



Pastor's Pen

As a young boy my family made annual trips to Arkansas to visit my grandparents. They lived on the farm where my dad was born and raised. Scratching out a living, especially during the Great Depression was very difficult. Consequently, my grandfather had a rule concerning all the animals on the farm: they had to earn their keep or else... When the hens stopped laying eggs, they became the main course at dinner. When the cows got too old to calve or give milk, they ended up in the slaughterhouse and then the smokehouse where the meat was cured and used for food. The dogs had to hunt, the cats had to mouse, the horses had to pull the wagon or the plow. That's why it was surprising when my grandfather let my dad keep a colt whose mother died when it was born. The colt was not able to contribute to anything it took to keep the farm going. Because it was a purebred Tennessee Walker, it could have sold for a decent price. But, my Dad, a teenager at the time, got to keep and raise the colt. He bottle-fed, cared for, and trained the solid white horse he named Silver. Soon Silver was the talk of the county. My dad taught Silver to do many things that showcased his intellect and talents. When my dad left home to join the Navy during the Korean War, there were many farmers in the area that wanted to buy Silver. My grandfather's response was always the same: "that's Bobby's horse and it's not for sale". Every year, when we made the trip to Arkansas, once we pulled up on the farm and my dad got out of the car he would whistle, and Silver would come running to him. As I reflect on this scene and the stories I was told as a child, I am reminded of the relationship we have with our heavenly Father. When we came to faith in Christ were babies in need of

Inside This Edition	
Pastor's Pen	page 1
Nominating Committee	page 2
Putting on Full Armor of God	page 3
Calendar	page 5
Creation Ministries	page 6
Birthdays and Anniversaries	page 7

being bottle-fed. God fed us with milk because we could not handle the meat, *"I have fed you with milk, and not with meat: for hitherto ye were not able to bear it..."* (**I Corinthians 3:2**) Our Heavenly Father trains us to follow his word through a process called sanctification, *"Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth."* (**John 17:17**) God tells Satan we are not for sale, we are Jesus', *"All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out."* (**John 6:37**) Here is the best part, when

Jesus calls, we come running, because we know his voice and we are safe, *“My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand.”* (John 10:27-28)

Silver eventually learned to pull a plow and a wagon. My dad spent many days plowing many fields behind him. There was a special bond between my dad and Silver evidenced even though my dad only got to see and ride Silver once a year. There is a special bond between God and his children. I watched my dad sit in the saddle on Silver’s back and work cattle and “run out” bulls. Even though Silver was not a racehorse, it was impressive to watch him run. He had incredible speed and cutting abilities. Nonetheless, he was more of a work horse than a racehorse. Let me ask you: are you a racehorse or a work horse when it comes to your Christian service? What’s the difference, you ask? The answer is coming in next month’s edition.

In Christian Love,

Pastor Jim

NOMINATING NEWS

The Nominating Committee is using a new process to staff the volunteer positions for the year 2021.

The church membership and regular attendees are requested to fill out the Ministry Opportunity Survey which will be used to produce the list of volunteers for each church committee or ministry. Whether you’re looking for a place to serve or continuing in the ministry or committee you’re now serving in, the Nominating committee respectfully asks you to complete the survey. (Continued on page 5)

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 August please bring in school supplies.



PUTTING ON THE FULL ARMOR OF GOD

APOLOGETICS - FROM BOB NEUBAUER

Why We Pray

Prayer is vital to the Christian life. It is natural for the believer to pray. In scripture we are in fact told to pray without ceasing. Of course that does not mean we are to pray every second, minute and hour of the day and night. It means we are to pray regularly and not to go for periods of time when we cease praying. If you pray only at meals and on Sunday you are not obeying this command. We have the privilege of talking with the Lord of Glory at any time of the day, during any circumstance knowing that He will hear us. As a Christian you may go boldly before the throne of grace to bring your praise, your concerns for others and your needs directly to God.

Prayer is a command. It is not just a good idea or something God would like us to do, rather it is something God's word says we are to do. That means that if we do not pray regularly we are disobeying God and therefore sinning. Tragically, Christians today often regard our Lord's commands as optional, things we do when we feel like it. But when God says, *do not forsake the assembling of yourselves together as is the habit of some*, He is saying we are required to come together regularly and as the text goes on to say, *all the more as we see the day drawing near*. The day of Christ's return is much nearer than when those words were written yet today believers attendance at church falls far short of what it should be. If in fact you do not attend church services regularly you are sinning (given the physical ability to go to church). But if you are staying home to watch a football game then you are breaking God's law. The weakness of the Christian church today is one of the main reasons for the ascendancy of evil in society. And one reason for the frailty of the church is the lack of attendance. Another reason is the lack of prayer.

God has foreordained everything that comes to pass. God has the power to either prevent or allow any event. While God has the power to prevent sin He must since sin exists have determined to allow it. Then what is the purpose for our prayers? The answer is that the Lord works with and through our prayers to accomplish His purposes. God will often burden the hearts of His people to pray for what He is going to accomplish. The most important of those prayers is for the salvation of people. *Zion travailed*, the scripture says, *and brought forth children*. Augustine is generally considered to be the greatest theologian of the first thousand years of the church. His early life was spent in riotous living. Monica, Augustine's mother, persevered in prayer for many years for her son and rejoiced greatly at his conversion. Does that mean that everyone we pray for will come to faith? No it does not.

But no one will come to faith without prayer.

James 4:2 says, *you do not have because you do not ask*. While he also goes on to say that we do not have because we ask for selfish reasons it is nevertheless true that our failure to ask for things we need may result in God not providing for those needs. Consider what Jesus says in the model prayer, *Give us this day our daily bread*. Of course Jesus is not only talking about our food but all of our basic needs. It is not only permissible to pray the things we need, but also what the Lord Jesus has told us to do.

Prayer is vital not only for the individual but for the church as a whole. One of the chief responsibilities of the elders of a church is prayer. The reason for the institution of the office of deacon in the church was to free up the elders from caring for the physical needs of the body. Acts 6:4 reads, "*But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word.*" When you hear that your pastor is spending a lot of time praying for the church remember he is doing just what God wants him to do. While all pastors do involve themselves in many areas of the life of the church the most important things they do are preach and pray. One obligation of church members is to support pastors in their God given responsibilities. We do that by diligently pursuing the areas of ministry each of us has been given and by making sure we do not unnecessarily take our pastor's time away from prayer and preparation for preaching. His role with your efforts is supportive and one of oversight, not engagement in the work of your ministry.

Another reason to pray is to confess our sins. John writes that *if we confess our sins He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness*. Since every believer still has sin in his or her life confessing our sin to God is an essential activity. Unconfessed sin is a ball and chain on a Christian's life. While we need to go to a person we have offended and confess our sin to them we also need confess to God. All sin is ultimately against the one who made us; therefore we must go to the Lord asking for His forgiveness and mercy.

James writes, *Every good thing given, and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shifting shadow* (James 1:17). You have nothing except what the Lord has given you. Therefore we express our gratitude to Him in our prayers and in how we live our lives. While we most often thank God for our food, everything we have comes from Him. David was not allowed to build the temple, but he did raise the money for its construction. His prayer of thanksgiving is a model for all of us. I Chronicles 29:14 "*But who am I and who are my people that we should be able to offer as generously as this? For all things come from You, and from Your hand we have given You.*" May all our prayers express our gratitude and humility as David's did.

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES AT FSBC

- 1 The Lord's Supper (11:00 a.m.)**
- 1 Potluck Fellowship (12:30 p.m.)**
- 2 Church Council (6:30 p.m.)**
- 6-8 Sonfest**
- 7 Bridal Shower Rebekah Gregory (11:00 a.m.)**
- 9 Deacon's Meeting (7:00 p.m.)**
- 10 Nominating Committee Meeting (6:00 p.m.)**
- 11 Awana Leader's Meeting (6:00 p.m.)**
- 15 Creation Ministries International (11:00 a.m.)**
- 19 MDO Open House**
- 22 Business Meeting (5:30 p.m.)**
- 23 MDO Starts**
- 25 Awana Open House (6:00 p.m.)**
- 29 5th Sunday Sing**

(Continued from page 2)

Ministry Opportunity surveys will be distributed during July through mid-August in order to give everyone the opportunity to receive one. Once the surveys are gathered the Nominating Committee will bring their report to the church business meeting in October. The Nominating Committee report, upon approval by the church membership, will be provided to the existing leaders and chairmen for their respective committees/ministries. Nominating Committee members are Sharon Siebenberg, Sarah Gregory, Shannon Crowe, Eric Nagel and Patrick Holt.

Patrick Holt
Chairman Nominating Committee

Creation Ministries

Get Answers!

Does God exist? How can anyone believe in religion when science has neither a need nor a place for God? Is evolution happening today? If God is a God of love, why do men suffer and die?

Creation Ministries International is coming to FSBC soon with answers to these important questions. Come & hear leading international speaker Dr. Jonathan Sarfati expose the bankruptcy of the evidentiary myth. You'll be amazed to see how weak the scientific evidence for evolution is. This is an issue that affects everyone. Evolution teaches us, there is no need for God, there is no spiritual realm, and there is no afterlife. According to the theory, spirituality is just an evolutionary trick of the mind!

The Bible gives a very different picture about the nature of these things. At this presentation, you will learn how the scientific evidence, when properly understood, confirms the details of the Biblical account. At the same time, we will answer many of the Big Questions.

Date: Sunday August 15, 2021

Time: 11:00am – Design, Deluge and Dilemma- Questions & Answers

Where: First Southern Baptist Church 1400 N 3rd E. Mountain Home, ID

SUNDAY SCHOOL SNIPETS

Every Christian knows that Bible study is not optional but essential; you will never be a disciple of Jesus Christ without it! Bible study and discipleship are what our Sunday School is all about. Sunday School is a wonderful place to find good friends and godly fellowship. It is a place to feel at home. Our teachers are truly dedicated and faithful in teaching the Bible so that we can grow in our understanding of what our Father would have us do and how we should do it. So we encourage you to join us in studying God's word together to make us stronger and wiser in our walk with God.

2nd Timothy 2:15 "Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that need not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."

Note: If you are interested in teaching a Sunday School class, whether it is children or adults, please contact myself or Pastor Jim.

Patrick Holt - Sunday School Director

Joke of the Month (Comedy) Corner



1. So the song is no longer, *Clap your hands all ye people, shout unto God with the voice of triumph - but Wash your hands all ye people.*
2. I was driving a couple and their daughter home from a mid-week Bible study and as we got close to their home the wife said, "Watch out for the dip in the road." I responded, "Don't talk about your neighbor that way."
3. So many of the ads for medication on TV tell you how great they are, but then they begin to list all of the possible side affects - this could happen and you need to watch out for this complication. They could be summed up by saying, "There's a pretty good chance this stuff will kill you but we want you to buy it anyway."

August Birthdays and Anniversaries

5 Rose Pursell
16 Blair Byrem
19 Norma Harper
23 Sarah Sanchez



Happy Birthday

24 Joanie Smith
25 Mary Grohs
26 Ronin Byrem
30 Seven Sanders

3 Clifford & Rose Hare
3 Daryl & Cookie Lyerla
4 Don & Flo Scheffler
5 Blair & Meghan Byrem
7 John & Seven Sanders
12 Caleb & Phebe Imel



19 John & Michele Ring
24 Patrick & Tina Holt
31 Jim & Nicole Clark
9/2 Jonathan & Sarah Sanchez
9/4 Garry & Julie Harper

Early September Birthdays

3 John Harper

4 Allen Keillor