

NEWSLETTER



ISSUE
16

April 5, 2026



On April 6th, the lilies will have begun to wilt, the "Sunday best" will have been returned to the closet, and the echoes of "He is Risen Indeed" will have started to fade into the noise of a busy spring. I often wonder if we treat Easter like a finish line when, in reality, it was the starting block. As a student of history, I see every day how the foundations of our society are tested—but as a believer, I know that our foundation is an empty tomb! This month, let's look at how we can take that "Easter Energy" and transform it into a "Legacy of Faith."

In **Luke 24**, we find two disciples on a journey away from Jerusalem, initially unaware of the reality of the Resurrection. During their walk, Jesus joined them. We commonly refer to them as the "Emmaus disciples," and while

we know very little about their personal backgrounds, we can learn a great deal from their exchange with the Lord.

First, it is essential that we continue to spend time with Jesus after the celebration ends. The Emmaus disciples walked along the road, conversing with the Risen Savior. This is a profound example for us: we must continue to "walk and talk" with Jesus long after we celebrate His victory over sin and death. We do this by remaining steadfast in His Word and intentional in our prayer lives.

Second, Luke 24 highlights the importance of telling others. In verses 33–35, we learn that as soon as Jesus departed, the disciples immediately turned around. They took that seven-mile journey back to Jerusalem

to find the Eleven and exclaim that Jesus was alive, sharing exactly what had happened during their encounter. When we have truly encountered the Risen Savior, we should be compelled to share Him with our family and friends.

A Call to Establish a Legacy of Faith:

I challenge you to pick one night a week this April to set aside the homework, the news, and social media to simply read a chapter of the Bible with those closest to you. Put the example of the Emmaus disciples into practice: spend time with Jesus and share Him with others. By doing so, we ensure the Resurrection isn't just a memory of a Sunday service, but a lasting impact that changes our homes and our history.

Pastor Doug

Soteriology-Are We Open to Being Wrong?

By Denise Willock



Isaiah Zoschke led the church training Sunday, March 1st, at 5:00, on the, often controversial, subject of Soteriology. The doctrinal study of Salvation: How to be in relationship with God, with a focus on the Calvinism versus Arminianism Debate. After giving us the five points of each Camp, Isaiah gave us a middle ground to consider: Just being a Biblicist. Let's just believe what the Lord says and what the whole Bible presents, rather than picking through the Bible trying to prove either Calvinism, or Arminianism. He pointed out the dangers of pride that can arise in this denominational dividing point; Are we willing and open to being wrong? Isaiah presented very convincing considerations to

undermine points on both sides of the issue, and to give pause to dogmatic assertions. I found it both challenging and refreshing coming from a background of Arminianism, to hear such an open discussion in a Southern Baptist Church. I like to believe that I have had an open mind in the last eight or so years attending Baptist churches. I wonder how much unity the Universal Church of Jesus Christ could enjoy with this kind of humility. Thank you, Isaiah for this presentation that you obviously studied well for, and Doug for your commitment to Scripture over tradition!

Helping HANDS

Isaiah Zoschke

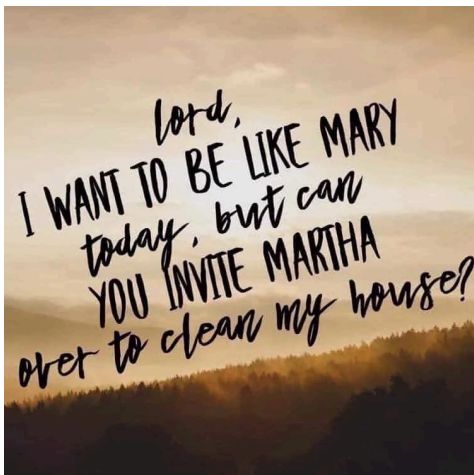
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Dear Miss Verity,

I don't mean to be disrespectful as we approach Easter, but honestly, why should I believe in the resurrection? It seems like folklore to me. Is there any proof?

Susan



Hello Susan,

I appreciate your question. Many have asked it before. Let's consider the evidence from an objective point of view and then you can judge what is true:

- We have recorded eyewitness testimony from His followers
- He was seen by more than 500 people after His resurrection
- Many of these eyewitnesses suffered torture and death rather than repudiate their testimony. Who would die for a lie if they were given the option to live if they confessed their lie?
- The historical record in the Book of Acts and Pliny's Letters to Trajan attest to the fact these followers of Jesus were convinced without a shadow of doubt Jesus had risen from the dead
- Consider the transformation that occurred in the lives of Jesus' followers. They went from fearful to bold after spending 40 days with the resurrected Jesus.
- Consider the Apostle Paul. He went from a hater and persecutor of the Christians to a man on mission telling everyone that Jesus was alive after his encounter with the resurrected Jesus. It cost him his life.
- Jerusalem was a small city under Roman occupation. It would have been impossible for Jesus' disciples to pull off a hoax that Jesus resurrected. If it was all a lie, someone would have cracked and confessed. Everyone knew everyone.
- Followers of Jesus were covered in animal skins and were torn apart by dogs. They were nailed to crosses and used as torches in Nero's gardens burned alive. No one would endure that grotesque of a torture if they were lying about the resurrection.
- Consider the first eyewitnesses. They were women. Why does that attest to the veracity of the resurrection? Because in that day and time women were severely disesteemed. They were not permitted to testify in a court of law. They were the lowest rung on the social ladder. If the resurrection were a hoax no one would have planned to have women as the first eyewitnesses. They would have found a highly respected man to carry off the deception.

A famous defense attorney, Sir Lionel Luckhoo, who had won 245 consecutive murder trial acquittals had this to say about the resurrection of Jesus: "I have spent more than 42 years as a defense trial lawyer appearing in many parts of the world and am still in active practice. I have been fortunate to secure a number of successes in jury trials, and I say unequivocally the evidence for the Resurrection of Jesus Christ is so overwhelming that it compels acceptance by proof which leaves absolutely no room for doubt."

There are many other objective proofs of the resurrection, Susan, that space does now allow. For further study go to <https://www.gotquestions.org/why-believe-resurrection.html>. My hope is you will place your faith in Jesus. He is the only way to God.

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

Resurrection & The Life

Meaning: Jesus is Life

Application: Christ is Life itself. Death could not hold him, nor can it hold any who are in him.

Bible Reference: John 11:25

"Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me, even if he dies, will live."

Related Titles: Living One (Revelation 1:18)



Meet the Congregation


Angel Lledo

Interviewed by Rick Word



Angel was raised in the Philippines and is the youngest of six kids. Angel works very hard to stay in shape and goes to the health club regularly. Angel has a servant's heart and has been seen setting up tables and chairs, and is seen at many church events while serving on the Safety team, and serving wherever and whenever needed. Angel became a Christian during college, and without a doubt he loves the Lord a lot. He is very polite, and is famous for his big smile; He is a ray of sunshine to our church. His secret to a joy filled life is Philippians 4:11, "For I have learned in whatever state I am to be content."


More of his favorite scriptures are Jeremiah 29:11, "For I know the plans that I have for you, says the Lord, plans for peace and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope," and Colossians 3:13, "Bear with one another and forgive one another. If anyone has a quarrel against anyone, even as Christ forgave you, so you must do."



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JOHN: THE BELOVED DISCIPLE

by Laura Lisle



ACROSS

- 1 In ___ (together)
- 5 Oregon time zone
- 8 He walked with God (Gen. 6:9)
- 12 Char
- 13 Partly frozen rain
- 15 Ms. Aragon or Cleves (var.)
- 16 Restrain
- 17 Egg's fate (Isa. 34:15)
- 18 Idol
- 19 "Let us ___ together" (Isa. 1:18)
- 21 Trinity's home (1 John 5:7)
- 23 Wave offering (Lev. 23:12)
- 25 Jordan River to Jerusalem (dir.)
- 26 Last Supper room (Luke 22:12)
- 29 Hunted animal (Prov. 5:5)
- 31 Suffix meaning material-forming
- 35 Shred (2 wds.)
- 37 Sphere
- 39 Family-oriented health ctr.
- 40 Mad at John and James (Matt. 20:24)
- 41 Chewy candy
- 44 Disciples urged Jesus to do this (John 4:31)
- 45 Nighttime (John 6:16)
- 47 The Lord delivered David from this (1 Sam. 17:37)
- 48 Teeter
- 50 Tree product
- 52 MGM mascot
- 54 A pillar of cloud ___ the way (Ex. 13:21)
- 55 John doesn't write with this (3 John 1:13)
- 57 Cooking style in Luke 24:42
- 59 Type of sewer system
- 62 Mitherratical conclusions
- 65 Crown of glory will not (1 Peter 5:4)
- 66 Woodworker's tool
- 68 Stringed instrument (Fmos 6:5)
- 70 "Will of God abide for ___" (1 John 2:17)
- 71 He will restore all things (Matt. 17:11)
- 72 Gospel singer Franklin
- 73 Beastly homes (Job 37:8)
- 74 "I write unto you, young ___" (1 John 2:13)
- 75 "He that was ___ came forth" (John 11:44)

DOWN

- 1 Super speedy transport (abbr.)
- 2 "Proclaim the acceptable ___ of the Lord" (Isa. 61:2)
- 3 "How excellent is thy ___" (Ps. 8:1)
- 4 Folder
- 5 Two-dimensional
- 6 "For the joy that was ___ before him" (Heb. 12:2)
- 7 Virginia ___ University
- 8 Innocently
- 9 "Appointed unto men ___ to die" (Heb. 9:27)
- 10 Immediately, as in Matt. 13:20
- 11 "As a ___ gathereth her chickens" (Matt. 23:37)
- 13 Removed this in holy place (Josh. 5:15)
- 14 "Neither do I condemn ___" (John 8:11)
- 18 Express indifference
- 22 Poisonous snake (Rom. 3:13)
- 24 Ecological food chain (2 wds.)
- 26 Speak (Lev. 5:1)
- 27 Annoyance
- 28 Enclosed sections of windows
- 30 Sin, as in Ps. 95:10
- 32 One-celled water creature
- 33 Hot liquid burn
- 34 Spouses
- 36 Baby dog
- 38 Covenant sign (Gen. 9:13)
- 42 Last O.T. book (abbr.)
- 43 Silk's vaccine
- 46 Pliers
- 49 "___, let us love one another" (1 John 4:7)
- 51 Fish holder (John 21:11)
- 53 Kin to fatherless (Lam. 5:3) (sing.)
- 56 Pharaoh's river
- 58 Mined metals
- 59 Jesus came "to ___ the world" (John 12:47)
- 60 Nod is east of (Gen. 4:16)
- 61 Sea after rebuke (Luke 8:24)
- 63 "It rained ___ and brimstone" (Luke 17:29)
- 64 Body
- 65 Nourished
- 67 "___ them about thy neck" (Prov. 6:21)
- 69 One with loaves and fishes (John 6:9)

Missionary Prayer Guide



Meet
Riley Sowell
Tulsa, Olivet; Tulsa, Memorial

Serving at Tulsa Community College
Send a prayer or word of encouragement to:
rsowell@oklahomabaptists.org

As the BCM Director at Tulsa Community College (TCC), Riley ministers to college students through evangelism, discipleship, leadership development, missions, church partnership, campus relationships, and recruitment. The mission of TCC BCM is to give students a chance to consider Jesus, and equip them to follow Him through all of life.

How to Pray:

Pray that the Lord of the harvest would send laborers in His harvest. Pray that the Lord would call students to Himself to become fishers of men. Pray that the Lord would use Riley, his family, and those involved with the TCC BCM to make disciples of all nations.

"Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving." Colossians 2:6-7 (ESV)

In the Presence of My Enemies by Joan Word



Psalm 23: 5-6 (5) "You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies, You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. (6) Surely goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever." NIV

"In the presence of my enemies" the Lord honors me with a banquet. He does not hide His relationship with me. He invites me to His house, to His table to share a meal. By doing this, He acknowledges our friendship. As a good host, He vows to protect me, at all costs, against anyone who comes against me. Let my enemies do or say what they want about me, I am protected by my host.

The Lord also honors me by anointing my head with fragrant oil. Now, I can't imagine that happening in today's world! But, in ancient times it was a custom, an act of kindness and respect. And because it is the Lord who is doing the anointing, He has blessed me with His favor, His love and His promise to dwell with Him forever.

To sum this all up, I will use a quote from the NIV commentary, "God, the perfect shepherd and host, promises to guide and protect us through life to bring us into His house forever." There is no greater blessing than to be with our heavenly Father...forever!!! May we be faithful to Him in all we do.

Meet the Congregation

America Brown

Interviewed by Treva Hill



America was born in Puerto Rico, and raised Catholic. She has one son and two daughters. Her late husband was a motorcycle enthusiast who unfortunately had a horrific accident and experienced brain damage. After this, she took her children and moved to Miami, Florida. She has an AA degree and the nuns at the catholic school offered her a first-grade teaching position where she taught Spanish to students.

America had lived in Senior Living for 18 years here in OKC, but her children decided to move her into a small, brand-new house in Bison Creek Community, not far from the church. Her daughter pointed out our church to her, and she has been attending Surrey Hills Baptist for about three months or so. She misses her senior community, but appreciates the welcoming new friends she has made here at Surrey Hills. She is involved in Sunday School and Bible Study. America is ready for new friends and a new season.

Her two enemies have been fear and anxiety that she fights with God's Word. Her favorite verse in John 1:1 "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." She also loves Psalm 103 which tells her the five things God does for her: Forgives all her sins; Heals all her diseases; who redeemed her life from the pit; who crowns her with lovingkindness and tender mercies; and satisfies her with good things!



PUZZLE 44

Ministry Focus:

SHBC Prison Ministry

Our Prison Ministry is another example of the many various and diverse ministries of Surrey Hills Baptist Church. The fourth Thursday of every month our volunteers, Jesse Blouin and Mark Petty, meet at 4:30 pm to head to the John H. Lilley Correctional Center Prison Chapel, where a church service is held for the inmates. Jesse preaches the Word, and Christian inmates lead music. The inmates have four rotating worship bands to accompany the music. The altar is available and is used throughout the service for prayer by the inmates attending. Mark leads an Addiction Bible Study at the same time. Other needs that our church has provided for the inmates include clothes, funds, and prayer. If you are interested in joining in this ministry endeavor, an In-Person Training is held on Saturdays at 1:00. Please contact Jesse, at (405)313-9248 or, Mark Petty, at (405)439-7400, to express your interest or encouragement.



Meet Eunice.

As a kid, she had to drop out of school to help her mother work in the local market.

She was surrounded by food but rarely had the money to buy any.



Then her life changed when she was enrolled in the Compassion program at her local church.



"God took me from a place of hopelessness to a place of worth."
- Eunice



COMPASSION *sunday*

Come hear her full story.

Compassion Sunday is April 26, 2026

We hope to see you there!

Surrey Hills Baptist Church History

November 3, 2008-2026

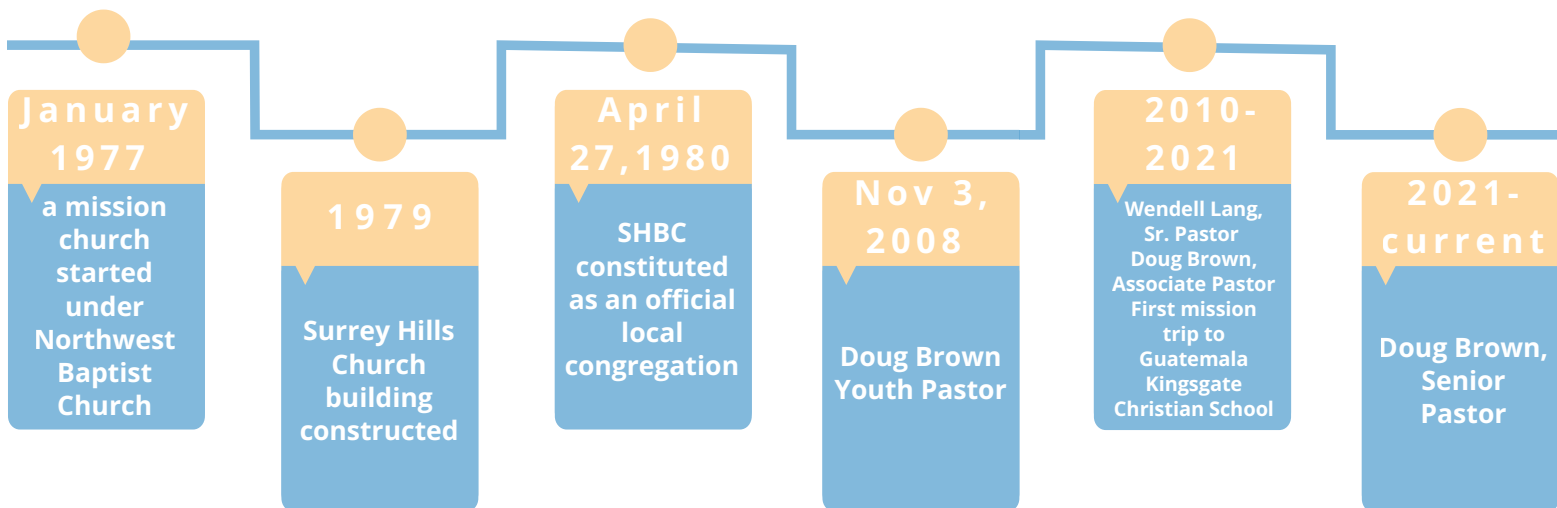


Gale Moser remembers her first Sunday at Surrey Hills as it was the first Sunday Doug Brown and his family attended as the new incoming Youth Pastor. Doug served in this capacity for a few years until Pastor Wendell Lang came to Surrey Hills and brought him into the Associate Pastor position during his tenure here at Surrey.

During Pastor Lang's ministry the partnership with Kings Gate Christian School was embarked upon. This also resulted in a major church building program for the Next Generation Building. Gale believes many good things have come from this partnership. Our yearly mission's trip to Guatemala was also a ministry begun during Pastor Lang's years here at Surrey Hills. It started out with just a couple of people going, but has grown to the 17-18 people who traveled to Guatemala last year.

When Pastor Lang retired in 2021, the Associate Pastor, Doug Brown became our Senior Pastor. Gale feels Pastor Doug has a real heart for the church and its people which is a great gift to the church. Under Doug's leadership she has also seen tremendous mission mindedness growth. She feels this is just a part of the very diversified ministry of Surrey Hills Baptist.

The congregation's faces have changed over the years, but Gale has seen the Lord send the right people at the right time to fulfill the ministry of God's church in this location, Surrey Hills Baptist.



Fear Not

John 16:33 - 'I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.'