

# **A Word From the Pastor**

"Jesus defeated...defeated sin, death, & hell itself!" (Penned by Dr. Al Meredith, April 12, 2001)

The year was 1815. All of Europe was in a perpetual panic as Napolean Bonaparte had escaped from his island prison in the Mediterranean & had amassed a new Grand Army to face the combined forces of Europe under the command of British General Wellington on the fields of Waterloo.

The people of Great Britain held their breath. Would Wellington be able to defeat the brilliant & charismatic Napoleon? No one had ever been able to defeat him in open warfare. The fate of the world hung in the balance.

As the battle ensued, messages were flashed via bonfire across the English Channel. Finally, the message came: "Wellington defeated...," & then the fog descended & the rest of the message was lost.

"Wellington defeated!" England flew into a fit of despair. Would Napoleon now invade their blessed isle? "Wellington defeated!" What, if anything, would be left of the allied army, their sons & brothers? "Wellington defeated!" Would the wildfires of revolution now wreak its havoc across the rest of the world?

But in the morning the fog lifted under the dissipating rays of the rising sun. And now the entire message was flashed cross the waves. "Wellington defeated Napoleon! Victory is assured!" Instantly the mood of the nation was transformed from despair to hope; from hopelessness to rejoicing! Victory was snatched from the jaws of defeat. The monster had been defeated, the realm was secure. "Wellington defeated Napoleon!"

Two thousand years ago no one knew it was "Good Friday." To the people of faith & the hosts of heaven it appeared that the monster of Hell had won. God's only Son hung lifeless on a cruel cross. His soul was descended into the depths of hell even as his cruelly beaten body was lowered into a stone cold tomb. The message to the world was trumpeted across the heavens: "Jesus defeated..." The Son of Heaven, imprisoned in Hell; the Star of the Morning with His light snuffed out; the Prince of life enshrouded in death...

But on that Easter morning the entire message was revealed as the Son of Righteousness rose with healing in His wings. "Jesus defeated sin, death, & hell itself!" The rising Son dissipated the fog that enshrouded all humanity & He declared to all who will believe: "Sin & death shall no longer terrorize you! I am alive & you, too, shall live forevermore!"

The words of one of my former pastors articulates well the edge of despair on which we live in sin, yet the glorious truth of resurrection through the Savior who gives us life! May we seize these words of truth & allow God's endless hope to well up within us. Please make worship at Easter season a priority as we have services on Palm Sunday March 24<sup>th</sup>, Good Friday March 29<sup>th</sup>, & Easter Sunday March 31<sup>st</sup>.

In Christ, Pastor Albert

### Sunday Worship Schedule

Worship Team Rehearsal 9:00 am

> Community Groups 9:45 am

Morning Worship 11:00 am

Embers Ministry 5:00 pm

Wednesday Services All Ministries Begin at 6:30 pm

Adult Bible Study

Embers Bible Study Youth Bible Study 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grade

Children's Ministry Kindergarten - 5<sup>th</sup> Grade

Preschool Ministry Birth through Pre-K

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It's already March! Happy 4th Birthday to the COVID lockdowns! Yes, you read that correctly. Four. Years. Ago. While I go get my Metamucil, take this time to read about announcements and upcoming things.

Dessert Auction Success. Thank you to all you lovely people who made the (maybe 20th) Annual Dessert Auction a wonderful success. The desserts were great, the environment was fun, the returns made our teens very happy. A special shout-out to the folks who made that new Fellowship Hall operational. It was nice being back in the old/new place.

New Year/New You. Back in January we held a special event presenting possibilities for ministry here at HHC. After sorting through the feedback, our church appears to have a desire for women's ministry, discipleship, new members primers. Be on the lookout for these ministries in the near future.

Easter Egg Hunt. The youth will be running a concession stand complete with snacks, drinks, hamburgers, and hot dogs. Proceeds will help us get to Atlanta, GA (and back). Stop by. Arrive hungry. Bring money. That way both you and the youth will be happy.

Okay, I'm back now. That Metamucil doesn't taste that bad. I hope you have a wonderful March. Take care and God bless.

SENIOR LUNCH OUT Tuesday, March 12, 11:00 am 9645 Atlantic Blvd





Sign up in your small group class or in the lobby.



Women's Ministry is getting kicked off with our first "Girls2nd2sdaysOUT" We will meet at The Local on San Jose. We need to make reservations so please sign up by scanning the \_\_\_\_\_\_QR code. When you give, You're supporting more than 2,400 missionary families



Join us after Bible Study on Wednesday, March 6 for fun, food, & fellowship!





Set your clocks forward one hour MARCH 10

DEACONS MEETING THURSDAY, MARCH 14, 6:30 PM

Monday Bible Study @ 6:30 pm THE BOOK OF JOEL

Stewardship Meeting Tuesday, March 19, 6:30 pm

Wednesday Bible Study @ 6:30 pm THE BOOK OF EPHESIANS







Come join us as we finish our All Aboard! Series! You have until March 10<sup>th</sup> to memorize our

memory verse:

John 14:6 "Jesus answered, 'I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.""

March 3 Caboose (Ms. Cindy & Ms. Bethany)

March 10 All Aboard (Mrs. Maria & Mrs. Michelle) \*Meet in Big Church first\*

March 17 Special St. Patrick Lesson (Ms. Cindy & Mrs. Caroline)

March 24 Palm Sunday, 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday We will stay in Big Church

March 31 Easter, 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Funday

EGG HUNT!! Saturday March 23, 11am!

## W.O.W.

Worship on Wednesday @ 6:30pm We begin our new series called: GAME CHANGER! Teams are God's idea, and He wants us all on His team! Throughout this series kids will see that playing on God's team makes life better, and they will learn several things they can do to be great teammates.

> March 6: On God's Team: Life is Better

March 13 On God's Team: Players Show Respect

March 20 On God's Team: Players Do Their Part

March 27 On God's Team: Players Don't Quit



# **EASTER EGG HUNT** LIVE MUSIC & FAMILY FUN DAY! SATURDAY, MARCH 23, 11 AM

FEATURING LOCAL ARTISTS		
CRAIG BLACK	PAUL ROSSI	DOCTOR STEVE
MICHAEL BURNS	LINDA SHILBY	CAROLYN WARD
CHARLES CHUISA	STEVE SHILLINGFORD	JUDY YOUNG

GAMES CRAFTS LIVE MUSIC BOUNCE HOUSE FACE DAINTING CONCESSIONS





PALM SUNDAY | MARCH 24, 11AM GOOD FRIDAY | MARCH 29, 6:30 PM EASTER | MARCH 31, 11 AM