

The Trumpet

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



Volume 14 Issue 6

Pastor’s Pen

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

I suspect I age myself when I talk about “the good old days”, as did my parents and grandparents. Upon reflection, they may not be so good, but in our memory they remain precious. Regardless of our memories, there are some undeniable truths. For instance, there was a time in my life when most all businesses were closed on Sunday. It was understood that most of America would be in church, not retail outlets and grocery stores. When I was a boy we had Christmas and Easter break during the school year. Our teacher led us to do special programs for our parents and we sang religious songs, like *Silent Night*, as part of the programs. Now it’s Winter and Spring Break with no God-honoring children’s programs.

I have watched over the years an all-out assault on Christianity in America. Prayer is not allowed in school and any mention of God is prohibited at commencement ceremonies. I once read that the senior class of a certain high school was told by their administration, they could not speak of God at their graduation ceremony. Nonetheless, they devised a plan to get around this “church and state” issue. At a certain point during the Valedictorian’s address he would sneeze (a fake but convincing one) and the whole student body shouted; God Bless You! It is an encouragement to see and hear of Christians standing up for God

in the face of opposition. For too long we have stood by, in muted silence, as the secular world redefines our societal norms and cultural behavior. We need not look too far to see the horrifying results of our silence. Self-satisfying behavior is lauded as ac-

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ceptable, and what once was understood as sin is now classified as choice. To our shame, an entertainment mindset has infiltrated the 21st century church. There is a growing movement that preaches our churches need to be more socially and 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. Let’s not forget, 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 folks could see there was something different about him. I believe we need to look different than world if we are going to reach them. The truth is folks are searching for answers. After all the pleasure-seeking and self-indulgences fail to satisfy the hurting heart and empty soul, there is a yearning for something meaningful. The answer for them, as it was for all professing Christians, is Jesus. When that moment comes, how can we share that Jesus is the answer, especially if there is nothing different about our life that they would aspire to? Jesus, praying for Christians 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. Let us be uncompromised in our worship and shine as beacons of light in 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

With the onset of the Coronavirus and subsequent stay at home order from the Governor Awana stopped meeting in March before Spring Break. I have been at the church the past two Wednesdays to listen to sections. The Awana leaders and I are looking into how to hand out awards since we are unable to have an awards ceremony. Details will be posted on our Facebook page *FSBC Mtn. Home Awana* once plans are solidified. If your clubber still needs to say sections, they can throughout the summer by calling myself or seeing a leader on Sundays.



Thank you and God Bless,
Nicole Clark - Awana Commander
208-587-9482

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 June please bring in flip flops (one of our most requested items).



PUTTING ON THE FULL ARMOR OF GOD

APOLOGETICS - FROM BOB NEUBAUER

Who is in Control?

With the recent crisis over the Covid19 virus many are questioning whether or not God is in control of events. It is interesting because it speaks loudly of our level of trust in the Lord that we only question His involvement when bad things happen. When a Christian wins a professional golf tournament it is not uncommon for him to thank Jesus for the victory. We have yet to hear anyone give thanks when they do not win. Many believers deny that God has any involvement with bad things while at the same time asserting that He is king over everything. Scripture tell us that God causes all things to work together for good for those who love Him and are called according to His purposes (Romans 8:28). In fact God has from all eternity ordained everything that happens. But He has done so in a way that 1. He is not the author of sin and 2. we are all responsible before the Lord for everything we do. Were Joseph's brothers responsible for what they did to him. Of course they were. When they came to Joseph after Jacob's death, fearful of retribution from Joseph, he did not deny what they had done. What He said was that though they meant it for evil, God meant it for good, the saving of many people alive. Which means that even when the worst things happen God is at work for good. We must recognize that the Lord works through secondary means (us) to accomplish His purposes.

So, what is it that causes people to question God's involvement with the current crisis and even His goodness? Surely, it is a lack of trust which in turn comes from a lack of belief. All true Christians have believed the Lord for their salvation. At the same time they have not achieved perfect sanctification, something which will only happen when we are home with Jesus. This means we all still sin try as we do to avoid it. If we are honest we will admit that we struggle every day with sin. This struggle is actually an indication that we are Christians since unbelievers do not struggle with sin. The things that concern believers, spiritual things, never bother those outside the faith. So, we read in the second chapter of Ephesians that they are dead in their trespasses and sins. Obviously, Paul does not mean they are physically dead rather he means they are spiritually dead. Second Corinthians 2:14 says, But the natural man does not accept the things of God, for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot understand them because they are spiritually appraised. Fear of the things around us is something we all have because our trust of the Lord falls short of the state of glorification (complete sanctification).

We have difficulty in understanding how God can work through that which is sinful, that which is evil to accomplish His purposes since He is completely free of

evil and finds all sin abhorrent. But God's word gives us a perfect example of that in Acts 2:22-24, "Men of Israel, listen to these words: Jesus the Nazarene, a man attested to you by God with miracles and wonders and signs which God performed through Him in your midst, just as you yourselves know – this Man, delivered over by the predetermined plan and foreknowledge of God, you nailed to a cross by the hands of godless men and put Him to death But God raised Him up again, putting an end to the agony of death, since it was impossible for Him to be held in its power." What those who crucified did they did freely, it was what they wanted to do. At the same time they were doing what God had determined they would do. This is the greatest example of God working all things together for good because Jesus is the only person who ever lived that never sinned. He was the only truly innocent person and therefore His murder was the greatest act of evil ever committed. But out of and through that great act of evil the Lord has brought about both His own glorification and the salvation of His people.

The question is what does all this mean for the current crisis over the Covid 19 virus? First, it does mean that God from all eternity ordained that this virus would exist including all the deaths that have occurred. We know that the Lord has numbered our days and that incorporates not only when we will die but how. We tend to think that when we read that He causes all things to work together for our good that will result in freedom from illness and pain. But the Bible defines that good as our being conformed to the image of Christ (Romans 8:29). Did Jesus suffer? Yes he did and more than any of us ever will. We are not greater than our master and thus we too will suffer in this life. Second, we know that since God has ordained the Virus He has done so for good reasons, that out of all that has and will happen He will accomplish His purposes, that His people will even more be conformed to the image of His Son. Third, we should see this as an opportunity to present the Gospel. We see evidence around us every day that many people have panicked in response to Covid 19 and done so out of fear for their lives. This may well be the means that the Lord will use to make people ready to hear and respond positively to our evangelism. "I might die and what will happen then" are thoughts that have entered the minds of many. As people we encounter talk about their fears we can look for a way to lead them in the direction of new life in Jesus Christ. Fourth, we can see this as an occasion for service to others – to Christians and unbelievers. We can and should do as much as possible to help others. Our attitude should be one that knows God is controlling everything that happens, that He will use all to our benefit and that we should trust in Him and in nothing else. The great Hymn "It is Well with My Soul" begins, When peace like a river attendeth my way, when sorrows like sea billows roll. Whatever my lot, Thou has taught me to say it is well, it is well with my soul. May that ever be our song.

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES AT FSBC

- 6 Adult Sunday School (7:00 p.m.)
- 11 Sunday School Teachers' Training (6:30 p.m.)
- 13 Adult Sunday School (7:00 p.m.)
- 20 Adult Sunday School (7:00 p.m.)
- 21 Father's Day
- 27 Adult Sunday School (7:00 p.m.)

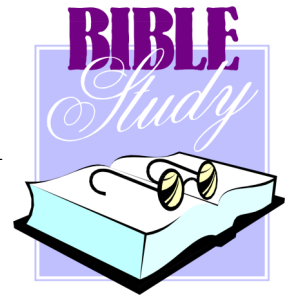
Morning Worship every Sunday at 11:00 a.m.

Intercession

What does it mean to intercede? Often believers talk about intercessory prayer. Usually what they mean by this is praying earnestly for someone or something. But the word intercede means to take the place of someone. So, we read in Romans 8:26-27, *"In the same way the Spirit also helps our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we should, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words; and He who searches the heart knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He intercedes for the saints according to the will of God."* And in Romans 8:34 the scripture says, *"who is the one who condemns? Christ Jesus, it is He who died, yes, rather who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us."* All Christians still sin and so when the Devil accuses us before the Father the Son intercedes for us, because He took our place, He took our sin. If you intercede for someone who is sick, you ask God to give you their sickness. This is something that is extremely difficult to do. There is a huge difference between saying the words and actually meaning them, and if you do God may well put their sickness on you. Has anyone ever truly interceded for someone else? Most likely, yes, but this is a rare thing.

Library Report

All Christians have a desire to serve God. And all believers will someday come before the Lord Jesus to receive a reward for the deeds done in the body. The question arises as to how we can best serve the Lord. Each person at his or her new birth has been given at least one spiritual gift. Recognizing that we want to find how to best serve. To do that we need to know our faith well.



Certainly, regular attendance at church services will help us understand our faith and how to best use our God given gifts. If, however, that is all we do then there will be limitations on our service. This means we need to study scripture at home. One advantage we have today that the early church did not have is the centuries of study and learning available to anyone willing to learn. The first believers certainly had what we call the Old Testament, but they had neither the New Testament nor the fruit of many centuries of scholarship that have developed a mature understanding of the faith. At First Southern Baptist Church we have a library that contains the work of many fine scholars. In the trying times in which we live Christ's church needs its members to have a deep and correct understanding of the doctrines of the Christian faith. The attacks of the enemies of Christ are numerous and frequent. We need to at the same time to be able to defend ourselves and to help others. Please be encouraged to make use of the resources available in our library. As the scripture says, "Be diligent to present yourself approved to God as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, accurately handling the word of truth (II Timothy 2:15).

Children's Ministries



Since the arrival of COVID-19 and the shutdown of the church, we have had no Children's Ministry activities.

The church re-opened May 3rd, but the children's ministries will continue to be put on hold until June or July.

I want to personally thank the Nursery & Extended Care Leaders who are watching children 0-4 years old during church services. Thank you for making the health and safety of everyone your top concern. Thank you for all you do!

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you!

Jessica Nagel, Children's Ministry Director

Joke of the Month (Comedy) Corner



1. A Sunday School teacher was teaching the ten commandments to her five and six year old kids. After explaining the commandment to 'honor thy father and mother' she asked if there is a commandment on how to treat our brothers and sisters. One little boy said, "Thou shalt not kill."
2. Why does a ten dollar bill look so small at the grocery store and so big at church?
3. When I was little my dad would ask if I loved the Lord to stand up and shout hallelujah. When I did I fell out of the roller coaster.

June Birthdays and Anniversaries

4 Steve Noland
 5 Rae Ann Stoecker
 6 Sai Crouse
 10 Jon Harwood
 12 John Ring
 13 Marian Mitchell
 13 Shannon Crowe



Happy Birthday

15 Mike Crouse
 17 Janet Nesbitt
 18 Jenise Zachary
 19 Martha Hazelbaker
 20 Makayla Clark
 20 Madi Barnes

9 Jon & Joy Harwood
 12 James & Sarah Gregory

15 Lendell & Agnes Simler
 24 Eric & Jessica Nagel



Early July Birthdays

7/3 Victor Nostrom
 7/5 Shilo Nagel

7/6 Bob Pursell