

## Working Cooperatively

What a wonderful month March has been as we continue to journey toward Easter Sunday and move through our sermon series, *Can You Believe It?!* Because of the timing of Easter this year and the need to get April's newsletter to you in a timely manner, I am only able to celebrate half of our journey this month. We began the month being led in worship by our handbell choir and what a beautiful offering of praise and worship they presented to us in both of our worship services. Having played in a handbell choir years ago, I understand how technically challenging it can be. I appreciate the hours of rehearsal and dedication of each person in the handbell choir and Marcia Neighbors for leading them each week. As I write this article, we are halfway through our Easter sermon series, and I am excited about all of our Holy Week gatherings coming up beginning with Palm Sunday and culminating on Resurrection Sunday. As the Moravians exclaimed back in the 18<sup>th</sup> century, "May the Lamb who was slain receive the glory of His suffering."

March also provided me the opportunity to participate on the Roanoke Valley Baptist Association (RVBA) mission trip to Southwest Virginia that is sponsored by the Women's Missionary Union of the RVBA. One of the things that makes this trip unique is that it is not just a Mill Creek trip, but one we do in cooperation with other Baptist churches that identify with the RVBA. You will have the opportunity to read about the various ways in which we ministered to others through Book Net, construction projects and the Gate City Food pantry later in this newsletter. It is amazing what all God did through our efforts while on mission that week! Although I was one of nineteen people from Mill Creek and one of forty-six people total, that number does not reflect the total number of people who actually participated in the trip.

- If you gave books or helped to organize books, you participated in this trip.
- If you helped to make ditty bags for us to take and give hygiene supplies to each student, you participated in this trip.
- If you gave financially to our VBS offering last July which helped us purchase Bibles to give to students who wanted one, you participated in this trip.
- If you gave financially on our "Ditty Bag Sunday", you participated in this trip.
- If you prayed for our team and the others who were ministering to those whom we went to serve, you participated in this trip.

When you combine these efforts with people from more than eighteen other churches, because some churches helped in these ways without someone from the church going on the trip, you can begin to get a clearer picture of the cooperative aspect of this trip.

One of the beautiful aspects of our church is that we not only financially support the cooperative program through our giving, but we also cooperate with others through our actions. When we give financially to the cooperative program, we support a variety of missions and ministries that are a part of the RVBA, the Baptist General Association of Virginia and the Southern Baptist Convention. Other churches do the same and as a result of our "cooperating" together, we are able to accomplish so much more than Mill Creek could on our own. When we "cooperate" through our physical participation in things like this trip, or as we have for the past several years, worked with Villa Heights Baptist Church in making and sharing VBS decorations, we are able to accomplish more than we could on our own.

As I reflect on this mission trip and the spirit of cooperation that helped to make the trip successful, I am reminded of the early church in Acts 2. They worked together. They worshiped together. They shared what they had with one another and helped to meet the needs of one another. And as a result, the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved. God has created us to be in community with one another and to work cooperatively with one another. The more I learn about Mill Creek, the more I realize this is part of our DNA. This church has been seeking to do this since her inception in 1804 and I pray we never lose sight of this calling to serve and minister in Jesus' name. May the Lamb who was slain continue to receive the glory of His suffering through our cooperative efforts until His return.

Grace and peace,  
Danny

## Our Stewardship

### 8:30 Service Nursery Workers

April 7 Debbie Rago & Jennifer Simmons  
 April 14 Sue Lee & Jordan Kidd  
 April 21 Debbie Rago & Kim Lawrence  
 April 28 Debbie Rago & Kelly Focht

### 9:30 Sunday School Nursery Workers

April 7 Sue Lee & Don Epperly  
 April 14 Erik & Kelly Olson  
 April 21 Ned & Rene Jeter  
 April 28 Sue Lee & Annette Shaw

### 10:45 Service Nursery Workers

April 7 Sue Lee & Chelsea King  
 April 14 Melina Marshall & Laurel Bowser  
 April 21 Ashleigh Kritzberger & Donna Lucas  
 April 28 Sue Lee & Patricia Lightner

### Preschool Workers (8:30 Service/10:45 Service)

April 7 Sharon Ernest/Luke Winand  
 April 14 Jennifer Simmons/Rachel Witt  
 April 21 Cindy Holland/ Melanie Thacker  
 April 28 Chelsea King/Nikki Cook

### 8:30 Service Greeters

April 7 Mark Painter, Pat Shotwell, Teresa Simmons, Nancy Epperly  
 April 14 Judy Prease, Jimmy & Bertha Brugh, Melissa Peery  
 April 21 Jerry & Sue Sweet, Pam Gibson, Sandy Moore  
 April 28 Vickie Martin, Mike & Mary Clement, Pat Shotwell

### 10:45 Service Greeters

April 7 Debbie McAllister, Don Epperly, Melissa Peery, Klayton Akers  
 April 14 Bruce Lightner, Wayne & Sandy Myers, Kelly Denison  
 April 21 John Murphy, Elaine Bays-Murphy, Donna Lucas, Lewis Sifford  
 April 28 Donna Mack, Donnie Johnson, Ferguson Family, Vickie Martin

### Ushers (8:30 Service/10:45 Service)

April 7 Pat Shotwell & Phillip Simmons/Melissa Peery & Bill Wagner  
 April 14 Judy Prease & Jeff Gibson/Wayne Myers & Bill Wagner  
 April 21 Jerry & Sue Sweet/ John Murphy & Elaine Bays-Murphy  
 April 28 Nancy Epperly & Pat Shotwell/Donna Mack & Don Johnson

### Our Kingdom Giving

	SS	8:30am Worship	10:45am Worship	Regular Offering	Building Fund
March 3	185	194	159	\$11,387.00	\$271.00
March 10	171	122	131	\$11,548.00	\$1,465.00
March 17	173	185	144	\$15,864.00	\$805.00
March 24	158	165	125	NR	NR

Annie Armstrong Easter Offering Total to Date: \$2,146.00

Remember that we need a combined \$13,327/week in regular offering and building gifts to meet our budget needs.

## Happy April Birthday!

- 1 Brandye Phillips  
Cynthia Wolfe
- 2 Allison Camper  
John Shotwell  
Jay Gilliland
- 3 Dawn Watson
- 4 Catherine Amos
- 6 Mary Deel
- 7 Stan Strickler  
Chloe Simpson   
Michael Batsakis  
Libby States
- 8 Kelly Olson
- 9 Carol Winand  
Debbie Quirin  
Carol Kreklow
- 10 Kyle Clark
- 11 Bekah States Bisnett
- 14 Sherry Boone
- 16 Tom Fowler  
Jill Ferguson
- 18 Paul Pannell
- 19 Rachel Davis  
Jessi Fisher  
Charlie Olson  
Daxton Morris
- 20 Wesley Hayden
- 21 Cade Cook  
Wayland Gilmore
- 23 Donnie Johnson
- 24 Lesley Batsakis  
Chelsea King 
- 25 Bruce Lightner
- 26 Carrie Russell  
Morgan Nichols
- 28 Bertha Brugh  
Bella Gilliland  
Rachel Witt
- 29 Craig Anderson  
Amy Waddell



Congratulations to Jesse & Teresa Witt on the birth of their baby boy, Luke Robert, on March 3. Luke weighed 7 lbs 5 oz and was 19.5 inches long. Proud big brother is Rucker. Proud grandparents are Robert & Carol Theimer.



Congratulations to Hunter & Lindsay Thompson on the birth of their baby girl, Whitley Caroline, on March 11. Whitley weighed 7 lb 20 oz. Proud grandparents are Carolyn and Andy Shotwell and proud great-grandparents are Pat and John Shotwell.

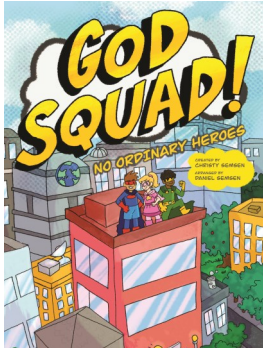


## MUSIC NOTES.....



Oh my, we were certainly blessed with wonderful music and drama for the Easter season! I would like to thank Shirley Holdren for all her help and expertise in our Easter dramas. I really hope that along with the sermons on Old Testament prophecy and how those prophecies were fulfilled in the New Testament, that you learned something new or saw things in the scriptures that you may have never seen before. Let's remember to keep the excitement of our Risen Savior all year long!

Have you ever wondered if the choir is something you'd like to try BUT you don't think you have the time? Now is a great time to join us for a couple of months until we take our summer break. We will be learning some new songs and singing some of our favorites too. Come check us out on Wednesday, April 3 at 7:35pm in the sanctuary. Childcare is available.



Our Whole-Notes choir is still practicing hard on "God Squad". We will present this musical/drama about the Armor of God on **Sunday, May 4 at 6:00pm**. Mark your calendars now because you don't want to miss it!

**Psalm 149:1 "Hallelujah! Sing to the Lord a new song, His praise in the assembly of the godly."**

For His Glory,  
Cindie

### April Collection for Operation Christmas Child



Fashion Accessories:  
Hair, Jewelry,  
Sunglasses, Sewing  
Kits, Etc.



*The church office will  
be closed on Monday,  
April 1.*

### Parent Child Dedication Sunday, May 12

As a part of our Mother's Day service, we will have a Parent & Child Dedication service during both worship services. If your family would like to participate, please email or call the church office at [office@millcreekbc.com](mailto:office@millcreekbc.com) or 540-992-3474 by Tuesday, May 7.



Due to Mill Creek's supporters (44 households) who shopped at Kroger between 12-1-23 and 2-25-24, we will receive a **donation of \$313.65** from the Kroger Community Rewards program. This donation will go to our bus ministry. **If you have not registered your Kroger Plus card**, simply log on to [www.kroger.com/communityrewards](http://www.kroger.com/communityrewards). Click on "sign in/register" then click on "sign up today" as a new customer and follow the directions to select Mill Creek Baptist Church. Then when you swipe your card, we will get credit!



Spring Break is almost over. Easter has come and gone. That must mean that the school year is beginning to wind down and everyone is beginning to see the light at the end of the tunnel! April looks to be a little like the "calm before the storm" of a busy and exciting summer coming up in the youth ministry. However, April is STILL going to be a GREAT month for our students.

Jamarama will be happening from April 19-21 at Camp Eagle. We will be joining the youth from Bonsack Baptist for an awesome weekend of worship, service and making lasting memories. The cost for this event is \$75, and youth can sign up in the youth room.

On Wednesday nights, we will be going through a new series called **HABITS**. Each of these habits are spiritual disciplines that will help us grow in our relationship with God. While I won't teach each of the **HABITS** in this exact order, they are:

- Hanging out with God
- Accountability
- Bible study
- Involvement in church
- Telling your story
- Service

Here is the series schedule:

- 4/3- Hanging out with God/Bible Study
- 4/10- Accountability
- 4/17- Involvement in church
- 4/24- Telling your story/Service

Blessings,

Josh

Interim Minister of Youth

540-521-9266



Mill Creek Baptist Church,  
Thank you so much for the beautiful prayer blanket and all your prayers. I was so surprised when my sister brought the blanket to me and said it was from your church. I have been so blessed to have so many people praying for me. The good Lord got me through a very difficult week and sent me home. Thanks again for this beautiful blanket. I will always cherish it.  
God Bless!  
Darlene Huggins



Thanks to everyone for their prayers, cards, and phone calls during my recent illness. I appreciate it more than you know.  
Price Simpson



**ANNIE ARMSTRONG**  
EASTER OFFERING®  
FOR NORTH AMERICAN MISSIONS

When you give to the **Annie Armstrong Easter Offering**, you bring the gospel to communities in desperate need of Jesus. All gifts—100%—support thousands of missionaries in church planting and compassion ministries across the U.S. and Canada. The North American Mission Board's goal is \$75 million. **Please plan to give and help meet Mill Creek's offering goal of \$3000. As of March 22, we have collected \$2,146.** Offering envelopes are available at the bulletin locations. You may also give online at [millcreekbc.com](http://millcreekbc.com).

## From the Deacons' Desk

### Gift of Life

It is often said that April showers bring May flowers. Rain aids in watering the farmers' crops, increases the water table which fills our wells and provides refreshment for our parched souls.

The Bible is filled with stories of water related judgements, miracles and prophecies:

God told Noah to build an ark. Genesis 6:14 **"Make thee an ark of gopher wood"**, to escape the flood, Genesis 6:17 **"I Myself am bringing floodwaters on the earth to destroy from under the heaven all flesh in which the breath of life; everything that is on the earth shall die."**

Water is life-giving. Numbers 7:10-11 **"Moses said, "Hear now you rebels! Must we bring water for you out of this rock?" Then Moses struck the rock twice with his rod and water flowed abundantly."**

Jesus is the ultimate giver of life! His gift of eternal life is available to all who believe. John 3:16 **"For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life."**

Father God, I pray that we will boldly proclaim Your name to all, so that many would be saved. We thank You for Your gift that saved us from our sins. In Jesus name, Amen.

From the Deacon's Desk,  
Dan Lucas  
Deacon Chair



God is blessing us with warmer weather, longer days and better driving conditions. Yay! It is time to resume prayer blanket meetings. We will meet in the fellowship hall on **Monday, April 15**. We will meet at **10:30am and again at 6:30pm** with hopes that all wishing to attend will be able to. Each meeting will last approximately an hour and a half. We would love to have all interested to attend.

We are humbled by how this ministry and our church has grown over the past ten years. To help us keep track of the hundreds of recipients who have been shown the warmth of God's love through this tangible reminder, **a notebook that contains a list of blanket recipients has been placed near the blanket cabinets**. Due to our small budget from individual donations and even smaller workforce, **it is requested that only one blanket per person be given**. The blanket continues to be a reminder of prayers being lifted up by our praying church, even when additional trials occur. Our Prayer Blanket Team continues to pray for each person who has received a blanket long after they receive one. Please check the notebook before choosing a blanket to be given to anyone to see if they have already received a blanket. We pray this will help the Prayer Blanket Ministry be more sustainable in the long term.

We thank each one of you for your co-operation and support. May God richly bless you all.

The Mill Creek Baptist Church Prayer Blanket Team



## The Power of Prayer

I was 56 years old and had the world by the tail. Things were moving along smoothly for me. I had a great wife, family, job, and faith...so how could anything go wrong? After all, I was bulletproof, but that was right up to the day that a large lump showed up in the right side of my neck and would not go away. I finally gave in and went to see my doctor and the referral process started to determine I had throat cancer.

Well, it turns out that lots of us know the feeling when that diagnosis of the big C comes before us. It's flat out terrifying and I immediately did what most people do when something BAD happens. I hit my knees and talked to God like I never had before.

My wife, Sharon, and I were attending another church at the time, and let me just say they were a praying group of Christians, especially our Sunday school class.

Lots of people say when something bad happens, "I don't want anybody to know." That was not me. I wanted the world to know, because I understood that the more people that knew, more prayers would take place. I wanted God to hear my name as much as possible.

Treatments were tough, chemotherapy and radiation. Many of you know firsthand, and some of you are experiencing it now.

I have always believed in prayer, but never more so than when my life was on the line. I have always believed in good doctors and good medicine, but let's face it, none of that would have been placed in my path, if God had not placed it there.

I received cards, calls, emails from people I didn't even know, but that was fine by me, because I knew those prayer warriors were on a mission, and I was the beneficiary.

Thankfully, I am now 10 years past what the doctors labeled "cancer-free". In my world, the doctors can tell you that the cancer has left your body, but those of us that have experienced it, know that it never leaves your mind.

I am so grateful for the power of prayer, God, and a wife who never left my side through all of it. God truly blessed me with a miracle.

The moral to this story is prayer works. It's a powerful tool. If you tell someone you will pray for them, don't let it just be lip service. Follow through and pray for them. God hears our prayers and answers them, too. Just ask me sometime and I will be glad to share.

***"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." Phil 4:13***

In Christ,  
Ron Ernest  
Deacon



***"A Time to Pray"***  
**Church-Wide  
Prayer Meeting**

Wednesday, April 3  
5:45pm - 6:20pm  
In Room M-2



## Daytime Mission Group Tuesday, April 9 at 10:00am

On **April 9th**, you are invited to hear Kristi Tolley Dressler speak about Compass for Life, which is a new organization in the Alleghany Highlands. Compass for Life works to provide transitional housing for individuals over the age of 18 who are facing homelessness, coming out of incarceration or dealing with substance abuse disorder. Their goal is that each person they work with will gain the skills and resources to avoid any further arrests or incarcerations. Kristi states that "We have been blessed to see the vision God has put before us, to give those second chances. It doesn't matter where you have been, only the direction you plan on going." Everyone is invited to attend this meeting at **10:00am in the fellowship hall** and learn more. A potluck lunch will follow the program. If you are interested in learning more, please contact Judy Deel at 540.759.1914.

## Interested in joining the Mill Creek Ruggers?

The Ruggers will gather at the home of Judy Deel (2136 Blue Ridge Turnpike Fincastle) on **Thursday, April 18th at 1:00pm**. Anyone who is interested in learning how to crochet rag rugs is invited to come and enjoy the fellowship while learning a new skill. Contact Judy for more information (540-759-1914).

## Baptist Women's Night Group Monday, April 8 at 6:00pm

The BWNG will meet on **Monday, April 8 in the fellowship hall**. Joel Elmore will be our guest speaker. Joel will share about his work with Hope Tree Ministries. We are having a potluck potato bar for dinner beginning at **6:00pm**. All are welcome to attend!

## *We can all help others....*



**Collect Stamps for Wounded Military**  
(Used, new, or stamp collections.)

**Collect Pop-Tops for Ronald McDonald House**



Collection boxes for both of these items are in the fellowship hall lobby.



## Limestone Park Beef BBQ Saturday, April 27

**Beef BBQ dinners** will be available from noon until 5:00pm. The dinners will consist of 2 sandwiches, baked beans, slaw and a drink for \$12.00. Contact Nancy Epperly, Pat Shotwell, Tommy Moore, Richard Simpson or Dawn Montgomery for tickets. **Baked goods** will also be available. All proceeds from the beef BBQ and bake sale will benefit Limestone Park Ministries.



The Alaska Mission Team will be having their **annual flower sale** from 9am-12:30pm. All proceeds from the flower sale will go to Alaska Missions.

Limestone will not be having a yard sale this year, but **yard sale spaces will be available** for \$15 beginning at 8am for anyone who would like to set up to sell.



## Report of Blessings from SW VA Mission Trip 2024

Early in March, 46 people from 13 churches in the Roanoke Valley shared God's love with our Virginia neighbors in far SW Virginia. This spring mission trip has taken place for over 20 years and is organized by the WMU of the Roanoke Valley Baptist Association. There were 19 from Mill Creek who participated. They included: Curtis Akers, Dan Bowser, John Caldwell, Donna Crawford, Judy Deel, Mary Deel, Chad Epperly, Don Epperly, Laura Epperly, Jill Ferguson, Matt Ferguson, Ruth Fix, Rene Jeter, Donnie Johnson, Susan Johnson, Bruce Lightner, Bill Potter, Danny Quirin, and Debbie Rago. This outreach included giving books, Bibles and toiletry bags to school children, repairing homes, and working at the Gate City Food Pantry.

### BookNet Facts for 2024

- The team made visits to schools in Lee County (Rose Hill, St Charles, Flatwoods, Dryden), Scott County (Yuma, Hilton, Dungannon), and Russell County (Copper Creek, Swords Creek, Ft Blackmore).
- About 1800 students in Grades Pre-K – Grade 7 were visited throughout the week.
- More than 6,000 books were shared at 10 schools!
- In addition to in-school visits, boxes of books were dropped off at 4 additional schools (Elydale, Shoemaker, Duffield, Nickelsville) and extra books were given to St Charles.



- Prior to the trip about 15 volunteers from a dozen local churches worked to sort and process books during January and February.
- Books are stored at Mill Creek in the basement of the Fellowship House.
- The collection of books and monetary donations to purchase books will be ongoing and processing books for distribution in 2025 will begin in a few months.

### Health Products Given in Cloth Ditty Bags

- Ditty Bags with shampoo, comb, toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, washcloth were given to over 1500 students (deodorant to Grades 5-7) .
- Mill Creek's donations for Ditty Bag supplies were many. Cloth bags were sewn and over \$2600 was given to help purchase supplies. Thank you!
- It is not too early to start sewing cloth Ditty Bags for 2025! Just gather your cotton fabric and follow these simple directions! Remember to plan for prints for boys, as well as girls. Completed bags will be accepted at any time. Donations of cotton fabric are also welcomed. About 1600 bags will be needed for next spring's mission trip to visit the students in Southwest Virginia. Questions? Contact Judy Deel at 540-759-1914.



#### SW Virginia Ditty Bag Directions

Cotton Fabric  
Cut 2 Pieces the Below Size  
12 1/2" Wide  
14 1/2 " Long  
1/4" seams  
Cord or Fabric Tie





## Other Gifts

- A dozen rugs were given to school personnel in the schools that were visited. Hand crocheted washcloths and bookmarks were given to cafeteria workers in some schools.
- Prayer blankets were presented to each homeowner when the jobs were completed.
- The generosity of God's people at Mill Creek has provided for the needs of a family in SW Virginia in ways far beyond books and toiletry bags. During our visit in early March, the needs of a family were shared with one of our teams at an elementary school in Scott County. The librarian told us that right before Christmas, a family of five children (Ages 4-10) experienced the loss of their father by suicide. Out of great concern for the welfare of the children, school personnel established a fund for the family through a local bank. Because of the kindness of many at our church, our SW Virginia team was able to give a donation of \$750 to this fund. Thank you for giving! Please pray for the mother and the children during these difficult days. We received the below thank you note from the librarian:



Dear Mill Creek Baptist Church,

Thank you so much for your very generous gift of love for the family! They have been through so much losing their dad. Their mom has five precious children—all with special needs—to take care of on her own. The money you gave went into a bank account set up specifically to help pay their bills each month and cover immediate needs for the children.

Thank you again for your outpouring of love for this family! It is very much needed and appreciated!

May God richly bless each of you!!

Sincerely,

Gayle Ervin

Librarian –HES

P.S. I sent a thank you to the RVBA for bringing us all the books & ditty bags! But thank you to everyone at your church who gives of their time & effort to this wonderful ministry! It is a blessing to our students!



## Construction Projects for 2024

- Work on the two homes was organized and planned by Tony Johnson, missionary for SW VA Partnership.
- Two homes received needed improvements. One had rotted floor boards removed and replaced with vinyl flooring. Another had bathroom upgrades made to meet the needs of a woman who had suffered a stroke and was in need of a handicapped accessible shower.
- Each team gave a Mill Creek prayer blanket to the homeowner and prayed with them.



## Food Pantry

- Several from the team volunteered to work at the Gate City Food Pantry. Their work included sorting donations, packing bags, stocking shelves, visiting, and praying with clients. About 100 clients were helped during the two days.



## History of BookNet Ministry

Back in 1999 the WMUV called together a group of concerned women, the Great Commission Teachers Task Force. This group was keenly aware of the illiteracy issues in our state. This task force's mission was to combat those illiteracy issues through tutoring students who were struggling to help them improve their reading skills, and tutoring adults who needed to obtain their GED. This group mobilized churches in the region to participate in this mission. Valerie Carter, at that time the Associate of Christian Social Ministries for WMUV, shared with the task force the importance of books especially new books that children could own. From her presentation, BookNet was born. This idea of a book network was a new concept for them at that time but today, it is a labor of love and one that has grown over the years. The first BookNet mission trip to Southwest Virginia was back in July of 2004 and was comprised of men and women from the Roanoke Valley Baptist Association. This team set up in a park across from a school in St. Charles and began handing out books that had been collected for this trip. The school principal came out to inquire about what they were doing and then asked if they would come during the following school year.

While the BookNet ministry remains a statewide project of the WMUV and RVBA, our church is an integral part of the BookNet ministry. When it first began over 20 years ago, it was created by the state WMU to get books into the hands of children and to serve an underserved area in the state of Virginia, the Appalachian Mountain region. As all great initiatives go, it evolved over time and today this labor of love where blessings abound includes a few more parts than it did originally. Today, in addition to the team that goes into the schools, there is a construction team and a food pantry team. As is common for any good mission trip, there is much work that is done to prepare for the trip itself. Roanoke Valley Baptist Association churches collect new and gently used books that a team of teachers and librarians then sort into correct grade appropriate groups in advance of the mission trip. It takes many working together to accomplish the ministry of BookNet.

### Blood Drive

**Saturday, April 13**

**9:00am-1:00pm**

**Buchanan Baptist Fellowship Hall**

**19730 Main Street**

**Buchanan, VA 24066**

Mark your calendars for April 13. We will be sponsoring another blood drive between 9:00am and 1:00pm in cooperation with Buchanan Baptist Church.

To register in advance please visit [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) and enter BuchananBaptist to schedule an appointment.

Streamline your donation experience and save up to 15 minutes by visiting [RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass](http://RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass) to complete your pre-donation reading and health history questions on the day of your appointment.

Make an impact: Give blood April 8 to April 28 at any location for a \$10 gift card by email to a merchant of your choice!

If you have any questions, please contact Don or Susan Ditzler at 540-797-8430.

### American Red Cross

*Give blood.* Help save lives.





## Mission Luncheon

Sunday, April 21

Hosted by the Alaska Mission Team

**Menu: Ribeye Steak  
Sandwiches, Potato Salad,  
Baked Beans & Dessert**  
(Hot dogs will be available for kids)

**Eat in or take out.**



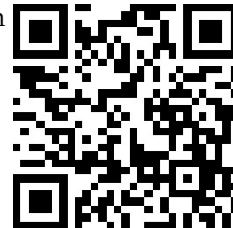
**All proceeds  
will go to  
support our  
Alaska Mission  
Team.**

## Mill Creek 220th Anniversary Cookbook

We need your recipes! We are collecting recipes for the Mill Creek 220th Anniversary Cookbook from April 1st - April 30th. There are two convenient ways to submit. You may write on one of the recipe cards located at the sanctuary entrance, fellowship hall entrance and back of the sanctuary. Once completed, drop off in one of the boxes in those locations. You can also follow the instructions below for an online submission.

Online:  
www.TypeNSave.com  
user name: MillCreekBC  
Password: orange112

You may scan the QR code to take you directly to the website.

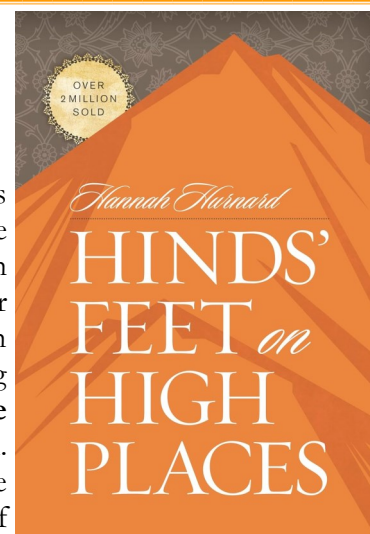


## Witty Women of the Word Book Club

Tuesdays, beginning April 16

9:00am & 6:30pm

All women are invited to join the Witty Women of the Word Book Club as they read *"Hinds' Feet on High Places"* by Hannah Hurnard. This is the story of Much-Afraid on her spiritual journey through difficult places with her two companions, Sorrow and Suffering. Learn how she overcomes her fears as she passes through many dangers and mounts at last to the High Places. There she receives her new name and is transformed by her loving Shepherd. The club will meet on Tuesdays at **9:00am and 6:30pm in the Fellowship House beginning April 16**. You may attend either session. Books are available at Scripture Truth Bookstore in Fincastle for \$6.50. Please contact Leigh Hamilton at 540-204-6013 or Teresa Garrett at 540-797-4037 if you plan to attend.



## BACKPACK Ministry

The Back Pack Ministry is very thankful to Bank of Botetourt for the donation of 23 bags. They came in very handy when we packed for Buchanan Elementary for two weeks due to spring break.





## Easter Egg Hunt



The Annual Easter Egg Hunt was well attended and the kids found lots of eggs and heard the real reason we celebrate Easter.

We began the hunt by gathering in the sanctuary to listen as Pastor Danny shared the Resurrection story through Resurrection eggs. From there we divided up into three groups and headed out in search of eggs AND there were lots of eggs thanks to the generous folks who took empty eggs and filled them along with purchasing a few as well.



After we found all the eggs we could find, we headed back to the fellowship hall for a bite of lunch and then headed home with our goodies from the eggs!

A good time was had by all and we are very grateful for everyone who participated in any way to make this a successful event.



## Mini & Mighty Mill Creek Explorers



The month of March we made Swords to go with our Armor of God and then we reviewed all the pieces we had made so far. We also learned what the sword really is when we talk about the Armor of God and how important it is to the whole armor.

In Missions, we learned about the recent trip to Southwest Virginia, talked about ways to help homeless people, made pictures for our friends in the Dominican Republic and made cards for a special young man who is very sick.

Wednesday nights are busy in the children's area and we would love to have you join us at 6pm for dinner and then at 6:30 for activities!



## child care

Hello everyone! Happy Spring! March had windy, sunny, warm, and cold days! As I write this newsletter article, it is a nice, sunny day, and the first day of Spring was yesterday.

We had our school-agers here with us all day on March 5th because Botetourt County had a teacher work day. It was also an election day here at Mill Creek, but our school-agers were able to play in the youth area for the day. It was also a beautiful day outside, so they spent a good bit of their day playing on the playground. Our school-agers were on spring break from March 25th-April 1st.



Our preschoolers went to Bounce Roanoke on Wednesday, March 6th. They played for almost 2 hours! Some of them had never been before. They all had a blast!

We also went to the Buchanan Library on March 19th for story time and checking out books.



Danny and Cindie's Bible stories for the last 2 weeks of March, were "People Praise Jesus", and "Jesus Dies and Lives Again". The children have activities that go along with the stories to help them understand how Jesus sacrificed His life for us. We hope you all had a very blessed Easter! See you in May! Cherry



# April 2024



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Church Office Closed	2 8:30am Men's Breakfast @ Greenwood Restaurant	3 5:30pm Whole Notes Choir Practice (K-5) 5:45pm - 6:20pm Prayer Meeting in Room M-1 6:00pm Supper for Children 6:30pm Mini & Mighty Mill Creek Explorers, Youth Activities/Bible Study, Adult Bible Study 7:35pm Adult Choir Practice	4	5	6
7 8:30am Worship 9:10am - 9:40am Holy Grounds Coffee Shop 9:30am Sunday School 10:45am Worship	8 6:00pm BWNG Potluck in Fellowship Hall	9 10:00am Daytime Mission Group in Fellowship Hall	10 5:30pm Whole Notes Choir Practice (K-5) 6:00pm Supper for Children 6:30pm Mini & Mighty Mill Creek Explorers, Youth Activities/Bible Study, Adult Bible Study 7:35pm Adult Choir Practice	11	12	13 9:00am - 1:00pm Blood Drive @ Buchanan Baptist
14 8:30am Worship 9:10am - 9:40am Holy Grounds Coffee Shop 9:30am Sunday School 10:45am Worship	15 Newsletter Articles Due 10:30am Prayer Blanket Ministry Meeting 6:30pm Prayer Blanket Ministry Meeting	16 9:00am Witty Women of the Word Book Club 6:30pm Witty Women of the Word Book Club	17 5:30pm Whole Notes Choir Practice (K-5) 6:00pm Supper for Children 6:30pm Mini & Mighty Mill Creek Explorers, Youth Activities/Bible Study, Adult Bible Study 7:35pm Adult Choir Practice	18 1:00pm Rugging at Judy Deel's House	19 Youth Jamarama @ Camp Eagle	20 Youth Jamarama @ Camp Eagle
21 Youth Jamarama @ Camp Eagle 8:30am Worship 9:10am - 9:40am Holy Grounds Coffee Shop 9:30am Sunday School 10:45am Worship 12:00pm Mission Luncheon for Alaska Mission Team, Deacons Meeting	22	23 9:00am Witty Women of the Word Book Club 6:30pm Witty Women of the Word Book Club	24 5:30pm Whole Notes Choir Practice (K-5) 6:00pm Supper for Children 6:30pm Mini & Mighty Mill Creek Explorers, Youth Activities/Bible Study, Adult Bible Study 7:35pm Adult Choir Practice	25	26	27 8:00am Yard Sale Spots Available at Limestone for \$15 9:00am - 12:30pm Alaska Mission Team Flower Sale at Limestone 12:00pm - 5:00pm Beef BBQ Dinners @ Limestone
28 8:30am Worship 9:10am - 9:40am Holy Grounds Coffee Shop 9:30am Sunday School 10:45am Worship	29	30 9:00am Witty Women of the Word Book Club 6:30pm Witty Women of the Word Book Club				

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**Mill Creek Baptist Church  
Ministers... the Congregation**

Pastor.....Danny Quirin  
Minister of Music..... Cindie Hayden  
Interim Minister of Youth.....Josh Witt  
Director of Children's Ministry.....Peggy Arbogast  
Pianist.....Marcia Neighbors  
Administrative Assistant.....Sandra Kidd



**VBS 2024  
July 14-18**

At "Scuba" VBS, kids discover what it means to "dive into friendship with God." "Scuba" is filled with awesome Bible-learning experiences kids see, hear and touch. Fun crafts, team-building games and cool Bible songs are just a few of the standout activities that help faith flow into real life.

VBS at Mill Creek will be July 14-18! As you are planning your 2024 vacations, please remember to keep this week open! It is going to be an amazing week of diving into friendship with God!! It's not too late to sign up to help with one of our largest community outreach opportunities! If you would like to volunteer, please reach out to Rachel Witt or Jess Hayden via the church office email address, [office@millcreekbc.com](mailto:office@millcreekbc.com).

**Registration is open!** You may register by scanning the QR code or you may go to [vbspro.events/p/millcreekbaptistchurch](https://vbspro.events/p/millcreekbaptistchurch).



**Fishing Rodeo**



**Saturday,  
May 4<sup>th</sup>**

@ Camp Bethel,  
328 Bethel Rd,  
Fincastle, VA  
24090

8:00 - 11:00am Children and Disabled Sportsmen may fish

11:00am - 12:00pm Door Prizes, Lunch

12:00pm - 3:00pm Everyone may fish!

Come and join the fun!!

Sponsored by:  
Greater Outdoor Ministries  
Mill Creek Baptist Church