

APRIL 2024

# THE MESSENGER

**Talbot Park Baptist Church**

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## THE REVEREND'S RAMBLINGS

### APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Kay Bobbitt - 1  
Nicholas Brooks - 1  
Aaron Dillon - 2  
Laura Brower - 3  
Karen Stowe - 4  
Peggy Poole - 8  
Bob Farinelli - 8  
Seth Hewitt - 10  
Jasmine Rustchak - 13  
Joe Porter - 15  
Molly Brittain - 15  
Miya Bartlett - 19  
Beth Huffman - 23  
Sheri Foster - 23  
Jane Gresham - 30

### SERMON TEXTS FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL

#### **April 7**

Keith Martin Preaching

#### **April 14**

Jude 1:1-25

#### **April 21**

I John 4:7-21

#### **April 28**

Acts 8:26-40

During the season of Easter, Aaron will be preaching a series of sermons based around Beatles songs.

April 22 is Earth Day, which is probably not a holiday most of us celebrate. But I think it's a good opportunity for us to evaluate our responsibility to our planet. Unfortunately, talking about the environment these days has become one of those topics hijacked by our current political discourse. We seem to be able to only have this conversation through the lens of "liberal" or "conservative." I lament that trend, for we need to reflect on our relationship to the environment as God's people.

Chief among this is the quality of stewardship. Simply put, stewardship is how you and I allocate the good things God has given us. And I believe how we take care of the natural world is a huge part of that. Some Christians interpret the Bible to mean that God gave humans the Earth to exploit it for their own use. I disagree. I think God put humans in the garden to tend it. In this sense, humans have been given a precious task that goes all the way back to Adam and Eve. But it is frustrating how lightly we seem to take that responsibility. We in the church talk about the sanctity of life but we fail to see how our use of the earth's resources contributes to global poverty and war.

Of course, it's sometimes hard to imagine how we can make a difference. But I think we can do things on a small scale, and those things matter. One of the virtues we have lost in our modern world is thrift. We throw more things away than any other people in history. We waste. We use single-use plastic all the time and then toss it into the trash, without considering that it will still be around in hundreds of years. Even at our church, it astonishes me how often I see a plastic bottle or aluminum can thrown into the garbage directly beside a recycling bin.

In other words, we're lazy. You and I live in a disposable culture where we are used to things that are cheap and easy. The idea that we should take better care of our world and each other is hard to learn and harder to practice. But that is the core of stewardship. It's a recognition that the world matters because God created it to be good and beautiful. And our participation in caring for the world bears witness to that holiness. So this Earth Day, may we all consider how we can do our part as God's stewards.

## **SPRING MISSION OFFERING**

Our Spring Mission Offering goes to support the work of global missions through the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship (CBF). This year we have raised \$1,145, surpassing our goal of \$1,000. We are accepting donations through April 7th. Please note on your check "CBF" if you'd like to designate your contribution to this special offering. Envelopes are available in the pew racks and on the table outside the sanctuary.

## **NEW MEMBER CLASS**

Beginning on Sunday, April 14 at 11:00am, Aaron will be leading a three-week class for people who want to learn more about Talbot Park. This class is specifically for those who are interested in becoming members of the church or for folks who have recently joined but anyone may attend. We will cover material about Baptists, Talbot Park history, how our church is structured, as well as address any other questions people may have. Let Aaron know if you plan to attend.

## **WEDNESDAY NIGHTS**

Beginning on April 10, we will resume our Wednesday night meals and Bible study. We will be studying the book of Ephesians. Bring your own meal at 5:30 and we will discuss afterwards.



## **Preschool News**

We would like to extend a huge thank you to the Talbot Park Women's Group for filling more plastic eggs than we could count for the Annual Talbot Park Easter Egg Hunt! The time, effort and support of our school is so appreciated. Thank you to everyone who came out to help or just to enjoy the event! These things are not possible without you! This month the children will learn about signs of spring, insects, gardening and taking care of the earth. We are looking forward to springtime and all of the changes happening all around us!

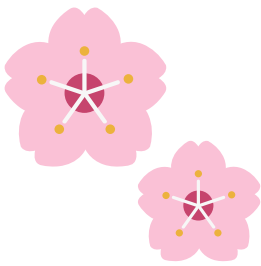
*Holly Castas*

## **QUARTERLY BUSINESS MEETING**

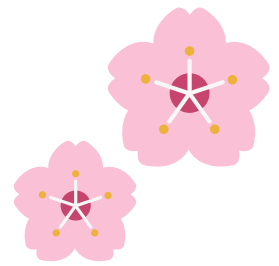
Our quarterly business meeting will be held on Sunday, April 28th. Lunch will be served at 12 noon and the meeting will begin at 12:45pm. Lunch will be \$9.00 per person and the menu is TBA, please make your lunch reservations no later than Tuesday, April 23rd.

## **WOMENS GROUP**

The Talbot Park women will meet on April 7 after Sunday School in the Social Hall for a pot luck and discussion. Come and get to know each other. Bring a get to know you question and a dish. Neither is required for entry. See you there!



# April 2024



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<i>1</i> <i>Office Closed</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>7</i>  10:00am Communion  12:00pm Women's Group	<i>8</i>	<i>9</i>  7:00pm Deacons Meeting	<i>10</i>  5:30pm Dinner & Bible Study  7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	<i>11</i>  7:00pm Sustainment Team Meeting	<i>12</i>	<i>13</i>
<i>14</i>  11:00am New Member Class	<i>15</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>17</i>  5:30pm Dinner & Bible Study  7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	<i>18</i>	<i>19</i>	<i>20</i>
<i>21</i>  11:00am New Member Class	<i>22</i>	<i>23</i>  2:30pm Birthday Club	<i>24</i>  5:30pm Dinner & Bible Study  7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	<i>25</i>  7:00pm Church Council Meeting	<i>26</i>	<i>27</i>
<i>28</i> 11:00am New Member Class  12:00pm Quarterly Business Meeting  4:30pm Comfort Meals at Ronald McDonald House	<i>29</i>	<i>30</i>				