

The Voice

Rankin Lake Baptist Church

May 2022

From the Pastor's Heart . . .

All of us remember the little rhyme, "April showers bring..._____". The answer is "May flowers." But in today's world April storms bring a mess. It seems more and more storms are taking a "more southerly" route than in the past. Some southern states are getting hit particularly hard. I know some prognosticators are saying it is all because of global warming and it may be. Numbers don't lie, but some are attaching meaning as to why that I don't ascribe to.

What I do want to do in this writing is look at storms—but not of the atmospheric variety. Cloud bursts with thunder, lightning, hail, hard winds and sometimes tornadoes all carry with it their own degree of devastation. But the kind of storms I'm talking about here are the ones a little less obvious, but can be as personally devastating.

If you lose your job, you're in a storm. If you have a health crisis, you're in a storm. If you have a death in your immediate family, you're in a storm. If you are involved in an accident where you are injured, you're in a storm. If you are overwhelmed with fear and doubt, you're in a storm. If you are depressed, you're in a storm. I could go on, but I think you get the picture. Storms like these can be devastating, but not necessarily as visible as the atmospheric variety. At least not as visible to everyone else.

So, if these qualify as storms and these storms cause personal and family devastation, what do we do? For the world (or non-believers), you get by the best way you can. They buy books and attend classes on how to cope with these storms. They sometimes over-medicate themselves or attempt to saturate their bodies with alcohol to cover or mask their pain.

But for believers, Jesus has already told us there would be trouble in the world in which we live. Don't believe me? Look at John 16:33—"***These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.***" He also told us He would always be with us in the Holy Spirit. We are not going through these "storms" alone. He is with us. He is giving us strength to overcome even though the battles we are engaged in may be fierce.

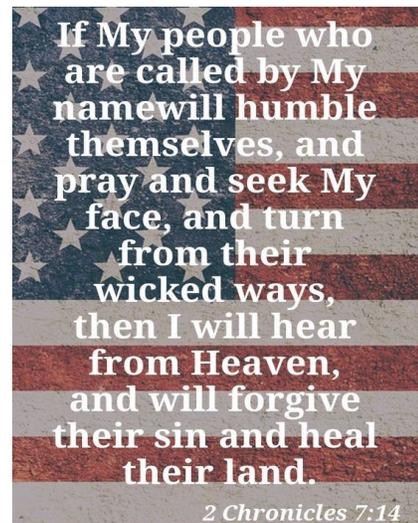
Difficulties, hardships and pain are never easy to deal with, but when we have Someone who is with us it seems to lessen the impact, or at least gives us purpose or meaning to go with it. I am so grateful Jesus told His disciples (and ultimately us, too) if He went away, He would send the Holy Spirit to be with us. Thankfully, we can count on Him to do as He says. The Holy Spirit is our comforter and guide. We can carry on in spite of the "storms" that may come our way.

Many of us have watched people in our lives model this for us. Especially watching our godly mothers who walk(ed) by faith, no matter the circumstances. Thank God for yours. I sure do thank Him for mine!

Your Pastor and friend,



National Teacher's Day
May 3

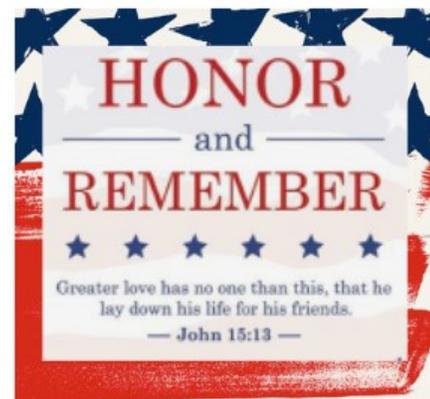


National Day of Prayer
May 5



Mother's Day
May 8

MEMORIAL DAY
May 30



May Nursery Schedule



Sunday Morning

- 5/01 Kinley Craig, Faye & Leon Hovis
- 5/08 Lynne Austin, Leslie Buchanan & Lynn Davis
- 5/15 Emily Bridges, Anna & Leslie Miller
- 5/22 Mimi Austin, Maddie Laughlin & Elaine Punam
- 5/29 Kinley Craig, Faye & Leon Hovis

Wednesday Evening

- 5/04 Teresa Williams
- 5/11 DeLaine Loftis
- 5/18 Brenda Arrington
- 5/25 Becky McQueen

The Ladies Prayer Group will meet **May 10th** at 10:30am in the FLC Conference Room. Join us for a special devotion, delicious lunch and time of prayer and fellowship.

Breakfast Items

- Cereal (Cheerios, Rice Krispies, Frosted Flakes)
- Cereal Bars
- Pop Tarts

Canned Goods

- Soup (Chicken Noodle/Tomato)
- Pork n beans or pinto beans
- Green Beans
- Corn
- Canned Chicken
- Canned Tuna
- Spaghetti and Meatballs
- Spaghetti Sauce (canned only)

Other

- Applesauce (no glass)
- Spaghetti Noodles
- Tuna or Chicken Helper
- Box of Macaroni and Cheese
- Peanut Butter
- Jelly





HAPPY Birthday

5/27 David Mocanu
5/30 Frances Cloninger

I AM THE VINE; YOU ARE THE
BRANCHES. IF YOU REMAIN IN ME
AND I IN YOU, YOU WILL BEAR
MUCH FRUIT;
APART FROM ME YOU CAN
DO NOTHING.

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

Thank you! Thank you!



We reached and exceeded our goal for our Annie Armstrong Easter Offering. Our gifts will help support more than 2,000 missionaries working to reach people with the gospel of Jesus.

“We are UNITED in reaching the nations”



Goal- \$1,200 Received- \$1,650

From the desk of the Secretary



I love fruit. I noticed in the summer months I crave it more. It's just so sweet, juicy, and fragrant. My favorite fruit is a peach. I LOVE peaches, but I realize I hardly ever buy them. Just seems easier to grab other fruit available. Or in most cases junk food. Is it that I am not confident in how to prepare the peach to eat, or have I just gotten comfortable in the other options? Maybe a little of both.

Paul urges us in Galatians chapter 5 to walk in the Spirit. To put away the lust of the flesh. He explains, our flesh and our spirit are always at war with each other. He lists the works of the flesh in verses 19-21, and warns if we operate in those things, we will not receive the kingdom of heaven. The Holy Spirit dwelling in us, gives us an alternative and equips us with all we need to war off the fleshly things (junk).

In the following verses 22-25, He has given us the fruits of the spirit. LOVE, JOY, PEACE, PATIENCE, KINDNESS, GENTLENESS, GOODNESS, FAITH, and SELF-CONTROL. When we are connected to the Vine...we get the fruit. (John 15:5). These fruits are the result of what the Holy Spirit does in the life of a Christian. Jesus said, by our fruits we are known. Our fruit is for everyone. When we allow the Holy Spirit to do a work in us, putting away the flesh, we will produce these fruits. Just like if I choose to break out of my comfort zone of eating chips and grab some peaches. Let us all be more intentional in walking in the fruit of the Spirit and allow them to operate in our daily lives. You never know how allowing the Holy Spirit to operate through you, will touch someone else's life for the better.

Be encouraged,

Lindsey

Rankin Lake Baptist Church

2705 Gastonia-Dallas Hwy - Dallas, NC 28034

Phone: (704) 922-4806

Contact us: Pastor Jim - pastor@myrlbc.org

Lindsey-Secretary - myrlbcsecretary@gmail.com

Weekly Church Activities

Sunday

9:30am Adult Men—meet in the sanctuary
Adult Ladies—meet in the Educational Building
Children's & Youth Sunday School in the
Educational Building
11:00am Morning Worship Service

Wednesday

7:00pm Youth/Adult Discipleship Meet in the Youth Room

Can't join us in person?

Check out the different ways to watch our services.

Facebook – Rankin Lake Baptist Church – LIVE at 11am

YouTube – Rankin Lake Baptist Church

Website – www.myrlbc.org

