

Coats Baptist Church
PO Box 297
Coats, NC 27521

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Coats, NC
Permit No. 1

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

8:30 am Worship Service
9:45 am Sunday School
11:00 am Worship Service
Children's Church 8:30 am & 11:00 am
6:00 pm Evening Worship Service

STAFF

Neal Thornton

Senior Pastor
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Greetings church family,

As I write these words, two months have passed since the Christmas holiday. I miss that season. There are few like it that brings such joy to the Christian soul and unity to the church family.

The incarnation of Christ sits among the essential doctrines of Christianity. That "God became flesh and dwelt among us" (John 1:14) is absolutely necessary for the saving of sinners. Only in the sinless Christ do sinners find a sufficient Savior able to just that — save.

But the incarnation of Christ does not complete the gospel. There is more to this story. Sinners are not saved by the birth of Christ, but by His sacrificial death, His lowly burial and His glorious resurrection. We preach a *full gospel ministry*. (cf. 1 Cor. 15:3-5; Phil. 2:6-11)

The **death of Christ** was a propitiatory sacrifice made on behalf of sinners just like you, and just like me. (1 John 4:10) The accomplished act achieved on the cross, by our sinless Christ is part and parcel of a sufficient gospel. (2 Cor. 5:21) Christ was not just born, but He was born to die and born to save. He did something for the sinners on the cross at Calvary. He died their death, that He might pay their price. (2 Cor. 8:9) Jesus paid it all, He washed us white as snow. (Is. 1:18)

The **burial of Christ** was a moment of tender affection by the family and friends of Jesus. (John 19:38-42; Luke 23:50-56) They honored the body and laid it in a tomb. It was in that cold dark place that Christ took His place among the dead. Can you see Him there, the Lord of glory, slain by the hands of men, placed in a lowly tomb? [Having taken your place, from cradle, to cross, to a cave.] Perhaps at no other time did Christ more identify with sinners than when He was laid and left alone in the earth.

But the grave would not have the victory over Him. "O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?" - 1 Corinthians 15:55

The **resurrection of Christ** was the defeating blow between the eyes of Satan. Christ was raised by the power of the Father (Eph. 1:20) that He might impart eternal life to all who believe in Him (John 3:16). The resurrection was the Father's stamp of approval on the life, ministry and death of Jesus. In His hand would He put all authority to judge the living and dead. (John 5:19-29) The resurrection sealed salvation for the sinner. (Romans 6:5) Christ is alive, vindicated and worthy to be praised.

Christ has been raised and a decision is at hand. What will we do with Jesus? What will you do with His gospel? Believe in Christ, who He was, who He is, what He did for you, and find forgiveness and life in His name alone. (Acts 4:12) Or have it your own way, reject the kindness of God (Romans 2:4) and the cross He bore for you, and live alone for eternity apart from Christ.

Easter places that decision upon us all. Christ is alive, He has risen indeed – what will we do with the Him? He calls sinners out from among the crowds, that they might take Him at His word, at His death on the cross, at His burial in a tomb and His new life even today. Rejoice in Christ!

This Sunday morning, March 4 we will do just that. We begin a new preaching series called "The Cross and the Crown" — 4 weeks on the cross He bore, 4 weeks on the crown He wears through His glorious resurrection. Please invite a friend as we prepare for Easter on April 1.

As C.H. Spurgeon said, "Christ is still receiving sinners, we pray sinners will still receive Him."

Blessings,
Pastor Neal

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MARCH

3/3 Wild Game Fun (3:00)
Wild Game Supper (6:00)
3/9-11 Beth Moore Event
3/11 Deacons Meeting (3:00)
3/14 Grocery Assist (5:30)
3/15 Men's Ministry Meeting (7:00)
3/16-17 Men's Ignite Event
3/17 Senior Women's Fellowship Tea (11:00)
3/24 Easter Fun Day (10:00-Noon)
3/25 Easter Worship Night (6:00 pm)



Spring Forward!
Daylight Savings Begins

Please remember to set your clocks one hour forward before going to bed on Saturday, March 10th.

Easter Sunday Schedule

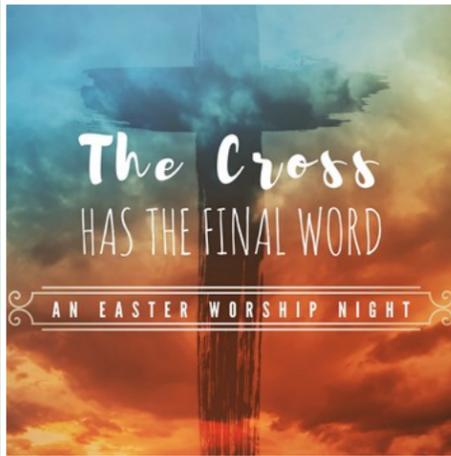
7:00 Sunrise Service
7:30 Breakfast
8:30 Worship Service
9:45 Sunday School
NO 11:00 Worship Service

No afternoon activities or evening service

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MUSIC • NOTES



Easter is quickly approaching and with it, the choir and praise team musical presentation: The Cross Has the Final Word. I especially love planning and leading worship when the songs are centered on the cross and the Good News of our salvation in Christ. What better song is there to sing?! I encourage you to spend extra time this month preaching the Gospel to yourself and thanking God for the cross. When we sing together during corporate worship on Sundays, sing at the top of your lungs in response to God's overwhelming and undeserved goodness towards you in Christ Jesus.

I hope that on Sunday evening, March 25, you will come and bring friends and family with you who need to hear the Good News! While this is a presentation by our choir and praise team, our desire is that you would encounter Christ as you worship with us throughout the evening. This is why instead of calling it a musical or a cantata, I am calling this an Easter Worship Night. By the end, we want you singing with us! I am going to go ahead and give you a few song titles for you to be listening to in advance... Glorious Day (Passion Band), The Cross Has the Final Word (Cody Carnes), Worthy of Your Name (Passion Band), The Lion and the Lamb (Leeland).

SENIOR • ADULTS

On Thursday, March 22, seniors will leave CBC at 11:30 am heading to Sanford to see the comedy "Church Basement Ladies" at the famous Temple Theatre. We will eat lunch at Miss Lacy's Tearoom (you pay). Cost is \$10.00 each. Please contact Gail, Kathy, Bonnie, or Sherry if wish to attend.

PICTORIAL • DIRECTORY

A pictorial directory is a powerful tool for our church to help each of us know each other better. Church members, please make an appointment to have your picture taken on one of the sign-up Sundays which includes every Sunday during the month of March. Your participation will be of great benefit to our church family and your family. Every family photographed for the directory will receive a copy of the directory and an 8x10 portrait at no cost. You will also have the opportunity to purchase additional portraits at the time of photography. Photo dates are April 12 - 14, 24 - 25, and May 4 - 5.

WOMEN

Senior Adult Women's Tea on Saturday, March 17th at 11 am. This is a tea and brunch with entertainment provided. If anyone needs transportation, please contact a member of the women's committee.

WILD • GAME • DAY

Wild Game Day and Dinner on Saturday, March 3: Bring a friend and join us for an afternoon of axe and knife throwing, BB gun shooting, sling shots and blow guns! Dinner will follow which will include deer, dove, rabbit, and other game that was harvested this past year. We will fellowship and worship together during this time with our guest speaker, Pastor Turner Matthews. The fun begins at 3:00 and the dinner will begin at 6:00.

STUDENT • HAPPENINGS

Many times when I sit down to write a newsletter article, I attempt to communicate what our youth are studying, or a challenge to pray for specific things in the life of our youth. This is not always the case, but many times I work from those positions. This month I want to speak specifically to our adults. First, to parents of our youth, and parents of our younger children. Second, to grandparents of these same children. Third, to any adult not in group one or two. That should be all of us, right?

Proverbs 22: 6 says, "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it." This leads to the question, "how do we do that?" I think a great starting point is found in Deuteronomy 6:5-9:

Love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength. These words that I am giving you today are to be in your heart. Repeat them to your children. Talk about them when you sit in your house and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Bind them as a sign on your hand and let them be a symbol on your forehead. Write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

The first step to training up your child is to, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength." This is for us, the parents, and grandparents of these children. We must have these words, and their meaning, in our heart. Only then can we begin to train our children. And how do we do that? The rest of the verse answers the question.

We are to talk of these things and pass on our relationship with our Lord and Savior, when we are in our house, when we are going down the road, when we lay down at night, and when we rise in the morning. These words should decorate our lives, and the houses we live in. Raising children who will grow up to love, honor, and serve the Lord Jesus Christ starts with parents making these things a priority in our lives, and then intentionally passing them on.

Raising Godly children is not a directive to the church, it is a directive to the family. However, the church is called to love and support each other. We are called as a church to fill in the gaps. For example, when a child does not have Godly parents, other adults can fill that role. As a church, we are called to be there for each other so that no one feels like they are alone in this challenge of raising children. This is where my challenge to grandparents and other adults comes in. Be there for parents. Support them. Look for those children who need Godly role models and purpose in your heart to walk that road with them.

Lastly, please understand that raising Godly children starts well before they are ever born. If you are a parent who comes to Christ after your children are born, then start when you can. But if you are a Christ follower before you have children, or when your children are little, understand that it is never too early to start walking this road. It is never too early to begin training up a child the way he should go.



EASTER • FUN • DAY

Join us for a day of fun!

Saturday, March 24th

10:00-12:00 noon



We will have inflatables, face painting, games, and an Easter egg hunt. A free hot dog lunch will also be provided. We are in need of candy donations to stuff the plastic eggs with. Egg donations are not needed.

