



God Centered Growth

First Baptist Church of Norton

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(This week's devotional is from guideposts.org)

Shape Your Worries into Prayers

“Don't fret or worry. Instead of worrying, pray. Let petitions and praises shape your worries into prayers, letting God know your concerns. Before you know it, a sense of God's wholeness, everything coming together for good, will come and settle you down.” Philipians 4:6–7

“Let petitions and praises shape your worries into prayers.” If I could do that perfectly I'd be set. I'd sleep better, at the very least. If you're anything like me, a concern has kept you awake a time or two during the night.

Last night I couldn't get comfortable. Same cozy bed as every other night. But strangely, the pillow felt too lumpy. The covers were too hot . . . no, too cold . . . no, too hot. Ice dropping from the refrigerator's icemaker startled me. Every sigh from my children's rooms made me wonder if they were okay.

For a couple of hours slumber just didn't work well. I realized this morning that, although I wasn't overcome by worry, the nagging search for peace was plenty destructive. I needed Jesus to displace worry at the center of my night, like the verse says. Jesus spoke of trading in our burdens for His rest (Matthew 11:28). I wonder how much more relaxed and able to settle down I'd have felt if I had dedicated a few of those toss-and-turn minutes to prayer and praise that, in turn, would have reshaped my thoughts.

Surely “before [I knew] it, a sense of God's wholeness, everything coming together for good, [would have] come and [settled me] down.” Oh, the cost of anxiety!

Jesus cares about every detail in our lives, even the quality of our rest. It's up to us to tap in to His power through prayer and praise.

Faith step: Next time you find yourself awake in the wee hours, toss off your tossing and turning with prayer and praise.

Prayer requests for this week:

- Several of our children are attending camp this week.
- Ann Wade had double knee replacement surgery and is recuperating at June Jones' home.
- Rodney Thomas had a stroke recently.
- Kathy Osborne's brother-in-law Bob Hobbs has health concerns.
- Barry Kiser is at the Mayo Clinic where he will soon have the lining of his heart removed.
- Harley Burke was in the ER yesterday, is doing better.



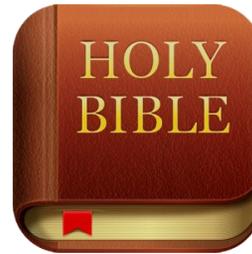
Praises:

- It was good to have Helen Bass in church this morning.
- Kathy Osborne's loving witness to others
- Wilma Redman has finished her treatment and received a good report from her doctors.



Amber Burke's students will lead our worship service next Sunday. We will celebrate Communion as well.

The WMU Mission Action Circle will meet Monday, July 2, at the home of Vonda Kidd for potluck and a program. Lunch is at 12:30. Call Linda Walker or Shirley Campbell if you need a ride.



Then Jesus said, "Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you. Let me teach you, because I am humble and gentle, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke fits perfectly, and the burden I give you is light."

Matthew 11:28-30



Annual Church Picnic
August 12 ~ 11 a.m. ~ Camp Bethel
Canoeing, kayaking, swimming, tubing
And of course EATING!



Bring your favorite dish to share, and a friend or two.
We will hold a worship service before the picnic.

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

David & Jewell Ball
Helen Bass
Charlene Bates
Libby Bowman
Gail Buchanan
Jim Campbell
Jim & Sherry Collie
Linda Cooke
Tim Cox
Rhonda Elliott
Wayne Harrison
Emma Harrod
Alana Hash
Sue Hobbs
Rosalind Hunt
Wanda Jenkins
Elee Large
Maddie Lewis
Jim & Wanda Manicure
Eugene Mullins
Charlie Osborne
Tracy Ott
Donna Owens
Roberta Owens
Leah Riley
Margaret Riner
Bea Simmons
Tammy Sturgill
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

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

June 9 ~ David & Jewell Ball
June 12 ~ Bill & Rue Gembach
June 25 ~ Shawn & Amber Burke

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

June 2 - Susie Bradley
June 5 - Brianna Stallard, Mary Jo Stallard
June 7 - Connor Walker
June 9 - Jared Pugh, Tanya Riner
June 10 - Jackie Withrow
June 11 - Diane Cornett
June 14 - Derek Mullins
June 16 - Sharon Hamblin
June 17 - Chris Hamblin
June 20 - Peyton Stallard
June 22 - Mary Hagy
June 27 - Kyle Redman
June 28 - Jewell Ball
June 30 - Barbara Collins, Penny Osborne

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.