## Sunday, April 8, 2018

### Ypsilanti Baptist Temple

Pastor James Clay 1325 E. Cross Street - Ypsilanti, MI 48198

Mailing: P.O. Box 981223 - Ypsilanti, MI 48198

Church: (734) 482-5830 - Pastor: (734) 279-2208 Web: www.ypsilantibaptisttemple.org

### Our Services

Sunday School (for all ages)	10:00 a.m.	
Morning Worship	11:00 a.m.	
Junior Church	11:00 a.m.	
Sunday Evening	6:00 p.m.	
Sunday Evening Youth & Teen/Young Adult Group	6:00 p.m.	
Wednesday Midweek Prayer Service	6:45 p.m.	
AWANA - Wednesday Night (Sept - May)	6:45 p.m.	
Nursery - available during all services		
Ladies' Bible Study (Thursdays)	6:30 p.m.	



Henry Baker
Tom Lyke
Jeanette Orr
Iris Baker
Blake Henderson
Melinda Bynum
Peggy Ramsey
Lisa Rousseau
Angeltia Husketh



Dale & Rita Johnson Bob & Lisa Greca

# This Week's Announcements

#### WEEKLY

Teen & Young Adult Bible Study - Sunday Evenings. (ages 13+)

**Thursdays (6:30 p.m.) - Ladies Bible Study.** 7 week Bible study on David, "*Anointed, Transformed, Redeemed.*"

#### APRIL

**April Prayer Warrior Project** - This month's 30-Day Prayer Cards will be the last of the distributions. Thank you to those who participated each month. We hope that you have seen prayers answered throughout this last year ofus doing these special prayer request cards.

**Thursday**, **April 11th (6:30 p.m.) - Ladies Bible Study.** 7 week study on David, "*Anointed, Transformed, Redeemed*" For more information or to signup please see Tanya Norris.

Saturday, April 21st - (11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.) AWANA Fast Track.

AWANA Clubbers, today is the last Fast Track day that you can come and get help on your handbook written sections and verses and get caught up before Awards Ceremony time! **NOTE NEW DATE!!!** 

**Tuesday, April 24, 2018 (2:00 p.m.) - Young At Hearts** will have its next meeting at Tina Moore's house. Tina's address can be found in the Church Directory or you can contact Tina directly at: 734-223-2669.

**Saturday - April 28th - (9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.) Priscilla Schirer Simulcast LIVE!** Sign-up sheet is on the back table. Tickets are \$25 per person. Catered lunch by Famous Dave's BBQ additional \$15 per person (includes meal & drink).





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Pastor Jim & Debi Clay	Greg McCormick
Jerry & Connie Smith	Sue Britton
Charlie & Gage McCormick	Russell Norris
Crystal Crawford & Kids	Tracy Runyon
Fran & Robert Rousseau	Hazel Sanders
John & Nicole Brehmer & Family	Randy Raine
Katelyn, Kayla & Danny Kline	Tina Moore
Mike & Cindy Lilly	Stacy Gobbel
Ed Dougherty's daughter	Betty Teaford
Dennis & Patsy Hasley	Robbie Tacker
Rocky & Sherry Roberts	Kay Greca
Tommy & Linda Smith	Tom Lyke
David & Kelly Hayes & Family	Molly & Shane Barber
Iris Baker & Pascal Morawiec	Jamie Cartwright
Richard & Pam Rousseau	Tommy Rousseau
Bro. Rich & Sharon Robine	Paul Ellis
Ernie & Linda McCormick	Mildred Vercelli
Derrek, Dylon & Duston Braun	Henry & Wilma Baker
Teresa & Paul Lafferty	Lonnie & Janet Nichols
Raymond & Mary Baker	Irene Johnson
Our Online Website Requests	Angela Bruni
Unspoken Requests	Bro. Bobby Hall
Salvation for Family & Friends	Area Homeless
Our Church & Its Growth	Seeds of Hope
President Trump & VP Pence	AWANA Program
Our Police Forces	Our Missionaries
Our Military/Civilian Military Men & Women	Ladies' Bible Study & It's Prayer Requests



**Bulletins:** Did you miss church this week? Miss picking up a bulletin? Don't worry, we've got you covered! You can now get a copy of the current and past bulletins via our website:

ypsilantibaptisttemple.org/bulletins.html



If you would like someone added to the Weekly Prayer List, please complete a form and **place in the offering plate** or in Tanya Norris' **mailbox**. Forms are on the back table. You can also submit your requests via email throughout the week to:

prayerrequests@ypsilantibaptisttemple.org



**REMINDER TO ALL:** If you or you know of a member in our church who is ill or in the hospital, has lost a loved one, is in need of goods or services, etc., please reach out to one of the follow so that immediate actions and notifications can begin:

# Pastor Jim or Debi Jerry or Connie Smith Tanya Norris

Letting one of us know allows us to arrange visitation; get prayers started; see that you are added to the weekly prayer list; see that cards or flowers are sent; deliver goods and/or services; and much more.

If we don't know, we cannot reach out to you. If you send word through other people or by other means, it may not end up reaching us to be able to notify all other church members in time as "life happens and gets in the way."

You can even let us know by contacting us through our Facebook page *https://www.facebook.com/YBT1325/*.

# God With Us

One day, a little boy put some Twinkies and apple juice cartons in his backpack. His mother asked what he was up to. "*I'm off to meet God*", he said simply. "*Ok, but be home by supper time*," she instructed. After walking awhile he stopped at a park bench and sat down, noticing an old woman sitting on the other end of the bench feeding some pigeons.

The boy felt hungry and opened his backpack. He was about to take a drink from his apple juice when he noticed that the old lady also looked hungry, so he offered her a Twinkie. She gratefully accepted it and smiled at him.

Her smile was so pretty that the boy wanted to see it again, so he offered her some juice, too. They sat there eating and smiling but they never said a word.

As it grew dark, the boy realized it was nearing suppertime. He got up to leave but before he had gone more than a few steps, he turned around, ran back to the old woman and gave her a hug. She gave him her biggest smile ever. Arriving home, the boy's mother asked him if he'd found God. "Oh yes," he said with a big smile, "and we had lunch together." The he quickly added, "You know what? She's got the most beautiful smile I've ever seen!"

Meanwhile, the old woman, also radiant with joy, returned to her home. Her son was stunned by the look of peace of her face and asked, "Mother, what did you do today that made you so happy?" She replied, "I ate Twinkies in the park with God." But, she quickly added, "You know, he's much younger than I expected."

Are you open to God's surprise?

Two thousand years ago, a long Jewish carpenter turned the world upside-down. He challenged the traditional uses of power and cast a vision for a whole new way to live. This upset those invested in keeping the old power engines going. Political leaders, military leaders, religious leaders all needed him dead and buried. And they

succeded...for a couple of days. That's when God's true nature exploded into our tightly constructed reality. That's when God's Big Surprise said **No** to Death and **Yes** to Life.

And so even today God continues to bust up the LEGOLAND of our carefully pieced lifestyles to show us something far better, far grander, far more beautiful than anything we could ever imagine. The strange thing is that this new, surprising life is a total gift with no strings attached. But even stranger is that we still try to contain this gift in our old systems of power and manipulation. We attempt to tame the raging fire that is the fierce, relentless heart of the Creator. When that happens, the gift is smothered and dies.

Oh, God still persistently strives to break through the force field of our egos, inviting, wooing, gently calling us to a better path. That's love. But we resist His Strange Surprises. It makes life so messy, we think. We want God to color within the lines, our lines. We insist on being Masters of Our Own Destiny. Yet it's such a lonely journey: trudging on within the cramped confines of our selfmade pathways (tunnels).

All the while, God presents himself to us in new ways every day. He crosses our paths in new forms, new voices, new experiences that challenge our old, worn out concepts. For me, Easter is another powerful reminder to let go of some of my cherished beliefs and be a little more receptive to the fresh surprises of His Love, perhaps arriving from some unusual quarters.

Maybe, it's time to share a Twinkie. Will you join me?

Happy Easter, *Scott* 

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