#### pastor's perspective



Can you believe it is already April?! The sun is shining, temperatures are starting to rise, and everything is covered in thick yellow pollen - Spring is here! Not only do I love spring for the changing of the weather, but also because it means Easter is almost here. Some of the most special and important times in the life of our church are the events of Holy Week

and the worship on Easter Sunday. I wanted to guickly remind you of all the opportunities you have available to worship and celebrate the Risen Christ with us.

**Palm Sunday** – This Sunday is a preview of the celebration to come on Easter Sunday. We will have a full orchestra, the children will process with the palm branches, and our hearts will be full of anticipation and joy.

**Maundy Thursday** – One of my favorite times of Holy Week is when we gather in the FLC around tables and share a meal as a church family. This is where we turn our hearts to remember the agony and pain of the crucifixion and the sacrifice of Christ. We will have a reverent and holy worship that includes meaningful hymns, communion, and the draping of the cross. This will be a deeply reflective and moving service that you won't want to miss.

Flowering of the Cross and Egg Hunt – If you've been in the sanctuary since Ash Wednesday, you've seen the large and imposing cross on the stage. It has been draped in purple, the color of Lent, and it will be draped in black during the Maundy Thursday service. On Saturday, however, the cross will be totally transformed with beautiful fresh flowers that will help us proclaim Jesus is alive on Easter morning! Please bring fresh flowers to the grassy area on our East parking lot near the parlor. We will start at 4:00PM sharp and once we let the kids go it will move FAST, so don't be late or you might miss the cross transformation! After the flowering of the cross, we will have our annual Easter Egg Hunt. It is such a fun sight to watch the kids hunt and enjoy their candy. You won't want to miss either of these events on this special day!

Easter Sunday Worship - This is the cornerstone of our faith, and we will celebrate the Risen Lord! There will be **no** Sunday Morning Bible Study to allow families to gather as one and celebrate together! Plan to get to worship early as the sanctuary will be full of friends, families, and church members. Our worship will be the best it is all year as the orchestra and choir will lead out in joyful praise. Bring your neighbors and invite your friends, as you won't want to miss this amazing morning of worship and celebration! He is Risen, He is Risen indeed!

Thank you, church family, for embracing our Hunger + Thirst theme this 2025 Lenten season. I hope your hearts have been challenged and prepared to celebrate with us on Easter Sunday and at all the Holy Week events!

## PALM SUNDAY

April 13 10:30 AM

Dynamic worship with children's processional of the palms.

# MAUNDY THURSDAY

April 17 6:00 PM - FI C

Join us as we share a family meal together around the table, remember the events of Maundy Thursday and drape the cross in black. Communion will be celebrated.

# -HOLY WEEK 2025-

## FLOWERING OF THE CROSS

April 19 4:00 PM - Parking Lot Grass Area

All church members are encouraged and needed to provide fresh flowers to decorate the large wooden cross. Adults come and participate or simply watch as the old, rugged cross is transformed into a living symbol. Children will have an exciting time decorating the cross and participating in an Easter egg hunt.

## EASTER SUNDAY

April 20 10:30 AM

Bring your family and invite your friends to a glorious worship celebration.

\*\*No Sunday Morning Bible Study

#### PASTOR SEARCH COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS

#### March 30 - April 13

Church Members may submit their nominations (up to 6 names) for the Pastor Search Committee in two ways:

 Paper ballots will be available at the welcome desk and can be turned in to the box or a committee member.

**Firstbaptist** 

 Electronic submissions can be emailed to LufkinFBCPastorSearch@gmail.com





\$150 per camper

**Registration starts April 1** 

Walker of William





## memorials & honorariums

Memorial & Honorarium Gifts have been given to the following Funds & Ministries of FBC:

> **Building Fund** In Memory of: Liz Wilkins Elven McAdams Sue Sessions Norma Braden Larry Ross **Eunice Letney**

**Building Fund** In Honor of: Mark & Aurelia Newton

**Organ Repair Fund** In Memory of: Elizabeth Biles Gretchen Woolf

**Preschool Ministry** In Honor of: **Bob Sowell** 

### new members



Nancy Sloan



Louise Abney

#### Deacons for the month of April

Kurt England: 936-404-7371 Steve Hogue: 936-465-8598 Ernest King: 936-366-7603 Kris McCall: 936-676-0753



**Return Service Requested** 

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	Sympathy to	Church Office Hours
Wednesday Night Menu	Kathy and David Ormsby in the loss of her mother, Sue Sessions.	M - Th: 8:30 a.m 5:00 p.m. Closed during the lunch hour (12:00 p.m 1:00 p.m.) Friday: 8:30 a.m 11:30 a.m.
April 2 Pulled Pork Sandwiches April 9 Brookshire Brothers Fried Chicken	The family of Liz Wilkins. Scott and Sheila Skelton and Lauren and Russell Ford and family in the loss of Kay Skelton, mother and grandmother.	Financial Report Year to DateBudget Needs\$416,689,80Budget Receipts\$372,270.66Building Fund\$29,515.00Other Designations\$25,986.00Other Receipts\$43,700.64
April 23 Lasagna April 30 Baked Potato & Salad Bar May 7 Hamburgers & Hot Dogs	Church Office Closed The church office will be closed Friday, April 18 and Monday, April 21 in observance of the Easter holiday.	Staff Walker McWilliams, Interim Pastor/ Minister of Missions Katie Baker, Minister to Preschool & Children Truett Newton, Minister to Students

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