

## A Special Day

Today is Easter and, throughout the “Christian” world, churches are going all out to celebrate the resurrection of Christ. There will be special services, dramatic or musical presentations, and re-enactments of the resurrection. In the midst of all that excitement, it might seem strange to some that we are not doing anything “special” to commemorate this special day. Do we not believe in the resurrection? Do we not understand or appreciate its value? Are we not thankful for Christ and all that He has done to make our salvation possible? The answer to all of these questions is a resounding and emphatic “YES!” There are no events in the history of humanity that are more important or that have had a greater effect on mankind than the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Are those events worth remembering and commemorating? Absolutely! And we will do that this morning as we do on each and every Lord’s day morning according to Jesus’ instructions. We will honor the Lord’s sacrifice according to His will. We will remember His body and His blood in the partaking of the unleavened bread and fruit of the vine. We will express our love and thanksgiving for His selfless sacrifice. We will renew our commitment to honor Him through our lives and faithfulness. Today, and every Lord’s Day, we celebrate Christ and give our thanks and praise to God for His wonderful grace and love.

Several years ago, I received a phone call from a local newspaper reporter who was preparing a column highlighting special Easter services and activities that area churches were planning. She asked if we were doing anything special on Easter Sunday that year. Without much thought, I simply responded that we were not doing anything special, just our normal services. As I ended that call I was immediately aware that I had answered her question incorrectly. While we were not having some special event celebrating the Easter holiday, we were doing something very special on that Sunday. We were gathering together as a family of God’s people into His presence to offer Him the sacrifice of our heartfelt praise and worship. Through our singing, prayer, time spent in God’s word, and giving, we were going to express our love for God even as we were being strengthened in our faith. As we take time to commemorate our Lord’s death through the Lord’s Supper, we participate in the memorial that Christ, Himself, established for us to keep in His memory. You see, the fact of the matter is that today is a very special day, not because it is Easter but because it is the Lord’s Day. Every Lord’s Day is special because of the things that we get to be involved in together, so rejoice and thank God for another opportunity to give Him worship and praise!

*Rusty*

## To Our Guests

We are so pleased and honored that you have chosen to visit with us today! Chase Park is a wonderful Christian family, devoted to serving God through our lives and work. We are excited to share our love for Christ with others and we are thankful to have the opportunity to meet you and to have you join us for worship.

As we worship together today, our desire is to worship God according to the New Testament pattern and in a way that is pleasing and acceptable to Him. It is also our prayer that our time together is uplifting to those who are here including you, our guest. If you have any questions about anything that you see or hear today, please ask us. We would love to speak with you about those things and help you in any way that we can.



### Chase Park Church of Christ

#### Ministers

Rusty Hills ..... Pulpit  
Nathan Adams..... Outreach  
John Denney ..... Education  
Andrew Lamica..... Youth Minister

#### Elders

John Denney  
Curtis Hill  
Sam Kachelman  
Dennis Lawson  
Greg Parker  
Barry Todd

#### Missionaries

Jaime Mendoza .... Chalco, Mexico  
Liborio Encarnacion. Ecatepec, Mexico  
Slava Savkovsky ..... Ukraine  
Barton Kizer..... Peru  
Dewayne Tapscott..... Southwest

## Lamifications—*Andrew Lamica*

Today is a day in which a large portion of the world around us is thinking about the resurrection of Christ and the blessings attached to that amazing truth. The biblical record states that Jesus, after His crucifixion and death rose from the grave after three days, just as had been prophesied.

The resurrection of Christ is certainly something to be remembered. After all, it is through that resurrection that Jesus showed His power over death and gave hope to all of humanity. As Christians, we have the great blessing of remembering the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ, not just on one day of the year but every day of our lives. Additionally, we are able to see an approved example to set aside time each first day of the week to remember the death, burial, and

resurrection of the Lord. Jesus set aside this special time for Christians on the night He was to be betrayed. We can read about this in Matthew 26:26-29. It is here that Jesus instituted what we know as the Lord's Supper.

After the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus, we read of the church continuing in the commands of Christ which included coming together on the first day of the week and remembering the Lord's death by way of partaking of the Lord's supper (1 Corinthians 11:23-29).

The time we set aside each first day of the week to reflect on the extraordinary gift of the Son of God is a special time for Christians indeed. It is a time where we slow down from the world, clear our minds, and put the most important thing in its rightful place, the

forefront of our mind.

What a blessing it is to know that we serve a God who was willing to send His only Son to be the propitiation for the sins I have committed. If the tomb of the Lord was not empty when Mary Magdalene, Mary, the mother of James, and Salome went to it, we would be living in a world without hope. We would be a people still in their sins with no opportunity for redemption. Thanks be to God that what Paul wrote in 1 Corinthians 15:20-21 remains true today, "*But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead.*" To God be the glory that He holds the power over death!

## Deep Faith In A Shallow World—Daniel 6—*Nathan Adams*

In Daniel 6 (read) we see clear persecution against a person's deep faith. Daniel's deep faith was attacked by the law that his enemies created specifically to hurt Daniel. Daniel is more than 80 years old and still making a powerful difference for God. His whole life has been one of expressed faith in a land of faithlessness. For us, like many Christians in history, there may come a day when the world will call for the lions against us. What do we do? Daniel shows us what to do when we are threatened because of our faith.

**1) Keep on Being What You've Been.** Verses 3-4 tells us that Daniel's actions had "distinguished" him among the other leaders and that there was "no ground of accusation or evidence of corruption." Daniel was consistent in his faith. A person cannot start having faith the day the lions are called and expect to hold up. Our faith must be the core of who we are every day.

**2) Keep on Doing What You've Done.** Daniel's daily existence was wrapped up in his faith. He stopped everything three times a day to pray to God. Too many today have such shallow faith that God is at the bottom of their day planner. Maybe they will pray or read the Bible if they have a few minutes after doing everything they want to do in a day. Not Daniel, everything was worked around God and Daniel's fellowship with Him in prayer. When your life is like this and they call for lions, what do you do? Keep on doing what you have been doing for God. Deep faith must be consistently practiced in order to be strong enough to endure when the world calls for the lions.

**3) Keep on Trusting Whom You've Trusted.** Daniel and his friends have already shown who they trust—no matter the circumstance or consequence. Even King Darius recognized this trust in Daniel when he stated, "*Your God whom you constantly serve will Himself deliver*

*you*" (v. 16,20). This level of trust by Daniel was nothing new. We struggle at times to trust God in small things that are not even close to losing our lives. How will we ever trust God when our lives are on the line when we fail in the small things? Jeremiah 12:5 asks that same question, "*If you have run with footmen and they have tired you out, then how can you compete with horses? If you fall down in a land of peace, how will you do in the thicket of the Jordan?*" We learn to compete with the "horses" of life by running with the footmen. We learn to negotiate the "thickets" of life by not falling down in the land of peace. We can trust God when they call for lions by being faithful with the lesser things we are facing now. Keep trusting in Him, in all things.

What kind of person are you? What are your actions? Who do you trust? The answers to these questions will decide what you do when the world calls for lions.

## News Of Interest

### Sick

#### Regency Health Rehabilitation

**Mark Henry**

**Home:** Aleta Davidson and Juanez Tanner.

### Sympathy

We express sympathy to **Naaman Goode** in the death of his brother-in-law, Don Patton.

Sympathy also to **Sarah Irwin** in the death of her daughter, Patricia Irwin, Birmingham, AL.

### Balance Class

Tues., Apr. 18; Thurs., Apr. 20; 1:30 p.m.

### Pantry Item

Canned fruit.

### Baby Shower

The congregation is invited to a baby shower Sunday, April 30, 1:30—3:30 p.m., fellowship hall, honoring **Chad** and **Megan Ennis** who are expecting a girl, **Maddie Elizabeth**. They are registered at Babies R Us, Target, and Amazon.



## Today and Upcoming at Chase Park

### Regency Retirement Service

Today: 1:30 p.m.

Speaker: **Gregg Crabtree**

Song Leader: **Jerry Wilhoite**

### Hospital Visitation

Team #3 (**Suddarth**), please pick up your assignments today after p.m. service.

### \$Financial Peace Class\$

Tomorrow, 6:00—7:30 p.m.

### Super Seniors

Wednesday, April 19. No lunch.

### Question-And-Answer Session

Sunday p.m., April 23. Please submit questions.

### Lads to Leaders/Leaderettes

2017 Recognition Banquet, Sunday, April 23, after p.m. service. Sign up at Hospitality Desk.

### Ladies Night Out

Monday, April 24, 6:00 p.m.

### 5th Sunday Singing

Sunday, April 30, 5:00 p.m.

### Children's Ministry Devotional

Sunday, April 30, after p.m. worship. Fellowship hall/dining room.

## Thank You

“We would like to thank you for the cards, prayers, and donations to the Chase Park Building Fund in memory of Jerry. Jerry loved being a part of Chase Park. Thank you, also, for the ones who spent time with us on Saturday, February 25.”

*Ann Hopkins and family*

## Special Contribution

Sunday, April 30 (5th Sunday)

First 2017 Planned Special Contribution

For

The “Chase Servants United Appeal Fund”

This fund supports all of our benevolence work.

Goal

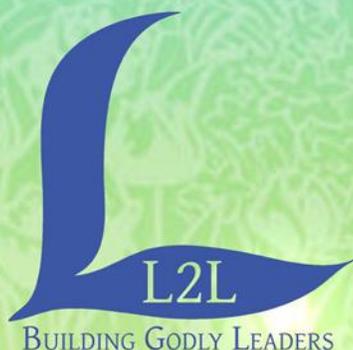
\$25,000.00

There will be two collections, one for our regular weekly contribution and a separate one for benevolence. Checks should be made out to “Chase Servants United Appeal Fund.”

# Lads to Leaders / Leaderettes 2017 Recognition Banquet

**Sunday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>**  
(following PM service)

*Come and help us encourage our young  
people as we celebrate their hard work and  
achievements in Lads to Leaders.*



***Sign up at the Hospitality Desk***

## Statistics

**Sunday, April 9, 2017**

|                                   |                 |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| AM Worship .....                  | 377             |
| Month Average .....               | 399             |
| Bible Class .....                 | 303             |
| PM Worship .....                  | 272             |
| Wed., Apr. 12 Bible Classes ..... | 260             |
| Regency Ret. Worship .....        | 56              |
| Offering .....                    | \$19,501.20     |
| Budget .....                      | \$18,000        |
| Average '17 .....                 | \$18,141        |
| Over Budget for year .....        | +\$2,111        |
| <b>Building Fund .....</b>        | <b>\$253.00</b> |

## Services

*Sunday*

|                   |            |
|-------------------|------------|
| Worship .....     | 9:00 a.m.  |
| Bible Class ..... | 10:15 a.m. |
| Worship .....     | 5:00 p.m.  |

*Wednesday*

|                     |            |
|---------------------|------------|
| Super Seniors ..... | 10:00 a.m. |
| Bible Class .....   | 6:30 p.m.  |

### Web Site Home Bible Studies

<https://www.epcofc.org/home-bible-studies>

**(Lesson 1 Link)**

**The Bible—God's Holy Word**

MESSSENGER is published weekly by the Chase Park Church of Christ, 1640 Winchester Road, N.E.; Huntsville, AL 35811; (256) 852-3801. Send address changes to Messenger, 1640 Winchester Road, N.E.; Huntsville, AL 35811