

**MT. OLIVET BAPTIST CHURCH, 3500 Edwards Mill Road, Raleigh, NC 27612**  
**NEWS & EVENTS – April 2025**

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*Remembering...* sometimes this word is a difficult reality for some of us. To recall something lodged in my memory bank is like the experience of attempting a withdrawal from an ATM, when I can't remember my password or login number. I have told some folks that at times my brain is like a Windows 95 processor. You know, the kind with the hourglass that used to turn over and over, while the computer was thinking, or processing. The RAM or random-access memory was rather limited in its capacity compared to today's standards. As I understand it, the random-access memory is the computer's short-term memory. My memory seems comparative to that description. For example, my memories can be quite random and harder to access! The experts who know how computer technology works can tell you that computer memory over time can be somewhat fragmented, or disconnected, causing computers to process at a slower pace. Life is like that. We find ourselves in need of an expert who can remind us to remember.

Recently, I had the privilege of being interviewed by my granddaughter who needed to complete a college course assignment. The assignment was to interview a family member who served in the military. I consented, even though I was a little anxious about what some of the questions might be. But I thought if the questions got a little tough, my random-access memory might show up at the most opportune time! What I learned through this process was surprising to me. I learned the memories that surfaced were some that I haven't thought about enough through the years. Looking back and remembering parts of my life was harder than I expected. It wasn't about the difficult experiences, as much as it was realizing that the Expert that was helping me remember was the One who has been with me all along. The One who was helping me when I didn't think much about Him. When I was asked how it was to be separated from my wife and baby daughter for a year when I was sent overseas, I recalled it was lonely and desolate. I turned 21 years old in a place so far away from home. Culture shock, I think it's called. I was called to serve by the military as a stranger in a strange land. At that time of my life, I had briefly considered the call of God as a teenager, but the call of this world was distracting, disappointing, and destructive. As I reflected on the questions, I was reminded to remember how the Good Lord was looking upon me when I wasn't looking for Him. He was with me all along. Listen to what a man named Moses heard as he was living in a desert far away from the mission God had in mind.

In Exodus 3, God said two things to Moses that makes an impression upon me... *I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob and Certainly I will be with you.* As I listened to my granddaughter ask me questions about the years when her mother was a baby, I was overwhelmed with the thought of God's faithfulness. He has helped us endure extremely hard times even till this very day. The God of the generations is still at work in us. He is bringing us through as strangers in a strange place. Our home is where He is, and He is leading us there if we will follow Him. He has been there all along. It's never too late to turn to God.

He will never leave us or forsake us. Remember the Resurrection. He is Risen... He is Risen indeed.

Blessings to you,  
Pastor Sam

**(April 20<sup>th</sup> – Resurrection Sunday...Join us to celebrate, but if you are unable to attend Mt. Olivet's 11 AM Sunday worship service in person, can go to website [www.mobc.org](http://www.mobc.org) and click on "Worship Services" for live streaming or prior messages.)**