

Churches Celebrate Easter in Various Ways

Easter, commemorating the day that Jesus arose from the grave, is probably the greatest holiday celebrated by Christian churches around the world. All Christian churches will certainly recognize and honor this day. We asked our East Central Baptist Churches how they were celebrating the holiday this year and here are some of ways Christ's resurrection is being celebrated:

New Day Baptist Church in Muncie will be having a Good Friday service, "Come to the Table," at



6:00 pm, where they will reenacted the last days of Jesus and his placement in the tomb. Then at 8 am on Sunday, a special Easter Service will take place where those

attending will see that the stone has been rolled away and the tomb is found empty; then they will rejoice that Christ is risen from the dead. Breakfast will be served immediately following sunrise service.

On Palm Sunday, The Cross, a church plant in Anderson, will have a dinner and Easter Egg Hunt after the Gospel is preached. On Easter Sunday, they will completely focus on the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Old Town Hill Baptist Church in Muncie will begin Easter Sunday with an outdoor Sunrise service at 7:15 a.m. following by a breakfast served in the fellowship hall. Following their 10:00



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Pastor Dale Trego building the stone that will be rolled away Easter Sunday.

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The East Central Baptist Association invites you to a Ladies' Retreat

Living With Purpose

Saturday: April 28th
10:00 am until 4:00 pm
Old Town Hill Baptist Church

3000 S. Burlington Dr. Muncie, IN 47302 765-284-6445

Join us to hear guest speaker & gospel recording artist, Cheri Taylor, as she shares thru song and personal testimony. You will enjoy a day of worship, breakout sessions, fellowship, lunch and lots of laughter with ladies from across Indiana.





Educational Matters

April is a busy month for special emphasis. Of course, April 1st is Easter, and all our churches are excited about this event. We will be celebrating with Easter Cantatas, Sunrise Services, and powerful messages geared to the death, burial, and resurrection of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Hopefully, all our ECBA churches will have wonderful testimonies of God's blessings during the Easter Season.

April 15th is the annual Baptist Doctrine Study, and as is often the case, each pastor and his leaders can decide on which doctrine would be best for their church family. With this approach the study can be geared toward a special need within the church family and, with some materials written about this doctrine, can prove very beneficial for the entire church family. If you and your leadership team would like suggestions regarding materials or if you would like some materials developed for your specific church family, contact the Education Coordinator.

April 22nd is the annual SBC Seminary Sunday and provides every Southern Baptist Convention church with an opportunity to get better acquainted with our post-collegiate institutions designed to train church staff personnel. Since a portion of your Cooperative Program dollar goes to fund our six seminaries, it is important to know what takes place on the six campuses we support. Again, if you would like information regarding this denominational emphasis, contact Ron Ross at (765) 748-6633 or by email at: oro062@att.net

Have a great April as we endeavor to know our Lord better with each passing day!

Dr. Ron Ross
ECBA Educational Coordinator

Church Health Provides Opportunities for ECBA Churches

By Mary Fullhart, Team Leader

Our Church Health Team met together to plan for the Semi-Annual Meeting at New Day - Alexandria. The team leaders who were present gave their plans for the year. All team leaders have been enlisted except for Youth Leader.

At our team meeting, Rev. Cedric Anderson, Discipleship/Sunday School Coordinator, shared his vision for "being the Church outside the box." He is able to teach this as a 3 day workshop for combined churches which will also require follow-up with individual churches to tailor it for their present situation. This is his focus for this year and everything will revolve around it.

At the Semi-Annual meeting, Tami Hubler, Prayer Coordinator, shared that the Prayer Team has a prayer ministry website, www.andwhenyoupray.org. They offered the online study of Anne Graham Lotz's, "The Daniel Prayer," in the fall and are planning for another one this summer. The website blog includes articles on prayer. Dr. Cecil Seagle and Bruce Reynolds each

wrote an articles specifically for this prayer ministry website. Tami encouraged everyone to use this site.

Brenda Brooks, Children's Ministry/VBS Coordinator, invited all ECBA church to attend the VBS on Saturday, May 5th, from 10:00 am to 12:00 noon at Redeemer Baptist Church in Anderson. The teachers for this program will attend the SCBI training on April 14th at Highland Lakes Baptist Camp then share the training with our ECBA churches. Free materials will be given away at the training. Brenda said, "Working together to help one another get ready for VBS helps us all in promoting the gospel of Christ."

Carol Mohler, assistant WMU/Women's Ministry Coordinator, passed out invitations for the ECBA Ladies Retreat. The theme is now "Living with Purpose." Mary Fullhart asked pastors to encourage the women of their churches to come and hear guest speaker and gospel recording artist, Cheri Taylor, as she shares through song and personal

testimony. The retreat will include worship, breakout sessions, and lunch on Saturday, April 28th, 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. The cost for each church is to just bring their favorite salad. ECBA will furnish drinks, tableware, crackers, etc. This is a great opportunity for fellowship with ladies from across East Central Indiana.



Old Town Hill Baptist Church Concludes Another Successful Year of Upward Sports

Old Town Hill Church had another successful Upward Sports season. The season was eight weeks long with practices every Tuesday and Thursday and games on Saturday. There were 118 participants between basketball players and cheerleaders. It takes 60 volunteers to make the Upward Sports season happen.

for 4th graders through 8th graders to volunteer at our food pantry twice. There were 20 athletes and cheerleaders who volunteered to help handout food at their pantry. The Sacrifice Project was for Longfellow Elementary School. The Upward Sports participants raised \$1,170 for Longfellow Elementary School to purchase a washer and dryer.

Their Upward Sports Celebration was held on Saturday; March 3rd. The evening was a nice way to wind down the busy season. They had an entertainer, awards were handed out, and the gospel message was shared. Many thanks to those who brought children and to those who volunteered in any way.

Their community service project was



Church Ministry Team Offers Help to Individuals and Groups

Evangelism Ministry

Sharon Armstrong, Evangelism Coordinator

The Evangelism Ministry will conduct a breakout session on Evangelism at the ECBA Women's Retreat on April 28th, at Old Town Hill Baptist Church. The Evangelism Ministry is anticipating that the Lord will bless this time of growth and learning in Him.

Churches within the Association who are interested in receiving Bible tracts or material for learning how to give the gospel can notify Evangelism Ministry Coordinator, Sharon Armstrong by text or voice at 765-729-2748. The ministry is available to teach individuals how to give the gospel in any of the churches within the Association. It is the desire of the Evangelism Ministry to be active in equipping the Saints this year giving the Gospel. If your church would like help in equipping brothers and sisters in Christ to share their faith; please let us know.

International Women's Ministry Report

Louise Welty, International Women's Ministry Coordinator

International Women's Ministry Meetings are held on Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon at the Scheidler Community Center in Muncie and we encourage any ECBA women to join us. Our last meeting will be on May 17 and will be a luncheon. We are asking the women to bring food that they fix in their country.

Educational Ministry Report

Dr. Ron Ross, Educational Ministry Coordinator

The Educational Ministry continues to electronically share monthly articles with our pastors to generate serious thought, personal growth, and material worth sharing with those they serve. Each pastor must realize they are an educator, a theologian, and a

living example of Christ-likeness to which their church family follows. The Education Coordinator wants each pastor to understand, he is here to serve them. He wants to be involved in a ministry to enhance their ministries. His years of study and service is available to everyone — simply give him a call at 765-748-6633.

Disaster Relief Ministry Report

Joe Fox, Disaster Relief Ministry Coordinator

The Disaster Relief team just completed tear-outs needed because of the heavy flooding in the Plymouth, IN area. Joe said, *"We have closed our Command Center in Plymouth, IN and are headed home. We were able to help just over one hundred*



HOMES in this area with FLOOD Recovery during a period from March 1 to March 21. Some homes took 2 days to

complete, some a day, and some just an hour or two. All had important needs that we were able to help with. 63 individual volunteers helped with this effort, adding up to 1216 total hours. Thank you to all who gave freely of your time and labor. Thank you also to all that support us through your tithes in our local churches. We love you all. It is a large group effort. THANK YOU!!!!!! PRAISE God for all he has given us!"

The team also continues to build wheelchair ramps in the East Central Indiana area. A little over 2 weeks ago, they built one in Albany and are scheduled to build another one in the Anderson area for a woman who is 94-year old Navy veteran.

Joe said, *"We can use additional volunteers. We can train you; the work is so rewarding. We not only need workers who can help with the physical work, we also need people who can help organize and who can share Christ with the homeowners. I especially encourage each of our pastors to come to at least one of our projects this year."*

Church Planting Report

Team Leader, Greg Haisley, reported that we are working prayerfully to support the Elwood church plant, sent out by Restoration Church in Noblesville. Church Planter, Zachary Houghton says they have had their first addition to their Thursday night Bible Study and are planning for Spring outreach events.

Integris Community Church is seeing some people return that have not been attending for a while, which is a tremendous encouragement. They have a new Outreach Leader and are looking forward to seeing what the Lord is going to do in upcoming opportunities. They are hosting a Women's Self-Defense Course on Saturdays, from noon-1:00 pm, beginning April 4th, for six weeks. This free course will be taught by Jacqueline Rymer, a black belt in karate.

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am Worship Service, they will host an Easter Egg Hunt for children ages 1-10.

Redeemer Baptist Church in Anderson will hold a Good Friday Service on March 30th beginning at 6:00 pm with a pitch-in meal, followed by a worship service. Sunday morning will start with a Sunrise Service at 7:00 am. Breakfast will be served following the service. The 10:45 am Worship Service will feature the Adult Choir presenting the Easter Musical, "It Happened on a Sunday."



East Central Baptist Association Profit and Loss Statement for January 2018

Income

4000 · Church Receipts

4060 · New Day	407.54
4120 · Halteman - Muncie	326.61
4140 · Kingston - Anderson	202.48
4160 · North Delaware - Muncie	182.61
4170 · Old Town Hill - Muncie	0.00
4180 · Redeemer - Anderson	2,154.64
4190 · First - Montpelier	100.00
4210 · Faith Christian Fellowship	240.00
4230 · Integris	108.12
4240 · Remedy City	151.31
4250 · Muncie Chinese Christian Fellow	86.30

Total 4000 · Church Receipts 3,959.61

Total Income

3,959.61

Expense

7000 · Administrative Ministry

7010 · Other Expense	74.04
7090 · Payroll	697.69

Total 7000 · Administrative Ministry 771.73

7300 · Associational Ministry 180.28

Total Expense

952.01

Net Income

3,007.60

East Central Baptist Association Balance Report for February 2017

	<u>Feb 18</u>	<u>Jan 18</u>	<u>\$ Change</u>
1000 · ONB			
1010 · General Budget	39,583.39	36,805.79	2,777.60
1011 · Discretionary Admin Team	9,233.69	9,233.69	0.00
1015 · BCM Rent Deposit	0.00	0.00	0.00
1016 · BCM Capital Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00
1025 · Mission Building Capital Fund	4,367.93	4,137.93	230.00
1035 · Church P&H Fund	6,297.89	6,297.89	0.00
1040 · OMC	1,307.84	1,307.84	0.00
1051 · ECBA Endowment	0.00	0.00	0.00
1055 · Funds Temporarily Restricted	2,599.78	2,599.78	0.00
1000 · ONB - Other	-0.99	-0.99	0.00
Total 1000 · ONB	<u>63,389.53</u>	<u>60,381.93</u>	<u>3,007.60</u>
1100 · Indiana Baptist Foundation			
1110 · ECBA Endowment	9,866.01	9,866.01	0.00
1111 · Church P&H ROI	1,132.40	1,132.40	0.00
1120 · Church P&H Fund	17,978.09	17,978.09	0.00
1125 · BCMH Temp Restricted	<u>146,996.00</u>	<u>146,996.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Total 1100 · Indiana Baptist Foundation	<u>175,972.50</u>	<u>175,972.50</u>	<u>0.00</u>
TOTAL	<u>239,362.03</u>	<u>236,354.43</u>	<u>3,007.60</u>

Upcoming Events

April 5—10:00 a.m. Leader Lab and Pastors Luncheon at Faith Christian Fellowship, 2515 Crystal Street, Anderson IN 46012

April 6-7—8:30 a.m. Friday—2:00 p.m. Saturday. Transformed Women's Retreat, Northside Baptist Church, 3021 E. 71st Street, Indianapolis, IN 46220

SBC Emphasis for April

April 8—Cooperative Program Sunday

April 15—Baptist Doctrine Study

April 22—SBC Seminaries Sunday



Please pray for our pastors and their wives on these special occasions.

Birthdays

None

Church Anniversaries

April 26—Jeremy Cowin—3 years as pastor at First Baptist Church—Montpelier

April 27—Chris Hubler—5 years as pastor at New Day—Pendleton



Get your game on at the ECBA **Vacation Bible School and Backyard Bible Club Training** on **Saturday, May 5th**, from **10:00 am to 12:00 noon** at Redeemer Baptist Church, 3230 Lindberg Road, Anderson IN. For more information contact Brenda Brooks at brendabrooks1107@gmail.com or call 765-393-1458.

EAST CENTRAL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

c/o Pat Storm

8900 W County Road 950 N

Middletown IN47356

Phone: 765-289-6592

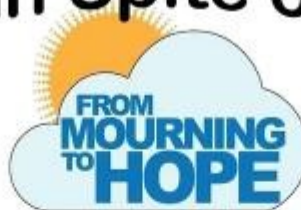
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www.theecba.org

Follow us



Hope in Spite of Grief



The loss of a loved one hurts forever. We learn to walk together towards our new normal. Anyone experiencing grief due to the loss of a loved one may attend our grief ministry meetings.

**Old Town Hill Baptist Church
3000 S. Burlington Drive
Muncie, IN 47302
765-284-6445**

Starting Monday; March 12 at 6:00 pm
We will meet each Monday for eight weeks
and you may attend as often as you are able.
There is no charge to attend.