

# WELCOME



If you are a first time visitor please fill out one of our **Information Cards** available at the Information Center or in the Sanctuary. We want to thank you for joining us today as we celebrate God's grace and goodness together. Please be sure to introduce yourself to us and thanks again for coming.

## **This is the day the Risen Lord has made!**

Pastor Mills will be sharing from the Sacred Scriptures today.

**\*Wednesday Prayer, Fellowship, and Bible Study this Wed. May 3, 7:00 PM  
(A Study from the book of Genesis)\***

**Youth Overflow Convention, May 19-21, Waterloo, Special Speakers/Music  
and Activities. Please Pray for Pastor Marco, Sponsors, and Youth.**

**Deacon Board Meeting Tuesday May 16, 7:00 PM**

**Please pray for the Summer Children's Camp as we continue the process of  
hiring University Student Staff and Volunteers.**

**Sarah gave birth to Aleta, Christina, on Friday, @ 1:51 PM, April 28, 8  
pounds, 10 ounces, 22.5 inches.**

## **JUST FOR KIDS**

Our children join us for worship in the main Sanctuary until they are called to the altar area for prayer. They will then attend Sunday School and will be supervised by our capable workers. Their special Bible lesson will conclude at the same time as the adult service.

**On the first Sunday of each month (Communion Sunday) our children will  
stay with their parents in the main sanctuary for the entire service. Nursery  
will function as usual and be available every Sunday.**

Nursery is supervised and available when the children are dismissed from the sanctuary.

## **Joyful In Life's Jams**

We have all heard it or said it: "He/she is in a real jam". We understand it to be a time of trial and difficulty; something experienced that is unpleasant to some degree. It is difficult for the believer to maintain a spirit of joy in such a time. But the Bible actually admonishes us to do so! "Rejoice in the Lord always" (Phil. 4:4). We must recall that the original recipients of this letter from Paul were experiencing challenging circumstances, and they were under very real difficulty and strong opposition. It almost seems arbitrary and out of touch for Paul to encourage an attitude of joy in such adversity. But Paul was not encouraging this in an indiscriminate way. He had learned to "be content in all circumstances". Contentment and joy are very deep passions; there is nothing superficial about them. Paul found this depth of life in Christ. This is precisely who he is calling us to. But what exactly does that mean in a practical sense, as we too face our own struggles and difficulties?

The apostle Paul not only encouraged others to be joyful in affliction but he modeled it in his own lifestyle. His trials were severe and real! How did he maintain such joy in the midst of it all?

Paul's incredible example was not due to the fact that God just did it all for him because he was an Apostle. Nor was it some secret state of positive thinking or a denial of the very real circumstances that he was facing. Paul had an inner peace of mind and soul due to his faith in Christ's presence, the Word, and the Body of Christ. It led him to believe absolutely "I can do everything through him who gives me strength."