



God Centered Growth

First Baptist Church of Norton

February 27, 2018
Volume I, Issue No. 9

From the Pastor's Heart

Hey Everyone,

I was approached by Cheryl Redman the other day about this wonderful devotional book that she has been reading. She asked me to share a sample with you. If you don't read devotionals or the Bible every day for at least 5 minutes, I would encourage you to begin doing so. It may not bring you earthly riches but I truly believe it brings peace and brings you closer to God. I am very pleased and honored to share this with you today.

Love, Mark

Hi, this is Cheryl, and the following is a page from my favorite devotional book, *New Morning Mercies*, by Paul David Tripp. This one is the devotional for Monday, February 26. The devotionals are a full page long and in the interest of saving newsletter space I'll just reference the first paragraph: it describes Mark 6:45-52, where Jesus's disciples find themselves at sea in a storm.

“Jesus sees that his disciples are in this exhausting and dangerous situation, and he sets out and begins to walk across the sea. Yes, you read it right: he walks across the sea. Now, the moment he begins to take this walk, you are confronted with two things. The first is the fact that Jesus of Nazareth is the Lord God almighty, because no other human being could do what he is doing. But there is a second important thing to observe. The minute he begins to take the walk, you know what he has in mind. If all Jesus wants to do is relieve the difficulty, he wouldn't have to take the walk. All he would need to do is say a prayer from the shore and the wind would cease. He takes the walk because he is not after the difficulty. He is after the men in the middle of the difficulty. He is working to change everything they think about themselves and their lives. Standing next to the boat as the wind still blows and the waves still crash, he says: “It is I. Do not be afraid.” He is actually taking one of the names of God. He is saying the “I am” is with them, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, the one on whom all the covenant promises rest. It is impossible for them to be alone because their existence has been invaded by the grace and glory of the I am.

Why did Jesus send his disciples into that storm? He did it for the same reason he sometimes sends you into storms — because he knows that sometimes you need the storm in order to be able to see the glory. For the believer, peace is not to be found in ease of life. Real peace is only ever found in the presence, power, and grace of the Savior, the King, the Lamb, the I am. That peace is yours even when the storms of life take you beyond your natural ability, wisdom, and strength. You can live with hope and courage because you know you are never alone. He is in you. He is with you. He is for you. He is your hope.

For further study and encouragement, read I Samuel 17.”

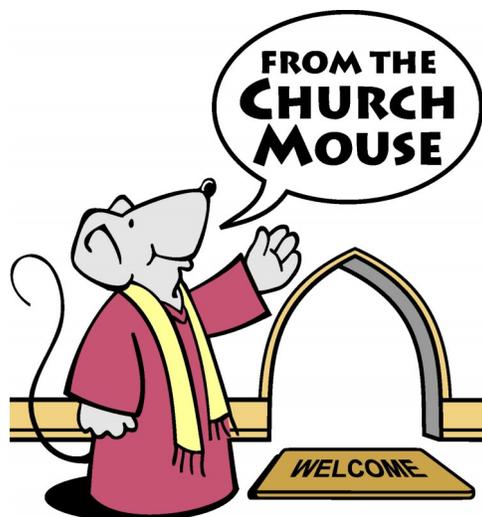
Prayer requests from Sunday:

- Former FBC Norton pastor Wayne Harrison had surgery for a brain tumor this past week.
- Tommy Moore will have eye surgery on Tuesday.
- Jim Manicure is still in the hospital recovering from injuries suffered in a fall.
- Micky McClellan (Roger Greear's cousin) is hospitalized with lymphoma and leukemia.
- James Large (friend of June Jones) was in a car accident and has a broken back, two broken legs, a skull fracture and other injuries.
- Jen Milam has work-related concerns.
- Amber Burke is ill with a migraine this morning.

A new Bible study begins March 7



You are invited to dive deeper into the story of Jonah on Wednesdays in March beginning at 6:30 pm (4 weeks). The study is entitled: **Jonah, Reluctant Prophet, Merciful God.** Leigh Clark will be the facilitator. Contact Leigh via email at lgclark4@yahoo.com for more information.



- Communion will be celebrated Sunday, March 4.
- Next week (March 4-11) is designated as a week of prayer for North American missions.
- Practice for the Easter Cantata "Redeemed" is at 6 p.m. every Sunday. All are welcome.
- Plan to stay for potluck on Sunday, March 4, following morning worship service.
- The WMU will meet at 1 p.m. Monday, March 5, at the Prime Sirloin.
- Be sure to set your clocks ahead one hour when you go to bed on March 10, so you don't miss church.

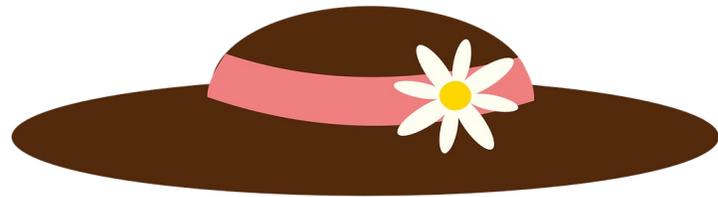
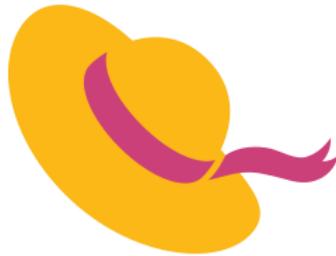


You're invited to a tea party!

The Spring Women's Brunch will be Saturday, April 7, at 10 a.m. We'll be serving tea and all the goodies that go with it. Think along the lines of finger sandwiches, fruit, scones, mini quiches, and bite-sized desserts. The committee members are June Jones, Sherri Milam, Jen Milam, and Diane Cornett. Feel free to speak with one of us if you have questions.

A tea party requires a hat! In addition to door prizes, there will be prizes for the most beautiful hat, the most creative hat, the tackiest hat and the People's Choice Award. You have plenty of time to get busy decorating your hat, or go shopping if you prefer. More details about the program will be shared at a later date.

Mark your calendars and plan to join us—it's always a good time of fellowship, food and fun!



BCM Meals and Bible Study

Mark and the students meet at 6 p.m. to prepare dinner. If you would like to help cook or contribute food, please let Mark know the Sunday before the meeting. They usually have around 20 students.

Happy Spring Break

March 6—breakfast for dinner: bacon , eggs, waffles & more!

Baptist Collegiate Ministry

The Baptist Collegiate Ministries (BCM) is located in a building adjacent to The University of Virginia's College at Wise campus. As a part of the Virginia Baptist Collegiate Ministry, the mission of the UVA-Wise BCM is building community, making disciples for Christ, and developing Christian leaders. BCM has been a part of collegiate ministry at UVA-Wise since 1958.

Membership in UVA-Wise BCM simply requires a willingness to participate, Baptist affiliation is not necessary. Annually, less than one-third of active BCM members are Baptist.

The BCM facility is open and available to students throughout each day and evening, and includes a prayer room, conference/meeting room, library/resource room, and a fully-equipped kitchen. Weekly opportunities include a home-cooked fellowship meal and Bible study every Tuesday evening.

For more information please contact the director, Pastor Mark Dixon (mjd8f@uvawise.edu) or BCM student president Ahliyah Gavin (acg4r@uvawise.edu).

Paradoxical Commandments

(Ed. note: Most sources credit these Paradoxical Commandments with a Harvard student named Kent M. Keith; they were first published under his name in 1968.)

People are illogical, unreasonable and self-centered. Love them anyway.

If you do good, people will accuse you of selfish ulterior motives. Do good anyway.

If you are successful, you win false friends and true enemies. Succeed anyway.

The good you do today will be forgotten tomorrow. Do good anyway.

Honesty and frankness make you vulnerable. Be honest and frank anyway.

The biggest men with the biggest ideas can be shot down by the smallest men with the smallest minds. Think big anyway.

People favor underdogs, but follow only top dogs. Fight for a few underdogs anyway.

What you spend years building might be destroyed overnight. Build anyway.

People really need help but might attack you if you do help them. Help people anyway.

Give the world the best you have and you'll get kicked in the teeth. Give the world the best you have anyway.

(Somewhere along the way this last statement was added.)

You see, in the final analysis, it is between you and God; it was never between you and them anyway.

**As you pray this week,
please remember the
following.**

David & Jewell Ball
Libby Bowman
Gail Buchanan
Jim Campbell
Dottie Chittester
Virginia Collins
Linda Cooke
Tim Cox
Jill Dixon
Rhonda Elliott
Emma Harrod
Alana Hash
Sue Hobbs
Rosalind Hunt
Elee Large
Maddie Lewis
Jim Manicure
Rhonda Moody
Eugene Mullins
Tracy Ott
Donna Owens
Roberta Owens
Wilma Redman
Leah Riley
Margaret Riner
Bea Simmons
Phyllis Still
Tammy Sturgill
Glenn & Marilyn Teasley
Joseph Thomas
Beverly Viers
Susan Gillenwater Wells
Brenda Whitaker
Little Ed Withrow
Our country's leaders
First responders, volunteers
Armed Services men and women
Missionaries
Nursing home patients



Please send prayer requests to
lindawellswalker@yahoo.com

March Birthdays

8 ~ Michelle Buckley, Christiana Robinette
19 ~ Shirley Roberts
22 ~ Mark Dixon
26 ~ Little Ed Withrow
28 ~ David Walker

**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY**

March Anniversaries

8 ~ Neil & Beth Walker

**HAPPY
ANNIVERSARY**

“... I can't see your faith if you don't have good deeds, but I will show you my faith through my good deeds.”

James 2:18

“Fool! When will you ever learn that faith that does not result in good deeds is useless?”

James 2:20

“Just as the body is dead without a spirit, so also faith is dead without good deeds.”

James 2:26

First Baptist Church of Norton gives anyone the chance to come together and worship with like-minded congregants as members of a strong, loving community. Whether you're looking for peace of mind, a way to give back, or simply want to be a part of a loving family — First Baptist Church of Norton welcomes you. Join our community, and start your journey to God-centered growth with us!

How to join FBC Norton

- Baptism—You desire to express faith in Christ through baptism.
- Transfer—You wish to transfer membership from another church.
- Statement of Faith—You are a baptized believer and come on statement of faith.
- Watch Care—You would like to be connected to our church family without official membership.

Deacons

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Visit us on the web at
www.fbcnorton.com or
connect with us on
Facebook.

Or better yet, come and visit
us in person!



This newsletter is published every Tuesday morning on the church's web page. Please send news, photos, and announcements to cornettdiane@gmail.com.