

*Receive
His Light
and...
SHINE!*



The **LIGHTKEEPER**

Cobham Park Baptist Church News

May 2022

Dear Cobham Park Church Family,

After several days of temperatures climbing into the high 80s, I cheerfully walked out my front door this morning in a short sleeve shirt. (No, I didn't check the weather forecast first.) I was immediately greeted with bracing 40° Fahrenheit air. Come to think of it, I've been constantly switching the church thermostats from heat to air conditioning—and then back to heat again—for a solid month. And I've moved my potted ferns indoors and back outside again multiple times. Welcome to Virginia weather! When will Spring finally make up her mind?



If we're honest with ourselves, we Christians must admit that we have trouble making up our own minds about following Jesus. I'm not talking about believing in Him or being baptized—you may have settled that years ago. If so, you can be confident that you will be saved from eternal death through Christ, just as surely as you know winter is gone and spring is in progress. But we still have trouble making up our minds about what we will do with pet sins, entrenched bad habits, and secret shame. Our faith can be as unpredictable as the weather, alternating between hot, cold, and lukewarm. Even mature Christians are still vulnerable to an occasional spiritual frost. We tend to disguise, minimize, or rationalize our wavering ways. And we find it far easier to concentrate on other people's problems instead of dealing with our own. This pharisaical impulse has been around since Adam and Eve's fig leaf wardrobe. No wonder the world often calls us hypocrites.

Many Christians, however, are honestly and painfully aware of their shortcomings. If that's the case with you, know that you're in good company. Even the apostle Paul was frustrated by his spiritual failures: "For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing (Romans 7:19*)." A friend of mine recently vented on Facebook about her diet: "I not only fell off the diet-wagon, but I dragged it into the woods, set it on fire, and then used the insurance money to buy cupcakes." I often feel that way about my own flaws and failures. They make me wonder why God even bothers with me. But then I run to the cross! I remember the Lord's fierce love, unbreakable promises, and rock-steady faithfulness. I may be as unstable as spring temperatures, but God's faithfulness keeps me going, hoping, and smiling! Jesus is alive, and so guilt's frost can't kill me. I even checked the forecast this time: "He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it (1 Thessalonians 5:24)."

In His Love,

Keith

Pastor Keith

MAY

at Cobham Park Baptist Church

Sundays:

8:30am **Breakfast**
 9am **Sunday School**
 10am **Worship**

Wednesdays:

10am **Onsite Devotion**
 7pm **Bible Study**
 7:45pm **Choir Practice**

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Healthy Kids Running-4pm 1	2	Deacons' Meeting 7pm 3	4	Ethel Lewis' Funeral 2pm 5	6	7
Child Dedication Service Mother's Day Healthy Kids Running-4pm 8	9	10	11	12	13	14
VBS Meeting 11:30am 15	16	17	18	19	(Fellowship Hall in use 10am-3pm)	21
22	23	WMU 10:30am	(Fellowship Hall in use 9am-3pm) 25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Coming Soon...

- VBS Planning Meeting** - 11:30am on May 15th. All VBS volunteers or anyone interested in helping this year is welcome to attend.
- Vacation Bible School** - 5:30pm - 8:00pm Sunday, June 12th to Wednesday June 15th. See Hillary Kent or Kathryn Scott for more information. Volunteer sign-up sheet and donation bin for VBS items needed is in the church office.

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.

Easter Worship Service

Contributing Photographer:
Kimberly A. King





Vacation Bible School at Cobham Park Baptist Church June 12th—15th

Sunday: 5:30pm Kickoff and Cookout

Monday—Wednesday: 5:30pm Dinner & 6:00pm-8:00pm Bible Study

This summer CPBC is seeking to moo-ve people to know that Jesus loves them with a special “Hay Day” Vacation Bible School! It will start with a Cookout Kickoff on Sunday, June 12th. On Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday we will focus on sharing the Bible fact that Jesus loves us, sing some fun moo-sic together, play some wild games, and work on Projects with a Purpose. Woohoo!

It's going to be great but we need your help! Please contact Kathryn Scott (804-761-3023) or Hillary Kent (804-512-8812) if you can serve the Lord and share his love through Vacation Bible School. There are a lot of different things you could do: teach or help lead a group, help with the cookout or in the kitchen, help with games, help with preparing the decorations, or help with the projects or the moo-sic, or more! Contact Kathryn or Hillary or be ready to say “Yes” when they call you. Remember the Lord wants to use you to help someone be moo-ved to know his love!

If you are not available to volunteer for VBS, but would like to still contribute, we need the following items:

- Buttons (Big and Small), pom poms, wiggly eyes, tiny toy objects, coins
- Clean, empty, clear wide-mouth 16 oz plastic containers, such as peanut butter or mayo containers (50)
- Ziploc bags
- Curling ribbon
- 6-inch terra cotta plant pots
- Potting Soil
- Popsicle Sticks
- Gold/Silver Wrapped Candy/Chocolates

There is a Volunteer sign-up sheet and collection bin for donated VBS items in the church office. You can also sign up online: <https://vbspro.events/p/events/cpbc2022vbs> Thank you!

***From a cluttered
and unused
storage room...***



***...to a dedicated
flower room!***

BEFORE:



AFTER:



The Flower Committee has moved into their new space with shelves, storage cabinets, racks and a worktable! Many thanks for the hard work by office staff, volunteers and skilled carpenters who have helped make this possible. Just a few more shelves waiting to be hung and it's done!



Praise Page

This is the oak tree that grew my roots. Standing several yards from my grandparents' home, one can tell by the massive trunk that the tree has withstood many storms throughout the years, even the tornado that wiped out the nearby chicken house many years ago. When I think back to my childhood, I can remember many scenes that played out on the sandy stage beneath its branches. From playing in the sand to walking around the roots, my siblings and I spent hours there. When the cousins arrived, the tree served as base for endless games of hide and seek. On Sundays after church, we played in the shade waiting for lunch at Grandmama's table. This was where we helped her snap bushels of green beans, although I'm sure she did the majority of the work. It was here we listened to Pappap tell stories or talk with other "old timers" about life.

Under that tree, I learned a lot of life lessons which I now reflect on as an adult. One of the most valuable of those lessons is that we all need roots to help us withstand the storms of life. Yes, parents and grandparents can help provide those roots as we grow up, but the only roots that can hold and sustain us for eternity are the ones we grow through a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

In Matthew 13 when Jesus tells the parable of the sower, he describes seed that falls on rocky ground without much soil. Though the seed sprouted quickly, it was scorched when the sun came out because it had no root. As Jesus explains the meaning of the parable to his disciples, he tells them that there will be some who hear the gospel and will receive it with joy, but it won't last.

"But since they have no root, they last only a short time. When trouble or persecution come because of the word, they quickly fall away. [Matthew 13:21]"

Looking back on my childhood, I am grateful I was raised in a Christian home with roots in Jesus. My parents set a priority for our family attending church together where my siblings and I learned about Jesus at an early age. I am grateful for memories of a grandmother who taught me in Vacation Bible School and a grandfather who sang "At the Cross" next to me in the worship service. Through those early days of planting seeds in my life, they all cultivated fertile soil for roots of faith to grow. When I look at this tree today, my mind recalls glimpses of a variety of faces and experiences I witnessed there over the years, but most importantly, when I look at this tree, I see Jesus. Thank you, Jesus, for roots planted deep in You.

Singing His Praise,

Cindy



"EASTER EGG-STRAVAGANZA"

APRIL 16, 2022

The weather was clear, the eggs were hunted, games were played and snacks were eaten as the community came together for an afternoon of fun! Thank you to our many volunteers who made this event a great success! The Lord's resurrection was celebrated by well over 40 children and many adults from our church and wider community.



