

Missions AAEO, Portland, OR Oregon is one of the least-churched states in the nation. It's where Vergil and Kelsey Brown planted one successful church in Portland and after 10 years, felt God's call to leave it in the hands of a new pastor and plant again.

The family moved to a part of the city that might as well have been another world away—especially for the couple's kids. For people in the Brown's community, Christians are an oddity.

"Most of our neighbors do not know a single Christian, but they ask questions. We quickly had to get comfortable with that. God is leading them to Christ through relationships," says Vergil.

The Browns started with a home prayer group that quickly grew into Redemption Church. The church is now growing in attendance and baptisms and hopes to soon launch additional church plants.

"I'm hooked on church planting now and just doing bold things for Jesus," says Vergil. "It was scary. It was really scary, but we're so glad we did it."

#### Church of the Week

Grace Hills Baptist Church Appomattox, VA Interim Pastor Gary Dalton

### Shut-in of the Month

Carolyn Williams 366 Willow Creek Rd. Pamplin, VA 23958

Prayer Concerns from Congregation

### Government Leaders

- For the president and administration officials to seek God's guidance as they determine the best course of action to meet the nation's needs in addressing cancer treatment and cures. He has declared this month, "National Cancer Control Month."
- Governor Youngkin seeking to restore confidence and integrity to Virginia's criminal justice system.

## Church Leadership

Kristin Lakes, Nursery Coordinator and Sunday School Teacher.



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April 2,2023 April 2,2023

## The Ordinance of Communion: "Suffering Servant"

Isaiah 53:4-6 Pastor David Sexton

**Introduction:** As Paul preached the Kingdom of God (Acts 28), his focus was not showing the great king of Palm Sunday, rather the humble suffering servant of Good Friday who is the risen Savior of Easter Sunday.

Today we come to the Lord's Table once again to "celebrate" His death and remember that He came to fulfill the promise of Isaiah that was prophesied in Isaiah 52-53. So let's ask a few questions regarding the one who was appointed to be our Messiah and see why the Lord's Table is so central to our worship.

- 3 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. 4 Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted.
- 5 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. 6 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.
- 1. Who Is He?
- 2. What Has He Suffered?
- 3. Who Caused His Suffering?
- 4. Why Has the Servant Suffered?
- 5. What Then Should We Do?

Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup.
-1 Corinthians 11:28



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