



FREEDOM_{CHURCH}

"...where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is Freedom."

2 Corinthians 3:17

Service Time: Sundays at 10 am

Pastor Mark's Remarks

We begin the month of April with the highest holy day of the year for Christians...our celebration of Resurrection Sunday. It seems a bit strange for this day to fall on April Fools' Day. Yet there is a fitting irony in this fact. For it was on this day that Jesus truly made a fool of our enemy, the devil. Satan thought that he had defeated the Son of God at the Cross. But on Resurrection Sunday morning, Jesus proved Himself to be the victor and Satan to be the defeated one. And how wonderful it is to share in His victory over sin, death and the devil!

Now, here we are almost 2,000 years later. And the amazing thing is that this Good News about Jesus' death and resurrection is still changing the world, one heart, one life and one family at a time. And the movement isn't slowing down. On the contrary, the spread of the gospel is actually *gaining* momentum in our lifetimes. And we are excited to share in this world-shaping movement at Freedom Church!

But that also begs the question: What part can I play in changing my community and the world by helping to spread the Good News about Jesus and what He has done and is doing? And there are so many ways to do that. Maybe God is calling you get involved, hands-on, by to going with us to the mission field in places like Mexico or Haiti. Or maybe He is calling you to give financially so that others can go. Maybe God is calling you to shape the lives of the next generation by teaching our preschoolers or children on Sundays or by investing in the lives of our middle and high school students each Wednesday. Maybe He wants you to be trained so that you can disciple other adults to become disciple-makers. Or maybe God wants you to use your home, your voice, your artistic talents, your smile, your technical skills, your musical abilities, or any of a multitude of gifts to help spread the Good News and positively impact the lives of people who need to know Jesus and His life-changing power.

Freedom is growing and changing because God is at work here. And the only way for us to keep pace with what God is doing is for each of us to prayerfully discover and embrace the roles that God has for us in ministry. Together we are going to make a big impact for the Kingdom both here on the Eastern Shore and around the world!

You Are Loved!

Mark

April 2018 Special Dates

- April 1: Resurrection Day
- April 8: Core Team (2:15 pm)
- April 8: Small Group Leaders' Meeting (3 pm)
- April 22: Pancake Breakfast (9 am)
- April 22: Connection Class (4 pm)
- April 29: Communion
- Celebrate Recovery every Thursday at 6:15 pm
- Freedom's youth meet on Wednesdays, 6-8 pm



Check us out on the web! www.myfreedomchurch.net

New Student Ministry Leaders

For more than a year, Carl and Kristen Wade have been the student pastors here at Freedom, and have done a great job (alongside Stone Keener) of loving and leading our students every week. But now Carl and Kristen are handing the student ministry baton to our own Charlie and Katie Lemon, effective April 1st. And additionally, Caroline Keener is officially being added to this team as a student ministry intern, alongside her husband, Stone. We are blessed to have such godly, committed leaders investing their time and energy in the lives of our teens each week. Please be sure to let Carl and Kristen know how much you appreciate their past leadership. And join us in welcoming Charlie, Katie, and Caroline to our student ministry team.

If you have children in grades 7-12, be sure not to let them miss the fun, relationship-building and spiritual growth taking place every Wednesday evening at Freedom, 6:00-8:00.

Pancake Breakfast, Sunday, April 22nd

With so many new faces appearing each week at Freedom, it's important that we have time to just visit and get to know one another better. And what better way to do that than over a plate of hot pancakes and Conecuh sausage? On Sunday, April 22nd, join us at 9:00 (an hour before worship) for some good food and fellowship in the Grace Room.

Freedom Church Online

Help us to reach out to others on social media by becoming a Facebook friend of Freedom Church by simply liking our page and by liking and sharing posts and events from Freedom. Did you know that you can now view the full worship service (including music) online through the Freedom Church Facebook page? This can be viewed live or later in the week. The Freedom Facebook broadcast has become our fastest-growing online outreach tool. So please share it with your friends. You can also access more than 5 years of archived Freedom sermon videos through either our website (MyFreedomChurch.net – Click on sermons) or through our

Family Ministries

Baby Dedication

Children are a gift from God. Psalm 127:3

Baby dedication will be held on Sunday, May 13th, 2018, during church service. This ceremony is one in which believing parents make a commitment before the Lord to raise their child according to God's Word and God's ways. If you would like to sign up for this event please go to our website at www.myfreedomchurch.net. For any other information please email Sabrina Ankerson at sabrina@myfreedomchurch.net.

Thank you for letting us minister to your precious children!



Miss a service? Look at our archived sermon videos at www.myfreedomchurch.net

Students

We (Charlie & Katie Lemon) are excited for this new season of life where we will be working with the youth at Freedom Church! We have both had our fair share of bumps and spills trying to walk through life without Christ, and we have experienced hardships, growth, joy, and victory with Him.

We are really stoked to help the youth work through the daily struggles of being a teen and pre-teen in the current American culture. There are so many pitfalls out there today that just didn't exist when we were kids, but we are doing our best to stay on top of the struggles by getting to know the people we are working with. The burst of technology and information available can seem a bit overwhelming at times, but we know that God is raising up a generation from these young people that will shine like a light in the dark world and bring the kingdom of God and victory through Jesus Christ to those trapped in the darkness. We are more than excited to be a part of this!

We look forward to getting to know the youth, their hopes, their dreams, their struggles, and helping them to find and fulfill God's purpose for their lives. Jesus commands us to make disciples as recorded by Matthew in verse 28:19, and we know that believers of all ages should be discipled, so they can disciple others. We hope to see fruit in these young people's lives that will last them through their adolescent years, into young adulthood, and well into lives as parents, teachers, and leaders in the Church.

May God bless you all!

Missions

Exciting things are happening with the Freedom Church Mission program!!! I just came back from a "discovery" trip to Haiti. Having been on many mission trips in the past few years, I can honestly tell you that there has never been a greater need in so many different parts of our world than there are right now. The needs are great in every area: physical, mental, and spiritual. But God is working mightily and I'm excited for us to be a part of those works! To see some pictures and a synopsis on the Haiti trip, go to: www.myfreedomchurch.net/connect/missions-ministry/haiti-mission-trip-march-2018.html

Our first team trip is quickly approaching! On May 30th, our team takes off for a life-changing mission trip to Tizimin, Yucatan, Mexico, where we will minister to the Mayan people. Everyone expects to go to a mission trip hoping to bring a blessing to those we will serve. My experience has shown that WE'VE always been the ones receiving the blessing! Serving people in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ is the most rewarding thing I've ever experienced and I'm very excited to be taking a team to share in that time together. Expect GREAT THINGS and great things WILL happen!!!

You can still be a part of this trip by donating to the missions program. We need to buy supplies for VBS for the Mayan children, supplies for light construction, and personal evangelism supplies. The single most important thing you can do is to commit to prayer for each of us every day as we're in the mission field. Please pray that God will give us all servant's hearts. Pray for the hearts of every person with whom we will be in contact that they will be receptive to God's Word and His will for their lives.

"And then he told them, 'Go into all the world and preach the Good News to everyone.'" – Mark 16:15

Like us on Facebook!



Celebrate Recovery

What a great season we are witnessing at Freedom. We continue to see so many new faces on campus and share the excitement in what God's doing within our church and faithful fellowship. We are experiencing that same energy and commitment among our folks within the fellowship of Celebrate Recovery.

Within CR, we spent the month of March looking at our third recovery principle: We consciously choose to commit all our lives and wills to Christ's care and control. The biblical component of this principle is, "Happy are the meek" from Matthew 5:5.

As we begin working this principle, we are reminded that our progress in life change is dependent on our willingness to surrender our lives to Christ. The saying, "But for the Grace of God," is a great reminder of the context of the principle. This miracle of life change is not a result of good works or better living. It is not a matter we can boast of. It is a gift from God. We are reminded of how well our lives have worked out for us in the past without Christ guidance. We must decide and yield. In our recovery, we arrive at a place where we are forced to choose - Do I continue to attempt to follow the false gods of human perfection, coping and gratification, or do I fully embrace the merciful grace of God through submission of self will?

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God - Ephesians 2:8

Celebrate Recovery is a Christ-centered recovery ministry for anyone struggling with hurt, pain or addiction of any kind. It is a safe place to find community, encouragement and freedom from the issues that are controlling your life or the life of someone you love. From the very first time you visit, you will never be asked to do anything to make yourself uncomfortable. We meet at 6:15 on Thursday nights in the Grace Room and we would love to have you visit us. Supper and child-care are provided by the church.

Freedom Staff

Pastor	Mark Price	mark@myfreedomchurch.net
Student Ministers	Charlie and Katie Lemon	charlie@myfreedomchurch.net katie@myfreedomchurch.net
Student Ministry Interns	Stone and Caroline Keener	stone@myfreedomchurch.net caroline@myfreedomchurch.net
Worship Pastor	Tony Edwards	tony@myfreedomchurch.net
Children's Minister	Lyn Davison	lyn@myfreedomchurch.net
Secretary	Beth Osborne	beth@myfreedomchurch.net
Preschool Minister	Sabrina Ankerson	sabrina@myfreedomchurch.net
Celebrate Recovery Pastors	John Beck Salley Beck	john@myfreedomchurch.net salley@myfreedomchurch.net
Missions Pastor	Butch Hedgepath	butch@myfreedomchurch.net
Media Director	Dave Wilson	dave@myfreedomchurch.net