

October 2019

The Trumpet

“The trumpet shall sound...and we shall be changed”
(I Corinthians 15:52)



Volume 13 Issue 10

Pastor's Pen

Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever man sows that shall he also reap. (Galatians 6:7)

Whose agenda are you following? I have watched over the years an all-out assault on Christianity in America. Public schools' no longer recess for a Christmas and Easter break. Instead it's a Winter and Spring break respectively. Prayer is not allowed in school, any mention of God is prohibited at commencement ceremonies, Nativity scenes are not allowed to be displayed on school grounds, and theatrical productions depicting the story of Christ are no longer enjoyed in our schools. The Ten Commandments have been removed from the court houses and are no longer on public display. In an effort to avoid being branded as zealots or lunatics, the Christian community has stood by in muted silence as a paradigm shift has taken place. The god of today's society is the entertainment industry. Gone is the God of heaven that provided a foundational basis upon which to build a great nation; and a moral compass to direct the affairs of mankind.

We need not look too far to see the horrifying results of our silence. Self-satisfying behavior is lauded as acceptable and what once we called sin is now classified as choice. To our shame, this entertainment mindset has infiltrated the 21st century church. There is growing mindset and movement that says our churches need to be more culturally relevant. On the surface this seems innocuous. However, as it plays out, we are beginning to see churches look more like the world and less like Christ. I suspect the foregoing statement will brand me as old fashioned. But

Inside This Edition

Pastor's Pen	page 1
Youth Report	page 2
Putting on Full Armor of God	page 3
Calendar	page 5
Greeters Ministry	page 6
Birthdays and Anniversaries	page 7

please read on. Jesus came to earth to seek and save the lost. (Luke 19:10) He did that not by adapting to culture but by defying culture. He stood apart from the norm so the crowds could see there was something different about him.

I believe if we are going to reach lost people groups, we need to look different than the world. The truth is, many folks are searching for answers. After all, the pleasure-seeking practices and self-indulgent behavior

fail to satisfy the hurting heart and empty soul. The answer for mankind is Jesus. Only He can satisfy the thirsty soul. When the opportunity manifests itself to share Jesus with a lost person, will there be something evident in your life that shows Christ has made a difference? Praying for his children, Jesus said, *“They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.”* (John 17:16)

Let us resolve to stand united as brothers and sisters in Christ, uncompromised in our belief and worship; and as beacons of light this dark world.

“Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you...” (II Corinthians 6:17)

In His Grip,

Pastor Jim

First Southern Baptist Youth Report

Greetings from the youth. We have had a busy summer washing cars to raise money for Sonfest. Thank you to all who trusted the youth with their cars – we hope there is still some shine left. We raised nearly all the needed funds. In July we took a break from the summer heat and traveled to C. J. Strike for a water party. We had a barbeque where we enjoyed hamburgers, hot dogs and all the trimmings. Everyone had several turns being pulled behind a boat on a big green tube. Several youth fell off after hitting wakes, but that is half the fun. Trying as hard as I could I could not lose Kent as he held on for dear life. Everyone is required to wear ski type life vests and all other safety precautions were taken. Sonfest was great this year. Our speaker, Ryan Young, really spoke to the hearts and needs of our young people. Many youth made commitments to God – twelve received Christ as their Lord and Savior, twenty-two rededicated their lives to Him and twenty were called to ministry. Our own Kaitlyn was one of those who received Christ – please pray for her. The worship band did a great job of leading the music. Saturday we had a lot of fun riding roller coasters and other rides.

(Continued on page six)

Operation Christmas Child

Operation Christmas Child is a ministry formed by Franklin Graham that takes Christmas gifts and the Gospel to underprivileged children all over the world. We are collecting items to fill shoeboxes in November. Each month we will highlight a different item to bring in. But, please remember we will take all types of donations at any time! For October we will be picking up and finishing the boxes



PUTTING ON THE FULL ARMOR OF GOD

APOLOGETICS - FROM BOB NEUBAUER

Saving Faith

Justification is by faith alone. That is our righteous standing before God comes about when we place our trust in Jesus, both in who He is and in what He has done. There can be no merit in our faith because we are sinners, but we stand justified because Christ's work is all sufficient. This was one of the great truths recovered at the Reformation. While the Roman Catholic Church affirmed the necessity of faith it denied its sufficiency, claiming that good works must be added to faith. What Rome does is join justification with sanctification rejecting the Protestant claim that justification is by faith alone. The reformers said that sanctification follows justification as surely as night follows day, but it does not contribute even the tiniest bit to our acceptance before God. We are saved the reformers said by grace alone through faith alone in Christ alone. Sanctification is the proof that justification has taken place. Now certainly in a new Christian it may be difficult to see the initial steps in sanctification, but they are nevertheless present in every true believer. When we come to faith the perfect righteousness that the Lord Jesus obtained with His sinless life is reckoned to our account. Though we are still sinners in our behavior we are righteous before God because we stand before Him in Christ's righteousness. As Martin Luther put it, we are simultaneously just and sinner. We are just in our standing before God because we stand in the righteousness of Christ, yet we still sin in thought, word and deed every day. If we stood before God in our own righteousness we would be condemned. But since we have the perfect life of Jesus credited to our account we stand blameless before the Lord.

There are those within the professing church who claim that all faith is saving faith, that if a person has once made a faith move toward God they are saved regardless of whether any sanctification has taken place. Despite the Biblical evidence to the contrary they say that every person who has ever claimed faith in Jesus Christ is a Christian and will spend eternity in heaven. They are saying that there is no such thing as false faith. But if you have been a Christian for very long you have probably known someone who once claimed to have been born again but now denies that he or she is a Christian. Some of the greatest enemies of the faith once professed to be Christians.

In I John the apostle is dealing with those who once professed the Christian faith but have now left the church. Influenced no doubt by Greek philosophy these men were proto-Gnostics. They denied that Jesus had a human body because for Greek philosophy the spiritual was good, but the physical was evil. John says they went

out from the believers because they were never really a part of the believing community or they would have remained. Since they had been a part of the church for some time they must have professed faith. But, the fact that they left demonstrated they were never truly Christian. Of course there are some who leave for a time and then return, but the ones John is addressing were not just people who left, they also denied essential Christian truth. We see another example in Acts chapter eight where we read of a man named Simon who responded to the preaching of Philip by believing, but then when Peter and John arrived tried to buy the ability to bestow the Holy Spirit by the laying on of hands and is condemned by Peter. In the original Greek the word is a one-time belief not the ongoing faith exhibited by true Christians.

There are three aspects to saving faith. The first is the information. No one is ever saved apart from learning the Gospel. They may hear it preached or read it in the scriptures or some other book. The Bible says that there is no other name under heaven by which men may be saved. If a man or woman lives their life and never hears that Jesus lived a sinless life and offered that life on the cross of Calvary for the sins of His people that person cannot be saved. The impetus for evangelism is the absolute necessity every person has to hear of Jesus if they are to come to faith. Those who deny the need to evangelize do great harm. While God could have saved people apart from our efforts in evangelism He has not chosen to do so. Though you and I can save no one, we can, and we must proclaim the Gospel.

The second thing that must happen is that the individual believes that the information is true, that Jesus is the Christ, that He led a sinless life, that He died on the cross for the sins of His people, was buried and resurrected on the third day. This is the Gospel and no person who denies its truth can be a Christian. But there have been many throughout history who have heard the Gospel and believed that it is true but who never had saving faith.

The third aspect of saving faith is the embracing of the Gospel. This is the result of the regenerating work of the Holy Spirit. A Christian does not just believe that the Gospel is true, he or she places his or her trust in the work of the Lord Jesus, relying solely on Christ for his or her salvation. For a person to become a Christian he or she must hear the Gospel, believe it to be true and embrace it. None of us is the Holy Spirit and we cannot regenerate anyone. But we can present the Gospel and we can pray for those to whom we share the good news of Jesus Christ. It is the command of the Lord Jesus that we preach the Gospel. It is our responsibility, but it is also our great privilege. What a wondrous thing it is that God has given us a part in saving others.

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES AT FSBC

- 1 Ladies' Leadership Team Meeting (6:00 p.m.)
- 3 Ladies' Bible Study (9:00 a.m.)
- 5 TVSBA Annual Meeting (9:00 a.m.)
- 6 Potluck Fellowship (12:30 p.m.)
- 17-18 UISBC Annual Meeting
- 18 Young Adult Game Night
- 27 Business Meeting (5:30 p.m.)
- 29 Sunday School Teachers' Training (6:30 p.m.)

Sunday School	Sunday	9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship Service	Sunday	11:00 a.m.
Prayer Meeting	Wednesday	6:30 p.m.

Mother's Day Out

Mother's Day Out or MDO is a ministry of First Southern Baptist Church that provides childcare in a Christian preschool environment. We run Mondays to Thursdays from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and take children 18 months to 5 years old.

Our 2019 MDO ministry is off to a great start! We currently have 38 students attending, and we continue to receive requests for tours and information. Our staff is dedicated to sharing the gospel with these families. Please pray for this vital outreach ministry.



Greeters, Arise!

We've just experienced a wonderful remodeling project that will hopefully now make our parking lot and building a positive instead of a negative factor—welcoming rather than discouraging visitors. To this facility transformation, I submit we need to augment the personal touch we extend to our visitors. We need friendly, cheerful greeters to add to our usher ministry, which is doing a superb job as far as they have responsibility and ability.

A greeter:

- * is able spend additional time with a visitor, beyond a warm greeting, providing a bulletin, visitor packet and directions.
- * can make a deeper connection, discovering details important for pastor and those who would make a follow-up visit.
- * could connect a visitor to a member with like interests or the perfect Sunday school class.
- * may uncover the agenda or priorities of a visitor and inform them of a ministry or study of our fellowship that would meet their need.
- * might discover a visitor's passion for/experience in Christian service, which would be of great value to the nominating committee once the visitor joins the church.

We have an excellent, small, paperback book that would assist you in detailing the intentional actions that greeters can take to have a tremendous, positive impact on visitor retention.

If you believe that the Lord can use your giftedness from Him to be a greeter, please contact any nominating committee member: Patrick Holt, Sharon Siebenberg, Sarah Gregory, or Shannon Crowe.

John Ring, Chairman, Greeters Committee

(Youth Report — continued from page 2)

On September 1st we had a pizza party and a lesson on letting your light shine. We played several games including an egg toss. In this game you toss a raw egg to your partner. After each successful toss you each take a step back. The winner is the couple farthest apart when their egg breaks.

Eric & Jessica Nagel have graciously to teach the Jr. & Sr. Sunday School class. Pray for them as they teach God's Word to our youth.

In Christ, Steve & Diane Noland

Joke of the Month (Comedy) Corner



1. Two of the towns in New Jersey are Red Bank and Long Branch. I do my banking at the Long Branch branch of the Red Bank bank.
2. What did the tree do when the bank closed? It opened its own branch.
3. How do trees access the internet? They log on.
4. Do you want a brief explanation of an acorn. In a nutshell, it's an oak tree.
5. What kind of tree fits in your hand? A palm tree.

October Birthdays and Anniversaries

2 Jim Clark
5 Stacy Swenson
8 Dan Hazelbaker
12 Jonathan Sanchez
16 Chris Boesl



Happy Birthday

16 Sarah Gregory
19 Pam Hodge
27 Sylvia Landers
29 Isaiah Grohs

16 Donald & Rebecca McCall
25 Dan & Martha Hazelbaker
27 Daniel & Karen Williams

29 Pete & Margaret Berry
29 Mike & Sai Crouse



First Week November Birthdays

2 Ted Solum