

Hello friends!

Welcome to April!!! We have been counting the days (well, not really counting cuz it's too many days) until Spring would finally 'SPRUNG'!!! And we couldn't be more excited!! We love April! It's a time when spring flowers burst on the scene everywhere and rain showers usher in that ol' familiar smell of "GOODBYE WINTER!!"

We see new beginnings all over the place, finally!! New flowers, new green everything, new outfits, new attitudes and a whole lotta of less layers!! It screams "ALIVE!" And we love it. We say, 'yes, we are coming!!' We love the idea of being alive and breathing! (who doesn't?) We love nature's idea of fresh starts. We really love the idea of no more snow!! (Who's with us? Huh? Besides the skiers and snowboarders) We love the feeling of lots more sunshine and a lot more warmth!! We love it all. (Yes sir! Yes Ma'am!) It's finally getting into a new season and we LIKE it!! A lot!!

April brings with it the idea of out with the old and in with the new. It feels like you should change some things, and maybe get a little more pep in your step. Smiles should take the place of straight face ( you know the one...no expression, no patience, not impressed by much at all or in other words...go away) and joy pushes its way to the surface (hopefully, cuz we're ready for you to be happy). Spring always comes right on cue!

Cold can't keep it away. Snow can't keep it away. Bitter temperatures can't keep it away (although, it may feel like it's won sometimes. :/ ) Spring has a mind of it's own, and it knows when to show up, and it knows when it's moment is on the scene and no matter how bad nature tries to impede it and stop it's appearance, nature can't. Some things are just meant to be. Spring always wins out over winter!! (That;s why we love it. It's soooo strong!!)

Just like Jesus. Just like Resurrection. Just like fresh starts. Just like new beginnings. Just like blooming and thriving and winning and celebrating and JOY!!!! There are just some things that were bound to come forth no matter what (or who) tried to stand in the way. No matter what they did to Him, or how bad they treated him, or whatever they wished upon Him, Jesus was ALWAYS gonna rise again. He was always planning a comeback. He let them (us) think they could keep Him down and keep Him concealed... but NOPE! Their (and really ours, cuz we played a part in the crucifixion even if we don't think we did, we did.) meanness couldn't stop Him from appearing in all His strength and glory!! The WINNER forever over death, hell, and the grave. He 'SPRUNG' to life for all of us and we are forever changed because He did.

Their hoping wouldn't deter Him. Their lies, were never gonna replace Him. And their giddiness at the thought of removing Him forever, was never gonna get in the way of HIM coming ALIVE, again!! Just like Spring!

Winter can't stop it. Cold can't stop it. Death can't stop it. When it's time for Spring... Spring is coming with no apologies.What is meant to be will always find a way. Well,

same with Jesus. He couldn't be stopped. His plan couldn't be scraped. His mission couldn't be aborted. His timing couldn't have been more perfect. When the world all thought He was never gonna show His face again (like Spring), at just the right time, in just the right place, and forever in the exact right way...HE CAME!!!

That's why He's called Faithful! And that's why we really smile! Oh, we love Spring, and warm, and sun, and less layers of clothes. But, even better than that...we REALLY love JESUS!! And April is the month, this year, that we get to celebrate that!! What a nice surprise after the cold, dark winter, huh?

This month, on April 9th, we will be celebrating JESUS springing forth from the grave for you, and you, and you, and us!!! We enjoy Him in our services every week of every month, and we will continue to do the same on Resurrection Sunday (Easter for some). We invite you to come join us if you have no home church you are part of & experience His presence **@ 10am in Bluffton**. (If you do, then go & enjoy Jesus with them 😊). We should always take advantage of the new seasons and flow with them. This one is no different. Don't let April feel like a March, cuz it's not. It's new. It's beautiful. It's a new beginning' & its a whole lot warmer, too (hopefully), and it's pointing our attention to JESUS!!! And did we mention... We are really, super, extremely, wholeheartedly, unapologetically, unashamedly, eternally excited about that!!!

Love to you all and HAPPY RESURRECTION!!  
Your Forgiven Church friends!