

Ward News

Easter in Ward, praising the savior and visiting folks

By Jean Rew and June Stephenson

June and I hope that everyone had a wonderful Easter weekend; the weather couldn't have been more beautiful!

Folks in Ward gathered at the Cokes Chapel Cemetery early

Easter morning for sunrise services led by Johnny Doggett of York. Johnny brought a most inspiring message to a large group of folks, and I'm sure we all left with a renewed feeling of everlasting life with our Lord and Saviour.

We understand that Janelle Taylor has improved enough to be moved to a room in Rush Hospital. Wonderful news!

Rob and Marybeth Dobbs and little sons Benjamin and Gabriel of Lafayette, La. spent Easter weekend with their aunt Marion Cameron. Also, their pet dog, Blaze came too. Wonder if this was his first trip to Ward?

A large number of folks enjoyed a delicious breakfast at the Ward Baptist Church following the sunrise service. Everyone enjoyed wonderful food and fellowship, and we do appreciate the members of the church inviting the entire community to participate in such a delightful occasion.

Terry and Diane West of Petal, Miss. spent the Easter weekend with their aunt, June Stephenson. We were so glad to have them attend the Easer Sunrise Service. Hurry back, you two!

Richard Watkins arrived from Savannah, Ga. last Friday to spend a week in Ward with Rosemary Rew, Murry and Jean, and June. It's always so good to have him here since he always brings his toolbox, work belt, and willingness to take care of our "to do list!"

Kee and Danielle Spree and son Royce of Tuscaloosa, and Chilton and Leigh Powell and son Jack of Birmingham spent Easter weekend with Danny and Betty Curtis. We were so happy to have them join us for Sunday School on Sunday morning. Can't believe Jack and Royce are growing so quickly!

Murry, June, and I attended a most inspiring presentation of "The Presence of Jehovah," by the choir at York Methodist Church on Easter Sunday. I've attended many contatas and this was one of the most beautiful I've ever heard. If you weren't there, you missed a treat!

Jimmie and Julia Rew spent Easter weekend visiting relatives in Birmingham. Hope daughter Katie was able to be with you all on Easter Sunday!

We wish a most happy Bbirthday to Dale Wilborn today, April 5th; David Lowe, Tony Washington, Copeland Tillery the 6th; Ana Mock, Wes Harwell the 7th; Burt Guin, Destiny Hatcher, Jalon Washington the 8th; Ruby Whitcomb, Brad Abbey, Jennifer Aderholt the 9th; Dean Basinger, Jo Harwell Beard, our friend Houston Pearce in Tuscaloosa, the 10th.

Also, happy anniversary to Lonnie and Lisa Shannon the 5th; Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Gordy the 6th; Mike and Jennifer Rush the 7th.

We hope you all have a great week. Don't work too hard, getting your gardens planted! Call me (Jean, 392-4228) with your news.

Simple Words

Continued...

thinking about getting to the next place that we forget where we are. I have wasted a lot of time pushing when I should be pulling and exiting when I should be entering. You would think I would learn to read the simple signs around me, but I tend to make the same mistakes over and over again. I guess we all need to get back to the basics, taking the time to look around us more often. That is my new goal, being more intentional about seeing what is right in front of me. In or out, push or pull, I want to make sure that any door I choose will always be able to be open, even by someone like me who can't read!

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Livingston Lines

Hope you all had a blessed Easter

By Claire Smith

Happy birthday to Eddie Larkin, Johnaythyn Gordy, my great grandson Wyatt Puckett, Freddie Reeves, Don Harden, Grear Hardin, Faith Wilson, Kathy Oates, Dale Wilborn, David Lowe, Tony Washington, Copelnd Tillery, Anna Mock, Wes Harwell, Emily Cooper, Lynn Hailey, Melissa Bracknell, Molly Dorman, Abby Pruitt, Marion Magdison, Betsy Stephens, Betty Wright, Joe Reed, Smity Boyd, Wallie Conway, Blake Dial, Bobby Payton, Willie Pierce, Johnny Sanders, Hunt Fanelli, and all others having birthdays this week.

Happy anniversary to Allen and Pam Hall, Brandy and Garland Partridge, Meg and Chris Sanderson, Billy and Charlene Fleming, Jeery and Peggy Holcolmb, Lonnie and Lisa Shannon, Mr. And Mrs. Kevin Gordy, Mike and Jennifer Rush and all ots jkenjoying their anniversaries together this week.

Thinking of my lovely friend Madoline Thurn this week. Mrs. Cecil was a beautiful lady both inside and outside. She was honest and pure and truthful and there was no fake about her. In other words Mrs. Cecil was one of the people that I treasure knowing more that most anybody. She has taught me through her daughtgger that live is full of roses. Yep, we have to find our way around the thorns, but it is sure worth tht minor problem of a stuck finger. Cecil meant love personified.

As I sit here with Kalee and Laci on this Good Friday my blessings overflow. I keep seeing the vision of Jesus hanging on the cross, a crown of thorns on his head, and nails through the pals of his hands, I wonder how I can be worthy of his great love. Laci was in the hospital and is now home, Sally has gone about her business of shopping for Easter for her children and I am here enjoying the day with my husband and grandchildren. So many blessings have been poured my way in the last few weeks. First my husbands physical problems have been and are about to be solved and my eye is healing. The doctor said that he did not realize how tough I am and he only hoped to save the eye. Now it seems that sight is coming back. Nothing short of a miracle. I believe in mircles. God is in power and with his love and the prayers of my family and friends and church family, this is happening. Someone said that she couldn't imagine anything worse that not being able to see, Now what do I say to make her understand that being without clear sight only steghened my other senses and also my faith. From donuts to flowers, all things are beatiful in God's world. But I have to admit that when I first saw the zelias I knew that they were prettier than they have ever been in my sight. God is good

Janelle Taylor is now in a room at Rush Hospital. I learned that just today. (Last Friday). Speaking of being tough, that lovely lady beats us all. Janelle, you know that there are a whole lot of folks who just cant live without you. Sometimes, I wonderful if it is

your kind manner or if you keep a keep switch in your pocket. We love you Mrs. Taylor and are so glad that you are doing so well.

Congratulations to the Univerwsity of West Alabama Softball on tht big GSC Sweep over Christian Brothers and all of the other great performabnces that you have won. We are so proud of our Lady Tigers.

So very proud of Coach Rundles' Tiger Baseball Team. You are doing a great job and we are so happy. There is nothing like sitting on the deck and pulling for our UWA Baseball Team. We are so proud of all of your progress this season. Looking forward to seeing a game at Tartt Field real soon.

Celesa Whitherington visited with Kathy Pearson last week. They had a great shopping trip to Tuscaloosa. Two of my favorite gals to run around with.

A legend left our midst when Buggie Boyd passed away. Mr. Buggy was one of the friendliest gentlemen that we have ever had the pleasure of sharing our town. He had a great love for sports and he would go to games every chance that he got. I hardly ever went to a Sumter Academy or UWA baseball or softball where Mr. Buggy wasn't cheering the team on. Mr. Boyd will go on living. Who could ever forget that man?

Joni Outlaw it was such a refreshing thing to see you at the library. You look wonderful and have certainly overcome your surgery and therapy. Tht Dee Outlaw is a good tonic for everybody. Loni told me about the wonderful vacation tht she enjoyed with her friend who is a traveling nurse. She is in Vista, Fla. and enjoyed a sailing trip while she was there. As Joni described the beauty, it wqas almost like living it myself. So happy that you had such a wonderful vacation my friend.

At the beginning of UWA Spring Break, my Anna and some of her friends journeyed to Memphis, Tenn. for a weekend. They enjoyed seeing the UWA Softball Team sweep Christian Brothers. in a retirement village at this time. Joni said that it is the prettiest place she has ever seen. She said that the waters and beaches were just breathtaking and that she even enjoyed a sailing trip. Joni, I felt as though I could just feel the sunshine and see the beauty as you spoke. So glad tht you had such a wonderful vacation.

At the beginning of UWA Spring Break my Anna and some of her friends journeyed to Memphis, Tenn. to see the UWA Softball team sweep Christian Brothers in a GSC Conference game. It was a great trip for the team and their fans. Then Anna went on to visit her family in family in

Clarfkdale, Miss. and also spent some time at the beach.

Lexie Harvey and Anna came to see me when I was at my worse. Talking about a good tonic, they were just that for me. That Lexie is one more sweet child. Be glad when she gets back from her vacation at home and those two will drop by to see me again one.

Church at the Livingston United Methodist Church on Palm Sunday was wonderful. It always warms my heart when all the little childrflen walk up to the alter and place their palm branches. Karen Ezell sang the most gorgeous song and Bro. Steve had a most inspiring sermon. And yes you are right Bro. Steve, we all need to trade worry for worship.

Holy Week is the best time of the year and Easter is the best holiday. During Holy Week: On Monday the Rev. Edmond Bell preached a of the meaningful sermon and Jennifer Boydston sang a chilling and beautiful "At the Foot of The Cross. Tree" On Wednesday Rev. Steve Spinning spoke about Jesus washing the Desiples feet and Debra Truelove sang "The Day HE Wore Our Crown." Bro. Steve gave a powerful feeling of the washing of the feet. Debra Truelove sang "The Day He Wore Our Crown." This was wonderful. On Thursday Father Lorch "Jesus Prays In The Garden" meaningful and inspiring sermon on and Frank Calloway sang "Via Doloro." On Good Friday Rev. Thomas Fletcher on "Jesus Being Crusified" and Margo Bryan sang her beautiful solo and her words rang out over the church. All week was a blessing to all who attended. Each day the ladies of the church served a delicious meal. I have to tell Janet Montgomery that due to a medical appointment I missed "Brats" day. Well no fear, there were a few left. I got one and even had one left to take home for my supper. The best thing I ever put in my mouth. Mary Alice you can't tell me that that cake so good. It's the best I ever ate. I loved it. So glad to see John Wlliamougas well. Please let me know if we can ever do anything for you.

Oliver Smith's friend for many years joined us at church last week. I was so happy to meet her. Hope you will come back soon. Brianna thank you with all of my heart for being my eyes when I needed you. Will miss you and your grandfolks in the neighborhood, but we are so happy that you are finally getting the home that you have waited so long for.

"Today I just wanted to thank God for the gift of life. No requests, no complaints, just thankful to be alive."

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Every child deserves to grow up in a safe, stable, and nurturing environment. Show your support by promoting and strengthening child abuse prevention efforts.  
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Take a picture of yourself or colleagues wearing blue and post on your favorite social media with #blueforprevention, tag COTV-Sumter and challenge your friends to go blue.  
Every Friday in April show your support by going blue.  
