#### PATRICK OF IRELAND

There are many mysteries surrounding the life of the fourth century missionary, Patrick of Ireland, but Patrick's life is filled with much more meaning than shamrocks, snakes, and sticks that grow. His life is a testimony of the sovereign providence of the almighty, merciful God.



He was kidnapped from his Britain home as a child and carried to Ireland where he was sold as a slave. Years later, he was able to escape and travel back to Britain, but one night, Patrick had a dream, similar to Paul's Macedonian Call (Acts 16), in which an Irishman called Patrick to come back to Ireland and teach them the Gospel of Jesus. Amazingly, Patrick quickly obeyed what he felt to be the God's call on his life, returning to Ireland and bringing the Gospel of Christ to the pagans of the Emerald Isle.

Patrick's story is ironically like Joseph's in the book of Genesis: Joseph is sold into slavery by his brothers, peddled to Potiphar the Palace Guard Commander, thrown into prison over some malicious lies, and then exalted to second highest in Egypt bringing life and prosperity to Egypt even in a time of world-wide drought. He also preserved the lives of Jacob and of all Jacob's family.

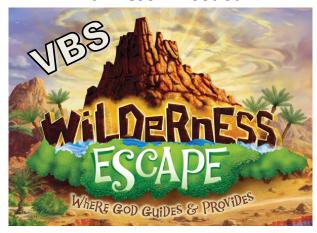
The great statement Joseph speaks to his brothers in Genesis would also be a great description of Patrick's life, as well as many other God-fearers and Christ-followers throughout the millennia of time: "But as for you, ye thought evil against me; but God meant it unto good, to bring to pass, as it is this day, to save much people alive (Gen. 50:20)." God spared the nation of Israel and much of the world by a young man becoming a slave, prisoner, and vizier, and He saved Ireland with a young boy's kidnapping.

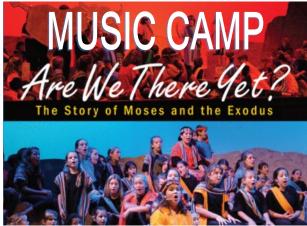
Joseph's Witness, Patrick's Mission, even spring's new life that we are beginning to see should remind us that quite often what we may confuse for bad, for evil, or even for deadness, God is working through it to bring good, glory, and life.

This devotion and more by Rusty are at knowinghislove.com.



## **Volunteers Needed**





907 East Main St. brfbc@blueridgefbc.org Blue Ridge, GA 30513 706.632.2763

678.524.8037

Bob Richardson, Senior Pastor bob.richardson@blueridgefbc.org 912.550.1842 Rusty Thomas, Associate Pastor rusty.thomas@blueridgefbc.org 706.258.2654 Steve Brown, Minister of Music wsteve.brown@gmail.com Pat Young, Childhood Min. Coordinator pat.young@blueridgefbc.org 770.316.6575

FBC Blue Ridge Vol. 58 No. 03 THE SPIRE March 2021

Spring is coming! What a great month we have in store for us here at FBC Blue Ridge. Praise God for the additions and baptisms we got to witness last month. This month marks the beginning of our Annie Armstrong Easter offering emphasis. 100 percent of our gifts to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering provide the funds for thousands of missionaries as they train and serve across North America where it's estimated more than 275 million are without Christ. Our church goal for this offering is \$6000. May God lead us to give generously to this offering.

We will have the privilege to work with our North American Missionaries and our North American Mission Board when we travel to Puerto Rico to work with them for a week. We will see a firsthand glance at how our giving directly impacts gospel work there.

I am excited to announce that we will be holding Passion Week services March 29 – April 2 at FBC. The services will be everyday from 12 noon until 12:30. We will have a light lunch available every day from 12:30 until 1:00. Thursday will be the exception as we will be holding a Maundy Thursday service in our auditorium that evening at 7:00.

March also finds us gathering on Friday the 19<sup>th</sup> for the second part of the marriage seminar. We will gather on Saturday morning for prayer on the 20<sup>th</sup> from 9-12. SALT Saturday will be the following week on the 28<sup>th</sup> from 10-12. We hope you will join us for these times of worship, training, and prayer. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve as your pastor. It is one of the great joys of my life.

Serving King Jesus Together, Pastor Bob

# **MARCH 2021**

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
	1 Aerobics 5:30 pm Deacons' Meeting 7 pm	2 Quilting B's 9 am College Bible Study 7 pm	3 Homeschool 8:30—3:30 Winter Weekly Schedule	4 Precept 9-Noon A/Y Center Aerobics 5:30 pm	5	6
7 March 7-14 Week of Prayer for North American Missions Annie Armstrong FBC Offering Goal is \$6,000.00  Handbell Choir 4:15 pm	Aerobics 5:30 pm  Prophecy Class Rm. 211 6:30 pm	9 WMU Heart to Hands Fellowship Hall 10 am  College Bible Study 7 pm	10 Homeschool 8:30—3:30 Winter Weekly Schedule	11 Long Range Planning Meeting 9:30 am  Precept 9-Noon A/Y Center  Aerobics 5:30 pm	Reel Fest—Ne Individual students, you	
14 Handbell Choir 4:15 pm	Aerobics 5:30 pm Prophecy Class Rm. 211 6:30 pm	16 Men's Prayer Time 6:30 am Quilting B's 9 am College Bible Study 7 pm	17 Homeschool 8:30—3:30 Winter Weekly Schedule	18 Precept 9-12 A/Y Center Parkinson's Support Group Meeting 3-4:30 pm A/Y Center Aerobics 5:30 pm	19 "The Marriage of Your Dreams" Part 2 A/Y Center 7pm - 9 pm Child Care Provided	Solemn Assemble Prayer Time 9 am—Noon
21 Handbell Choir 4:15 pm	Aerobics 5:30 pm Prophecy Class Rm. 211 6:30 pm	23 College Bible Study 7 pm	24 Homeschool 8:30—3:30 Winter Weekly Schedule	25 Precept 9-Noon A/Y Center Aerobics 5:30 pm	26 Art Connection 6:30 pm	S.A.L.T. 10 am—Noon
28 Palm Sunday	PASSION L Aerobics 5:30 pm Prophecy Class	NEEK SERVICE	S - NOON	April 1 Maundy Thursday Communion Service 7 pm	GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE AT NOON	April 3

#### WINTER WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Sun.	9:30 am	Sunday Bible Study
		All ages will meet
	10:45 am	Morning Worship
	4:15 pm	Handbell Choir
	6:00 pm	Evening Worship
Mon.	5:30 pm	Aerobics
	6:30 pm	Prophecy Class Room 211
Tues.	7:00 pm	College Bible Study-Life of Christ
Wed.	3:30 pm Painting with a Purpose (1st grade & up)	
	5:00 pm	Dinner is served
	5:45 pm	Grades 1-6 Fight the Good Fight (Bible)
		Children's Choir
		Age 3—Kindergarten
		Art/Preschool Choir
		Youth Bible Study—A/Y Center
		Prayer Meeting/Adult Bible Study
	5:45-7 pm	ESL Class
	7:15 pm	Adult Choir Practice
Thurs.	9:00 am	Precepts - A/Y Center

### **DEACON OF THE WEEK**

- 07 SHAN CULPEPPER—706.258.8075
- 14 Mark Dressler—706.897.6219
- 21 LARRY DYER-404.216.0679
- 28 JERRY GORDON-706.632.5321

#### **MARCH BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES**

- 03 Cliff Shirah
- 04 Steve Bailey

Blessings

- 05 Cassidy Culpepper
- on Your Special Day!

- 06 Lisa Key
- 15 Ann Wright
- 17 Kenny & Patsy Stuart (A)
- 18 Carolyn Hall Will Davis
- 21 Carol MacPhail
- 22 Sarah Burnett Ember Shields
- 25 Amelia Thomas
- 27 Bennie Butler

Please notify Martha in the church office if you have birthday/anniversary this month and you are not on the list. Thanks.