



From the Pastor

On April 5, 1943, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, a German Lutheran pastor, theologian and teacher, was arrested by the Gestapo and thrown into prison, implicated in a plot to assassinate Adolph Hitler; on April 9, 1945, he was executed. His book, *Letters and Papers from Prison*, is a collection of

the letters, essays and poems he wrote while in confinement. Addressed to his parents and to a friend, Eberhard Bethge, who collected the writings and edited the book, they form an extraordinary picture of a sensitive man whose faith and dedication to service never wavered, whose spiritual depth enabled him to overcome the most trying of circumstances.



He was a man of great faith, intelligence and compassion, who understood so well the problems of the modern world. Resisting ease and compromise, he continued his ministering to the other prisoners, his firm resistance to what he knew was wrong, and his brilliant study in theology and ethics until his death.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer never gave up. His writings will continue to provide inspiration to everyone. His theological discussions will open fresh worlds of thought, and his life was indeed a model from which all can benefit.

I read this book some time ago, but what made me think of it was the confinement over the past year (March 2021 officially is the year observance of quarantine), that we all faced in this new world filled with the Covid-19 virus and its variants. This year unlike last year most churches including Victoria Baptist will be able to gather Easter Sunday in person, but still with safety precautions as we aren't out of the woods yet unfortunately! I wanted to share with all of you some of Dietrich's reflections on Easter (go to this link to read more: [pdf copy](#)). I find them to be most thoughtful and relevant to what we have and continue to experience:

March 27th, 1944

Perhaps I ought to send you my good wishes for Easter already, for I have no notion how long my letters take to reach you. In looking through *Das Neue Lied* (The New Song, a book of hymn collections by Kurt Gable) during these days, I am constantly reminded how it is to you principally that I owe my enjoyment of the Easter hymns. It's a year now since I actually heard a hymn. But the music of the inward ear can often surpass that which we hear physically, so long as we really concentrate. Isn't that remarkable? Indeed, there is something purer about it, and in a way, music acquires thereby a 'new body'! There are only a few pieces I know well enough to be able always to hear them inwardly, but I get on particularly well with the Easter hymns. My appreciation of the music Beethoven composed after he went deaf has become more 'existential', and in particular, the great variation from Opus III.

DEATH AND RESURRECTION

Speaking of Easter, do we not attach more importance nowadays to the act of dying than to death itself? We are much more concerned with getting over the act of dying than with being victorious over death. Socrates mastered the art of dying; Christ overcame death as the last enemy (1 Corinthians 15.27). There is a real difference between the two things. The one is within human capacity, the other implies resurrection. We need not 'ars moriendi', (two Latin texts which offer advice on the protocols and procedures of a good death,) the art of dying, but the resurrection of Christ to invigorate and cleanse the world today. Here is the answer to Archimedes' statement, "Give me somewhere to stand and I will move the earth". What a tremendous difference it would make if a few people really believed and acted upon that. To live in the light of the resurrection — that is the meaning of Easter. Do you not also find that so few people seem to know what light it is they live by? This *perturbatio animorum* (disturbance of spirit) is exceedingly common. It is an unconscious waiting for the word of

deliverance, though the time is hardly ripe yet for it to be heard. But the time will come, and perhaps this Easter is one of the last chances we shall have to prepare ourselves for our future task. I hope you will be able to enjoy it despite all the hardships you are having to bear. Good-bye, I must close now. With all my heart, your Dietrich.

“I hope you will be able to enjoy it despite all the hardships you are having to bear.” Fortunately, though it may feel as if we are imprisoned to a certain degree, we do have the freedom to celebrate Christ’s resurrection. Despite the hardships of the past year: the loss of loved ones and friends, fear of disease and it’s spreading, change in lifestyles and what we are able to do, and whatever 2021 will continue to bring, we do know where our eternal future lies!

I pray for a safe and healthy Easter for you and your families! May we proclaim the Risen Lord and His Kingdom that shall reign forever and ever! Amen.

With all my heart, Pastor Tim.



Easter Egg Hunt and Fellowship

Join us for an Easter Egg Hunt and Fellowship on April 3rd from 4-6 PM at [Venue 89, 11944 Courthouse Rd, Victoria, VA 23974](#).



Guest Speaker Rev. Steve Amburgey - Sunday, April 18th

Steve is the Area Director for Fellowship of Christian Athletes for South Central Virginia. He works with our student athletes and their coaches to help them share Christ with their teammates. For more information on how you can support Steve go to the [FCA website](#).

VBC Preschool

The Victoria Baptist Church Nursery School students are in full bloom! We are celebrating Spring through scientific and spiritual study. Nature walks and planting seeds are some of the activities we use to learn about the new season. More importantly, the students are learning that God's word is like a seed. Once the word of God is planted in your heart, it will sprout, grow, bloom, and spread

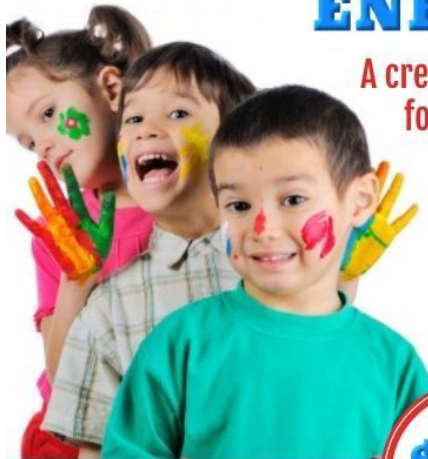
for all to see.



NURSERY SCHOOL ENROLLMENT

A creative learning program
for children ages 3-4!

- FAITH-BASED LEARNING
- WARM AND NURTURING
- ACADEMIC ENRICHMENT
- KINDERGARTEN READINESS
- AND MORE!



\$180
Per Month

2021-2022

Victoria Baptist Church

1423 8th Street

Victoria, VA 23974

434-696-2025

www.victoriabaptistchurch.com/preschool



Made with PosterMyWall.com



Tithes and Offerings

As we strive to maintain the ministry of our church, we hope and pray you will continue to tithe during this time.

For online bill pay or mail in offerings (please no cash), send to:

P.O. Box 911
Victoria, VA 23974

We have added online giving and text giving for your convenience. There is no charge to the church or you to use it through the rest of this calendar year. To give you have three options now:

1. Mail
in
Offering
2. [Click here to give](#)
3. Text
GiveVBC
to
73256

We appreciate your faithful support to Victoria Baptist Church as we weather these difficult days.

OUR GIFTS TO GOD FOR MARCH 28, 2021

REGULAR OFFERING (weekly goal \$3,619.67) \$1,700.00

BUILDING FUND \$1,080.00

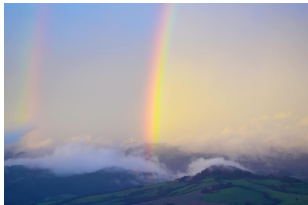
ANNIE ARMSTRONG \$65.00

PRESCHOOL \$200.00

TOTAL \$3,045.00.00

VBC MONTHLY BUDGET RECAP

	BUDGET	ACTUAL	DEFICIT	BUDGET MET ?
FEB	\$15,690	\$8,604	(\$7,086)	NO
YTD	\$31,380	\$20,154	(\$11,226)	NO



Remember Those on our Prayer List and Our Shut-Ins During this Difficult Time:

PRAYER LIST UPDATES - Names in bold print are new this week to our prayer list or are experiencing new difficulties. If you have a family member or loved one on our prayer list, please contact the Church Office with an update. If the Lord has answered prayers and all is well, please ask us to remove their name from our list.

You can help our shut-ins by writing a letter, sending a card or giving a call! Phone calls are an especially good way for them to hear your voice and be comforted during this time of isolation. No visitors please as we observe social distancing and respect the rules of nursing and care facilities.

PRAYER CONCERNS 3/28/2021

Members Who Need Prayer

Bay Tomlinson
 Susan Hawks
 Millie and Jon Coffman
 Dianne Griffin
 Stephanie Millican Powell
 Peppi and Gary Dayton
 Elizabeth Lacks
 Claude and Sandra Tomlinson
 Roger Pennell
 Peggy Green

Vernon and Jean Harding
 Tammy Moody
 Suzi Sherwood
 Ella Harrell
 Lucille Wood
 Alice Maurer
 Holly Crenshaw
 Timmy and Linda Clark
 Margie Paynter

In Our Community - Keep In Your Prayers

Philip Kallam
 Nancy Green
 Martha Clark
 Helen Fitzgerald
 Dr. Andrew Apostle
 Rev. Mike Day
 Amanda Garrison
 Jonathan Stroup
 Ray Martin

Peggy Townsend
 Danny Dawson
 Carol Driver
 Kevin Ashworth
 Mark Coming
Eula Gary
Trevor Pegram
Christy Fanus
Bill Finch

Sympathy to Family and friends of Fred Paynter, Virginia Jones McDaniel (Betty Lindsey's sister) Sarah Edith Seamster (Angie Williams' grandmother)

PRAYER LIST UPDATES - Names in bold print are new this week to our prayer list or are experiencing new difficulties. If you have a family member or loved one on our prayer list, please contact the Church Office with an update. *If the Lord has answered prayers and all is well, please ask us to remove their name from our list. We want to include everyone who needs our prayers, so please keep us informed. Thank you.*

AWAY FROM HOME PRAYER CONCERNS

Phyllis Hood Heritage Hall 900 S. Main Street Blackstone, VA 23824	Nancy Smith Hundley Center 125 Buena Vista Circle South Hill, VA 23970
Waynie Pennell Chase City Nursing and Rehab 5539 Highway 49 Chase City, VA 23924	Anne Hudson Heritage Hall, Room 203 900 S. Main Street Blackstone, VA 23824
Betty Schumaker Amelia Nursing and Rehabilitation Center 8830 Virginia Street Amelia, VA 23002	Jackie Clement Heritage Hall, Room 126 900 S. Main Street Blackstone, VA 23824
Faye Loury Heritage Hall 900 S. Main Street Blackstone, VA 23824	

SHUT-INS

Louie and Jean Overton, 2003 6th Street, Victoria, VA 23974
 Betty and Aubrey Lindsey, 1505 Tidewater Avenue, Victoria, VA 23974



©2021 Victoria Baptist Church | 1423 8th Street, Victoria, Virginia 23974, United States

Like

Web Version

Preferences

Forward

Unsubscribe

Powered by
GoDaddy Email Marketing®