

## From Our Pastor

April 7, 2024

HOLLYWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH

A gentleman wrote concerning his childhood experiences on the mission field. “I was stung by one of the most venomous varieties of scorpions. My condition was “touch and go” for months, as I suffered with excruciating pain. At least five times I suffered with serious bouts of malaria and had no access to drugs. Once I almost died of blackwater fever. And the most life-threatening thing I dealt with was the time a leopard jumped through my bedroom window as I lay asleep in my bed. I had no way to call for help and all I could do was to try to stare down the animal as it eyed me with full intention of devouring me.” This man was Dr. Stephen Olford, one of the greatest preachers that ever lived. This excerpt was taken from His book entitled, *The Sword of Suffering*.

Many would ask the question, “Why do people have to go through so much in life and especially as a Christian?” For this young man it was a learning process that God used later in life to encourage him as he went through greater bouts of suffering with cancer. We must remember that nothing takes God by surprise. He is fully aware of everything that goes on in our lives. Someone sent me an email recently with this illustration attached to it that helped me to put some of this into perspective. I wanted to share it with you. It could very well answer some of your questions concerning suffering and why we must go through it.

Malachi 3:3 says: “He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver.” This verse puzzled some women in a Bible Study, and they wondered what this statement meant about the character and nature of God. One of the women offered to find out the process of refining silver and get back to the group at their next Bible Study. That week the woman called a silversmith and made an appointment to watch him work. She didn’t mention anything about the reason for her interest beyond curiosity about the process of refining silver. As she watched the silversmith, he held a piece of silver over the fire and let it heat up. He explained that in refining silver one needs to hold the silver in the middle of the fire where the flames are the hottest as to burn away all the impurities. The woman thought about God holding us in such a hot spot; then she thought again about the verse that says, “He sits as a refiner and purifier of silver.” She asked the silversmith if it was true that he had to sit there in front of the fire the whole time. The man answered yes, he not only had to sit there holding the silver, but he had to keep his eyes on the silver the entire time that it was in the fire. If the silver was left a moment too long in the flame it would be destroyed. The woman was silent for a moment. Then she asked the silversmith, “How do you know when the silver is fully refined?” He smiled at her and answered, “Oh that’s easy, when I can see my image in it then I know it is done.”

When we read this illustration, it helps us to understand that God is up to some good things in our lives, even when it does not seem that way to us. Our problem is we look at the situation through our eyes and we do not see what God sees. God is all about building character in us and conforming us into the image of His dear Son. He is uniquely fashioning us for a specific task and there is a process that He must take us through. He wants to burn away the dross and impurities that cause us to not live up to our potential as Christians. If we could only understand that Romans 8:28 is preceded by verses 25 through 27. Verse 25 says, “The things that you are hoping for God to perform in you must be followed with patience to wait on God to prepare you.” Verse 28 begins by saying, “And we know, that no matter what comes to my life it is going to be for good so God’s will can be performed through me.”

That is why Job could write those marvelous words in chapter 23 in verse 10 which says, “But he knoweth the way that I take: when he hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold.” Job understood the refining process that God will take a man through to eventually make him a better man in the end. My friend we must remember, “Only God can turn a cross into a crown.”

*Bro. Terry*

# April 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i> 7:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting/ Youth Meeting	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>7</i> 10:00 a.m. Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Worship Service 5:15 p.m. Joy on the Ark 5:30 p.m. Bible Study/ Youth Meeting	<i>8</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>10</i> 7:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting/ Youth Meeting	<i>11</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>13</i>
<i>14</i> 10:00 a.m. Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Worship Service 12:15 p.m. Senior Saints' Luncheon 5:15 p.m. Joy on the Ark 5:30 p.m. Bible Study/ Youth Meeting	<i>15</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>17</i> 6:00 p.m. Fellowship Meal 7:00 p.m. Called Business Meeting/ Youth Meeting	<i>18</i>	<i>19</i>	<i>20</i>
<i>21</i> 10:00 a.m. Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Worship Service 6:00 p.m. Sunday Sing	<i>22</i>	<i>23</i>	<i>24</i> 7:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting/ Youth Meeting	<i>25</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>27</i>
<i>28</i> 10:00 a.m. Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Worship Service 5:15 p.m. Joy on the Ark 5:30 p.m. Bible Study/Youth Meeting	<i>29</i>	<i>30</i>				

- 1 Mary Alice Hayes
- 2 Ricky Brock  
Vicky Brock Easome  
Robert J. Mills Jr.
- 3 James Collins  
Julie Ragsdale
- 4 Renee Moore
- 5 Randy Collins, Jr.
- 6 Lynita Falls  
Adam Kendrick
- 7 Brittany Conner Shelton
- 11 Peggy Moore
- 13 Cindy Mills  
Donnie Moore
- 14 Faith Tosh
- 18 Katelynn Carter
- 20 Isaac Hammock
- 21 Christina Falls
- 25 Holden Mills
- 27 Sarah Grace Weiss
- 30 Joshua Matherly

## Nursery for April

### Sun April 7, 2024

9:45 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. Pam Anderson, Emmalee Ayers, Pam Kendrick, & Hannah Shaw

### Sun April 14, 2024

9:45 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. Mary Moss, Renee Moore, Anna Dunn, & Samantha Pressley

### Sun April 21, 2024

10:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. Dana Wells, Holly St. John, James & Sylvia Lumpkins

### Sun April 28, 2024

10:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. Shelly Lewis, Cassie Gatewood, Donnie & Peggy Moore

#### **Greeters**

April 7	Susie Holmes & Jetty Burgess
April 14	Joan Nuckols & Melody Collins
April 21	Patsy Conner & Brenda Collins
April 28	Mary Moon Moore & James Allen

#### **Deacon of the Week(\*)/Usher**

April 7	Tommy Jefferson*, Bobby Mullins, Drake Easley, Randy Gatewood
April 14	James Allen*, Daniel Moore, William Tosh, Chuck Easley
April 21	Adam Burgess*, Damon Mullins, Larry Weiss, Roger Walden
April 28	Sid Lankford*, Adam Lumpkins, Bryan Lewis, Terry Moore

#### **Children's Church**

April 7	Lynita & Christina Falls, Shane Pressley & Drake Easley, Sherry Reynolds & Mary Claytor
April 14	Wendy Byrd, Nancy Power, Hannah Shaw
April 21	Adam & Chastity Kendrick, Daniel & Sabrina Moore
April 28	Linette Nuckols & Stephanie Weiss



**Have a name  
you'd like to add  
to birthday list?  
Let Julie know!**

# 2024 Lottie Moon Offering



As a church, you have set a pledge goal of **\$22,930.00**, for the 2024 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. As of March 31, 2024 we have collected **\$9,793.40**.



2024 Lottie  
Moon Goal  
\$22,930.00

## *The Mission of the Manger*

Happy April, Hollywood! We off to a great start on our shoebox collection in 2024! We are already planning for and looking forward to our packing party in November.



Every box packed at our packing party includes: an age appropriate wow item (toy, ball, etc.), a stuffed animal, clothing items, school supplies, hygiene items, small toys, games, and



accessories. Each year we have a goal of packing between 175-200 boxes at our party, with thousands of items packed. We collect items all year long, with a special focus on a particular item each month.

In January, we asked for donations of winter clothing items (hats, gloves, or scarves, etc.). We haven't quite reached our goal for that yet, but our crafters are busily working, so I'm sure that we'll reach it shortly! In February our focus was accessories! We've already got a fantastic start to our accessories collection this year, thanks to your generous donations! However we like to pack our boxes full, so this is a fantastic area to have extras of. In March we focused on quality hand crafted items, and our crafters did not disappoint. We received bracelets, necklaces, bags, dresses, scrunchies, and more! In April we're collecting stuffed animals, because every child needs something soft and fun to cuddle. Please place any donations in the collection box in the foyer near the sanctuary. If you have any questions, please let us know!

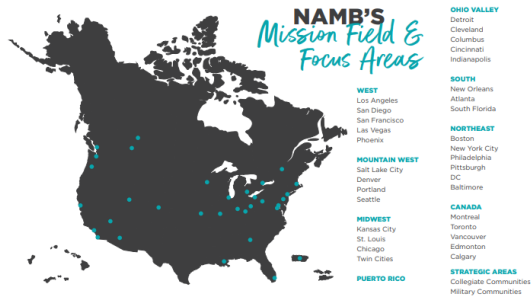
**January Goal: 82/175 Winter Clothing Items February Goal: 461/175 Accessories**

**March Goal: 80/175 Quality Handcrafts April Goal: 175 Stuffed Animals**

# Mission of the Month: April



In April we will be collecting money to support the Annie Armstrong North American Missions offering. This offering supports missions work here in the United States, as well as Canada and Mexico. Funds raised are used to support missionaries, church planting, and opportunities to spread the Gospel. The church has set a goal of \$1,500.00 to support this work. If you would like to make a donation, please either use the special offering envelopes available in the sanctuary or note the amount that you would like to donate on your regular offering envelope. If you have any questions about this offering, please see a member of the Missions committee.



North American Mission Board

ANNIE ARMSTRONG EASTER OFFERING

Thank you all for your prayers, calls, food, and concern for Leon Haynes. He loved his church family dearly. A special "Thank you" to the lovely ladies who provided the meal. It was delicious. That is a very important ministry. You never know whose life was changed because of our church.

Love,

Haynes & Matherlys

Blessings!

Thank you for your wonderful gift to support Hope for Appalachia! I so much appreciate you and your generous hearts! We would love for you to travel with us in the future. It is such a blessing to be able to stand in a public school and proclaim Christ during the special Holy week of Easter! This gift will enable us to reach even more people with the love and hope of Christ.

Thank you!

God Bless You!

Pastor Mike (Hope for Appalachia)

We the Reynolds family would like to thank the entire Hollywood Church family for all the prayers and kindness everyone has shown our family. Everyone has been so kind and generous.

It is so nice to see that a community and church family can come together to do things that they don't have to do.

All of Matt and Stacy's church family have been so kind and caring.

Our family can't express how much it means to have such good friends. We are very proud to call you all our family.

May God Bless you all,

Thank you,

Tim & Kim Reynolds





Copies of proposed amendments to the Church Constitution are available on the table in the foyer. These amendments are to be voted on during a called business meeting April 17, 2024 at 7 p.m. Please plan to attend. A fellowship meal will be served prior to the meeting at 6 p.m.



### Save the date!

We will be hosting a Sunday Sing on April 21 at 6 p.m. to benefit L.J. Burgess. The Evergreen Bluegrass Band will be performing. We hope you can come out to join us for an evening of wonderful music to support this special family!



Do you remember when soda came in glass bottles, candy was a penny, and gas was less than 40 cents a gallon? Did you spend your teenage years in a sock hop or at a drive in? Did you watch American Bandstand? Did you listen to your favorite Elvis song on a 45? If so, chances are good that you are a Senior Saint!



For all our Senior Saints (65 and over), you're invited to join us for lunch on April 14 after the morning worship service. We'd love to love on you, so if you'd like to join us please RSVP on the sign up sheets in the foyer. If you have any questions please contact Terri Mullins or Julie Ragsdale.

# Hello Ladies and Welcome to April!

Flowers are blooming, trees are budding, and signs of new life abound. Growing strong and blooming requires rich, fertile soil. Where you are planted and what you are rooted in matters!

God's Word fertilizes and fortifies the soil of our minds with truth. **WE NEED HIS TRUTH** and we need it on a regular, consistent basis.

Whether you are reading through from Genesis to Revelation...

reading through chronologically...

following your own plan or...

writing and meditating each day with our monthly guides...

Just get in it! Absorb it. Put your roots down and let God grow you in ways you don't think are possible! Spending time in God's Word matters.

Let us know **IF YOU ARE MAKING GOD'S WORD A PRIORITY**. In Jan - Mar, we heard from about 40 ladies who are in God's Word consistently!



To: Hollywood Baptist Church Ladies Ministry

From: Claire Parker Foundation, Altavista, VA

Thank you so much for your donation of handmade pillowcases. The timing of their arrival is perfect! It is easy to see the time, talent, and love put into these beautiful pillowcases. These will help children feel some of the comforts of home during their hospital stay. Thank you!

(Back in the fall, several ladies met one Saturday morning and sewed beautiful pillowcases for this lovely ministry. Cheryl Waller and Becky Roberts oversaw this project and taught some of us to sew for the first time! One mom even taught her young daughters to sew and they donated one as well. Holidays came and other life things occurred causing the pillowcases to just be delivered recently, prompting this sweet note. Thanks again to all who participated.)



Please join us on Facebook at HBC Daughters of Hope for more encouragement and community!



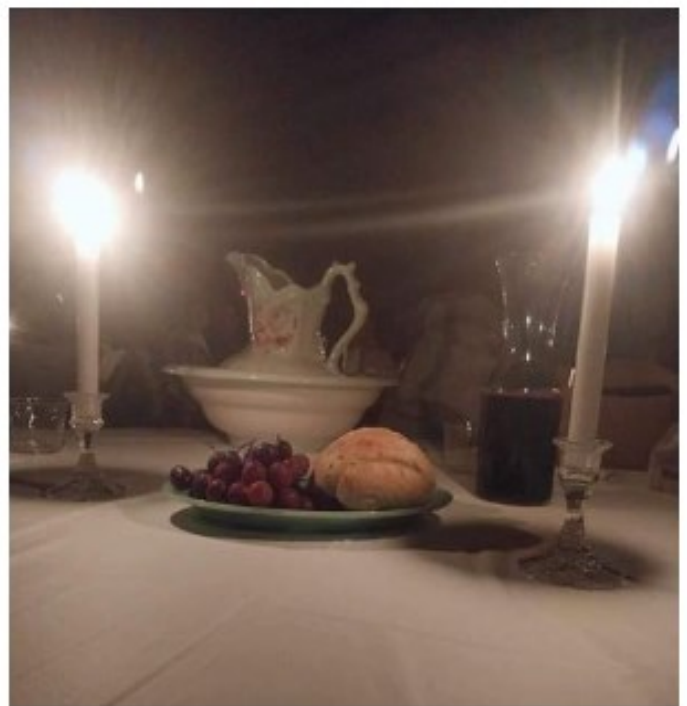
# Holy Week 2024



If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet.

John 13:14

Reflection & servanthood observed this Maundy Thursday.















**HOLLYWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH**

6405 Callands Road

Chatham, VA 24531



**Upcoming Events**

May 8	Regular Business Meeting
May 12	Mother's Day
May 26	Graduation Recognition