



Voices of Christ

Christ Church Ministries

newsLETTER

Our vision is to build a body of believers from diverse social and cultural backgrounds, who through a firm grasp of the Word of God, are committed to sharing the gospel of restoration and empowerment, ministering to the needs of the Hampton Roads Community.



Resurrection Sunday *Scripture: Luke 24:33-48*

Pastor Message



In Luke 24 the risen Jesus appears to two disciples on the road to Emmaus. They didn't recognize their Lord—perhaps they were too overwhelmed by grief.

They invite Him to have dinner with them. As He breaks bread with them and offer thanks, they see that it is Jesus, their Messiah. From this event we can see that the Resurrection produces at least three relevant qualities to make our lives different: peace, joy, and hope...

Peace, verse 36

The Hebrew word for peace, shalom, means fullness, wholeness. Peace comes by realizing that we're forgiven, that we've already passed our judgment test with God. Peace means that the grave is not the end of life. By applying Resurrection peace today, we can face tomorrow with calmness, serenity, assurance, and confidence. We know that whatever the Prince of peace brings into our lives will work out for our good.

Joy, verse 41

In verse 41, "they still did not believe because of joy and amazement." The disciples were surprised by joy; they felt the resurrection was nearly too good to be true; overcome with grief, they're now overwhelmed with joy. Jesus gave His disciples time to let the reality of His resurrection sink in. He asked for something to eat, and they realized that He was truly alive.

Hope, verse 44

When you know people are going to keep their promises, you have a secure hope that does not disappoint. Jesus explains to His followers how all the details of His life were in fulfillment of Old Testament prophecy. Jesus is the embodiment of God's promises to us. Hope causes us to rejoice. Satan thought he won on Friday, but God had the last laugh on Resurrection Sunday. Our hope causes us to rejoice about the victory we have through Christ.

Prayer

Risen Lord Jesus, we find in you our reason for living and our hope for life eternal. Cause us to honor you and trust you for everything in life. And you are there; ready to change our emptiness into wholeness. Thank You for Your love that purchased our salvation. Amen.

IN THIS ISSUE

- Page 1** ▶ Pastor Message
- Page 2** ▶ Christian men face tough battles in everyday life
▶ Thank you Lord for Keeping Me
▶ April is Child Abuse Prevention & Awareness
- Page 3** ▶ Becoming a Women of Excellence
▶ Mother Daughter Tea
▶ Children Church
▶ African American Heritage Month
- Page 4** ▶ Worship Service Schedule
▶ Words from the Editor

CHRISTIAN MEN FACE TOUGH BATTLES IN EVERYDAY LIFE

I bring you greetings in the matchless name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. I wanted to take a moment and share a thought with you about the struggles of men. Christian men both young and old have it tough, and the only other people who **really** appreciate just how tough it is are other Christian men.

You may wonder why you often feel frustrated. You may have nagging doubts or suppressed anger. You may look at your life and be deeply depressed about your prospects. The school/workplace is a never ending source of dissatisfaction and more often than not a place of discouragement. You want to advance. You want to make more money, rise higher in your company, but **you don't want to do the things that will take you there.**

You're shocked at the cheating and lying that goes on. You may be pegged as unambitious or not a team player because your **Christian ethics** won't let you walk all over people to get ahead. If you're stuck, you may become angry at God because following his laws doesn't seem to be getting you anywhere. In fact, they seem to hold you back. So what are you going to do about it? *Psalms 37:1-7; 16, 17*

1 Do not fret because of evildoers, be not envious toward wrongdoers. 2 For they will wither quickly like the grass and fade like the green herb. 3 Trust in the LORD and do good; dwell in the land and cultivate faithfulness. 4 Delight yourself in the LORD; and He will give you the desires of your heart. 5 Commit your way to the LORD, trust also in Him, and He will do it. 6 He will bring forth your righteousness as the light and your judgment as the noonday. 7 Rest in the LORD and wait patiently for Him; do not fret because of him who prospers in his way, because of the man who carries out wicked schemes.

16 Better is the little of the righteous; than the abundance of many wicked. 17 For the arms of the wicked will be broken, but the LORD sustains the righteous.

So I say to all men (both young and old), put confidence in the Lord and see, won't it make the provisions for you. I haven't met anyone in this Christian walk that said this road would be easy. There are tests, trials, and persecution which comes in many shapes, forms and sizes. We must hold to God's unchanging hand.

The question now remains:

- Can you trust GOD through adversity?
- Can you trust GOD when you are alone?
- Can you take the good with the bad while holding onto faith in GOD?
- Can you trust GOD when your money is funny and your change is strange?
- Can you flat out trust GOD?

*Proverbs 3:5 **New International Version*** Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; In all thy ways acknowledge Him and He shall direct your path.

I pray that you continue walking with your eyes fixed on the Master. Tough times come and go, but GOD is always there to bring you through. GOD is saying: **You can count on me; So don't count me out**

Elder Corey L. Bruce SR

What Time Is It/ It's Time To Get Right



Thank you Lord for Keeping Me

I would first like to thank My Lord and Savior Jesus Christ for bringing me back safely and keeping his hand of protection over me while I was deployed in IRAQ. The first day I got to IRAQ, bombs were going off right outside the base and I thought it was a training exercise. The next day I was told that it was not a training exercise and that they were bombing right outside the base, but NO BOMBS came onto the base. All I could think of was *Isaiah 54:17* "No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue that shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD, and their righteousness is of me, saith the LORD."

All throughout my tour, from time to time we would hear gunfire and bombs going off outside of the base; every time I would begin to pray, but not one time did a bomb or anything come on base. It just confirms HIS Word in *Hebrews 13:5* "Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee." "So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me."

So my testimony is, when everything around you is going bad, when situations seem too hard to bear, no matter what the test, no matter what the situation stand still and know that God is in control. Do like David said in Psalm 34: "I will bless the LORD at all times: his praise shall continually be in my mouth. If God brings you to it, He'll bring you through it. God Bless."

Brother Theodis Darden

April is Child Abuse Prevention & Awareness Month

The Blue Ribbon Story

Spring, 1989, a Virginia grandmother began the blue ribbon campaign as a tribute to her 3 year old grandson who died at the hands of his mother's abusive boyfriend. Since then, concerned citizens throughout the nation have worn the blue ribbon as a symbol of the need to prevent child abuse and neglect.



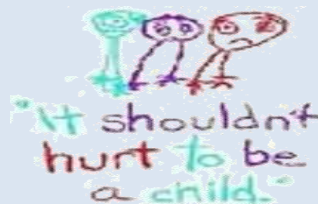
A common theme of love, respect, understanding, patience, and kindness permeates the message of child abuse prevention. Parents and guardians are the first teacher a child learns valuable traits and character. Children are truly a privilege and gift given from God for us to love, respect and protect as we model such behaviors that result in developing good citizens and adults that continue to teach these principles to the next generations.

What can we do to prevent child abuse and neglect? As adults, we can model good conflict resolution and desired behaviors, understand child development, manage life stressors and triggers, while developing a healthy, safe environment in our homes. We can refer to the old saying "WWJD", then do it, avoid making excuses. Seasoned adults, take on the role of the Titus 2 man or woman. Provide support or relief to parents needing assistance in developing good parenting skills or needing a listening ear when they feel overwhelmed, alone or isolated.

Healthy families make for healthy communities and churches. Respect each other and their differences, spend time together, and create good family traditions that enable children to feel connected and valued.

For additional information, call 1-800-CHIDREN if you need to "just talk" or get support during a time of stress.

Sister Joyce Richardson



Something New Question/Answer



We are introducing a new Q&A session. You can submit questions that you do not want to ask in a public forum. The answers to your questions will be displayed in the next newsletter. Christ Church Members will have an opportunity to share their responses to a submitted question. **Questions will be anonymous.** Contact Sister Hackney for additional details

Becoming a Women of Excellence

Your beauty should not be dependent on an elaborate coiffure or on the wearing of jewelry or fine clothes, but on the inner personality—the unfading loveliness of a calm and gentle spirit, a thing very precious in the eyes of God. **1 Peter 3:3-4.**

A woman with a gentle quiet spirit is not only precious to God, but she is attractive to others also. Certainly a hallmark quality of a woman of excellence is a gentle and quiet spirit. A woman with this quality is not someone who never says anything or who never laughs and enjoys life.

Instead, someone with the unfading loveliness of a gentle and quiet spirit speaks appropriately and wisely. She enjoys life because she is secure and at rest in her spirit. She is gracious, content, and free to give to others.

Sister Veta McCalla

Children's Church in full swing

The Children's Church Ministry has an array of exciting events that brings the Bible alive to our children. Children's Church is held every 2nd and 4th Sunday during morning worship service for ages 4-10. Workers help children explore the life and story of Jesus. Children are offered the opportunity to lead prayer and even the youngest have volunteered to lead prayer. Come out and let your children experience the Bible in a safe and loving environment.



SAVE THE DATE

MOTHER & DAUGHTER TEA

Christ Church Women Ministry will host a Spring Fellowship Tea

Saturday, May 14, 2011 at 2:00pm

Cost for the event is \$10.00 per person

Additional information coming soon.....



February 2011-African American-Heritage Month

Christ Church celebrated Heritage month with various displays of prominent African Americans in the foyer area. The displays depicted the black experiences in America starting from its origins in western Africa up to the present day. We concluded the month with most of the members wearing ethnic attire. Christ Church looks forward to celebrating and honoring those who came before us and paved the way for freedom through their blood, sweat, and tears.





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Visit our Website for additional information about
Christ Church <http://ccam.org>



Words from the Editor:

The newsletter will be published quarterly (Jan, Apr, Jul. and Oct.). Everyone is encouraged to submit writings, church ads, poems, recipes and testimonies. Our newsletter will be use to Communicate more effectively, energize member and use as an outreach tool to bring in new members All items are not limited to the above listings. **Submissions have to be approved by Pastor Baker before it is published in the newsletter.**

Please submit your articles to m.a.hackney@hotmail.com or the following Committee Members, Mary Hackney, Angie Bruce, Sheila Green, Marie Singleton & Ashley Turntine

Worship Service Schedule

Sunday: Sunday School – 9:30 am
Morning Worship – 11:15 am
****Every 2nd and 4th Sunday
Children’s Church – 11:15 am****
Tuesday: Prayer – 12 noon (2nd & 4th)
Prayer – 7:00 pm (1st & 3rd)
Wednesday: Bible Study – 12 noon,
Christian Living – 7:00 pm
Saturday Prayer – 8 am

Verse of the Quarter

Galatians 6:9

*And let us not be weary in
well doing: for in due
season we shall reap, if
we faint not*

We invite you to come and fellowship with us

A warm welcome and a loving smile will greet you the moment you walk through the doors.
You will experience anointed worship and hear an inspiring message from our Pastor that will bless you.
We believe you will experience the touch of God’s Holy Spirit and power as we worship.