

EASTER | WHY DOES THE RESURRECTION MATTER?

The resurrection of Jesus is central to the Gospel message. Paul writes in 1 Corinthians 15:3-8, "For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me." Why does Easter matter? Why does the resurrection matter? It matters because how would we ever hope to defeat death if Jesus had not risen from the dead? The eyewitness testimonies have a way of building confidence in the truth of those events of Easter—demonstrating God's faithfulness in fulfilling His promises. The risen Christ brings great purpose to the believer's life.

In John 11:25-26, Jesus said to Martha, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?" Jesus, Himself, declares that He has the power over death and is in fact the resurrection and the life. This reminds us that there is great promise of eternal life and Jesus is the one who ensures us viability. Easter affirms our eternal security.

Paul reminds us in **Romans 6:4-5** that "we were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his." There is a great power in the New Life that only Jesus can provide. If we can thoughtfully link Easter with our daily living, we can be inspired to live victoriously in our actions and our relationships.

Essentially, the resurrection of Jesus at Easter matters because it assures believers of their own resurrection, instills hope, and shows God's power over life and death. Ultimately, it encourages a life of faith and purpose.

FBC Family, we have a great opportunity this Easter weekend to help our community know that the resurrection of Jesus matters to them. Would you begin praying for whom you might invite to one of our four Easter Gatherings: Saturday, April 19 at 5P // Sunday, April 20 at 8a, 9:30a, and 11a. How can we show the people around us that the resurrection matters?

- **1. INVITE.** Invite people to an Easter Gathering with you. Your nighbor, family, friend, or waiter from your favorite restaurant. Invite someone to join you this Easter Weekend.
- 2. SERVE. Consider serving on one of our many teams at a gathering that you do not plan on attending. Let's make much of serving the way our Savior did. Click <u>here</u> to serve.
- **3. PRAY.** Pray for the people. Pray for many to come. Pray for the gatherings. Pray for conviction and repentance of sin. Pray for salvation.

You are loved,

Pastor Jason

UPCOMING EVENTS + INFO

EASTER WEEKEND

We are anticipating that God will bring many families to our campus this Easter Weekend with FOUR gatherings: **Saturday, April 19 at 5p and Sunday, April 20 at 8a, 9:30a, & 11a**. If you plan to be in worship at a Sunday gathering, get here early to have a grab-n-go breakfast and take family photos at our photo area in the gym. Traveling from the gym to the sanctuary will help with traffic flow as one gathering ends and another begins. FBCKids environments will be available for birth through 1st grade.

LADIES' CRAFT NIGHT

We know life can get crazy, and sometimes you just need a night out with other women who just "get it." Ladies' Night is a space for women of all ages to enjoy an evening of laughter and friendship—no responsibilities, no messes to clean up, and nobody yelling for mom every two minutes. Life really takes a village, and we want to use these nights to help you find yours! Women of all ages (middle school and up) are making clay earrings in the banquet room on **Friday, April 25 at 6p**. Register <u>here</u>.

VOLLEYBALL MISSION FUNDRAISER

Our Annie Armstrong Tournament is back, and this year we will be playing volleyball in the park! Join your FBC Family on **Sunday, April 27 from 3:30-8p** as we have an afternoon of fun, food, and fellowship at Summer's Field. All proceeds go to the Annie Armstrong Offering for North American Missions. Whether you play on a team or simply come out to enjoy dinner with friends, it is going to be a great evening together for the best cause!

<u>Players register here.</u>

Attendees register here.

NEXT GEN HOTWHEEL COLLECTION

FBCKids, Driven Students, and Thrive Young Adults are joining together to support the mission of Little Children of the World. Our babies through young adults are collecting new or like-new Hot Wheels style toy cars throughout April that will be given to Preschool-Grade 2 boys this Christmas. If you would like to partner with our Next Gen ministries, you may bring cars to the church office, children's building, or student & young adult building this month.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

Brothers, my heart's desire and prayer to God for them is that they may be saved.

— Romans 10:1

BUDGET UPDATE

As of February 28, 2025 Required: \$213,296.32 Received: \$178,008.29

RIGHTNOW MEDIA

Gain FREE access to 20,000+ Bible study resources, faith-based kids' shows, and discipleship resources through RightNow Media at <u>https://app.</u> <u>rightnowmedia.org/join/fbcbarnesville</u>

CHURCH CALENDAR

Everyone in the church may now access the church calendar online at fbcbarnesville.com/calendar or by clicking <u>here.</u>

SOCIAL MEDIA

FBC FB | @FBC Barnesville FBC IG | @firstbaptistbarnesville

Kids FB | @FBC Barnesville Kids Kids IG | @fbcbarnesvillekids

Students FB | @Driven Student Ministries Students IG | @drivenfbc

Young Adults FB | @Thrive 121 Young Adults IG | @thrive121

CHURCH STAFF

Jason Teal | Senior Pastor Russ Jenkins | Executive Pastor Allen Smith | Young Adult Pastor Josh Adams | Student Minister Jennifer Zeager | Children's Minister Melinda Henson | Financial Director Carrianna Simmons | Communications Dir. Sarah Kingry | Pastor's Admin. Assistant Audrey Topel | Ministry Admin. Assistant