



THE **Spirit** OF
STRAWBERRY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

“The Facts of the Resurrection”

Happy Easter! The traditional European greeting by Christians is **Happy Resurrection Day!** I like the traditional greeting better because it symbolizes why we celebrate **Easter**. Easter means a lot of things to a lot of people. For some, it’s the beginning of spring and warm weather, with Easter Bunnies (?), colored eggs, and family get-togethers. For Christians, Easter is the time we celebrate the **Resurrection of Jesus**, attend Church, and get together with our families to enjoy food and fellowship. Easter is a good time to be Alive.

The Resurrection means Jesus is Alive! There is Life, Hope, and Assurance beyond the Grave, beyond Dying, and beyond Life in this body and on this earth. I wrote a paper in college to prove the validity on the Resurrection of Jesus, using scriptures from the Bible, eyewitness accounts and the change in the disciples. Is the resurrection of Jesus valid, is it True, or a made up story by the Disciples? Paul gives us *The Facts of the Resurrection* in 1 Corinthians 15, the *Resurrection Chapter*.

It is an Established Fact. The Resurrection has been established by the *Truth of the Gospel*; that Jesus was crucified, died, was buried and rose again, according to the Scriptures, the Word of God. The Resurrection was also established by the *Testimony of Eye-Witnesses*. The Gospels describe the women coming to the tomb and finding it empty, Peter and John seeing the grave clothes that Jesus was wrapped in and all the Disciples seeing Jesus as He appeared to them in the Upper Room. The Fact is: **He is Risen, the Tomb is Empty and Jesus is Alive!** The Stone was rolled away so we could get in, not so He could get out.

It is a Significant Fact. The significance of the Resurrection is that Jesus is Alive. He arose as the “*first-fruits*” of those who have died, in Him. He arose as a *Pledge* – just as He Arose, so shall we, but Christ had to

rise first. He Arose as a *Pattern* – just as He was changed, so shall we, to be like Him. Not a physical body, but a new spiritual, glorified body. But He also Arose as a *Promise* – “*in My Father’s house are many mansions, I go to prepare a place for you, that where I am, there you be always.*” Those that are His, Believers, Christians, will be changed at His Coming. **That Promise – Live with Jesus Forever, in Heaven, ought to change your life.**

It is an Influential Fact. Because of Adam’s sin, by man came Death, by the Son of Man came the Resurrection of Life. Because He arose, fully God and fully Man, Jesus, the Son of God, could offer eternal Life, “*For God so loved ..., whoever believes in Him should have everlasting life.*” For as in Adam all die, “*wages of sin is death*”, even so in Christ all shall be made alive. Just as our *fleshly body is influenced* by our Sinful nature, even so our *spiritual body is influenced* by our Christian Nature. Adam was created from the dust of the earth, but Jesus is God, He is Lord of Heaven and Earth. Just as we bore the image of Adam, so shall we bear the image of Jesus, having a Glorified, Spiritual body, without sin and shame.

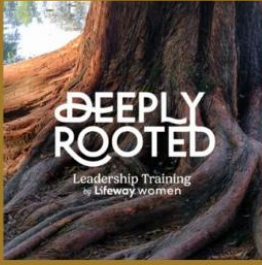
The Gospels tell the story of the *Empty Tomb*. (See *Matt 28*) Paul tells of *Eye-Witness Accounts*. (See *1 Cor. 15*) Luke tells us how the *Disciples were changed*, set on fire, telling the entire world that Jesus was Alive. (*Book of Acts*) The Bible also tells us we shall be like Him, changed in a moment, in a twinkling of an eye. Just as He Arose, so shall we. Just as He was changed, so shall we be changed, we will be just like Jesus.

Because He Lives, I can face tomorrow. Because He Lives, All Fear is gone.

Because I know He holds the Future, and Life is worth the Living just because He Lives.

Because of the Resurrection, because Jesus Lives, We too shall live.

(That’s a Biblical fact; you can Take it to the Bank.)



April 17-18, 2026
 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm Friday
 and
 8:00 am - 12:30pm Saturday
 London Bridge Baptist Church
 Virginia Beach, VA

lifeway.com/intheword

Pre-conference
 April 17, 2026
 8:00 AM - 3:30 PM
 Virginia Beach, VA
 London Bridge Baptist Church

IN THE WORD

WITH JEN WILKIN



248th SBA Annual Meeting

at **Pecks Baptist Church**

on Monday, April 27, 2026

The Association will provide a catered meal at 5:00 pm. Following the meal, a time of worship and Business Meeting will begin at 6:00 pm, finishing by 7:30 pm. *Church members, who are not messengers, are welcome at both the meal and the meeting, but may not vote on business.*

We need to know the count of those attending the meal by April 17, 2026

Please email or call your Messenger & Visitor count to the SBA Office at sbava@shentel.net or 540-586-8345.

Church Messengers for 2026

Beverdam	5	Mountain View	2
Bedford	3	Pecks	2
Bethlehem	2	Quaker	3
Big Island	2	Sedalia	3
Diamond Hill	3	Shady Grove	4
Flint Hill	4	Suck Spring	2
Glade Creek	2	Thaxton	2
Hunting Creek	2	Timber Ridge	4
Mentow	3	Trinity	4
Mount Hermon	4	Walnut Grove	2
Mount Olivet	2		

Church News

Trinity – We will have our Easter Eggstravaganza on April 4, at 11 AM-1 PM for children 12 and under. There will be the Easter story, egg hunts, games, crafts, and food.

On April 26, we will have Church at Liberty Lake Park 10:30 AM. If anyone is interested in a free Wurlitzer console piano, please contact the church office at 540-586-8010.



Bedford Baptist - We will have a Good Friday Worship Service on Friday, April 3, 2026, at 6:00 pm. We invite everyone to attend if you are available. On Saturday, April 4th, we will have a community Easter Egg Hunt on the church grounds, beginning at 10:00 am with the Easter Story, fun, crafts and games. The egg hunt will start at 11:00 am and there will be photo ops with “Mr. Easter Bunny”. The Faithful Chargers For Christ Mission team will hold our Annual Plant Sale on Saturday, April 25th beginning at 8:00 am until 4:00 pm under the Church Pavilion. Our plants will be provided by Turkey Mountain Greenhouse.

Flint Hill - Sunday, April 5 we will have our Easter Sunrise Service at 7:00 pm with breakfast to follow. Sunday School will be at 9:00 am and the Worship Service at 10:00 am.

Our mission emphasis for the month of April is North American Missions and the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering.

Thaxton – All Wednesday activities are cancelled on April 1. We will have our Easter Egg hunt on Saturday, April 4 at 10:00 AM. On Easter Sunday our Sunrise Service will begin at 6:45 AM in the Thaxton Baptist Cemetery. Please bring your own chairs. We will have breakfast at the church at 7:30 AM, Sunday School at 9:30 and our Worship Service at 10:30.

Pecks – We will have our Good Friday service at 7:00pm and our Sunrise service at 6:30am on Easter Sunday.

We celebrated the baptism of a mother and daughter at our church, Haley and Harper Stinnette, yesterday

We are having a Family Game Night on Saturday, April 25th starting at 5:00pm. Dinner is provided, bring your favorite game to play, compete in some games to win a 3-D printed trophy made by one of our deacons, and have a great time together. We are excited to host the 248th annual SBA meeting. We hope to see many there and celebrate what the Lord is doing through our churches as we continually strive to reach Bedford with the Gospel. May 3 - we are having our Senior Recognition Sunday, where Youth will be helping in various aspects of our morning service, and that Sunday evening have our AWANA Awards Ceremony. May 10 - for Mother's Day, we will be having a Child Dedication service, and we currently have 9 children who have been signed up to be dedicated.

Strawberry Baptist Association
P.O. Box 91
Bedford, VA 24523

April

- 3 Good Friday
- 5 Easter
- 7 Pastors' Prayer Meeting
- 17-18 Deeply Rooted & In the Word with Jen Wilkin
- 22 Virginia March for Life, Richmond
- 27 SBA Annual Meeting, Pecks Baptist Church