



# The Duck Call

The Monthly Newsletter of Duck Church • April 2024

## Facing Adversity in Faith

A woman complained to her father about how difficult her life had become. "What can I do about it?" she asked. He said, "I will tell you, but first I need to show you something." He took her into the kitchen and set three pots of water to boiling. He put carrots in the first pan, eggs in the second, and tea bags in the third.

After the water had boiled for awhile, he asked his daughter to examine the contents of each pot. He had her cut the carrots, peel the egg, taste the tea.

She asked her father what this meant. He said, "Each of these teach something about facing adversity. The carrot went into the boiling water hard but came out soft and weak. The egg went in fragile but came out hardened. The tea turned the water into something better."

He then asked his daughter, "When you find yourself in hot water, which will you be? Will it make you weak? Will it make you hardened? Or will you turn adversity into triumph?"

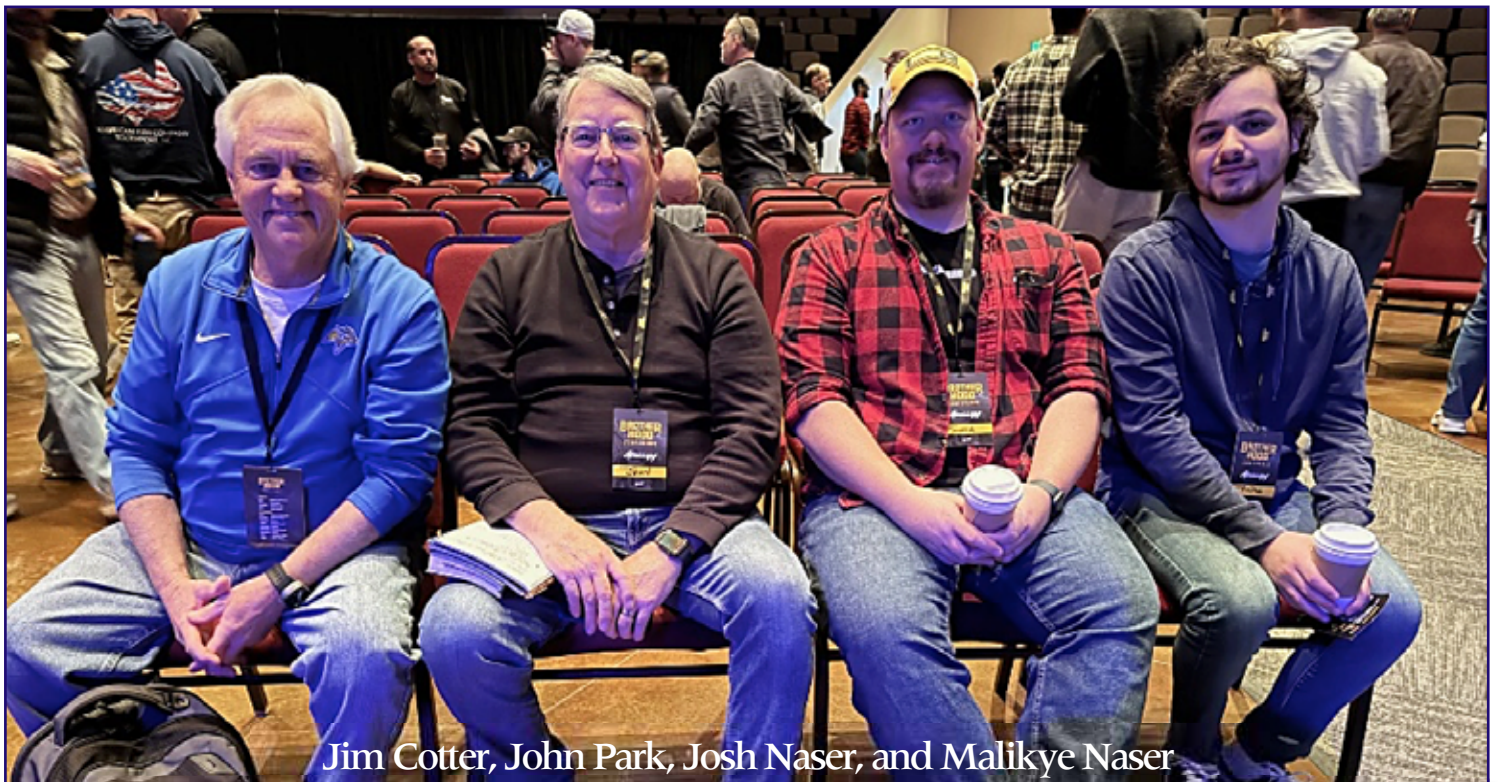
James wrote,

*Consider it a sheer gift, friends, when tests and challenges come at you from all sides. You know that under pressure, your faith-life is forced into the open and shows its true colors. (James 1:2-3 The Message)*

I love you all,

*Chris*

Pastor Chris



Jim Cotter, John Park, Josh Naser, and Malikye Naser

Duck Men recently attended Brotherhood Conference in Greenville, NC  
See pg.4

Page  
One

## HELP NEEDED IN THE CHILDREN'S MINISTRY:

### Do You Have a Heart to Serve with Children?

*We have a few ways to help!!!*

#### **KidsFest • Friday May 10th • 9:30 AM-12:30 PM**

We will be out in the community, representing our Church at KidsFest! This is such a fun event, and neat way to meet new families! Last year over 1600 kids and adults attended!

Duck Church will have a tent with a Duck Pond for the kids to select ducks from-to win prizes.

We can use help with set up/tear down, and interacting with the kids that come to our tent!

#### **Vacation Bible School • June 17th-20th 9 AM-12 PM**

We are having a SCUBA Themed VBS, where we will Dive into Friendship with God! Many hands are needed to make Bible School a success! There are several ways to serve that week!

This is such a meaningful (and really FUN) way to help, our youngest members grow closer to Jesus. You can register to help at [vbspro.events/p/236f20](http://vbspro.events/p/236f20)

#### **Nursery/Children's Church Substitutes**

We have the absolute best Children's Ministry team. We are looking to add more substitutes to be able to call when one of our teachers are sick/traveling.

Please reach out to Brooke Bowser-Naser by calling the church or emailing:

[familyministries@duckchurch.org](mailto:familyministries@duckchurch.org)

for more information!

*Thank-You!*



## *April* **BIRTHDAYS!**

4/1- Neil Morrison, Sr	4/17- Zechariah Lucast
4/2- Gail T. Harris	Lyn Shields
Joyce Wells	Victor White
4/5- Hall Rupert	4/20- Mary Lou Brooks
4/12- David Jones	4/22- Sydney Guns
4/14- Kay Ross	4/23- Chip Vincent
4/15- Todd Ahrens	4/27- Dave Kidwell
Kurt Johnson	4/28- Evan Emory

*Happy Birthday  
to All Y'all!*

If your birthday is this month but not listed, please call the church office to be included next year.



## APRIL MONTHLY MEN'S MEAL (Breakfast!)

Our monthly men's breakfast will be held Saturday, April 20th, at 8 AM in the fellowship hall. We'll swap stories, eat good food, have a brief business meeting, and share some time in God's word as we finish up "James for Men" with video teaching by Vince Miller. The men's executive committee will share some recommendations for participating in the Duck 4th of July parade, hosting a fellowship gathering for Global Methodist Men in our area, and sponsoring a clean-up day for Duck Church and maybe more! See you then!

The Duck  
Methodist Women

Thursday,  
April 4th  
9:30AM

*"Ladies...* Our next Duck Methodist Women's meeting will be held on Thursday, April 4th. We will continue with our devotional series on Connection with God. This month we will highlight the connection with God's Creation.

We are very excited to see new faces in our group and would like to welcome many more. We enjoy getting to know each other and working on ministering to our church and community. We will begin planning in earnest for our July

Jumble/Yard Sale to be held the 4th of July week at our April meeting. Please plan to come and find where you can help with our biggest fund raiser of the year. *Can't wait to see you there!"*

Page  
Two



## Looking for a Great Way to Give with Ultimate Rewards...?

Give Your Time...Your Energy,  
Your Encouragement,  
Your Prayers... Your Heart.





# ANOTHER DAY IN PARADISE\*

*She calls out to the man on the street  
Sir, can you help me?  
It's cold, and I've nowhere to sleep  
Is there somewhere you can tell me?*

How do you feel when you read those words? Can you imagine being the one who speaks these words? Heartbreaking words. Pleading words. I cannot. I'll bet you can't either. We live in paradise.

*He walks on, doesn't look back*

*He pretends he can't hear her*

*Starts to whistle as he crosses the street*

*Seems embarrassed to be there.*

*Oh, think twice*

*'Cause it's another day for you and me in paradise*

(\* Song Lyrics by Phil Collins)

Shocker - we have those among us who are homeless. And desperate. And needing to rebuild their lives. Room In the Inn is our local homeless shelter provider. We - Duck Church - will be providing meals for 15 or so during the week from April 14th-20th.

*Matthew 26:11* (Jesus speaking) - *For you have the poor with you always, but Me you do not have always.*

*Psalms 14: 31* - *He who oppresses the poor reproaches his Maker, but he who honors Him has mercy on the needy.*

The truth is - wait for it - we do live in paradise. It's sad to see that we have these poor and homeless folks. And it is our christian duty to do something. Pastor Chris' sermon of March 10th, gave several strategies for service including serving with a hands-on approach. Here's your opportunity knocking.

Just the Facts Ma'am...

## About the Crisis Pregnancy Center of Tidewater

Let's turn to another subject. I received the 2023 annual report for the Crisis Pregnancy Center for Tidewater. They had a record number of new cases/clients - 2196. Other data provided: 3156 helpline calls, 2518 online internet inquiries, 1821 positive pregnancy tests, 1623 ultrasounds administered, 346 families attending Great Expectations Parenting Classes and 66 commitments to Christ! 631 chose life - this is the number of patients at-risk for abortion who chose LIFE! Praise God!

*We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.*  
(The US Declaration of Independence, 1776)

I believe those unalienable rights are bestowed to the most vulnerable and helpless among us - the unborn. If you wish to argue that, go ahead. Do it in front of a mirror because I won't be listening to you. Argue it out with God - let's see who wins.

Duck Church provides a mechanism, a conduit if you will, to support the Center. If you wish to provide financial assistance, you can do it online at [duckchurch.org](http://duckchurch.org) or write a check to Duck Church and put Pregnancy Center in the memo line. Every dollar of it will be passed along to the Center.

Amen? Amen.

Jim Cotter  
Serve Chair





*Almost 300 men ate dinner together on Friday night.*



*Jeff Voth, founder of Cavetime USA, was the main speaker.*

## DUCK MEN ON THE MOVE

In late February this year, four men from Duck Church... Jim Cotter, Josh and Maliky Naser, and John Park joined almost 300 other men for a Brotherhood Conference hosted by the men of Covenant Church (GMC) near Greenville. The focus of the event was understanding who we are as men in Christ and how we live for God in the power of the Holy Spirit. Jeff Voth, Founder of Cavetime USA, was the primary speaker, but he was joined by other men who shared the stage with him or led breakout sessions on various areas of discipleship. We ate together, worshipped together (imagine 300 men singing to the Lord in one place), sat under the teaching of Godly men, and shared fellowship together. Mark your calendars for the next Brotherhood Conference in February 2025!



*Several men led breakout sessions Saturday morning.*



*Worshipping the Lord together Friday evening & Saturday morning.*

# Brotherhood Conference 2024



## ZOE Trip Rwanda Information Meeting

Sunday, April 7 at 10:30

Fellowship Sunday School Classroom

Trip Dates are September 4 thru 13th





from Deb Benton Music Director

We have just experienced the highest note of the Christian year – Easter. During Holy Week we felt dark and desolate, but on Easter, what a bright and glorious view awaited us. No matter whether dark or bright, our eyes should always be on Jesus.

A beautiful and moving hymn, “Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus,” keeps us focused on Him. The author was Helen Lemmel. She was born November 14, 1863 in Wardle, England. She was the daughter of a Methodist minister. Her family came to America when she was 12 years old. Her family settled in the Wisconsin area. In 1904, Helen moved to Seattle, WA and became a music critic. During an interview with a famous singer, she was encouraged to return to Europe. Helen was a gifted singer and studied four years in Germany. Upon returning to America, she began giving concerts and traveling on the Chautauqua circuit. She could have been a popular singer in the secular world, but her desire was to serve Christ with her voice. She joined the Moody Bible Institute and taught music.

In 1918, Helen (aged 54) was with a friend who gave her a gospel tract entitled “Focused.” It began, “So then, turn your eyes upon Him, look full into His face and you will find that the things of earth will acquire a strange new dimness.” Helen described what happened next. “Suddenly, as if commanded to stop and listen, I stood still. Suddenly I simply sang words and notes. The verses were written that week. It was dictated by the Holy Spirit.”

The song was published in Britain in 1922. Two years later it came to America. She retired in Seattle, WA and died at the age of 97 in 1961. Helen wrote over 500 hymns and children’s songs. Her life was lived by keeping her eyes focused on Jesus and reflecting His brightness to the entire world.

“Turn your eyes upon Jesus, look full in His wonderful face, and the things of earth will grow strangely dim in the light of His glory and grace.”

John 8:12 “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”

Dear God, help us all to keep our eyes, heart and actions on the brightness of your word, so that others will need sunglasses.

Soli Deo Gloria

Deb

# A Seed for Thought

“Enter through  
the narrow gate.

For wide is the gate  
and broad is the road  
that leads to destruction,  
and many enter through it.

But small is the gate  
and narrow the road  
that leads to life,  
and only a few find it”  
(*Matthew 7:13-14*).



A New Member Class will meet in the Seekers Classroom at 3:30 PM, March 21st. It is intended for all our people; those who are already members, those who would like to become members and those who would like to be active in Duck Church while leaving their official Membership at another church. Call the church office to register.

# April 2024

Faithfulness springs forth from the earth...

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 <b>EVERY TUESDAY</b> Circle of Friends 3:00 PM Couple's Bible Study 7:00 PM AA 7:00 PM	3 <b>EVERY WEDNESDAY</b> Pastor's Bible Study 10:00 AM Ladie's Bible Study 1:00 PM Silver Link Plan Meeting 9:30 AM	4 Duck Methodist Women Meeting 9:30 AM	5	6
7 ZOE Informative Meeting 10:30 AM No Youth Group	8	9	10	11 <b>EVERY THURSDAY</b> Choir Practice 5:00 PM	12	13
14 Youth Group 5-7 PM	15 Duck Call Deadline April 15th		17 Silver Link luncheon - noon  Join Us!	18	19	20 Men's breakfast 8:00 AM
21 Youth Group 5-7 PM	22 <b>EVERY MONDAY</b> Prayer Group in the Chapel 8:00 AM	23	24	25	26	27
28 Youth Group 5-7 PM	29	30				

**WORSHIP SERVICES**  
 Traditional Sunday Worship Services - 8 & 9:30 AM  
 Contemporary Sunday Worship Service - 11AM  
 Sunday School - 9:15 & 9:30 AM

The Care Ministry Contact Person for April is Joyce Wells. Please contact the church for her number.  
 Be well in Christ.





## CHECK OUT WHAT'S GOING ON AT YOUTH GROUP THIS MONTH:

APRIL 7TH:..... NO YOUTH GROUP (SPRING BREAK)

APRIL 14TH: ..... TELL IT: LEADER TESTIMONY

APRIL 21ST : .....TELL IT: LEADER TESTIMONY

APRIL 27TH: .....UNsung HEROES MOVIE

# Tell it

WE ALL HAVE A STORY TO SHARE. THIS SPRING, SOME OF OUR ADULT YOUTH LEADERS WILL SHARE STORIES OF COMING TO FAITH AND HOW GOD HAS WORKED IN THEIR LIVES. AND IN OUR SMALL GROUPS, WE'LL WORK ON HOW TO TELL OUR OWN FAITH STORIES.

One family's journey  
from Down Under to center stage.



BASED ON A REMARKABLE TRUE STORY, *UNSUNG HERO* FOLLOWS DAVID SMALLBONE AS HE MOVES HIS FAMILY FROM DOWN UNDER TO THE STATES, SEARCHING FOR A BRIGHTER FUTURE AFTER HIS SUCCESSFUL MUSIC COMPANY COLLAPSES. WITH NOTHING MORE THAN THEIR SEVEN CHILDREN, SUITCASES, AND THEIR LOVE OF MUSIC, DAVID (FOR KING + COUNTRY'S JOEL SMALLBONE) AND HIS PREGNANT WIFE HELEN (DAISY BETTS) SET OUT TO REBUILD THEIR LIVES. HELEN'S FAITH STANDS AGAINST ALL ODDS AND INSPIRES HER HUSBAND AND CHILDREN TO HOLD ONTO THEIRS. WITH THEIR OWN DREAMS ON HOLD, DAVID AND HELEN BEGIN TO REALIZE THE MUSICAL PROWESS IN THEIR CHILDREN, WHO WOULD GO ON TO BECOME TWO OF THE MOST SUCCESSFUL ACTS IN INSPIRATIONAL MUSIC HISTORY: FIVE-TIME GRAMMY AWARD®-WINNING ARTISTS FOR KING + COUNTRY AND REBECCA ST. JAMES.



POST OFFICE BOX 8010  
DUCK, NORTH CAROLINA  
27949-8010

Office Hours: **OPEN**

Please call Monday ~Thursday – 8:00 to 4:00 PM

Follow us on Facebook for all the latest news:

Duck Church



## Prayer Requests

Please call the church office if you do not have e-mail and would like to receive notices of prayer requests.

To Communicate ~

Call us at 252-261-1525

Monday through Thursday or

Email anytime at:

[office@duckchurch.org](mailto:office@duckchurch.org)

**Quick note:** please contact the church office if you are unable to get the virtual worship service.... *God Bless.*

***The deadline for the May Duck Call is April 15th. Thanks.***

**Save the Date: Duck VBS! • June 17th - 20th**  
**9 AM 'til noon**

If you are interested in helping in our Bible School please reach out to Brooke Bowser-Naser, at [familyministries@duckchurch.org](mailto:familyministries@duckchurch.org) or call the church.

**Thank You!**