

The Trumpet

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



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Pastor’s Pen

Francis Bellamy (1856-1931) was a minister from Boston, who was ordained in the Baptist Church of Little Falls, New York. He wrote the original Pledge of Allegiance in August 1892. He was also a staff member of *The Youth's Companion*, the leading family magazine of its day. On September 8, 1892, the Pledge of Allegiance was published for the first time anywhere in *The Youth's Companion*. At the dedication ceremony of the 1892 Chicago World's fair on October 12, 1892 public-school children, for the first time, recited the Pledge of Allegiance during the National School Celebration on the 400th anniversary of Columbus' discovery of America.

On June 14, 1954, by a Joint Resolution of Congress 243 (Public Law 83-396), the words "under God" were added to the Pledge of Allegiance. The words came from President Abraham Lincoln's famous Gettysburg Address "... that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth ..." (The Pledge was initially adopted by the 79th Congress on December 28, 1945, as Public Law 287). President Eisenhower signed the Pledge into law and gave his support to the Congressional Act, which added the phrase "under God," to the Pledge saying:

In this way we are reaffirming the transcendence of religious faith in America's heritage and future; in this way we shall constantly strengthen those spiritual weapons which forever will be our country's most powerful resource

in peace and war. (continued on page 2)

Inside This Edition

| | |
|------------------------------|--------|
| Pastor’s Pen | page 1 |
| Early Childhood Ministry | page 2 |
| Putting on Full Armor of God | page 3 |
| Calendar | page 5 |
| Women’s Ministry | page 6 |
| Birthdays and Anniversaries | page 7 |

Praise the Lord ! We will return to corporate worship, Sunday May 3rd at 11:00 am. We will be following the recovery guidelines set forth in the reopening order. We look forward to the return of our church family. See you Sunday!

President Eisenhower then stood on the steps of the Capitol Building and recited the Pledge of Allegiance for the first time with the phrase, "one Nation under God." The foregoing is provided to give a true and factual history of the phrase "under God." Let us not forget when the law was passed in 1954 adopting the phrase it was not an infringement upon the first amendment of the Constitution, neither is it today!

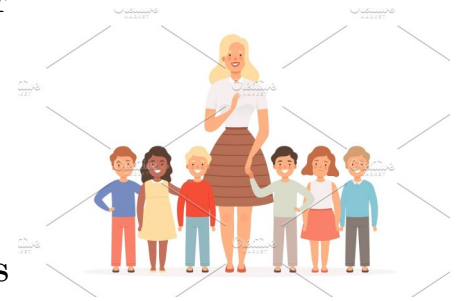
May God bless America ... one Nation under God!

In Christian Love,
Pastor Jim

Resource for this article: America's God and Country, William J. Federer

Early Childhood Ministry

The Early Childhood Ministry is staffed by a group of dedicated volunteers who focus on bringing the love of Jesus to the children in their care. During church service, they share a story from the Bible, facilitate a craft tied in with that story and share praise songs. We love hearing how the children share what they have learned with their families at home or how they frequently sing the songs they hear. Knowing that seeds are being planted in these young hearts makes the time shared so worthwhile. Although we are not able to meet currently, each of the children and their families are in our prayers. If you feel led to serve in this ministry, we would love to hear from you. You can reach me at (208)599-3511.



Shannon Crowe

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 May please bring in tee shirts, shorts, tank tops or socks.



PUTTING ON THE FULL ARMOR OF GOD

APOLOGETICS - FROM BOB NEUBAUER

Christ's Claims to Deity

The enemies of the Christian faith will often say that Jesus never said He was God. One well known, now deceased, Muslim apologist used to say, "Jesus never said, I am God, worship Me." And it is true that the Lord never used those exact words. Nevertheless, the New Testament claims to His deity are clear and frequent. We have to begin as we always do when defining deity with the fact that there is only one God. *Hear oh Israel, the Lord thy God is one*, declares the Bible. That is though there are three persons, there is only one being of God. We must also assert the distinction between the persons. The Father is not the Son nor the Spirit. Likewise, the Son is not the Father or the Spirit. Modern day modalists have Jesus being the Father, the Son and the Spirit. Of course, they have insurmountable problems when we see Jesus praying to the Father and the Father from heaven declaring Jesus to be His Son.

In another article we pointed out that in Titus 2:13 & II Peter 1:1, the words God and Savior both apply to Jesus. But in addition to the statements of his followers, Jesus made numerous claims to His own deity. In John 3:13-15 there are three specific statements showing that Jesus is God. In verse 13 Jesus tells us that no one has ascended into heaven except He who descended from heaven. This can only be someone who is God for we recognize that none of us has descended from heaven. In verse 14 Jesus equates His being lifted up to that of the serpent in the wilderness. Those who were bitten and looked on the serpent lived, those who did not died, thus by analogy showing that Jesus is our savior. And in verse 15 Jesus tells us that those who believe in Him have eternal life. Belief in no other creature, neither men nor angels, results in eternal life.

John 1:1 says, *In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God*. This verse while distinguishing the Son from the Father says that the Word (the Son) was God. In John 1:14 the apostle tells us that he and the other apostles beheld Christ's glory, a glory He received as the Father's unique Son. John 10:30 says that the Father and the Son are one. While this unity is a unity of purpose no one except one who is God could have that degree of unity with the Father. In John 8:58 we read. *"I am telling you the truth," Jesus replied. "Before Abraham was born, I Am'."* Jesus tells us He is the I Am that we read about in the Old Testament. The Jews understood what He was saying because they then picked up stones to throw at Him. In other words, they wanted to kill Jesus because He was claiming to be God. Hebrews 1:8 reads: *But of the Son He says, Your*

throne, O God, is forever and ever! In this verse the Father identifies the Son as God. In John 5:17-18 we read, But He answered them, "My Father is working until now, and I Myself am working." For this reason therefore the Jews were seeking all the more to kill Him, because He not only was breaking the Sabbath, but also was calling God His own Father, making Himself equal with God. Again, the Jews recognized what Jesus was saying, that He was in fact claiming to be God.

There is another way Jesus claimed to be God that is not quite as obvious as when he said He was God. And that is when He performed miracles. Who else but God or someone empowered by God could turn water into wine? While it is true that the apostles did miracles we have an explicit reason for the miracles of Jesus when the apostle John writes, *And truly Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name* (John 20:30-31). The Lord never performed a miracle just to perform it, there was always a reason. For though He healed many he did not heal everyone. Though he raised three people from the dead, there were many millions He did not raise. No doubt John and the other authors of scripture could have included many more things the Savior did, but they as the text in John says had a purpose in including the stories, the acts and the words that we find in the Bible. Many over the centuries have come to faith simply by reading what they wrote. And when the Word is rightly preached hearts are changed.

Another proof of Christ's divinity is that Jesus forgives sins. We read in Mark 2:9-12, *Is it easier to say to this paralyzed man, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Get up, pick up your mat, and walk'? I will prove to you, then, that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins."* So he said to the paralyzed man, "I tell you, get up, pick up your mat, and go home!" While they all watched, the man got up, picked up his mat, and hurried away. They were all completely amazed and praised God, saying, "We have never seen anything like this!" No man, no angel has either the right or the power to free us from the penalty due for our sin, but God does – and Jesus did.

There is no clearer confession that Jesus is God than that of Thomas. He had refused to believe in Christ's resurrection without actually seeing Jesus. But when he encountered the risen Lord he said, "My Lord and my God!" (John 20:28). And Jesus is confessed as God by Paul when he writes, *For in Him all the fullness of Deity dwells in bodily form* (Colossians 2:9).

If you place your trust in Jesus Christ, the one who is God incarnate, the one who raised people from the dead and who Himself was raised from the dead, you will have life eternal. This new life, this wonderful and wonderful life is found in Him and only in Him. May we ever praise His name.

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES AT FSBC

- 3 Sunday Worship (11:00 a.m.)
- 10 Mother's Day
- 25 Memorial Day Offices Closed

We are planning on resuming Sunday morning worship this week, May 3rd, at 11:00 am. The rest of our ministries and services will resume gradually in accordance with the guidelines we receive from Governor Little. Social distancing will be practiced, but we do invite our members to attend this week.

The Importance of Defining Things Correctly

When we are incautious in our definitions of the truths of scripture it may give the enemy of our faith a point to attack. One example would be to allow the wrong definition of miracles. Miracles are supernatural events that require the suspension of the natural order and they are physical. Jesus turning water into wine is a miracle. We could wait for eternity to see water become wine, but unless God acts to make it happen we will have nothing but water. Our culture often refers to exceptional events as miracles. When we allow that definition to stand unchallenged it lets true miracles be thought of as events that while unexpected and highly unusual still as actions that do not require God to intervene supernaturally. Our fallen culture is constantly challenging our faith. we need both to be alert to those attacks and we need to be prepared to respond.

Women-In-Touch

Our ladies have been studying Galatians with the help of Warren Wiersbe's Book, BE FREE. We met in person for the first 7 lessons but began an Internet meeting on April 9th to finish the last 4. Paul is passionate about the original gospel of Grace and Christ's work being uncompromised by legalism. We've been encouraged to rejoice in being justified by faith alone

Our theme for the year "Loving God first, loving our neighbors as ourselves" is in the second phase and this is a perfect time to show our love in new ways. Our outreach has been severely limited due to COVID-19, but we can pray. To that end, we have launched a PRAYER WALK option that can include the whole church. We have flyers that are powerful yet simple to go along with a Prayer Card and Church Truelife card. See the sample:




**We just prayed for
the people in this
house.**

Because we care about you.

We want you to know that if you have a special prayer request, you can actually call your neighbor,

_____ at
_____ to pray with you/for
you regarding this concern.

If you have questions about God or the Bible, |
there is a free website on the back of our
business card that gives you video answers
from the Bible about real life questions.

FIRST SOUTHERN
Baptist  **Church**

Contact Sarah Gregory if you would like us to walk your neighborhood in prayer. Let's cover this city in the LOVE that comes through intercession in Jesus Name.

Joke of the Month (Comedy) Corner



May Birthdays and Anniversaries

2 Korra Simler
11 Dan Kephart
14 Eric Nagel
15 Kathy Boothe
15 Cliff Hare
17 Raedena Brooks
19 John Crowe
20 Tina Holt



Happy Birthday

21 Dave Ellis
22 Daryl Lyerla
22 Jason Hare
23 Sarah Kephart
23 Flo Scheffler
24 Aline Bates
25 Priscilla Sisson

2 Jason & Amber Blair
18 Wayne & Patti Clark
6/2 Harold & Sue Southwick

28 Don & Janet Nesbitt
29 Dave & Carol Ellis



Early June Birthdays

4 Steve Noland
5 Rae Ann Stoecker

6 Sai Crouse