

Lives of Fragrance

2 Corinthians 4:14-17

April 2025 | Vol. 3, Issue 10



What's New

April 5th

Hands of Beauty, Hands of Grace, event for women to celebrate God's gifts of creativity. More details are given below. Please register online.

April 3rd – 24th

The April Bible study is on the book of Ruth. Thursdays 10-11:30am. Childcare for 0–6-year-olds.

April 27th

Baby shower for Anna Karen Cox at 10 a.m. TBC Paragon Room. RSVP to Kelly Shoop.

Behold the Lamb

Karen Krueger

As we think with wonder of Christ, the Incarnate One, bearing our load of sin, we may also consider the extraordinary and eternal comfort contained in the attached verses. Because Christ suffered and died for our sins, he paid the penalty which we rightfully owe. We are ransomed and redeemed because of the precious blood of Christ. This passage describes how Christ, in carrying our sin-load, also took upon Himself our heavy weights of grief and sorrow.

In times of deep grief, which come to us all as part of our human condition, cling tightly to Jesus. He will hold you. He understands the pain and the grief, because He has already carried it for you. Peter tells us that we are called to suffering; Christ suffered for us and is our example, so as we walk through times of suffering, we follow Christ (1 Peter 2:21).

Although your grief is unique to you and to your loss, it joins you to others who have suffered grief and pain. We read in 1 Corinthians 12:26 that we who are joined together in Christ suffer together. We are one body in Christ; when one is hurting, the body hurts (2 Corinthians 1:4). Through Christ's strength, not our own, we are able to carry burdens for others and to lift up the wounded and grieving. We weep with those who weep, and we rejoice with those who rejoice (Romans 12:15).

We rejoice, knowing that this life, with its accompanying griefs and sorrows, is temporary. We have an eternal home in heaven, where we will be forever with the Lord. Christ himself is preparing that amazing dwelling place for us (John 14:2).

1 Corinthians 15 clearly articulates the Gospel: Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures; he was buried; and he was raised again from the dead! As children of Adam, we inherit death. Praise God, because He, our loving Father, carried out his plan of redemption; the Son of God became the sacrifice for our sins. Because of Christ's victory over death, we will gain an imperishable body and life everlasting.

Rejoice! Sing for joy to our Redeemer, our Messiah, our Advocate before the throne, for He is risen! Know this truth: because He lives, I shall live also (John 14:19).

He was despised and rejected by men,
a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief;
and as one from whom men hide their faces
he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

Surely he has borne our griefs
and carried our sorrows;
yet we esteemed him stricken,
smitten by God, and afflicted.
But he was pierced for our transgressions;
he was crushed for our iniquities;
upon him was the chastisement that brought us
peace,
and with his wounds we are healed.
All we like sheep have gone astray;
we have turned—every one—to his own way;
and the Lord has laid on him
the iniquity of us all.

Isaiah 53:3-6

Recipes

Cindy Brookshire has shared some of her favorite recipes with us. These recipes will be enjoyed by your family year-round!

Banana Bread

Cindy says, "This was a recipe I got from my stepmom. It is so moist, and I have had so many compliments on it."

- 6 Tbsp butter, softened
- $\frac{3}{4}$ c. sugar
- 2 eggs
- $1\frac{1}{2}$ c. flour
- $\frac{1}{4}$ tsp salt
- $\frac{3}{4}$ tsp baking soda
- $\frac{3}{4}$ tsp baking powder
- $\frac{3}{4}$ tsp vanilla
- 3 large or 5 small ripe bananas ($1\frac{1}{2}$ c. mashed)

Cream butter and sugar well. Add eggs, beat well.

Combine flour, salt, baking soda, and baking powder. Add to creamed mixture, mixing well. Then add vanilla and mashed bananas. If desired, add $\frac{3}{4}$ c. chopped pecans, mix. Put batter in well-greased loaf pan. Bake one hour at 350° . It is done when toothpick inserted in center comes out clean.

Note: To keep bread from getting too brown around the edges, make a "frame" out of foil ($1\frac{1}{2}$ –2 in. wide) and place on loaf pan. Remove foil after 20 minutes. Continue to bake. The banana bread recipe makes one loaf.

Summer Squash Casserole

- 2– $2\frac{1}{2}$ pounds yellow &/or zucchini squash, sliced $\frac{3}{8}$ -in. thick (7–8 c.)
- $\frac{1}{4}$ c. chopped onion
- 1 can (10 $\frac{3}{4}$ ounce) cream of chicken soup
- 1 c. sour cream
- $\frac{1}{4}$ – $\frac{1}{3}$ c. butter
- $1\frac{1}{2}$ c. herb-seasoned stuffing mix

Cook squash with onion in boiling salted water until crisp-tender. Drain very well. Combine soup and sour cream. Fold in drained squash and onion. Melt butter; toss with stuffing mix.

Spoon squash mixture in 2-quart casserole dish. Sprinkle with stuffing mix. Bake at 350° until heated through (bubbly around the edges), 25–30 minutes. Makes 6 servings.

Spotlight on Ministry

Women of Prayer (WOP) is a group of women who meet weekly to pray, to sing, and to fellowship. WOP regularly prays for the pastors, staff, elders, deacons, and needs of the TBC body, as well as for our missionaries, the persecuted church, and individual requests. The WOP group stays connected during the week via text messages to communicate prayer requests, updates, and encouragement. New attendees are always welcome! Although WOP is colloquially known as the Praying Grannies, there is no age limit, and grandmother status is not required. Please join WOP on Tuesdays from 12 noon to 2 p.m. in the Ambassador classroom.

Zucchini Bread

- 3 eggs
- 1 c. oil
- 2 c. grated, well peeled zucchini
- 1 tsp vanilla
- 2 c. sugar
- 3 c. flour
- 1 tsp baking soda
- $\frac{1}{4}$ tsp baking powder
- 1 tsp salt
- 1– $1\frac{1}{2}$ tsp cinnamon
- $1\frac{1}{2}$ tsp pumpkin pie spice (or $\frac{1}{2}$ tsp nutmeg & dash cloves)
- Nuts (optional)

Beat eggs till light and fluffy, at least 2 minutes. Add oil, zucchini, vanilla, and sugar. Beat well. Combine dry ingredients. Add to zucchini mixture and beat.

Pour into two well-greased loaf pans or 1 Bundt pan. Bake 325° for 1 hour. Toothpick inserted in center should come out clean. (Bundt pan may take longer). Freezes well. Makes 2 loaves.

Upcoming Events

Karen Krueger

Hands of Beauty, Hands of Grace

Ladies, please plan to attend our spring event: Hands of Beauty, Hands of Grace. This will be an arts and crafts exhibition showcasing the work of women's hands. God entrusts each of us with different skills and abilities; we glorify God as we work to create the practical and the beautiful. God is infinitely creative and his work is beautiful beyond compare; God has also made us in his image and we are able to work with our hands to design and craft items of beauty. During Hands of Beauty, Hands of Grace, we will have time to sit and listen to Biblical teaching, to view displays and observe demonstrations of arts and crafts, and to enjoy delightful fellowship. Boxed lunches will be served at a cost of \$10; please register online.

The April Bible Study

The Women's Council is pleased to present a Bible study on the book of Ruth in the month of April. Ruth is a short book, with only four chapters, but it is a beautiful picture of love and redemption, which points to Jesus, our Redeemer. Come and enjoy Bible study and fellowship on Thursday mornings,

10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Childcare will be provided for children 0–2; Kids' Day will provide teaching for children 3 years – 1st grade. Please inform us if you have older children who will need supervision. Register online.

Questions regarding women's ministries at TBC? Email womensmin@tulsabible.org.

Lives of Fragrance is a publication of the Women's Ministries of Tulsa Bible Church. For corrections, comments, or written contributions, please email flnewsandviews@gmail.com.

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