

## MARCH/APRIL 2025 NEWSLETTER



### *Holly Grove Christian Church*

*Established 1873*

#### **BITS FROM BOB**

#### **“Showing Our Faith”**

Maxie Dunham shares a story about a college student who became a Christian late one spring and joined the church. He had a summer job in a logging camp. This concerned some of his new Christian friends. They felt the rough and tough worldly lumberjacks might tease him harshly and perhaps tempt him to let go of his faith. So, they prayed for him daily.

When the summer was over, the young man came back home. “What was it like?” his friends asked him. “Did you make it okay? Was it difficult for you? Did the lumberjacks give you a hard time because of your faith?” “There weren’t any problems at all. You see they never found out that I was a Christian.”

Is this the way it is for us? Are we not showing our faith? Are we not reflecting in our lives the purpose and meaning of this new life we have in Christ?

We will begin our journey to the Cross on Wednesday, March 5<sup>th</sup>, the beginning of Lent, forty days before Easter. It will be a time of repentance and reflection. It will be a time of preparation for the new life we have in Christ.

These past few weeks our Sunday scriptures have been dealing with the revealing of Jesus and the response that comes from those who hear his word. We saw Jesus reading from the book of Isaiah foretelling his coming. We were shown how his hometown rejected him, and we witnessed the calling of his disciples to follow him.

Don’t worry and fret over the details. Just come as you are. If Jesus can take a little bread, a couple of fish and feed over five thousand people, surely, he can take the little we bring and do great things for his kingdom. If Jesus can change water into wine, surely, he can fill us with the spiritual water to quench the thirst of our souls. Surely the Jesus that raised Lazarus from the grave can raise us to a new life in him.

Jesus is revealing himself to us through his word and the gift of his Holy Spirit.  
How are we responding? Are we showing our faith?

God Bless You All,  
Bob

Cell phone # 804-896-0631/Email Address: [boblane5@aol.com](mailto:boblane5@aol.com)

## Announcements

- Our next bi-monthly board meeting will be on Wednesday, March 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. If you have a concern or idea, come join us.
- The March/April/May "Our Daily Bread" devotional booklets are on the table when you come into the sanctuary and on a table in the fellowship hall. We hope you will pick up a free copy and enjoy quiet time with God.
- We have several Bible Studies during the week for adults. The Ladies' group meets on Monday mornings at 10:00 a.m. There are two adult groups for men and women that meet with Pastor Bob on Wednesdays. These sessions are at 11:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. We invite you to join one of these groups and dig deep in God's Word.
- The Adult Choir practices on Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m. If you like to sing or make a joyful noise, come join this wonderful group!
- The Church Food Pantry will be open on the last Saturdays in March and April from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. If you would like to help with the Food Pantry in any way, see or call Suzanne Bowman on (804) 517-1224. There is also the "Food Box" located outside the fellowship hall door with items available for those that may be in need for just a few things.



- Jane Harris, Tammy Mayo, and their Sunday school class will be preparing the plastic eggs for the Easter egg hunt on Easter morning for the children of the church. They are asking for your help by bringing donations such as small pieces of candy, stickers, small toys and coins (no balloons please because of a choking hazard).  
**Just be sure that the items you bring can fit in a plastic egg.** There will be baskets in the sanctuary and fellowship hall for those donations. Please bring your donations by Sunday, April 6<sup>th</sup>.
- Just a reminder there are book boxes near the church playground and at the Holly Grove Ruritan Club playground. There are lots of books for youth and for adults as well, so pick up a book from one of those locations and enjoy reading. We also have books available in the fellowship hall library as well.
- If your birthday or anniversary is not on the calendar, please let Cindy Wilson know so you can be added and celebrated! Also, If you would like to receive church emails during the week and are not on the email list, please give Cindy your information at [bccawilson@yahoo.com](mailto:bccawilson@yahoo.com) or call or text (804) 357-4412 and you will be added.

- For those that are doing the "Walking with God" 40-day fitness and Biblical challenge during Lent, we pray that this journey will be a wonderful experience for you. If you would like to join this challenge, please see Dawn Lipscomb or Nancy Lloyd.
- For reserving the church, fellowship hall or gazebo, please contact Dianne Montgomery, Vice Chairman.

## HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE



On March 4<sup>th</sup>, the Hospitality Committee will have a Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner starting at 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. to help prepare our hearts and minds for the Season of Lent.

They are also planning an Easter breakfast after the 8:00 a.m. Worship Service on Easter morning.

The committee is looking for breakfast casseroles, bacon, sausage, biscuits, mini muffins, fruit and milk. If you would like to help by bringing one of these items, please see Dawn or Katherine Lipscomb to let them know.

## Ash Wednesday Service

There will be a collaborative Ash Wednesday Service on March 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. We invite all to attend as we come together for this very special service. We will have the imposition of ashes to mark the Season of Lent.

## The Lenten Season

The upcoming season of Lent is upon us. What is Lent? Lent is the Christian season of preparation before Easter. Ash Wednesday marks the first day, or the start of the season of Lent, which begins 40 days prior to Easter (Sundays are not included in the count). Many people on the last night before Lent eat rich, fatty foods before they start the ritual of fasting for the Lenten season which begins on March 5<sup>th</sup> this year. The day before Lent is called Shrove Tuesday. Shrove is from the word shrive, meaning "confess." In our Christian religion during the solemn forty days of Lent the Church unites itself each year to the mystery of Jesus in the desert and in spiritual preparation for the celebration of His Passion, Death and Resurrection. This is a time to make a special point of self-examination, of considering what wrongs we need to repent and what amendments of life or areas of spiritual growth we especially need to ask God's help in dealing with. It is a very special time for Christians to reflect on Jesus Christ and **ALL** He has done for us.

## Prayer Cross

A wooden cross will be placed in the sanctuary on Sunday, April 6<sup>th</sup>, and Palm Sunday, April 13<sup>th</sup> to be used as a Prayer Cross. If you have a need or concern in your heart, you are invited to write your prayer requests on paper that will be provided and place them on this cross. We ask that during the interlude time of the service, as you quietly listen to the music and have silent prayer, that you also take this time to reflect on the pain and suffering leading to the crucifixion of Jesus, as well as the suffering of humanity and the world under sin. As we open ourselves before God, we place our needs, our fears, our failures, our hopes, our very lives in God's hands. We pray that this will be a moving time for reflection and a powerful call to prayer. At the close of our Palm Sunday service, our prayer requests will be removed from the cross and burned, to symbolize releasing our needs to God and to humble ourselves before God, that without Him we are but dust and ashes.

## Maundy Thursday Passover Dinner

Rev. Moses Joshua of Springfield Christian Church has invited our congregation along with all District 10 churches to their Maundy Thursday Passover Dinner on April 17<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 until 8:00 p.m. Springfield is located at 18285 Vontay Road, Rockville, VA 23146.



## Easter Morning Worship Service

**April 20<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 a.m.**

This year, we will again have one Easter Worship service. It will be outside near the old rugged cross. Chairs will be set up for all to sit in and communion will be served. There will be a Children Worship and Wonder Program story for the children and our choir will have special music. Come and be a part of this very meaningful time together as we celebrate Jesus' resurrection as we listen to the sounds of nature, hear Pastor Bob's message, sing songs, hear the Word of God and the church steeple bell ring. Afterwards we will have a fellowship breakfast, and then an Easter egg hunt. We ask all children to bring their Easter baskets to gather eggs. If we should have rain, the service will be inside.

As Psalm 118:24 says:

This is the day the LORD has made;  
we will rejoice and be glad in it.



We are excited to announce that Vacation Bible School will be on Thursday, July 10<sup>th</sup> through Saturday, July 12<sup>th</sup>. Thursday and Friday sessions will be from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. with a light dinner served and Saturday will be from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. More details to come closer to the time. If you have any questions, see Dianne Montgomery.



Youth Leaders Jamie Grant and Tammy Mayo will be meeting with our youth in grades 5 through 8 soon.

Their first meeting will be on Sunday, March 9<sup>th</sup> immediately after the Worship Service around 11:45. This will be a brief introduction to the program and consent forms will be available for pick up. The next meeting will be on Sunday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> after church. More details and meeting dates to come.

## New Member

We are so happy to have Donnie Cash join the congregation of Holly Grove. He came forward on Sunday, February 16<sup>th</sup> and transferred his membership. We welcome Donnie and give praise to God for bringing him to our humble congregation. We feel blessed to have him as a part of our church family.

## Craig Springs Camps



Craig Springs Camp and Retreat Center is a campground in the beautiful Allegheny Mountains with cabins. It is owned and operated by the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Virginia and has overnight Christian camps. Go to <https://www.ccinva.org/virginiacampingministry> to check out the camp schedule for this year. The camps are mostly for youth, but they do have a family camp in August. To learn more about Craig Springs, go to [www.craigsprings.org](http://www.craigsprings.org).





## CW&W Program Schedule

(This Children's program is for age 3 through grade 4.  
Please see Nancy Lloyd with any questions.)

March 2<sup>nd</sup> - Storyteller: Carrie Vincze  
Greeter: Gwen Rose (Parable of the Great Banquet - 30)

March 9<sup>th</sup> - Storyteller: Pat Martin  
Greeter: Jessica Bagby (Lenten Puzzle - 31)

March 16<sup>th</sup> - Storyteller: Suzanne Bowman  
Greeter: Judy Wyatt (Jesus and the Children - 32)

March 23<sup>rd</sup> - Storyteller: Dawn Lipscomb  
Greeter: Katherine Lipscomb (Jesus and Bartimaeus - 33)

March 30<sup>th</sup> - Storyteller: Anna Giusto  
Greeter: Steve Montgomery (Jesus and Zacchaeus - 34)

April 6<sup>th</sup> - Storyteller: Nancy Lloyd  
Greeter: Elizabeth Lloyd (Jesus the King - 35)

April 13<sup>th</sup> - Storyteller: Carrie Vincze  
Greeter: Gwen Rose (Jesus' Last Passover - 36)

April 20<sup>th</sup> - Storytellers: Dawn Lipscomb & Nancy Lloyd  
(Jesus Is Risen: Jesus' Appearance to Mary Magdalene -  
37 - During the Easter Worship Service)

April 27<sup>th</sup> - Storyteller: Pat Martin  
Greeter: Jessica Bagby (Jesus Is Risen: The Road to  
Emmaus - 38)

## Nursery Volunteer Schedule

(If you should have any questions or would like to  
volunteer, please see Dianne Montgomery.)

March 2<sup>nd</sup> - Anna Giusto and LaChelle Lewis  
March 9<sup>th</sup> - Dianne Montgomery and Tammy Mayo  
March 16<sup>th</sup> - Dawn and Katharine Lipscomb  
March 23<sup>rd</sup> - Zachary Lipscomb and Elizabeth Lloyd  
March 30<sup>th</sup> - Abby Brown and Fran Chandler  
April 6<sup>th</sup> - Sherrie Sommer and Corina Wesselhoft  
April 13<sup>th</sup> - Rhonda Gorman and MaryRae Goad  
April 20<sup>th</sup> - Heather Owens and Jessica Bagby  
April 27<sup>th</sup> - Carrie Vincze and Erik Wesselhoft

## Giving Online

If you would like to give an online monetary donation to  
the church, you can give safely via Givelify by using the  
QR Code below. Just use your cell phone camera, hold it  
up to the barcode and it will take you straight to our  
Givelify account.



## Elder and Deacon Serving List

March 2<sup>nd</sup> through April 27<sup>th</sup>

### Group I

Dianne Montgomery  
Steve Montgomery  
Ronnie Bagby  
Bill Baxter  
Josh Giusto  
Tammy Mayo

**Group I will be serving: March 16  
April 6  
April 27**

### Group II

Joe Sommer  
Sherrie Sommer  
Abby Brown  
Avery Clough  
Jeff Clough  
Hunter Trayer

**Group II will be serving: March 2  
March 23  
April 13**

### Group III

Rhonda Gorman  
Diane Rigsby  
Robert Bowman  
Dale Lipscomb  
Zach Lipscomb  
Arthur Sigmund



**Group III will be serving: March 9  
March 30  
April 20**

## Communion Preparation

March - Cindy Wilson

April - Joe and Sherrie Sommer



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<b>1</b>
<p><b>2</b> Sunday School - 9:30 a.m.</p> <p>Worship Service - 10:30 a.m. and CW&amp;W Program - 10:45 a.m.</p> <p>Danny Dean - B</p>	<p><b>3</b> Ladies Bible Study - 10:00 a.m.</p>	<p><b>4</b> Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner - 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.</p>  <p>Adult Choir Practice - 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p><b>5</b> Ash Wednesday Service - 7:00 p.m.</p>  <p><b>NO</b> Morning or Evening Bible Studies</p>	<p><b>6</b></p>	<p><b>7</b> Mary Anne Barlow - B</p>	<p><b>8</b></p>
<p><b>9</b> Daylight Saving Time Begins (Advance your clock forward one hour)</p> <p>Men's Breakfast - 8:30 a.m.</p> <p>Sunday School - 9:30 a.m.</p> <p>Worship Service - 10:30 a.m. and CW&amp;W Program - 10:45 a.m.</p> <p>Christian Youth Fellowship Meeting after Church (for grades 5 - 8)</p> <p>Hayleigh Williams - B</p>	<p><b>10</b> Ladies Bible Study - 10:00 a.m.</p>	<p><b>11</b> Adult Choir Practice - 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p><b>12</b> Adult Bible Studies - 11:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.</p> <p>Patrick Barnes - B Rhonda Gorman - B River Harris - B</p>	<p><b>13</b> Crafters' Mission Circle - 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>Pastor Don Richardson - B</p>	<p><b>14</b> Stephen &amp; Janette Rose - Anniversary</p>	<p><b>15</b></p>
<p><b>16</b> Sunday School - 9:30 a.m.</p> <p>Worship Service - 10:30 a.m. and CW&amp;W Program - 10:45 a.m.</p> <p>Skylar Barnes - B</p>	<p><b>17</b> Ladies Bible Study - 10:00 a.m.</p> <p>St. Patrick's Day</p>	<p><b>18</b> Adult Choir Practice - 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p><b>19</b> Adult Bible Studies - 11:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.</p> <p>Board Meeting - 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>Joie Chenault - B Joyner Hollins - B</p>	<p><b>20</b> Senior Citizen Gathering - 11:00 a.m. at Holly Grove Church (Please bring a side dish to share)</p> <p>Thomas Klein - B</p> <p>Spring Begins</p>	<p><b>21</b> Eddie "Mule" Hendrick - B</p> <p>Robbie &amp; Kristy Trayer - Anniversary</p>	<p><b>22</b> Winnie Chenault - B</p>
<p><b>23</b> Sunday School - 9:30 a.m.</p> <p>Worship Service - 10:30 a.m. and CW&amp;W Program - 10:45 a.m.</p> <p>Christian Youth Fellowship Meeting after Church (for grades 5 - 8)</p> <p>Anna Giusto - B Kyle Smith - B</p>	<p><b>24</b> Ladies Bible Study - 10:00 a.m.</p> <p>Ember Trice - B</p>	<p><b>25</b> Adult Choir Practice - 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>Dale Lipscomb - B</p>	<p><b>26</b> Adult Bible Studies - 11:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.</p> <p>Nancy Franklin - B</p>	<p><b>27</b> Crafters' Mission Circle - 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p><b>28</b> Robbie Bagby - B Elizabeth Lloyd - B</p>	<p><b>29</b> Food Pantry Open - 9:00 to 10:00 a.m.</p>
<p><b>30</b> Sunday School - 9:30 a.m.</p> <p>Worship Service - 10:30 a.m. and CW&amp;W Program - 10:45 a.m.</p> <p>Michelle Crowder - B</p>	<p><b>31</b> Ladies Bible Study - 10:00 a.m.</p> <p>Jane Harris - B Shirley Masten - B</p>	<b>B - Birthday</b>				

April 2025						
◀ March						May ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<b>1</b> Adult Choir Practice - 7:00 p.m.  Rudy Wesselhoft - B	<b>2</b> Adult Bible Studies - 11:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.  Jamie Lloyd - B Wyatt Wilson - B	<b>3</b> Tony & Barbara Jeanne Goolsby - Anniversary	<b>4</b> Christian Trayer - B Brooke Vincze - B	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b> Sunday School - 9:30 a.m.  Worship Service - 10:30 a.m. and CW&W Program - 10:45 a.m.  Autumn Lee - B	<b>7</b> Ladies Bible Study - 10:00 a.m.	<b>8</b> Adult Choir Practice - 7:00 p.m.  Mary Hicks - B	<b>9</b> Adult Bible Studies - 11:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.	<b>10</b> Crafters' Mission Circle - 6:30 p.m.  Elsie Harris - B	<b>11</b> Ronnie Bagby - B	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b> Men's Breakfast - 8:30 a.m.  Sunday School - 9:30 a.m.  Worship Service - 10:30 a.m. (Palm Sunday) and CW&W Program - 10:45 a.m.  Missions will receive our Easter Offering  Lucille Gammon - B	<b>14</b> Ladies Bible Study - 10:00 a.m.  Pat Harris - B Steve Montgomery - B J.D. Allison - B	<b>15</b> Adult Choir Practice - 7:00 p.m.  Sherrie Sommer - B  Alexander & Jordin Wilson - Anniversary	<b>16</b> Adult Bible Studies - 11:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.  Pete Smith - B Rhonda Welton - B	<b>17</b> Senior Citizen Gathering - 11:00 a.m. at Gum Spring United Methodist Church (Please bring a side dish to share)  Maundy Thursday Passover Dinner - 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. at Springfield Christian Church  Mariah Rose - B  Seth & Courtney Vincze (First Anniversary)	<b>18</b> Good Friday	<b>19</b> Carol Jean Smith - B
<b>20</b> Easter Worship Service - 8:00 a.m. with communion (outside by the old rugged cross) with Easter Breakfast afterwards and then an Easter Egg Hunt for the Children  Last Day for Missions to receive our Easter Offering  <b>NO</b> Sunday School and no other Worship Service on this Special Day	<b>21</b> Ladies Bible Study - 10:00 a.m.  Porter Rudolph - B  Justin & Tammie Allison - Anniversary	<b>22</b> Adult Choir Practice - 7:00 p.m.  Earth Day	<b>23</b> Adult Bible Studies - 11:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.  Grayton Clough - B  Tom & Amy Boothe - Anniversary	<b>24</b> Crafters' Mission Circle - 6:30 p.m.  Brenda Parker - B	<b>25</b> Brianna Beckley - B	<b>26</b> Food Pantry Open - 9:00 to 10:00 a.m.
<b>27</b> Sunday School - 9:30 a.m.  Worship Service - 10:30 a.m. and CW&W Program - 10:45 a.m.  Matthew Bagby - B Timmy Clough - B Alex Lloyd - B	<b>28</b> Ladies Bible Study - 10:00 a.m.  Cindy Wilson - B	<b>29</b> Adult Choir Practice - 7:00 p.m.  Mary Alice Noel - B	<b>30</b> Adult Bible Studies - 11:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.  Coltin Clough - B	<b>B - Birthday</b>		

## **Highlights from the Board Meeting** **held on January 15, 2025**

Chairman Tammy Mayo called the meeting to order with prayer and read the minutes from the December meeting.

The Treasurer's Report dated November 1<sup>st</sup> through December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024, was presented by Treasurer Rhonda Gorman. The Church has a balance of \$112,074.50 in the checking account and \$5,586.23 in the Givelify account which gives a total of \$117,660.73. There was \$1,865 in Designated Funds with \$200 for the Food Pantry, \$650 in the Samaritan Fund, \$965 in Missions (\$400 for Thanksgiving and \$565 for Christmas), and \$50 for the Shoebox postage. We have \$207,939.43 in CD's. The report was accepted.

Jane Harris presented the Cemetery Treasurer's Report dated November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024 through January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2025. The current principal amount in a CD (not to be used for upkeep) is \$26,935 with \$700 being held to place in a CD. The current amount in general checking (to be used for general maintenance for the cemetery) is \$11,729.17. The report was accepted.

Tammy reported for Christian Education that the VBS theme book is here. There will be a meeting after church on Feb. 2<sup>nd</sup>.  
UPDATE: The meeting went great with many attending and the date for VBS has been chosen.

Dawn Lipscomb, Chairman of the Hospitality Committee said the tables have been placed in the new storage room and she was very appreciative of this room.

Pastor Bob gave his Minister's Report and thanked all for his Christmas gift.

Tammy reported that the Board will work on Constitution changes in March and May and will have them ready to present to the congregation in July.

Tim Crouch and Logan Richardson will replace the toilets in the bathrooms before February 16<sup>th</sup>.  
UPDATE: This project has been completed thanks to Tim and Logan.

Rhonda reported that Abby Brown has spoken with Avery Clough about heading up the Shoe Box Ministry for 2025. She will consider it.

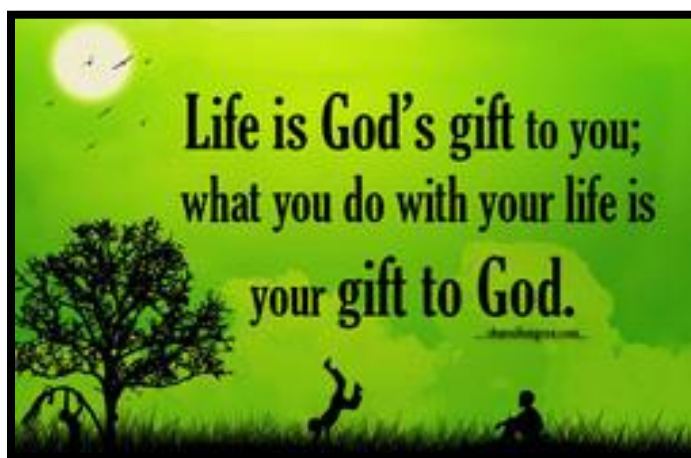
We do not have a contact for snow removal. Zach Lipscomb puts salt on the sidewalks when there is snowy or icy weather.

The TV for the a/v system will be going up soon in the back of the church. Some wiring still needs to be done.

The church website and Facebook page were discussed.

UPDATE: The website is being updated, and the Facebook page is now having up-to-date posts.

There being no further business, Chairman Tammy adjourned the meeting.



### **Earth Day is April 22<sup>nd</sup>**

**Psalm 24: 1 says:** The earth is the LORD's, and everything in it. The world and all its people belong to Him.

This powerful verse reminds us that the earth doesn't belong to us – it belongs to God. We are merely guests on this planet and it's our duty to treat it with respect and care. May we care for all of God's creations on this special day and throughout the year.



## *A Recent Holly Grove Happening*

### **The “Oldlywed” Game – February 16<sup>th</sup>**

*We had a delicious spaghetti dinner and a fun evening of fellowship with the “Oldlywed” Game.*

*The contestants were great sports, and the audience had a lot of laughs!*

*Special thanks to our Hospitality Committee for planning!*

**A cheerful heart is good medicine. ~ Proverbs 17:22a**



*Church Address: 1637 Holly Grove Drive, Bumpass, VA 23024*

*Church Phone Number: 804-556-1138*

*Keep up with us on Facebook or our Church Website at [www.hollygrovechristian.com](http://www.hollygrovechristian.com)*

*Can't get to church this Sunday? Check out the Worship service on Facebook Live or on YouTube.*

### *Our Mission*

*The mission of Holly Grove Christian Church is to attempt to be the eyes, ears, hands, and feet of Jesus, as we serve our community and share His love.*

If you should have any articles or pictures for the next newsletter, please give to Cindy Wilson or email to [bccawilson@yahoo.com](mailto:bccawilson@yahoo.com).