

# THE Challenger

The Monthly Voice of Central Baptist Church | March 2019

## Pursue J.O.Y.

by Rev. Stephen Byrd, Lead Pastor

As many of you know, it has been a difficult year for me as a football fan. While many have extended compassion and kindness to me in my despondency, some have expressed that all Saints fans, myself included, just need to move on. I think the exact quote I have heard on more than one occasion is ... “Get over it!” Please know — they’re right and I’m trying. A few more times of telling myself “It’s just a game. It’s just a game” ... and I think I will get there.

But not all was lost this year. Every once in a while something happens, even in something like a silly football game, that really matters. Something takes place that makes people sit up and listen. Such was the case several weeks ago at the college national championship game [And no — I’m not talking about the fact that Clemson beat Alabama. Sorry Tide Fans]. It was actually following the game, when Dabo Swinney, the head coach for the Clemson Tigers was being interviewed. In the middle of being asked how to describe the joy of the moment following the win — Swinney said this and I quote:

**“Joy comes from focusing on Jesus, first, Others, second, and then Yourself.” ... J - O - Y**

How awesome is that? It puts everything in perspective, doesn’t it? He wasn’t done. He also said this:

**“Every year I choose a word that God puts on my heart to help me have a specific focus. This year my word is joy. I have been blessed to have many mountaintop experiences in life and each year we strive to reach another but what I have learned is that we are not made for the mountain-**

**tops. We are made for the climb, the journey, the grind, the relationships along the way, the struggles. Those mountaintop experiences are great but life is about having joy in the journey. Finding joy and purpose in our day to day activities is what it’s all about. Just having joy in the moment . . . [and that comes from having Jesus inside you].”**

Of course, Swinney was right. Here is a man sitting on top of the world. He just achieved the pinnacle of success in his profession on one of the biggest stages in all the world and he has wisdom to understand that true joy is not based

on whether you win or lose some game. As a matter of fact, it’s not found in our circumstance at all. True joy is found in Jesus first, helping others second, and then it will filter down to you.

When I heard him say it — it took me back to what Paul said in Philippians 4. In fact, what Swinney said was just a summation of Paul’s encouragement 2000 years before:

**“Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.”**

So how about you? Where do you find your joy? Pursue Christ. Love others. And watch joy follow.

by Dr. Bob Dilks,  
Associate Pastor, Member Care

## Come Lord... and Do a New Thing!

In the last Sunday worship service in February our church joyfully facilitated a baptism opportunity for those individuals who had already clearly professed Jesus as their Savior; yet, who had never been baptized. It was a thrill to see several adults in one service obey the Lord's command in experiencing "Believer's Baptism."

That service was a powerful, visual, reminder of the Lord's promise found in II Peter 3:9, "*The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise...He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.*"

David wrote of the Lord in Psalm 40:3, "*He put a NEW song in my mouth. A song of praise to our God. Many will see and fear and put their trust in the Lord.*" Of course that meaning of the word "fear" is a holy, healthy respect; an awe of the power and purpose of the Lord—that the Lord wants to extend love and grace by offering salvation to any and all who will receive it.

The Lord said in Isaiah 43:19, "*Behold, I am doing a NEW thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?*"

Let us not be satisfied with an occasional viewing of believer's baptism! Lord, convict us that coming to faith through receiving your salvation—your GRACE, has always been YOUR passion for us! You have not changed! We are the ones who need to position ourselves as Kingdom workers to bring others to Jesus for him to do HIS work of salvation in their lives.

Let us be driven by the truth in Lamentations 3:22-26, "*The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are NEW every morning, great is your faithfulness. 'The Lord is my portion,' says my soul, 'therefore I will hope in him.' The Lord is good to those who wait for him, to the soul who seeks him.*"

Let us position ourselves to see a NEW work ONLY the Lord can do. Pray, verbally witness AGAIN, and give opportunity for a decision. Bring those individuals to hear the preaching of the Good News of Grace found in Jesus! ■



**Mother Daughter Tea**

March 17  
3:00 pm  
Family Life Center

For all young ladies (birth-6th grade) and their Moms — or "Adopted" Moms!

To sign up, please email [connie@centralwr.com](mailto:connie@centralwr.com) or call the Church Office at 953-9319.

**PAR2**  
PRESENTED BY PRODIGY DISC

18 HOLE PAR2 COURSE SET UP AT  
CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH IN WARNER ROBINS, GA

**SATURDAY, MARCH 16 | FLEX START: 10a-3p**

INFORMATION: Marty Hollingshead  
[marty@centralwr.com](mailto:marty@centralwr.com) or 478-953-9319

Sign up at [www.discgolfscene.com/CentralBaptistPAR2](http://www.discgolfscene.com/CentralBaptistPAR2)

**Prison Ministry Weekend**

**March 21-23**  
**Pulaski State Prison**

We need home baked cookies and 2-Liter Bottles of Pepsi, Mountain Dew, and Coke.

**DUE: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20 in Conference Room**

**What Matters Most** Ladies Spring Dinner

Thursday, April 4 | 6:30 pm  
Family Life Center

Featuring:  
**Karen Ehman**  
Proverbs 31 Ministries

**Tickets \$20**  
ON SALE SUNDAYS in the Lobby!  
Childcare is not provided.

**Vitamins for HONDURAS**

Boxes for donations located outside the Worship Center

# March 2019

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
					D NOW WEEKEND	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4:00-6:00 pm DivorceCare &amp; DC4K</li> <li>4:00-6:00 pm GriefShare</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1:30 pm Helping Hands</li> <li>6:00 pm Upward Soccer Coaches Mtg</li> <li>6:30 pm Prayer Ministry</li> <li>7:00-8:30 pm Camping &amp; Backpacking Class Begins (3rd Floor)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:00 am -12:00 pm Int'l English School</li> <li>7:00 pm JoyBells</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:00 am -12:00 pm Int'l Bible Study</li> <li>4:45-8:30 pm Mid-Week at Central</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:00 am - 12:00 pm Int'l Reading Class</li> <li>9:15-11:45 am Ladies Bible Study</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4:30 pm Camping &amp; Backpacking Class Campout (Pavilion)</li> <li>5:30-8:30 pm Adult &amp; Youth Volleyball (Gym)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>12:00 pm Camping &amp; Backpacking Class Campout Concludes</li> </ul>
WEEK OF PRAYER FOR NORTH AMERICAN MISSIONS						
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4:00-6:00 pm DivorceCare &amp; DC4K</li> <li>4:00-6:00 pm GriefShare</li> <li>4:30 pm Deacons Mtg</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5:00-7:30 pm Upward Soccer Practice</li> <li>6:30 pm Prayer Ministry</li> <li>7:00-8:30 pm Camping &amp; Backpacking Class</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:00 am -12:00 pm Int'l English School</li> <li>5:00-7:30 pm Upward Soccer Practice</li> <li>7:00 pm JoyBells</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:00 am -12:00 pm Int'l Bible Study</li> <li>4:45-8:30 pm Mid-Week at Central /Church Conference</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:00 am - 12:00 pm Int'l Reading Class</li> <li>9:15-11:45 am Ladies Bible Study</li> <li>10:00 am Women on Mission</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5:30-8:30 pm Adult &amp; Youth Volleyball (Gym)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:00 am - 5:00 pm Par 2 Disc Golf Event</li> </ul>
WK OF PRAYER					RA CAMPOREE	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3:00 pm Mother/Daughter Tea</li> <li>4:00-6:00 pm DivorceCare &amp; DC4K</li> <li>4:00-6:00 pm GriefShare</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5:00-7:30 pm Upward Soccer Practice</li> <li>6:30 pm Prayer Ministry</li> <li>7:00-8:30 pm Camping &amp; Backpacking Class</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:00 am -12:00 pm Int'l English School</li> <li>5:00-7:30 pm Upward Soccer Practice</li> <li>7:00 pm JoyBells</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:00 am -12:00 pm Int'l Bible Study</li> <li>4:45-8:30 pm Mid-Week at Central</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:00 am - 12:00 pm Int'l Reading Class</li> <li>9:15-11:45 am Ladies Bible Study</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5:30-8:30 pm Adult &amp; Youth Volleyball (Gym)</li> </ul>	
RA CAMPOREE						
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4:00-6:00 pm DivorceCare/DC4K</li> <li>4:00-6:00 pm GriefShare</li> <li>4:00 pm Holy Land Trip Meeting (FLC)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6:30 pm Prayer Ministry</li> <li>- NO Camping &amp; Backpacking Class</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- NO Int'l English School</li> <li>- NO JoyBells</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- NO Int'l Bible Study</li> <li>- NO WEDNESDAY ACTIVITIES</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- NO Int'l Reading Class</li> <li>- NO Ladies Bible Study</li> <li>11:00 am Central 5-0</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5:30-8:30 pm Adult &amp; Youth Volleyball (Gym)</li> </ul>	
31	MERCER SOCCER CAMP					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4:00-6:00 pm DivorceCare/DC4K</li> <li>4:00-6:00 pm GriefShare</li> </ul>	SCHOOL SPRING BREAK					

- Regular Activities**
- SUNDAY ACTIVITIES**
- 9:00 am.....Sunday School / Life Groups Worship
  - 10:30 am .....Sunday School / Life Groups Worship
  - 4:00-6:00 pm ..DivorceCare & DC4K Grief Share
- WEDNESDAY ACTIVITIES**
- 4:45-6:00 pm ..Fellowship Meal
  - 5:30 pm .....Prayer Time
  - 6:00 pm .....M&Ms
  - 6:15 pm .....Tethered (Students) Mid-Week Worship Bible Study Classes
  - 7:15 pm .....Choir & Orchestra Rehearsal

## Welcome to the Family!

**Profession of Faith:**

- 2.) Shauna Brown
- 3.) Jeffery Cantrell
- 4.) Kerry Cantrell

**Baptized:**

- 4.) Steven Marquis
- 5.) Shauna Brown
- 6.) Jeffery Cantrell
- 7.) Kerry Cantrell
- 8.) Josh Raffield
- 9.) Tyler Simpson

**By Letter:**

- 9.) Shari Wallander
- 10.) JoAnn Otto

**Statement:**

- 5.) Jonathan Brown
- 6.) Richia Spencer
- 7.) Michelle Raffield



**SENDING HOPE**

**Week of Prayer: March 3-10**

**100%**  
of your gifts to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering\* supports North American missionaries.

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**CENTRAL**  
BAPTIST CHURCH  
1120 Lake Joy Road  
Warner Robins, GA 31088



**VBS 2019**

**IN THE WILD**

AMAZING ENCOUNTERS WITH JESUS  
MARCH 2019

**June 24-28**  
**9a-12:00p**

**REGISTRATION OPENS 3/17!**

To volunteer,  
email Katie:  
[katie@centralwv.com](mailto:katie@centralwv.com)

Preschool Family  
**Easter**

LUNCH & EGG HUNT

**APRIL 14 at 12:00 pm**  
Lunch in the Gym  
Egg Hunt Following Outside

**FAMILY FUN FOR EVERYONE!**

**NEW IN 2019!**  
**For All Kids Completing Grades K5-8!**

**Best Week Ever!**

**WinShape Camps**

**Winshape Warner Robins**

**CAMP DATES:**  
June 10-14, 2019 / Green Acres Baptist  
July 8-12, 2019 / Central Baptist

**Camper Registration: \$219**

+ 10% Sibling Discount

**REGISTER NOW!**

1-844-WS-CAMPS  
[WINSHAPCAMPS.ORG](http://WINSHAPCAMPS.ORG)