

**Vital Stats (03/22/2015)**

General Offering to Date	\$103,632.49	(12 weeks)
Weekly Average	\$8,636.04	
Weekly Requirement	\$8,437.00	
	+\$199.04	weekly
Foundations Fund Received	\$29,267.00	(March)

**We extend our sympathy to:**

- Doris Ellis in the death of her sister-in-law Anita Adkins
- The family of Jere Starnes

April 2015 | Vol 40 | Issue 4

# The Observer



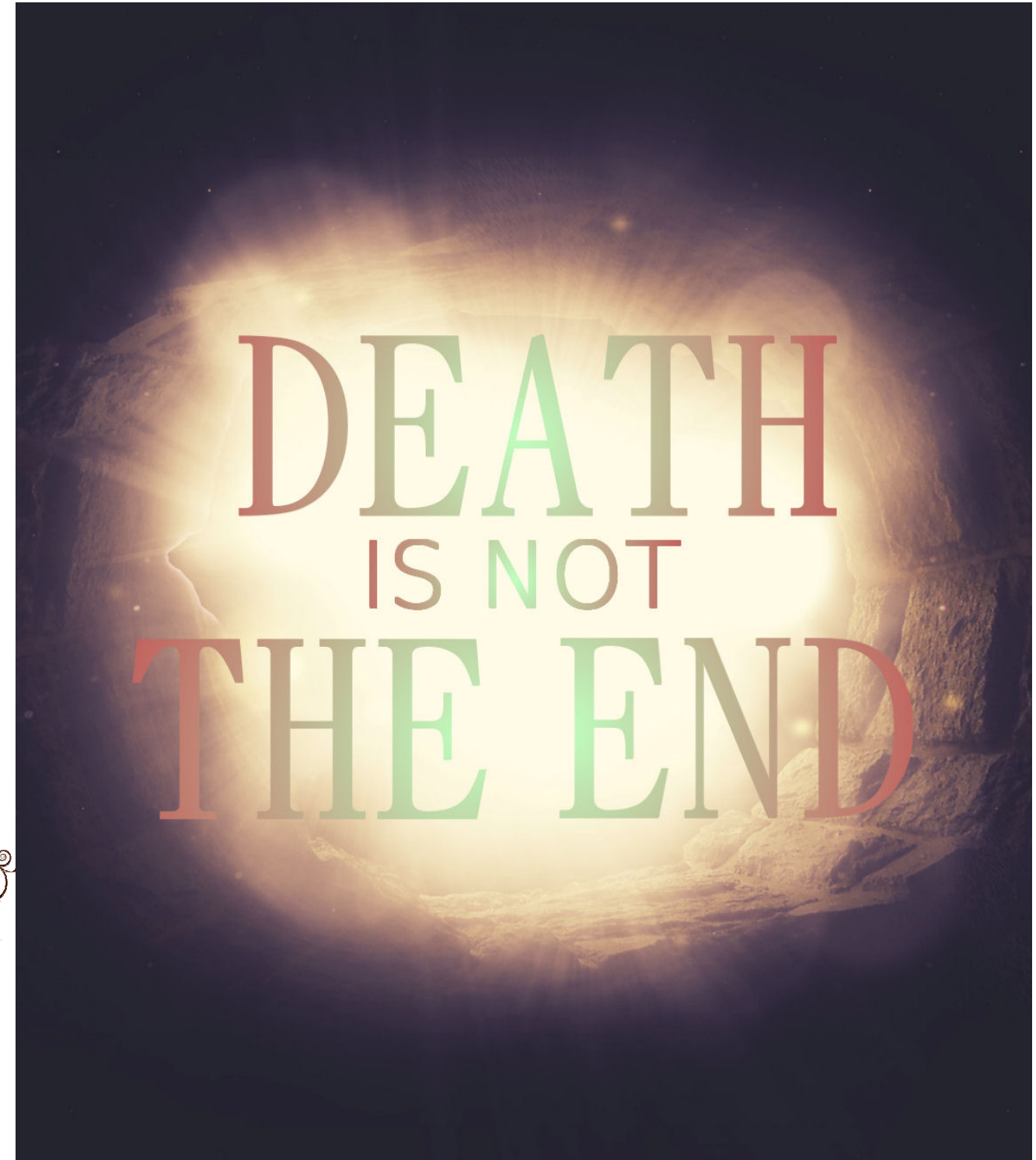
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**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

## this issue

- Pastor's Letter
- Upcoming Events
- Vital Stats
- Calendar
- Birthdays



**Troy Walliser, Senior Pastor**  
**Wade Casey, Associate Pastor**  
**Tim Cook, Minister of Worship Arts**  
**Tiffany Morrison, Director of Children's Ministry**  
**Christina Wilson, Director of Youth Ministry**

**Sunday**  
 9:30 AM  
 Small Groups  
 Children's Activities  
 10:45 AM  
 Morning Worship  
 Kingdom Kids  
 6:00 PM  
 Home Small Groups

**Wednesday**  
 6:30 PM  
 Adult Studies/ Prayer Meeting  
 Kingdom Kids  
 Youth Fuel Worship

## Death Is Not The End



In 1974 Ernest Becker – a Jewish cultural anthropologist – won the Pulitzer Prize for his book, *The Denial of Death*. He articulates the thesis of the book as follows: “The idea of death, the fear of it, haunts the human animal like nothing else: it is a mainspring of human activity—activity designed largely to avoid the fatality of death, to overcome it by denying in some way that it is the final destiny for man.” From 50 years of observing and studying human behavior, Becker determined that what motivates and propels people to do what they do is the fear of death – it is as he said, “a mainspring of human activity.”

That is a powerful observation by a non-Christian thinker. Consider the implications in the lives of those around you. How much do people do to avoid death, to avoid thinking about death or to deny the absolute eventuality of it in their future? Yet Hebrews 9:27 is clear: “*It is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment.*” And the world responds, “I can’t think about that right now, if I do I’ll go crazy. I’ll think about it tomorrow.” (Scarlett O’Hara in *Gone With The Wind*). So, we fill our world with distractions. We are an entertainment-saturated culture. We fill every waking moment with games, TV shows, music, movies, YouTube, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Pandora and the like. We fill our lives with noise so there are never moments of silence in which the weightier matters of life must be faced and contemplated – matters like death, dying and judgment.

But God provides moments and opportunities for us to turn off the noise and consider these truths. For the Christian, these moments are not only necessary but nourishing to our souls. When we consider our own mortality, we can find ultimate hope in the truth that Jesus, the immortal Son of God, died but then defeated death to provide us hope! Earlier in Hebrews we find this nugget of truth: “*But we see him who for a little while was made lower than the angels, namely Jesus, crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone*”. (Hebrews 2:9) Because Jesus tasted death for everyone we can KNOW that death is not the end!

For those who know Jesus, this is a glorious truth. For those who don’t know Jesus, this is a terrifying truth that “haunts the human animal like nothing else.” But God uses the terrifying reality of death to awaken cold, lost, dead hearts to life in Christ.

This Easter we will plunge headlong into the truth that “Death Is Not The End.” Easter is a great opportunity when friends, family members, coworkers and acquaintances are most likely to respond positively to an invitation to come to church. I can assure you of this – those you invite to our Easter service will be faced with their own mortality and the eventuality of their death. But they will also hear the life-transforming truth of the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus which provides life eternal and hope everlasting.

Pray - Invite - Expect,

*Pastor Troy*

# News & Events

## WMU

Tuesday, April 7, 11am  
Meet in the Dorcus Classroom

## Ladies’ Retreat

April 10 - 12  
LVBC Ladies’ Retreat will be held at Dubose Conference Center on Monteagle Mountain, with guest speaker Kathy Walliser Hosea, Troy’s sister.

## Communion Celebration

Sunday, April 19

## D-Group Leader Training Workshop

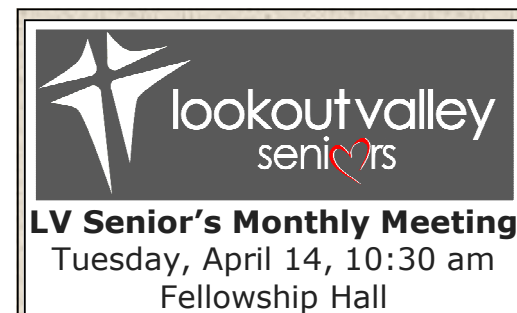
Saturday, April 25, 9:00am-1:00 pm  
Are you currently leading a D-Group? Interested in leading one? Have questions or concerns about your group, or need some help navigating the flow of leading a D-Group? This workshop is open to those currently leading, or interested in leading, a D-Group. Topics will cover many of the common questions and concerns that D-Group leaders face.

## Jasper First Baptist

Sunday, April 26, Evening Service, 6pm CST  
Greg Steele has asked that we join in their Worship Service at Jasper First Baptist Church. Our choir and praise band will lead in Worship and Troy will be preaching. The address is 108 West Third Street, Jasper, TN 37347

## Moms & Ministry

Monday, April 27, 6:30pm  
Come join us for a kid-free time of fellowship and fun. Childcare is available. Please email moms@lookoutvalley.org to reserve your child’s spot no later than April 22nd.



## Spring Break & Good Friday

- ◆ No activities on Wednesday, April 1
- ◆ Church Office Closed on Good Friday, April 3

## Youth Ministry Happenings

**April 8**  
**6:30pm**

**First Youth Service**  
**in the New**  
**Youth Center!**

**April 17**

Church-wide Family Movie Night. Donations accepted and youth will be selling popcorn, snacks & soft drinks to raise money for Student Life Summer Camp.

**April 25 & 26**

Youth will work at the National Cornbread Festival in South Pittsburg to raise money for Student Life Summer Camp.



## Children's Ministry Happenings

**April 5**



Toddlers & preschoolers  
10 to 10:25am on the  
Noah’s Ark Playground.

K–5th grade egg hunt will be immediately after the morning service in the field between the Fellowship Hall and Noah’s Ark.



## April 13: Final Good News Club Meeting until Fall 2015

Please be in prayer throughout the summer that these children will attend church, that they will be taught about Jesus at home, and that they will return for even more “Good News” next year. A special thank you to the volunteers who kept this outreach ministry going this school year: Diana Schubert, Gail Houts, Amy Walliser, Angela Smith, Brad Madewell, Phillip Cooper, Barbie Crosslin, and Linda Manning. If you are interested in helping next school year please contact Tiffany Morrison.

