

# His Place focus



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF HIS PLACE WORSHIP CENTER  
APRIL 2017

*“He is not here; for He is risen, as He said. . . .” (Matthew 28:6)*

*Good News” Flash*

## CHRIST IS RISEN

The gospel - or “good news” - of the resurrection of Jesus is more than an extraordinary event. It is the greatest news ever to hit the planet earth. Christ’s death and resurrection transformed human history. Christ has been at work throughout history, and will be active when human history culminates. “I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End,’ says the Lord, ‘who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty” (Revelation 1:8). And when human history culminates, it will culminate in Christ, in an eternal life that we spend in His presence. “When Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory” (Colossians 3:4).



## CHURCH EVENTS

- We will be celebrating the Sedar dinner on Resurrection Sunday April 16. Come and join us as we connect with our Hebrew heritage.
- The Holy Spirit is scheduled to appear each Sunday during our worship services. Worship begins at 10:30 am.
- “Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path” (Psalm 119:105). We study the Bible together each Sunday at 9:30 am, and have classes for children and adults.
- Join us the last Saturday of each month for “Saturday Night Alive.” Come from 6:30-9:30 for food, fellowship, worship, prayer—and the work of the Spirit.



# Remembering Christ's Sacrifice

*"A tree stands strong not by its fruits or branches, but by the depth of its roots."*

Anthony Liccione, an American poet and author

*"...(R)emember that you do not support the root, but the root supports you."* – Romans 11:18

When His Place celebrates the Sedar meal ceremony on Resurrection Sunday, it will be a remembrance of our roots in God's first act of His nation's deliverance: the Passover. The Hebrew tradition of sacrificing a Passover lamb fulfilled in the sacrifice of the Lamb of God thousands of years after the first Exodus.

We who have been "grafted into" God's kingdom should remember that we are truly alive only because of Jesus Christ's sacrifice. Jesus declared, during his last



Passover with His disciples, that the unleavened bread "is my body which is given for you" (Luke 22:19). The wine "is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you" (Luke 22:20).

Poet T.S. Elliot, alluding to communion, calls "(t)he dripping blood our only drink" and "(t)he bloody flesh our only food" ("East Coker," *The Four Quartets*). What do we have to sustain us except that Jesus gave His body and blood for us?

The author of Hebrews points out that symbols - such as the Holy of Holies - and symbolic acts, such as the priest's annual sacrifice for sin, serve a purpose. But the temple, the Holy of Holies, and sacrifices are simply copies of the realities of heaven. "For Christ has not entered the holy places made with hands, which are copies of the

true, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us" (Hebrews 9:24).

Old Testament animal sacrifices pointed to the promise of Jesus's ultimate act of sacrifice. Our reenactment of the Sedar and, through communion, Jesus's Passover sacrifice for us, remind us of what God in Christ has done and will do. But even these ceremonies pale when compared to final realities. "Christ was offered once to bear the sins of many. To those who eagerly wait

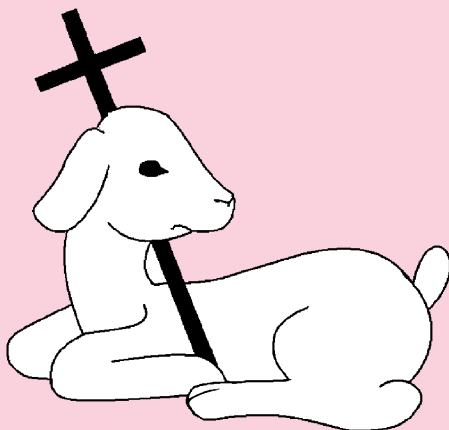


for Him He will appear a second time, apart from sin, for salva-

tion" (Hebrews 9:28).

When this happens, according to the apostle Paul, "the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first" (1 Thessalonians 4:16).

And we will emerge from what CS Lewis calls the "shadowlands" into "a new heaven and a new earth" (Revelation 21:1).



# Children's Ministry

*Children are a heritage from the LORD, offspring a reward from him. Like arrows in the hands of a warrior are children born in one's youth. Blessed is the man whose quiver is full of them. Psalm 127:3-5*

## His Place Children Learn to "Walk in the Word"

*"I will delight myself in Your statutes; I will not forget Your word" (Psalm 119:16).*

In Sunday School and Children's Worship, the children of His Place spent March memorizing and learning the word of God. Kole Mancuso earned prizes for memorizing John 3:16 and Matthew 19:26. He also recited the first five books of both the

New Testament and the Old Testament. Adalynn Boden memorized John 3:16 and the first five books of the New Testament.

Throughout the month, in Sunday School and activity/craft time, the children learned about repentance, God's forgiveness and the nature of God. They learned that to repent means to turn completely around and move the other direction - away from sin and towards God. They learned that through Christ, God forgives us of our sins. And,

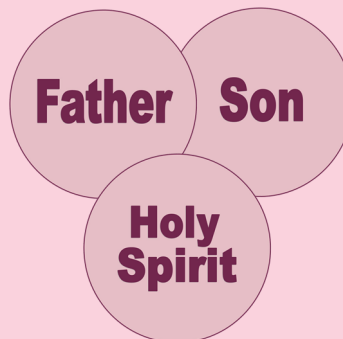
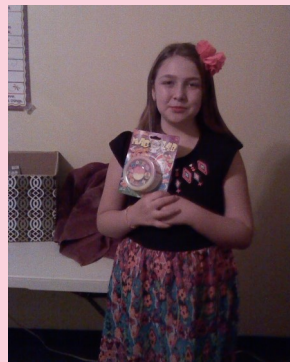
as Jesus instructed us in Matthew 18:22, we must forgive others indefinitely: 70 times 7 times.

The children also learned that God is Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. This concept is a mystery: each nature is separate, yet together they are the one and only God.

Many thanks to Pat Epley, filling in for two weeks as Marian Boyd recovered from surgery. "Draw your swords,"

she instructed the children one Sunday, as she directed them in Bible drills.

Pat will get many more chances to "arm" the children with the word of God. She will now be teaching Sunday School every other Sunday, alternating with Marian Boyd. Marion Stephan will continue to lead the activity/craft time during the Sunday message.



# From The Pastor's Desk

## Thoughts from Pastors Paul and Marion

James 5: 16 tells us to “pray for one another, that you may be healed.” We are so thankful for all your prayers for Marian after her two-hour surgery in Charlotte. We also thank you for your thoughtful calls and texts. We are so blessed!

Thank you, Russ Laney, for bringing lunch for Paul to the Charlotte surgery center on the day of the surgery. Your act touched both of us.

We had a wonderful time of fellowship with the Stilwell

family, who brought dinner to the house the night after the surgery. Thank you, Darrin and Connie! You are an extension of His hands.

Don't forget to join us the last Saturday of each month for “Saturday Night Alive.” We assemble at 6:30 for food and fellowship. Then we share in worship, prayer, learning, and more fellowship, until the Holy Spirit stops blessing us for



the night or the Lord returns, whatever comes first.

Pastors Paul & Marian

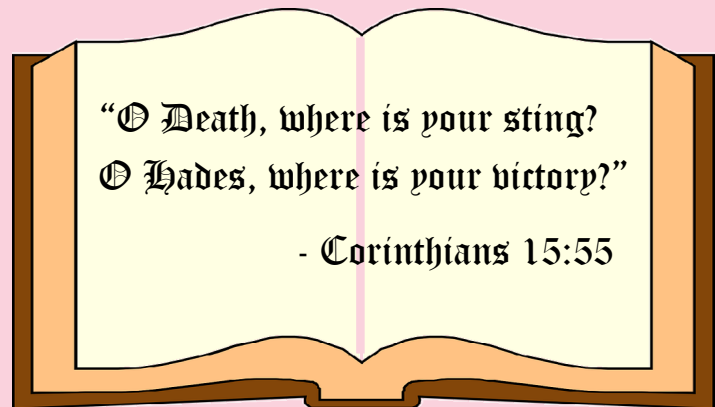
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April 17  
Happy anniversary  
Greg and Donna Peck

NO APRIL  
BIRTHDAYS

