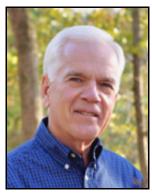


Pastor's column

When are we going home?



Dr. Philip West

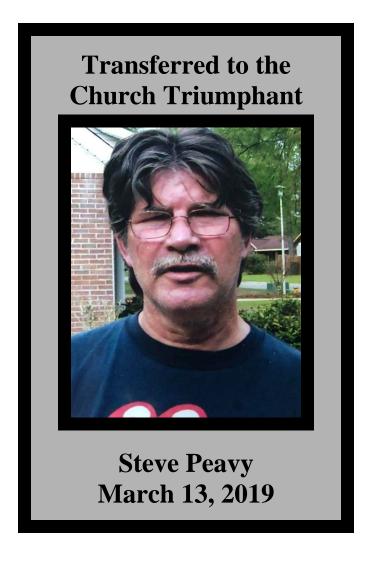
I love all types of Christian music! One of my favorite hymns is "How Great Thou Art". This hymn has a remarkable history. S. K. Hine brought this hymn to America, and it was the final result of almost seventy years of literary activity involving several different writers and translators.

Carl Boberg (1859-1940), a Swedish poet, wrote the poem, O Store Gud, (O Great God). In 1907 it was translated into German, and in 1912 into Russian. In 1927, the English missionary, S. K. Hine found it and started using it in his ministry in the Ukraine. When World War II broke out, Hine brought the English translation of the hymn with him to England and added a fourth stanza. He added the fourth stanza just after World War II, when many refugees from eastern Europe were streaming into England. The refugees were always asking, "When are we going home?"

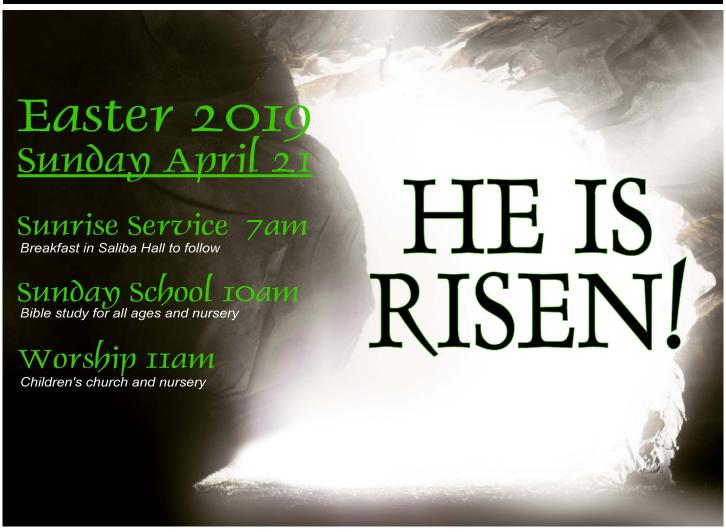
When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in humble adoration, And there proclaim, my God, how great Thou art. Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee; How great Thou art, how great Thou art! Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee: How great Thou art, how great Thou art!

"For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with Him in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage each other with these words." 1 Thessalonians 4:16-18

We should live each day with a great anticipation of the Lord's return. We too should be asking the question, "When are we going home?" The mistake that you and I make more often, though, is to forget that Jesus is coming back again. On the day we reach our heavenly home I believe that we will proclaim with the writer of this great hymn, "My God, How Great Thou Art."









The Seasoned Saints will leave April 13 at 10:30 a.m. for the The Mason Jar Restaurant–Home of the Extreme Milkshake. Affectionately known as The Jar, the restaurant is located in Auburn, Alabama. According to their website, it offers a menu of Southern favorites that delivers home-cooking at its best and features a variety of Southern entrees and desserts as well as some assorted flavored lemonades and, of course, some good ol' sweet tea in a mason jar. And don't forget their unforgettable extreme milkshakes! Call Elaine (433-2035) if you plan to go.



Congratulations to Rachel and Clinton Brannen on their marriage on March 9.

Associational news

Cordele First Baptist Church hosting Ministry Safe Conference

MinistrySafe provides a 5-part safety system to protect children and those who serve them in churches and child-serving organizations. Kevin Smith of the Georgia Baptist Mission Board will lead this conference on April 2 from 6:30–9:30 p.m. at Cordele First Baptist Church, 137 Kelly Road, Cordele.

Exploring The Old Testament begins April 4

The Houston Baptist Bible Institute is offering two courses on the Old Testament. Survey of the Old Testament Part 1 is a nine-week class covering Genesis through Song of Songs and will be taught by Kenny Peters, associate pastor and minister of music at Pinecrest Baptist Church. The text book will be Theological Interpretation of the Old Testament: A Book-by-Book Survey by Kevin Vanhoozer. Classes will be Thursdays from 6:00–9:00 p.m. April 4 through May 30 at the Houston Baptist Center, 2116 North US 41, Cordele. Course fee for each class is \$75 which includes the cost of the book. Signing up for both classes will decrease the cost of the Part 2 class in the fall to \$65. To register and for more information contact HBA at 229-273-4127.

Sunday School Mentoring Meeting April 11 at Ebenezer Church

Supper will begin at 6:30 p.m., and the meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m. Contact HBA for more information.

Mission opportunities this summer

Call HBA at 229-273-4127 if you are interested in participating in the following summer missions.

North Georgia: July 14- 20. Campground ministry, street evangelism, and servant evangelism. Deadline April 2.

Pittsburgh: July 22 - 29. Working with Faithbridge Community Church. Deadline April 18.

Camp Houston 2019 Schedule

Girls Camp (grades 2-6)	June 17-20
Boys Camp (grades 2-6)	June 24-30
Youth Camp (grades 7-12)	June 29-30
Day Camp (coed, ages 5-7)	July 8-11

Volunteers needed for summer camps

Positions include:

- ! Adult day missionary. No overnight reponibilities.
- ! Camp missionary (counselor). Adult or first year college student or 2018 high school graduate with previous service as junior counselor.
- ! Junior counselor. 16 years old or completed ninth grade.
- ! Assistant. Completed ninth grade.

Applicants must meet all other requirements and be approved by the camp director. Applications are due April 30 and are available at http://www.houstonbaptist.org/Camp.html.

Visit <u>www.houstonbaptist.org</u> for more information about what's going on in your association.







Birthdays

4-2	Jeanna Everidge	4-13	Jase Roberts	5-4	Tommy Bodrey
	Penny Langston	4-15	Joshua Gathier	5-5	Sophie Roney
4-3	Kris Braddock	4-17	Shawn Raper	5-6	Lily Diehl
4-5	Myra Kirksey	4-22	Taylor Willingham	5-7	Jamie Roberts
	Bob Peavy	4-25	Cal Scarborough	5-8	Cooper Blankenship
	Gloria Chambers	4-26	Judson Humphries		Nikki Gaultney
4-7	Martha Peavy	4-28	Dennis Phillips	5-9	Cathy Thompson
	Marsha Taylor		Arthur Roney	5-10	Thomas Bodrey
4-9	Monta Averill	4-30	Ashley Lamberth		Mandy Smith
4-11	Jimmy Dorsett	5-1	Jimmy Gauthier		•
	Pam Évans		Glynn Grantham		
4-12	Beth Roney		Thad Kitchens	Pleas	e pray for these folks

Ross Stout

Derek Humphries

Please pray for these folks on their birthday.

Weekly Schedule

SUNDAY	
Sunday School	10AM
Worship	11AM
Worship	. 6PM
WEDNESDAY	
Prayer Meeting	. 6PM

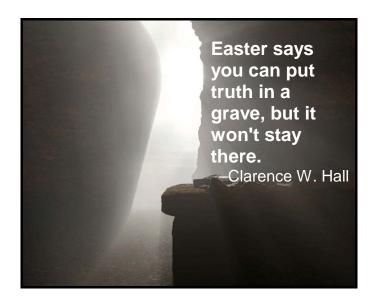
Nursery & Children's Church for Sunday 11AM Worship.

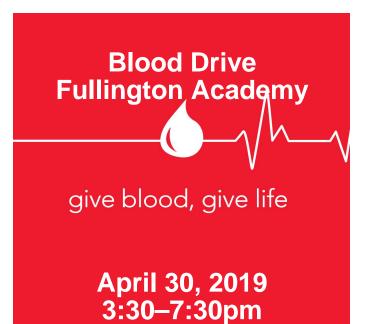
April Volunteers (Please arrange coverage if you are unable to serve on your scheduled day.)						
Date	Nursery AM	Children's Church	Deacon of the Week	Offering Bearers		
Apr. 7	Robin/Mark Peavy	Alison/Taylor Willingham	Joe Kent	Arthur Roney Roger Roney		
Apr. 14	Brenda Lockerman	Vicki Lamberth Robin Peavy	Arthur Roney	Mark Smith Quint Smith		
Apr. 21	Ansley/Cal Scarborough	Jenn/John John Averill	Joe Kent	Denny Rogers Buck Thompson		
Apr. 28	Briana/Tricia Kent	Laura/Keith Lamberth	Arthur Roney	Jimmy Lockerman Matt Youngblood		

Financial \$ummary

February receipts General offerings
TOTAL 7,939.42
February disbursements
General expenses
Lottie Moon Christmas Offering 200.00
Insurance
VBS
Pastorium repairs
Annex feed installation 6,315.63
Houston Baptist Association 553.60
Cooperative Program
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS 19,450.81

Average Sunday School Attendance for March 49







REEK Corre celebrate Byronville with us. There will be live entertainment, a parade, food and other type vendors, and lots of people who want to see you there! www.turkeycreekfestival.com

Blessings is published monthly by Byromville Baptist Church. Send news items and/or comments to Editor Brenda Lockerman at POB 217, Byromville, GA 31007, email to brendalockerman@windstream.net or call 478-433-2791.

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