

*Receive
His Light
and...
SHINE!*



The **LIGHTKEEPER**

Cobham Park Baptist Church News

April 2022

Dear Cobham Park Church Family,

When I shop online, I often buy items from people who live on the other side of the country—or world. For example, I recently found an interesting piece of handmade pottery on the internet. But when I tried to buy it, the purchase wouldn't go through. I found myself increasingly annoyed at this inconvenience. Then I saw the message posted at the bottom of my screen: *"Dear customers: Sadly, we are at war, and normal business is now impossible. I hope to resume sales when the invader has been driven from our beloved homeland."* I hadn't noticed that this particular potter lived in Ukraine. A chill ran up my spine as I realized what had just happened. Here I was, casually trying to buy something I didn't really need from the security and comfort of my home. I'd been irritated because I wasn't getting what I wanted fast enough. Meanwhile, this lady's livelihood is on hold and her dreams are shattered. War has taken her husband to another part of the country. She now lives in daily danger of enemy bombardment which could destroy her home or take her life. And yet she somehow concentrates on the hope of freedom and eventual victory.

War has a way of cutting through nonsense to what is most important. In combat, one usually doesn't have the luxury of frivolous creature comforts, petty politics, and other civilian distractions. Lives are on the line. Terrible sacrifices must be made. Personal preferences must be set aside and orders quickly followed.

The New Testament often speaks of faith on a war-footing. Jesus makes it clear that this doesn't mean we should be killing people or itching for a fight (a point many Christians seem to have forgotten). Our spiritual warfare has more to do with alertness, endurance, and courageous obedience to Christ our commanding officer.

We are, however, constantly tempted to drop our guard—to "make peace" with the world as it is. This usually starts in the trenches of daily life, where we'd prefer a casual civilian style of discipleship. We therefore make little moral concessions which we think will make life easier. But the devil can't be appeased or negotiated with. He's only out to take more from you—to steal, kill, and destroy. As soldiers in enemy-occupied territory, let's concentrate on our hope of freedom in Jesus! His cross and resurrection ensure our eventual total victory. He won't leave any of us behind. But the enemy is still prowling about. We can't afford to get distracted now: this is war!

You therefore must endure hardship as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. No one engaged in warfare entangles himself with the affairs of this life, that he may please him who enlisted him as a soldier (2 Timothy 2:3-4; NKJV).

In the Love of Christ our Commander,

Keith
Pastor Keith





The Bible Buffet

Submitted by David Mann

When you walk into a buffet, you can be overwhelmed with so many choices. You discover numerous dishes that pique your interest. You grab first the things that satisfy your immediate hunger, and then you start to relax and pore over other items you want to try. When you're about to give in, then you pick your favorite dessert (or two) and blissfully drive home trying not to fall asleep.

In some ways, the Bible is like your favorite buffet, offering you many wonderful selections. It can

satisfy your immediate needs to deal with life's current problems. Once you start to relax from them, you can find so many more items that will fulfill any other challenges you may face in life. And, as you digest them, comes the most wonderful dessert possible: **Everlasting Life of Peace and Joy!**

However, there is a major difference between the two: "**with the Bible, you can't just pick and choose what you want!**" God's word runs from the beginning to the end of this everlasting nourishment. God intended for all His words to be devoured and, unlike your stomach at the buffet, your soul can absorb every one of them. Hear what God says, "**man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.**" (**Deut. 8:3**) and "**every word of God is true**" (**Prov. 30:5**)

I often hear non-believers say the Bible is just made-up stories, not politically correct, and other such things. Too often, I even hear Christians say, "well I believe this and that, but some things are no longer relevant today". So many excuses—but hear also what Jesus says: "**Heaven and earth will pass away but my words will never pass away.**" (**Matt. 24:35**)

Friends, if you accept a few of God's words in your mind but not in your heart, you are not saved. If you still question whether you're saved or not, the answer is not yet! Fortunately, Jesus gives us the answer: "**I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me**". (**Jn. 14:6**)

I challenge you, if you haven't already done so, to read your Bible cover to cover! The more time you spend with it, the more the Lord will reveal to you. If you do this you will be filled with so many delights, be satisfied in every way, and you will have a "Comforter" with you though all of life's trials. With the Bible you can't just pick and choose and be truly saved.

The choice is yours; do you want to fill up just for a night at the buffet, or do you want to fill your soul for eternity?



Cobham Park Baptist Church
Quarterly Business Meeting
7 pm on Wednesday, April 20, 2022
in the Fellowship Hall

*Please plan to attend so that we have a quorum
to vote on existing and new church business.*



Our Cobham Park WMU (Women's Missionary Union) toured the Healthy Harvest Food Bank in Warsaw on March 22nd. The Food Bank is a wonderful help to thousands in the Northern Neck and beyond. After our tour, we made Easter cards for shut-ins—and creativity was on full display!



Praise Page

Mosie Lister, an American singer and Baptist minister, was perhaps best known for writing gospel music with around 700 songs to his credit. Among his list of well-known songs are *Where No One Stands Alone*, *Till the Storm Passes By*, *Then I Met the Master*, and *How Long Has It Been?* Over the years, the Cobham Park Choir has sung many of Lister's songs.



Mosie's parents, Willis and Pearl, were both musically inclined and attempted to teach their son music when he was a young boy. When they started him in the church choir, they discovered that he had difficulty distinguishing musical tones. It wasn't until he began studying the violin that his ear training abilities began to improve. By the time he was a teen, his interest and pursuit of music began to develop and continued throughout his life. Mosie passed away in 2015 at the age of 93. As we celebrate this Easter season, reflect on the words Mosie Lister penned in 1992.

Beyond the Cross

Needing strength for my journey, I knelt at the cross
Where Jesus once died for me
And I asked, "Is this the place where hope abides?"
And this He said to me:

"Beyond the Cross is a tomb that is empty
You won't find Me there anymore
And beyond the tomb is life ever-lasting
And hope forever more."

Then I sought reassurance and I went to the tomb
To the place where His body once laid
And I cried, "Lord, help me see. Is there hope here for me?"
And this I heard Him say:

"Beyond the Cross is a tomb that is empty
You won't find Me there anymore
And beyond the tomb is life ever-lasting
And hope forever more."

"Beyond the Cross is a tomb that is empty
You won't find Me there anymore
And beyond the tomb is life ever-lasting
And hope forever more. Evermore."

Singing His Praise,

Cindy

WE REALLY NEED YOUR HELP!

Volunteers are still needed for this community event. If you can help with crafts, games or in the kitchen on this date, please let us know as soon as possible. There is a sign-up sheet in the church office. We look forward to hosting this event and being a beacon of light shining in our community. Thank You!



COBHAM PARK BAPTIST CHURCH
IS HOSTING AN

Easter Egg-stravaganza!

SATURDAY, APRIL 16TH AT 3PM

Easter Egg Hunt
Games and Crafts



Thank you Hospitality Committee Volunteers! You arrive early each Sunday morning to prepare a tasty Breakfast for us (see pictures below). Most funerals, you're there with a family reception. Countless church events involve food preparation which must be coordinated, served, and cleaned up through your behind-the-scenes servant ministry. Thank you for showing us glimpses of Jesus!



Our Deacon Ministry

Rusty Brown (Chairman)
(804) 761-1859

Wayne Carter (Vice-Chairman)
(804) 314-2611

Bo King
(804) 761-1058

Craig Brann
(804) 445-6699

Ronnie Hall
(804) 337-3636

Jimmy Sanders
(804) 333-4183

David Mann
(804) 761-8698

Mark Wiseman
(804) 724-3338

Reggie Brann
(804) 761-8002

Tracy Douglas
(804) 761-1629

Kent Sanders
(804) 380-2950

Mitch Withers
(804) 366-9703

SPECIAL OFFERING FOR UKRAINE

Our Virginia Baptist Association (BGAV) is working with trusted partners and friends across Europe to ensure that relief funds are getting directly into the hands of churches, so they can provide for the needs of Ukrainians who have fled the country as well as those who have chosen to stay.

We will be working through the BGAV to reach Ukrainians in Jesus' love, and sending in our church donation after our April 3rd worship service. Please make your Ukraine offering checks payable to "Cobham Park Baptist Church" with "Ukraine" listed in the memo line. We will forward your donation to BGAV with our church donation. You can find out more about this effort at: www.bgav.org



STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

Tithes and Offerings continue to meet or exceed our weekly budget needs, with over \$87,000.00 given through March. Thank you for your faithful giving!

Your offerings are being put to good use:

1. We continue fulfilling our annual budgeted donations and pray that the charitable organizations will be blessed by these funds as they continue their mission work. Our recent donations include our 1st Quarter donation to the BGAV Cooperative Program (\$3,750.00), Hospice Support of the NNK (\$1,200.00), and the Good News Jail & Prison Ministry (\$500.00).
2. Repairs and upgrades to the interior of the church continue through the dedication and oversight of our Buildings and Grounds Committee.
3. Your generous offerings continue to meet our day-to-day expenses—not just “keeping the lights on” but also (and maybe more importantly), being able to share our financial blessings with support for outreach to meet community needs. THANK YOU!

**The
“Don’t Quit Your Day Job”
Comedian**

What do Christians in Germany
call their pastors?

(Ready?)

German Shepherds. ‘Woof!’

Our responsibilities are clearly outlined for us in the Scriptures: "...When someone has been given much, much will be required in return; and when someone has been entrusted with much, even more will be required (Luke 12:48, NLT)."

APRIL

at Cobham Park Baptist Church



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<u>Sundays:</u> 8:30am Breakfast 9am Sunday School 10am Worship (Healthy Kids Running Series-4pm)			<u>Wednesdays:</u> 7pm Bible Study 7:45pm Choir Practice			1
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Lord's Supper Palm Sunday (Healthy Kids Running Series-4pm)	10	11	12	13	14	Easter Egg-stravaganza 3-5pm
Easter	17	18	19	Quarterly Business Meeting 7pm	21	22
(Healthy Kids Running Series-4pm)	24	25	26	27	28	29
		WMU 10:30am				30

Coming Soon...

1. **Child Dedication Service** - Mothers Day, May 8th. Please contact Pastor Keith if you are interested in taking part in this special service.
2. **Vacation Bible School** - VBS is coming to Cobham Park Church on Sunday, June 12th. See Hillary Kent or Kathryn Scott for more information.

Events Reminder: Please contact the church office to approve and schedule any meetings/events using church facilities. Non-church groups also require a church member sponsor to be responsible and available for assisting/managing the event.

Cobham Park Baptist Church

P.O. Box 306

Warsaw, VA 22572

(Physical Address: 13829 History Land Highway)

Postage Paid
Nonprofit
Permit #306
Warsaw, VA
22572

Weekly Schedule:

8:30am Sunday Breakfast

9am Sunday School

10am Sunday Worship Service

7pm Wednesday Bible Study

7:45pm Wednesday Choir Practice

Daily Facebook Devotional Thoughts

Church Website:

cobhampark.org

Church Email:

cobhamparkbaptistchurch@gmail.com

Church Phone:

(804) 333-4350

Pastor:

Keith Williams "Every Member a Minister"

Ministry Assistants:

JoAnne Brown and David Mann



**"All praise to God,
the Father
of our Lord
Jesus Christ.**

**It is by his great mercy
that we have been born again,
because God raised Jesus Christ from the dead.**

NOW WE LIVE WITH GREAT EXPECTATION..."

I Peter 1:3 (New Living Translation)