



Kindred Lines

Newsletter of the Alexandria Baptist Church
March 2025

Dear friends,

I love this church.

There are churches way bigger than ours. But I guarantee you there are no churches who want to hear the Gospel preached un-watered down more than you all. Thank you for allowing me to preach the un-filtered truth. (Of course, if you didn't want that I'd be gone)

I pray before the sermon; "God, if I'm about to say something that isn't true, give me laryngitis or strike me dead on the spot."

James 3:1 - NIV - Not many of you should become teachers, my fellow believers, because you know that we who teach will be judged more strictly.

I take this verse seriously. And this one. Ezekiel 3:18 - NKJV - When I say to the wicked, 'You shall surely die,' and you give him no warning, nor speak to warn the wicked from his wicked way, to save his life, that same wicked *man* shall die in his iniquity; but his blood I will require at your hand.

Many times someone has said to me that the sermon felt like it was directed at them. I never have anyone in mind that way, but that is the Holy Spirit talking with you.

I know I'm not easy to take. I'm direct and steadfast in what the Bible says. But you guys never waver in your trust in me. You mean the world to me. Every one of you.

Billy Sunday was a Major League player for the Pittsburgh Alleghenys, as they were then known. He had a lifetime batting average of .248, with a high of .291 in 1887. Then God got a hold of him and he became the most respected preacher of the early 1900's. He would preach to crowds of 70,000 people, and it is estimated that he led over 300,000 people to Jesus Christ.

Billy is one of my spiritual heroes. He was a no nonsense, tell it like it is preacher.

He is the one who coined the phrase, "Going to church doesn't make you a Christian any more than going to a garage makes you an automobile."

He also said this, describing you guys...

"The backslider likes the preaching that wouldn't hit the side of a house, while the real disciple is delighted when the truth brings him to his knees." You guys being the real disciples.

Three final quotes.

Billy Sunday; "If I have ever said anything that has not hurt you, tell me about it, and I'll take it out of my sermon."

Adrian Rogers; "If I have offended anyone in here today, come and see me after the service and I'll forgive you."

Franklin Graham; "When you are invited to speak, open up your mouth and give them both barrels. They are never going to invite you back anyway."

Three great men of God with one thing in common. No one's blood was going to be on their hands because they sugar coated the truth. Thank you for allowing me the great privilege of speaking the truth. I love you guys.

Pastor Brian

ALEXANDRIA BAPTIST CHURCH

94 West Main Street Alexandria, Ohio 43001

740-924-3961 alexandriabaptistchurch.net

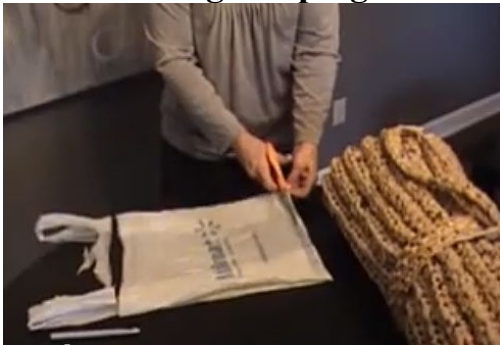
Pastor Brian Potts 614-266-5415

bpottsabc@gmail.com



Practice has begun for our Easter Cantata. We practice at 6:30pm on Wednesday evenings. Please join as we prepare to praise the Lord on Palm Sunday in April.

New Service Project
Plastic Bag Sleeping Mats



There is a local American Legion chapter that delivers plastic bag sleeping mats to homeless veterans in the area. Why plastic bags? They're durable, waterproof and washable. I just learned how to make these sleeping mats using Kroger bags (preferred) or Walmart bags.

I would like to start up a new service project at our church that anyone can participate. We can work as a group maybe meet once a month or work on your own. First step is keeping your CLEAN bags (if they've had meat or anything with food debris you can hand wash but make sure completely air dried) and bring them to church and place in red tub in fellowship hall. It takes about 750 bags per mat. Know how to use scissors? You can help with step two cutting strips from the bags. Everyone has hands to be able to do step three which is looping strips together and wrap them into a ball like yarn. Know how to single crochet? You can do step four. Making the mat is just single crochet.

Anyone interested in helping with this service project let Michelle know. Thanks.



March 9th!
Don't forget to move your clocks forward 1 hour!

Adult Education Workshop

Date: Sunday, March 30th
Time: 5:30 – 8:00

Topic: The Israel Dilemma

The Holy Land and the Jewish people are special to Christians because they are special to God, but we see every day that they are a constant target with many enemies. Though most Jews do not now believe that Jesus is the Messiah, we know that there is a future, promised restoration of the people and the land. God's promises regarding the people and the land will all be completely fulfilled in Christ as they recognize Him as their Savior.

Today, many who identify as Jews not only reject Jesus, but they are secular atheists and agnostics.

Other Jews are very "religious", and many are looking for a messiah, but what do they believe about this person, and how will it make them ripe for deception by antichrist? How are they interpreting all of the signs and events that point to Jesus's soon return? What does the Bible say about their right to the land? Come and be part of the discussion as we learn together about these important topics, and how we can pray for and witness to the Jewish people. **We'll have**

slides, a short video, notes, and a pizza dinner during the presentation, so please sign up in the Fellowship Room so we can prepare.



FIRST QUARTER MISSION 2025

Christian Jewish Foundation

and the

HeartCry Missionary Society

GIVING GOAL: \$1,000.00

Giving so far \$935.00

We still have one month to give!

CJS Ministries exists to make the Good News of Jesus, the Messiah known to the Jewish people first and then to the nations.

HeartCry Missionary Society -“The goal of our ministry is to glorify God, and bring the greatest possible good to the humankind through the preaching of the gospel and the establishment of biblical churches throughout the world.



February-March Mini Mission

North Carolina Recovery and California Wildfires
Samaritans' Purse Organization

February and March we will collect for this mini mission. We have out in the vestibule, a love offering box and envelopes where you can put cash or checks in the envelopes and then put in the box. If you do write a check, please make it out to Samaritans' Purse and in the memo line put North Carolina and California disasters.

Samaritans' Purse also asks for your prayers for over 8500 firefighters who continue to work to contain the windswept flames as well as a homeowner who lost everything and to ask God to strengthen their staff and volunteers to offer His hope to those who are suffering.

Let the glory of God shine through by our efforts to help those in need.

Thank you.
Michele Bumgarner, Missions Board of Christian Education



The Lessons of Spring

Spring illustrates a great truth of the Christian life. Just as the death of winter makes way for the resurrection of life in spring, when God saves us, he takes those spiritually dead and makes them alive. Too often, we have too small a view of God's great work of salvation. We might think of Christianity as something we add on to our lives. We attend church, pray, and read our Bibles and think we have this salvation thing down. Or perhaps it feels like behavioral change. Our behavior before Christ was bad, but now it's not. He's made us better people. Or maybe we think of salvation as the beginning of a relationship with God—we didn't know him and now we do. While these things aren't wrong, they don't get to the heart of salvation.

Before Christ, we were *dead* because of our sin—no heartbeat detected ([Eph. 2:5](#)). Those who are dead can't go to church, change their behavior, or start relationships to make themselves alive.

The first day of spring—that first glance out the window that shows us the death of winter has made way for a new season—recalls the miracle of new life. Just as the beauty of spring sings the glory of God after a season of death, so do our Christian lives.

Your salvation is no small feat. Your testimony is no dull story. You were once dead and God made you alive.

Through Christ, our spiritual deaths have been defeated.

Praise God for new life.

Ashley Anthony