



## Coming in April Reality TV: The Sequel

After Easter we will begin another Reality TV Series on Sunday mornings. Last spring we had a lot of fun exploring the themes together, and the connection between show themes and our walk with Jesus was encouraging and challenging. Join us this series as we consider the premise behind current shows and apply these principles to our own personal faith. We begin on April 11 with **Undercover Boss**, a look at what happens when a CEO goes undercover at various levels within the company. The series continues on April 18 as we explore true freedom and transformation through **The Biggest Loser**, followed by a look at principled living through **19 Kids and Counting** on April 25. The Series will conclude on May 2 with **Minute to Win It**, as we consider regular people doing ordinary things with extraordinary implications. We will enjoy a church-wide lunch on May 2 and have the opportunity to participate in some of the Minute to Win It games.



## God's Promises 2010

January: *Faithfulness*

February: *Love*

March: *Salvation*

April: *Potential*

May: *Attention*

June: *Joy*

July: *Wisdom*

August: *Belonging*

September: *Eternal*

*Significance*

October: *Communication*

November: *Caring*

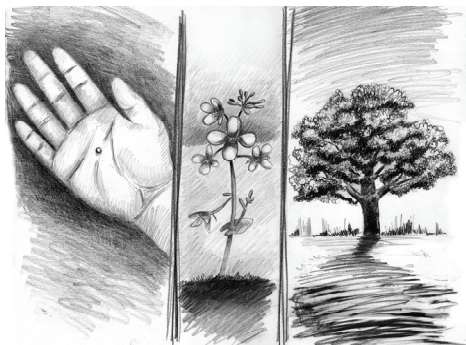
*Provision*

December: *Presence*

**Visit [mulberrychurch.org](http://mulberrychurch.org)  
for more resources,  
including music and  
articles related to each  
month's theme**

God's Promises 2010

## April: Potential



He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his field. Though it is the smallest of all your seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and perch in its branches."

—Matthew 13:31-32

## A Note from Steve...

Can you imagine what the followers of Jesus must have gone through the first Easter? Of course, they didn't know it was the first Easter as it was happening. They only knew that their leader and teacher had been arrested, beaten, and crucified. Things didn't seem to be going as they had hoped or planned, and they were scared, confused, and discouraged. They locked themselves in a room and tried to comfort one another and regroup. On the third day, a few of the women went to the tomb to ceremonially care for Jesus' body, only to find an empty tomb when they arrived. They didn't know what to think at first: Had the body been stolen? Was this a trick? Then an angel appeared to tell them of the resurrection, and Jesus himself appeared to them as well. They ran back to tell the others, certainly full of a wide range of emotions. The others didn't know what to believe at first. How could this be? Some of them had been present as Jesus was crucified, watching with their own eyes as he suffered and died. They still didn't understand what Jesus had been trying to tell them all along. As Jesus came to them over the next few weeks, it finally began to become more clear. Jesus was God, and Jesus was alive!

It was even better than they had hoped or imagined. Once the new reality sunk in for them, they lived their lives 100% devoted to Jesus. Everything they did was for the sake of spreading the message of life through Christ. We seem to be so much more enlightened than they were. We have known the whole story from the beginning; we see the big picture. Yet somehow it seems that the reality of Easter doesn't have the same effect in our lives. It may have taken a few weeks for it to sink in for the first followers, but once it did, they lived each day in response to the message of Easter. Today, if it takes us a few weeks to recover from Easter, it is often more related to the holiday travels or Easter egg hunts than time for the true message to take root. In a few weeks, will we be moving on to finishing the school year, making summer plans, planning our next trip to see family, or starting a new project? Or, a few weeks after Easter, will we be living each day in response to the transforming miracle of Easter – the death and resurrection of God in the flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior? May our lives match the words with which our hearts want to answer that question.

With Love for you and Love for Jesus,

*Steve*

I am pleased that the Deacons have resumed the Deacon Family Ministry, pairing active deacons with families within our church. This will support and enhance the ongoing pastoral care that I and the other staff will continue to provide. It will be another way to increase the relational ministry within our church family, and it should in no way limit anyone's ability to minister. Whether you are a deacon, a teacher, a church staff member, a charter member, a committee chair, or a new believer; every follower of Jesus is a minister of the gospel - one called to share the love and hope of Jesus. One of the distinguishing characteristics of our church family is welcoming love. Time and time again I hear people inside and outside of our body comment of the warmth, kindness, and friendliness of people at Mulberry. Let's continue to love one another well and love those who are not yet followers of Jesus.

## Deacon Reminders:

**Serving in April:** Paul Danos, Justin Dowden

**Regular Deacon's Meeting:** Sunday, April 11th @ 7:15PM

# Children's Ministry

A big **thank you** goes out to all of you that donated candy and helped out with our Easter Egg Hunt. The kids all had a great time! Thanks to our Children's Ministry Team for a job well done!

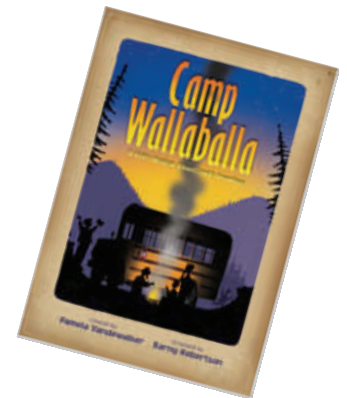


This month your children will learn about God's promise of **Potential**. God can do a whole lot with very little. He can do big things with ordinary people, and we can do big things with Him. In Children's Church, we will learn about people in the bible that God chose to use in special ways. We will learn that God can and does use people today. If we trust God and are obedient to Him, we can do many things that will bring Him glory. God loves us and allows us to participate in His plans, guiding us and growing us all along the way. How awesome is that?!

*Spring* is here! It's time to *spring* into action and volunteer for VBS! We still have several positions to fill. Our wonderful staff director is on maternity leave and busy, busy, busy with a house full of kids! Let's help her out by filling those positions quickly and making her job as easy as possible. You can call the church office, email me, or volunteer online at [mulberrychurch.org](http://mulberrychurch.org). Teaching materials will be available later this month for you to begin planning and prep. We are designing this year's curriculum to be as easy for you as possible. I am really excited about it! If you are thinking, "Bummer! I'm out of town the week of June 7-11," don't worry, we still need you the week of July 12-16 for our summer Music Camp, "Camp Wallaballa!"

In Christ,

*Margie*



## Worship and Media

Happy Easter! I pray that you are celebrating our risen Savior and worshipping Him. The "It's All About You" Palm Sunday service turned out wonderful, and Christ was honored. Thanks to all who participated.

Have you ever heard someone say, "I can't worship to that type of music"? I know I have. In fact, I have been there. Early in my church life I struggled with the issue of personal preference in Sunday morning worship. I didn't like some music and I would refuse to participate or tune out if I didn't like the style.

I discovered that this attitude only harmed me and my worship of Christ. I was allowing my personal preferences and the preferences of others to affect my worship. Not only was that attitude harmful, it was also sinful. Allowing anything, even my personal preference, to interfere with my worship was an idol.

I made a decision that has forever affected my life. I determined in my heart that during any worship service, I would expect God to be there and that He would speak, and I would worship Him. Period. That decision has radically affected my life. Since that time, I have found that all forms of music can be my worship language: bluegrass, shape-note hymns, southern gospel, standard hymnody and contemporary music.

If you are struggling with worshipping in a certain way or style, remove the idol of personal preference and make the decision to worship anyway. Christ does not have a style preference. Worship Him today.

In Christ,

*Chris*



## Mulberry Ministry Team

Church members: Ministers-at-large

Steve Graves, Pastor

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Chris Babb, Minister of Music and Media

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Mary Dowden, Children's Minister

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Haley Kraemer, Secretary

[info@mulberrychurch.org](mailto:info@mulberrychurch.org)

## Mulberry Baptist Church

*A Place for Life!*

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## Let's Listen To God's Word Together!

In 28 minutes per day in April and May, Mulberry will listen to the entire New Testament together. We have the audio New Testament professionally recorded in various formats for everyone who would like to participate in the 40-day listening plan (5 days a week for 8 weeks). There is also a kid's version available with scripture songs. Listen in your car, listen at home, listen on your iPod ... fill your mind and heart with the life-giving words of scripture.



**Stop by or contact the church office to pick up your copy today!**

### March Statistics

#### Budget Receipts

#### Attendance

Date	Amount	Sunday School	AM Worship
03-07-10	\$7,240.00	74	159
03-14-10	\$7,180.00	63	145
03-21-10	\$5,070.00	68	156
03-28-10	\$5,106.00	79	218

Budget Goal YTD: \$93,310.62

Budget Receipts YTD: \$69,601.18



### Awana Adult Challenge

- Three Bears and a Pig:** Steve Graves, Cindy Graves, Mike Gray, Laura Gray
  - Pigs Might Fly:** Chris Babb, Brandy Jabert, Lee Gautreaux, Joel Waldron
  - Team Danos:** Eric Danos, Rebecca Danos, Paul Danos, Kara Danos
- Please turn in all signed cards ASAP**