

Dear Parents,

What a wonderful time of year! When I read the scripture in Mark 10:13-16, I am reminded of how important children are to God. Christ was on earth to save the world and yet, He still had time to listen, touch and bless the children around Him.

New life is beginning to bloom all around us and the students are giddy with excitement as they watch God's earth come alive again. Daily walks around the building display a landscape blooming with fresh flowers, buds on trees, and bright green grass. It is a time of rebirth for the earth and for ourselves as we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord and Savior.



As adults, we are very busy with life, so busy that we sometimes forget what is truly important. During this Easter season, let us reflect on the sacrifice Jesus made for all of us. Let us appreciate this time of rebirth and renewal with our children. We are sending home an Easter book with each child. Please take the time to read *Sing and Shout! Jesus Lives!* to your preschooler.

This month the students will learn about growing, changing and renewing. At this time of year the teachers help the children understand how Jesus' love for us gives us new life. The teachers have wonderful spring surprises planned for the children in their classrooms. The science program will bring caterpillar larvae and the children will watch them transform into beautiful butterflies.

Thank you for letting us enjoy Spring and Easter with your children. I pray that God brings you and your family refreshment during this special time of year.

Blessings,

Ann Lipton  
WEE Center Director

**"I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?"**

**-- John 11:25-26 (NIV)**

### Calendar-At-A-Glance



**Tuesday, April 4**  
After School Session 5 Begins

**April 7, 12:00**  
Early Release, FCPS Teacher workday

**Monday– Friday, April 10 - 14**  
Easter Break – No School

**Monday, April 17**  
No School – FCPS Workday

**Wednesday & Thursday, April 26 & 27**  
Science Lesson

**Thursday & Friday, April 27 & 28**  
Teacher Appreciation Days

**Wednesday - Friday, May 10 - 12**  
Mother's Day Teas

**Friday, May 19, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.**  
Funtastic Friday & Basket Raffle



# Just Ahead



## After-School Session 5

**Tuesday, April 4 -  
Thursday, May 18**



Any child who is potty-trained and at least 3 years-old is welcome to attend our After-School Classes. Enrollment for each class is on a first come, first serve basis and each session requires enrollment, even if a child has participated in other sessions. You must also register your child for the After-School program and pay the one-time \$25 fee.

- 1 day/week = \$50.00**
- 2 days/week = \$95.00**
- 3 days/week = \$135.00**

### Tuesday – Passport Pals

At the beginning of this class the children are issued their very own passport. As the weeks progress they will experience different destinations around the world. They may eat foods, listen to music, or learn dances that are typical of another culture. What a great way to learn diversity and cultural appreciation.

### Wednesday – Vocab Rehab

Children will become detectives as they decipher the mystery of words used in classic children’s literature.

### Thursday – Science Secrets

The young scientists will experiment, explore and make predictions as they navigate activities designed to generate a new way of thinking about science!



## Teacher Appreciation

**April 27 & 28**

Catherine Luby has volunteered to oversee these celebration days. She will be working with room parents to organize ways to honor the teachers.

Stay tuned for information from your child’s classroom Room Parent. You can also contact [Catherine](#) if you would like to help.

## Class Basket Items

**Items due by April 28th**

**Purchase tickets May 7 - May 19**

**Drawing takes place May 19**

Thank you to Kerry Kares, for volunteering to organize this year’s Basket Raffle. She is coordinating with room parents and other volunteers to ensure everyone has an opportunity to participate.



Every family is encouraged to participate by donating an item or financial contribution to their class basket. Easter Break is a great time for you and your child to shop for donations to their class basket. Your child’s room parent will have suggestions for you.

**All items are due by April 28<sup>th</sup>.** We are in need of additional volunteers to help itemize and assemble the baskets on May 1-5. Contact [Kerry](#) if you are able to help!



**Basket will be on display beginning Sunday, May 7<sup>th</sup>.**



# Parkwood Happenings!

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## Celebrate Easter at Parkwood Baptist Church

### **Palm Sunday, April 9**

Regular Schedule  
9:30 & 11:00 am  
Sunday School Classes for Adults and Children during these services.

### **Maundy Thursday, April 13**

Service at 7:00 PM

### **Easter Sunday, April 16**

**7:00 AM** Deacon-led Sunrise Service  
Followed by breakfast

As well as

**9:30 & 11:00 AM**  
Sunday School Classes for Adults and Children during these services.



# Thoughts from Pastor Mike

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## **He is Not Here!**

*“Why do you seek the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. Remember how He told you, while He was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men and be crucified and on the third day rise.”*

- The angel at the tomb (Luke 24:5-7)

We serve a LIVING Savior! He’s in the world today. He is not in a tomb in the Middle East outside of Jerusalem. You cannot go to the graveyard and pay your respects to Jesus of Nazareth. Jesus said,

*“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.”*

(John 11:25, 26)

There is no memorial for the great teacher from the first century. People may flock to Israel to visit the sites where He walked and the places He taught and to see where He walked on the water, but let us be clear...He is alive and not contained in any one sacred site or church. He is all around us as the Omnipresent and Sovereign Lord. He is at work today teaching, healing, feeding the poor and yes, walking on water. Too many of us look back at this time of Easter celebration and remember a miraculous resurrection that happened long ago and oh so far away. Let the question of the angels come to us today, “Why do you look for the Savior of the Present in the past? He IS the Resurrection and the Life.”

When Jesus spoke those words He was saying that He always was...is...and always will be the Resurrection and the Life! We do not worship a God who once was or a God who one day will be. We worship the Living God of the right now, then and always. The Great “I AM”.

Blessings,

*Pastor Mike*