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Easter and You

APRIL 16TH 2014 BY ERIN LAUTERS

Easter and You

Dexter, Missouri - The Dexter First Baptist Church is having two morning services for your convenience on Easter Sunday. The first service will start at 9:00 p.m., with the following service starting at 11:00 a.m.

If you have never heard the real meaning of Easter, you have an awesome story to hear. Jesus is the Son of God. He was created in the image of man and came to do a remarkable thing for mankind.

Jesus was hung on the cross for your sins. Pontius Pilate and other Jewish men denied Jesus as their Messiah. They considered him a liar and called him blasphemous. After all these accusations and teachings, Jesus called his men to the Last Supper. After he gathered his disciples he said, "One of you will deny me three times." After praying in the garden one last time, he was taken to hang on the cross.

After he died and was buried, all of his people mourned. But a miraculous and wonderful thing happened on the third day. When Mary, his mother, and Mary Magdalene, were told by angels that Jesus had risen. His tomb was empty. He was resurrected. Those next 40 days after he'd risen were spectacular and he converted numerous people to Christianity.

So while you are hunting Easter eggs with your children, or spending time with your family, take time to think about the real reason of Easter.

Happy Easter and God Bless!

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Daily Devotion: Just Some Encouragement

APRIL 10TH 2014 BY BETH FARRAH

Daily Devotion: Just Some Encouragement

I ran long distance in track when I was in high school. I remember how that when my Dad was able to attend the track meets, I always had a little extra energy to run a little faster. It was similar when one of my sons ran long distance in track. When I stood near the finish line as he ran around the final curve, he'd see me and suddenly be imbued with an extra surge of energy. We are all helped when those we are close to encourage us by their presence, their cheering, their compliments, and support. You and I know people who are all but crying out for us saying "encourage me!" Some people you and I know need us to build them up more than they need their next meal. How do we know this? We know what encouragement does for others by the way it helps us when we receive it. Somebody close to you needs a good word from you today! "Therefore, encourage one another and build one another up". (1 Thess.5:11).

Written by Jay Craig

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Change The World - Join Hope Epidemic

APRIL 03RD 2014 BY STAFF WRITER

[Change The World - Join Hope Epidemic](#)

Sikeston, Missouri - Want to change the world? On the weekend of May 17th and 18th, you will have an opportunity to do just that through the collaborative effort known as Hope Epidemic. In the past, this event has dispatched over 1000 volunteers across the southeast Missouri region to perform acts of kindness. This year the event has a new purpose and direction.

“6200 children around the world die each day from starvation. That’s not ok with this team (the group of community organizers),” says Brad Aycock, one of the coordinators. This year, volunteers from across the southeast Missouri region will join forces to pack 200,000 meals that will be sent to regions in Haiti, Africa, and other critical areas to feed kids as part of the “Feed My Starving Children” MobilePack project.

Many individuals, as well as over 30 area churches are teaming up to bring this event to the area. “We need all hands on deck to help us serve. We have to get 1000 people to help. Volunteers can sign up to serve a two-hour shift on the Saturday (17th) or Sunday (18th), or both. You will literally be helping to save lives,” says Mary Ann Moyers, another coordinator.

Individuals can also make a donation to the event. [/images/2014 Images/Hope MID.png](#)
Each meal costs .22. For \$80, a child can be fed for an entire year. “Feeding hungry children is not a religious thing,” says Pastor Rick Lovall of Sanctuary Church, one of the partnering organizations.

Aycock adds, “The need is too great to ignore. All are invited to come and help pack the “Manna” packs, which contains six meals in each bag. There are no other options. If these children do not eat, they die.” The event takes place in Sikeston, Missouri at the warehouse of the former “Sikeston Supply” located at 912 South Main Street.

“Feed My Starving Children” is an organization located in Minnesota. They setup these mobile pack events across the country, wherever they can find people and funding. FMSC states their mission as “Feeding God’s Starving Children Hungry in Body and Spirit”

“This event will actually save the lives of hundreds of kids, but it will also change those who are serving,” says Aycock. At this event, people will also learn about local, ongoing community service projects to get involved with in the future. "We hope that what begins as an obligation, will become a lifestyle," concludes Aycock. To learn more how to serve and/or to donate, visit hopeepidemic.org or call 573.620.0587

LAST UPDATED ON APRIL 03RD 2014 BY STAFF WRITER

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Daily Devotion: Chocolate Pills

APRIL 01ST 2014 BY BETH FARRAH

Daily Devotion: Chocolate Pills

A study is being launched by a Harvard subsidiary, to learn if cocoa nutrients, packed into a pill, will improve people's health. This is according to a story in Monday's Quincy Herald-Whig from AP news agency. The test will tell if the nutrients help improve health in the areas of blood pressure, cholesterol, and more. Participants will take the pills for four years before their bodies are studied for results. To many of us, four years seems like a lengthy period of time to wait for the results of a study. That's the way it often is in life. We do things now that will affect the future. My children can enjoy sitting in shade, tomorrow, from the large oak tree I plant as a sapling, today. I will never enjoy it, but they will. And today, I do good things and I try not to do bad things, with the hope I may someday enjoy the shade of heaven. "Jesus asked, "What is the kingdom of God like?...It is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his garden. It grew and became a tree, and the birds perched in its branches." (Luke 13:18,19).

Written by Jay Craig

LAST UPDATED ON APRIL 01ST 2014 BY STAFF WRITER

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Hanger of HOPE Clothing Give Away

MARCH 12TH 2014 BY DEE LOFLIN

Hanger of HOPE Clothing Give Away

Written by

Dee Loflin, SMT Manager/Editor

Dexter, Missouri – Ladies and gentlemen it's time to clean out those closets! Bring your gently used clothes to the Fellowship Hall of the First Baptist Church on Dexter on Sunday, April 6th from 2 p.m. – 6 p.m.

Hangers of Hope will host a clothing give away is open to the public and will be held on Monday, April 7th from 5:00 – 8:00 p.m. and on Tuesday, April 8th from 10:00 a.m. – noon.

Please bring all sizes of clothing for adults, youth, and children. If possible, please put YOUTH or ADULT sizes on hangers and CHILDREN'S sizes should be folded by size. This will help the volunteers with sorting and distributing the clothing.

Why do these ladies have this event, well it is simple. They want to share with others. Those who can't afford new clothes and those who may have recently lost a few pounds or perhaps someone who is looking for a career change or even an special outfit to wear. It's a great way to give back to your community and give to those who could use our help.

If you would like more information or need help with donating, please contact Tracy Hedrick at 820-2112 or Diane Mitchell at 625-0077. These ladies

appreciate all that you do for the community and this event has been a tremendous success!

LAST UPDATED ON MARCH 12TH 2014 BY DEE LOFLIN

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