



Birthdays In March

Robert Richards	March 10
Ramire Sanchez	March 12
Adrienna Jordan	March 15
Elizabeth Aremu	March 29
Vickie Brown	March 30



Anniversaries In March

David and Vickie Brown March 11

HILLENDALE BAPTIST CHURCH



13135 Hillendale Dr
 Woodbridge, VA 22193
 Phone: 703-590-3013
 Fax: 703-878-3764
 Email: hbc@ffc.net

Dr. David T Hottel, Pastor
 Edna Scott, Church Secretary
 Garry Scutt, Music Director
 David Critchfield, Administrative Assistant



- Gary and Sylvia Newport (and Fellowship committee) for food preparation and set-up for our Winter Bible Study and Sunday fellowship.
- The 22 people who attended the Winter Bible Study.
- Jack Shiflett for leading the 30-hour famine.
- The 12 youths who participated in the 30-hour famine and who worked on projects for church members and painted our "Chapel."
- Amy Benson for leading our Sunday School reorganization.
- All who helped with food, calls, etc. for the family of Cindy Stone.



Making a Difference in the Lives of People Through the Power of Jesus Christ



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GOOD ST. PATRICK

On March 17, many churches, especially those with a large Irish population, will celebrate the life of St. Patrick. He grew up in a Christian home in Britain, but wasn't very religious until a major event changed his life. As a teen, he was captured and sold into slavery in Ireland, but escaped to Gaul (France) after six years. The years of enslavement strengthened his faith. He later wrote, "In that strange land [Ireland], the Lord opened my unbelieving eyes." He was led by God's voice to return to Ireland where he converted people to Christianity tribe by tribe.

Because Ireland is called the Emerald Isle, those who celebrate St. Patrick's Day will wear something green. Some Christians will even color food or drink green. Many Christians will also eat corned beef and cabbage and decorate tables with shamrocks. Shamrocks are actually three-leaf (not four-leaf) clover plants. Legend has it that St. Patrick used the three leaves to teach about the Holy Trinity: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.



Pastor *SHEDDING TEARS BEFORE GOD*

When Philip Johnson, renowned architect and designer of the Crystal Cathedral in California, was just 13, his family took him to France. When they entered the cathedral at Chartres, Philip was so moved by the majesty and beauty of the building dedicated to God that he burst into tears.

I have also shed tears in a church. I wept when I felt the nudging presence of God pointing me toward the ministry. I wept when I was ordained. I wept when I retired after serving as a pastor for 38 years.

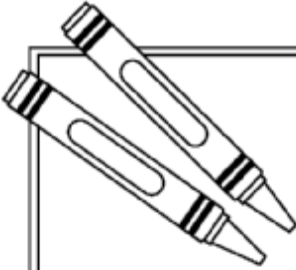
I have seen people weep at the altar rail. I have seen brides cry during the marriage ceremony. I have observed people weeping at funerals and sometimes at the baptism of a child. I recall a man saying to me, "I cried during the sermon. Do you know that what you preach can sometimes make a person cry?"

To weep before God is to be in good company. Job said, "My eye pours out tears to God" (Job 16:20, NRSV). A psalmist prayed, "Hear my prayer, O Lord, and give ear to my cry; do not hold your peace at my tears" (Psalm 39:12, NRSV). Read Jeremiah 9 and you will understand why he is called "the weeping prophet."

Jesus wept over the wretched status of Jerusalem where he was spurned (Luke 19:41). He also wept when his friend Lazarus died (John 11:35). St. Paul wrote to the Corinthians, "I wrote you out of much distress and anguish of heart and with many tears" (2 Corinthians 2:4, NRSV).

The point is this: When you are moved to cry before God, cry. People with caring hearts do that. This is something to remember, especially during Lent.


Dave



Just for **KIDS**

Remember to Pray

There are many verses in the Bible that talk to us about prayer. Solve the puzzle below to see the lesson Paul teaches about prayer in Philemon 1:4. Think about your own life and your prayers.



Use the alphabet code to fill in the blanks, and then read Paul's message.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
Z	Y	X	W	V	U	T	S	R	Q	P	O	N	M	L	K	J	I	H	G	F	E	D	C	B	A

" R Z O D Z B H G S Z M P N B

 T L W Z H R I V N V N Y V I

 B L F R M N B K I Z B V I H "

... Philemon 1:4, NIV

Answer: I always thank my God as I remember you in my prayers