



Graham, North Carolina

---

## March 2018 E-NEWS

---



As I am jotting down my thought for this edition of the March E-News, I am sailing on the high seas of adventure. Actually, I am riding on the ferry from Hatteras Island to Ocracoke Island, but it's still an adventure.

The Sabbatical has been good, the time at Hatteras was too short and the time away from Ethan too long, but it was productive. I was able to get a great deal accomplished toward my project, of writing a curriculum to use with our children this summer while AWANA is on break. It still is not completely finished, but is a lot further along than when I first arrived on Hatteras.

I want to thank Riverside for being the kind of church that thinks of their pastors and provides a time of rest and refreshment through the Sabbatical program. You are in the vast minority of churches that see the benefit of such a time away for pastors and in most cases, the pastors have had to initiate the program. You are different. You were the initiators and I am forever grateful.

I am also thankful for those who stepped in to fill the pulpit on the Sundays and Wednesdays I was gone. I know they did an outstanding job of ministry and teaching. I am also grateful to the folks at Cape Hatteras Baptist Church and their pastor who took me under their wing and provided for me in such a marvelous way. Of course, this would not have been possible had it not been for Mark, Stephanie, and Ethan stepping up to the plate to fill the gaps in daily church administration and taking care of my cats. Ethan has bonded with Max, the little kitten (actually, he is about 8 months old, but still acts like a kitten). Thanks to all of you who made this Sabbatical possible.

Now that we are in the month of March, our focus needs to shift quickly to Home Missions as we receive our offering of the Annie Armstrong Home Mission Offering. I know it is hard for us to see a need for missions in America, but there really is. Our association takes in all of Alamance County and part of Orange. The Chowan Association of which Cape Hatteras Baptist Church is a part consists of ten (10), yes ten counties. While we can go from one end of our association to the other in about an hour, it takes them three hours (or more) to cross their Association and that is here in North Carolina.

When you go out west, an association may cover two or three states. There is no Baptist church at all on Ocracoke Island. The population in the 2010 census was nearly 1000 on the island, now I am sure there are more, however, there is no Baptist work on the island right here in NC. We have a vast mission field right around us, so I hope we will give generously to this offering and reach or exceed our goal of \$5,000.

*Pastor Bob*

# Mark's Article

It seems as if Spring is in the air. The birds were chirping this morning, I did not need a coat, and overnight it appears the onions have overtaken my yard. There is something exciting about the prospect of Spring. I suppose it is the excitement and optimism of what lies ahead... The Christian life is meant to be this way as well. We seem to get so bogged down by the things around us that we lose sight that every day with Jesus is a blessing and that He will see us through whatever obstacles we may face. Maybe you just need an hour or two a day or week where you just unplug. Yes, you read me right. Turn off everything, your phone, tablet, TV, anything that can cause distractions or interrupt your day. Take that hour and just rest. Rest knowing that no matter what is going on in the world around you God is in control. You can relax and rest in the promises of knowing He is always present. I am reminded of the old hymn that says everyday with Jesus is sweeter than the day before. Are we living like that? Try unplugging from the world and plug into God.

This past month on Wednesday nights, we have been exploring the case for Christ. We have been exploring the evidence to see if Jesus is the Messiah. We just finished this study last week. Therefore, to celebrate we are going to have a **Movie Night on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of March, at 5:00 PM** at my house. We are going to watch *The Case for Christ*. This movie is based on the true story of Lee Strobel an investigative reporter as he tries to prove to himself and his wife that there is no God. This will be a fun time as we will eat and enjoy watching the movie together. Invite your friends and come out. If you need a ride or have questions, just ask me.



Our **Vacation Bible School** this year will be **June 24<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup>**. Be making plans to be here and support this wonderful ministry. We had a tremendous year last year and we need each one of you again this year to reach more kids for Christ. This year we have new directors for our VBS. Lima Barnett and Carol Wood are taking over the reins. I know we are in good hands. They are beginning to line up people now so be praying as to how you will be used by God this year. In addition, we are going to try something

new this year. On June 2<sup>nd</sup> we are having a VBS Kickoff event from 2-4PM. This will be a great time for the kids to get a sneak peek of Bible School and get pre-registered. We will have fun games and activities. Be on the lookout for more information.

**Operation Christmas Child's** theme is a simple gift, if we do a little each month just think of how many boys and girls, we will be able to reach with the Gospel message and tell them that they are loved by us, and that God loves them. Each month we will have an item of the month. The items that are collected will be packed by our AWANA kids and youth later this year.

These boxes are to be in addition to what you and your family are planning to make. At any point during the year, you may drop off items to be donated. Remember again this year no toothpaste or candy of any kind because of customs and no war or Camouflage toys, liquids, or glass. Be in prayer for this ministry and what God would have you do. For this month, we will be collecting soap, soap travel dishes, and washcloths. Last month we collected small toys (cars, balls jewelry, etc.). The collection box will be behind the stairwell outside the sanctuary. By collecting throughout the year many of you savvy shoppers will be able to bless many children. Our goal is 250 boxes. Let's be in prayer and let us see what God can do through us this year.



# BIBLE READING FOR THE MONTH



March 1: Deut 5-7  
March 2: Deut 8-10  
March 3: Deut 11-13  
March 4: Deut 14-16  
March 5: Deut 17-20  
March 6: Deut 21-23  
March 7: Deut 24-27  
March 8: Deut 28-29  
March 9: Deut 30-31  
March 10: Deut 32-34

March 11: Josh 1-4  
March 12: Josh 5-8  
March 13: Josh 9-11  
March 14: Josh 12-15  
March 15: Josh 16-18  
March 16: Josh 19-21  
March 17: Josh 22-24  
March 18: Jud 1-2  
March 19: Jud 3-5  
March 20: Jud 6-7

March 21: Jud 8-9  
March 22: Jud 10-12  
March 23: Jud 13-15  
March 24: Jud 16-18  
March 25: Jud 19-21  
March 26: Ruth  
March 27: 1 Sam 1-3  
March 28: 1 Sam 4-8  
March 29: 1 Sam 9-12  
March 30: 1 Sam 13-14  
March 31: 1 Sam 15-17

# March Birthdays

2<sup>nd</sup> Bobby Willets  
Sandra Andrews  
4<sup>th</sup> Ronald Davis  
6<sup>th</sup> Penny Holderfield  
7<sup>th</sup> Curtis Isley  
9<sup>th</sup> Marie Parham  
10<sup>th</sup> James Pruitt  
12<sup>th</sup> Junior Ray  
15<sup>th</sup> Judy Lineberry  
16<sup>th</sup> Andrew Harrison  
Rebecca Davis



17<sup>th</sup> Don Moose  
Johnna Snead  
21<sup>st</sup> Carolyn Beaman  
22<sup>nd</sup> Steve Craver  
Peggy Hines  
23<sup>rd</sup> Randy Paulette  
25<sup>th</sup> Ken Carden  
28<sup>th</sup> Patsy Davis  
30<sup>th</sup> Linda Lee  
Frankie Thompson  
31<sup>st</sup> Abby Thomasson

# March

5<sup>th</sup> 10:00 AM Valda Cates Circle  
6:00 PM Genesis Circle @ Mykono's in Graham

6<sup>th</sup> 7:00 PM Riverside Brotherhood  
7:00 PM Prayer Ministry

7<sup>th</sup> 6:30 PM Bible Study & Age Graded Programs

10<sup>th</sup> Move Your Clocks Forward

11<sup>th</sup> 4:30 PM Deacon's Meeting

13<sup>th</sup> 6:00 PM Josie Brewer Circle  
6:45 PM Lydia Circle  
7:00 PM Prayer Ministry

14<sup>th</sup> 6:30 PM Bible Study & Age Graded Programs

17<sup>th</sup> 9:00 AM Young @ Heart Pancake Breakfast  
Saint Patrick's Day

20<sup>th</sup> 9:30 AM Home Visitation  
7:00 PM Prayer Ministry

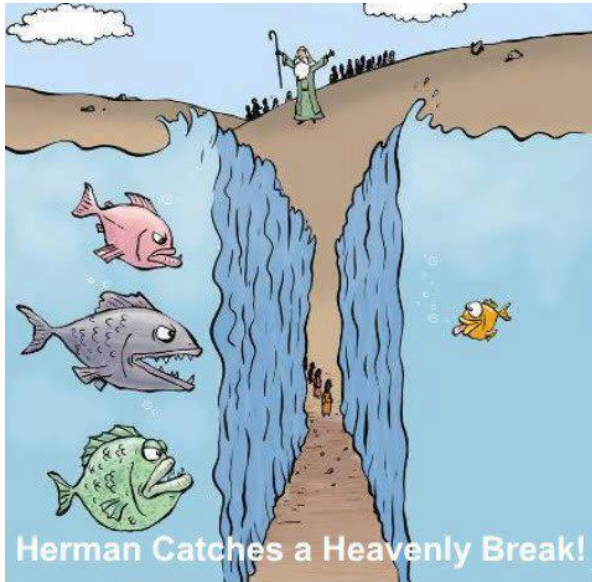
21<sup>th</sup> 11:30 AM Widows & Friends Luncheon  
6:30 PM Bible Study & Age Graded Programs

25<sup>th</sup> Palm Sunday

27<sup>th</sup> 7:00 PM Prayer Ministry

29<sup>th</sup> 7:00 PM Maundy Thursday Service





## PATIENT HEN

A Joyful 'toon by Mike Waters



We do not want you to become lazy, but to imitate those who through faith and patience inherit what has been promised.

— HEBREWS 6:12 NIV

## The Coal Basket Bible

The story is told of an old man who lived on a farm in the mountains of Kentucky with his young grandson. Each morning, Grandpa was up early sitting at the kitchen table reading from his old worn-out Bible. His grandson, who wanted to be just like him, tried to imitate him in any way he could.

One day the grandson asked, *"Papa, I try to read the Bible just like you but I don't understand it, and what I do understand I forget as soon as I close the book. What good does reading the Bible do?"*

The Grandfather quietly turned from putting coal in the stove and said, *"Take this coal basket down to the river and bring back a basket of water."*

The boy did as he was told, even though all the water leaked out before he could get back to the house. The grandfather laughed and said, *"You will have to move a little faster next time,"* and sent him back to the river with the basket to try again.

This time the boy ran faster, but again the basket was empty before he returned home. Out of breath, he told his grandfather that it was *"impossible to carry water in a basket,"* and he went to get a bucket instead.

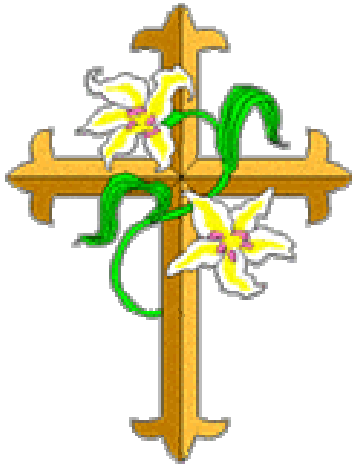
The old man said, *"I don't want a bucket of water; I want a basket of water. You can do this. You're just not trying hard enough,"* and he went out the door to watch the boy try again.

At this point, the boy knew it was impossible, but he wanted to show his grandfather that, even if he ran as fast as he could, the water would leak out before he got far at all. The boy scooped the water and ran hard, but when he reached his grandfather the basket was again empty. Out of breath, he said, *"See Papa, it's useless!"*

*"So you think it is useless?"* the old man said. *"Look at the basket."*

The boy looked at the basket and for the first time he realized that the basket looked different. Instead of a dirty old coal basket, it was clean.

*"Son, that's what happens when you read the Bible. You might not understand or remember everything, but when you read it, it will change you from the inside out."*



# March

SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT

				1	2	3
4	10:00 AM Valda Cates Circle  6:30 PM Genesis Circle @ Mykono's in Graham	7:00 PM Riverside Brotherhood Ministry  7:00 PM Prayer	7	8	9	10 <b>Move Clocks Forward</b> <i>Daylight- Saving Time Begins</i> 
11	4:30 PM Deacon's Meeting	12  9:30 AM Home Visitation  6:00 PM Josie Brewer Circle  6:45 PM Lydia Circle  7:00 PM Prayer Ministry	14	15	16	17  9:00 AM Young @ heart Breakfast  
18	19	20  7:00 PM Prayer Ministry	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
		7:00 PM Prayer Ministry	<b>NO SERVICES</b>	7:00 PM Maundy Thursday Service 		