship can be found on the Cook's Church website! Click here: <u>www.cookschurch.org/sermons</u>

Have you read your recent church newsletter? Recent

issues of our Cook's Communicator can be found on our church website! Click here: <u>www.cookschurch.org/newsletters</u>

Contact Us!

Pastor Jason Bryant jason@cookschurch.org Church Office office@cookschurch.org Cook's Playschool cooksplayschool@gmail.com

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