

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH COURIER

JANUARY 2019 EDITION



OUR STAFF

Rev. Rod Beardsley - Senior Pastor
Rev. Phil Lowther—Assistant Pastor

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Office Hours:

Monday, Wednesday, & Friday 8-5

Office is closed for lunch from 12:30-1:30 pm

Live a Life that Matters

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New
2019
Year

Sunday services: 8:20 and 11 am Sunday School for all ages: 9:45 am

CSFBC MISSION STATEMENT

"Infusing TRUTH to produce selfless followers of God."

PASTOR ROD'S MESSAGE**HELP!!!**

This article from "Breakpoint" brings home a very essential point about our current culture's hopelessness and despair: "For the third year in a row, according to a November report from the Centers for Disease Control, American life expectancy dropped.

The last time this happened was a century ago, in the years 1915-1918, years marked by our entry into World War I and the outbreak of the "Spanish Flu" pandemic, which killed 675,000 Americans.

This time, neither war nor pestilence is behind the drop in life expectancy. The threats are not external, but internal.

The biggest factors behind the drop in life expectancy among Americans over the last three years are drug overdoses and suicides. In 2017, more than 70,000 Americans died from drug overdoses, and approximately 45,000 people intentionally took their own lives.

These deaths, along with alcohol-related deaths, have been dubbed "deaths of despair" by researchers Anne Case and Angus Deaton.

The "despair" referred to by Case and Deaton is largely economic, *but that explanation is only partly true*. It doesn't explain the 30-percent rise in suicide rates among 15-to-24 year-olds, who haven't experienced these kinds of disappointments. Nor does material deprivation explain why the suicide rate among African Americans and Hispanics is only about a third that of white Americans despite being, on average, poorer.

Something else is going on. And it's related to the word "despair." ...despair is the opposite of hope.

"What is the source of this despair?" The answer lies in Aquinas' words "share in the goodness of God." Put simply, Americans place their hope in the wrong thing.

I'm not only referring to those who kill themselves, whether deliberately or indirectly. They're merely the most vulnerable victims of a worldview that has us, in Isaiah's words, spending money on that which is not bread, and working for what doesn't satisfy.

Their disappointment is more keenly felt than ours, but make no mistake, the expectations our culture imposes on us will ultimately end in death. If not physical death, spiritual death. We're told to seek satisfaction from things that cannot ultimately satisfy us, such as sex, stuff, and self.

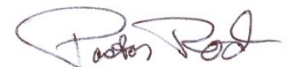
The results are what Aquinas would have predicted: a headlong fall into vice and away from seeking to do good. The most vulnerable among us wind up paying the ultimate price.

But to know Christ and His resurrection is to know hope. May we never hide that in a culture that needs it so desperately."

Because God has put us here "for such a time as this,

PR

Ps. For the full article go to Breakpoint.org



PASTOR PHIL'S MESSAGE

All Glory Be to Christ!

Should nothing of our efforts stand
 No legacy survive
 Unless the Lord does raise the house
 In vain its builders strive To you who boast tomorrow's gain
 Tell me what is your life
 A mist that vanishes at dawn
 All glory be to Christ!

All glory be to Christ our king!
 All glory be to Christ!
 His rule and reign we'll ever sing,
 All glory be to Christ!

His will be done
 His kingdom come
 On earth as is above
 Who is Himself our daily bread
 Praise Him the Lord of love

Let living water satisfy
 The thirsty without price
 We'll take a cup of kindness yet
 All glory be to Christ!

All glory be to Christ our king!
 All glory be to Christ!
 His rule and reign will ever sing,
 All glory be to Christ!

When on the day the great I Am
 The faithful and the true
 The Lamb who was for sinners slain
 Is making all things new.

Behold our God shall live with us
 And be our steadfast light
 And we shall ere his people be
 All glory be to Christ!

All glory be to Christ our king!
 All glory be to Christ!
 His rule and reign will ever sing,
 All glory be to Christ!

This Year Who will get the Glory?

Romans 8:28-And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

2018 has seen many things come to pass that I didn't see coming. This is probably where you found yourself as well. Why did that happen? Where is this going? When will my kids listen? Who is in charge anyway? How do all things work together for good if you are in Christ?

I cannot answer many of those questions but I can tell you that God is faithful. This year as you face the unknown and maybe scary prospects of what may come, put your hand in His hand.

Who is building your house and how is your life ordered? If it is ordered with self on the throne of your heart then stop what you are doing and ask God to be in charge of your life. The One who spoke the World into existence and sees all time as one gives His life and strength to you! He knows the end from the beginning and writes our stories for His Glory and our good.

May you know the love of Christ in a fresh way this coming year. Wake up and open up your Bible before you pick up your phone. The World will try to distract you from God's voice in His Word but God wants you to hear His heart.

The Living Water of Christ comes in with refreshing certainty if you pick up and read. He longs for you to be filled with His Holy Spirit and His Word. There is no life in Netflix or Amazon binge watching, but I have never been unsatisfied by the presence and power of God.

Finally if you are preparing to live with God and His people, make fellowship with church family a priority. Church is where we see Grace lived out. Jesus lived, suffered, died, rose again, and reigns over His children. I pray you grow in the love of Christ and others this year!

So find your delight in God and His Word. Give your worries to God for He even has purpose in our pain. Come and be with God and His people. May this year find you seeing God work and believing Him more!

Pastor Phil

Deacons Devotional

The Trinity- God Above, God Beside, God Within

Then Jesus came to them and said “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age. Matthew 28: 18-20

Our experience of the Trinity is actually a part of everyday Christian experience. We invoke the Trinity every time we recite the Lord’s Prayer. Our Heavenly Father supplies our daily bread; through Jesus Christ the Father forgives our sins; and by the power of the Holy Spirit we can overcome temptation.

The biblical revelation discloses the Trinitarian nature of God in a long-prepared historical sequence: God the Creator in Genesis, Jesus the son at the beginning of the New Testament, and the Holy Spirit in Pentecost’s confirming of the church. The New Testament is clearly Trinitarian in its witness. Jesus’ great commission to His followers to make disciples of all nations includes the instruction, “baptizing them in the name of Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.” (Matthew 28:19) So he introduces the Trinity in the context of baptism, right there, and tells to baptize in the name of all three.

Watch another example of God’s Glory in January!

January’s delight: a long total lunar eclipse on the night of January 20–21. With the following day a holiday for many people, this may be a good time to watch this eclipse. The partial phase of the eclipse begins at 10:34 p.m. **Totality begins at 11:41 p.m. and lasts until 12:44 a.m.** The partial phase ends at 1:51 a.m.



Health Ministry

Cold Weather Precautions

Keeping everyone safe as the weather changes

Before you find yourself unprepared for winter weather, consider these tips to promote safety and good health.

IN YOUR HOME

Make these smart precautions for a winter-ready home.

- ▣ Install a door sweep under your front door to keep the draft to a minimum.
- ▣ Don't use your oven for heat! Ovens can harm from carbon monoxide poisoning and accidental burns and fires.
- ▣ Install carbon monoxide monitors, especially near bedrooms. Home improvement stores carry affordable models.
- ▣ If you are using a space heater, make sure it works properly and does not have frayed wires. Never run it while you are asleep or away from home.
- ▣ Keep flammable items at least three feet away from heating sources (such as space heaters, the fireplace, or furnace).

IN YOUR CAR

Create an emergency kit in case of a breakdown or weather-related stall.

- ▣ Invest in a basic first aid and emergency car kit. You can purchase one ready-made or stock your own with first aid supplies, handwarmers, flares, flashlight, blankets, water, and snacks.
- ▣ Since proper tire pressure is paramount in winter driving, know the proper pressure for your tires, keep a simple tool to check pressure in your glove box, and know where to go for air when you need it.
- ▣ Keep a minimum of a half tank of gas in your car during the cold months to prevent the fuel line from freezing.

IN YOUR HABITS

With colder weather and shorter days, follow these tips to stay active and healthy through the winter months.

- ▣ Be sure to get your flu shot!
- ▣ Emphasize handwashing among friends and family to fight germs that seem to be everywhere in the winter.
- ▣ Plan your exercise routine a week in advance. Having a plan helps you follow through!
- ▣ If the weather is too bad to visit your gym, be creative with indoor workouts: play with a Wii Fit, practice yoga with a free online video, or call up a friend and go on a "virtual walk" while making laps around your homes.

ILLUSTRATION BY TERRI SCOTT

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<http://chreader.org/cold-weather-precautions/>*

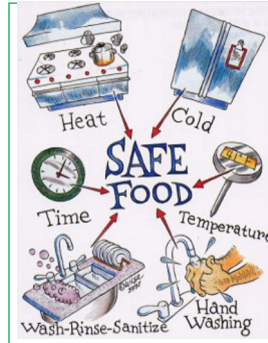
This content was published in *Church Health Reader*. For more resources, visit
CHReader.org.



Special Events and Announcements



First Friday Teen Night Out
January 4th 6 pm



Safe Food Preparation Class

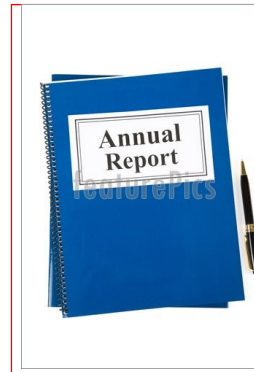
Wednesday January 9th

6:30 pm

Everyone invited to attend but especially those of the Funeral Dinner, Fellowship and Kids Club committees.



March for Life January 18th 2019. Give money to Stacie Klemm or the office by **January 4th.**



Annual Reports from Pastors, Boards, Committees, Missions etc. are due to the office **NO LATER** than January 16th to be included in the 2018 Annual Report.

Join us
for your Annual Meeting.
Don't miss it!

Everyone is Welcome Wednesday, January 23rd at 6 pm for a tu-reen dinner followed by a look back at 2018.

We will be going over the 2018 Annual Report.

Bring a dish to share and your own table service. Beverages will be provided. Please sign up on the Welcome Center so we know

how many to set up for.

JANUARY BIRTHDAY'S AND ANNIVERSIES

- | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| 1st: Liam Hale | 30th: Charity Peterson |
| 5th: Abigail Maddox | Jenn Howell |
| 7th: David Shearer | Zachariah Hovis |
| 9th: Tim Wheeler | |
| 10th: Gina Brace | |
| 13th: Don Closky | |
| 15th: Cindy Mitchell | |
| 16th: Avia Miller | |
| | Daniel Hovis |
| 19th: Justin Howell | |
| | Isabelle Gorske |
| 20th: Randy Gorske | |
| | Meadow Gorske |
| 21st: Doug Shearer | |
| | Bob Wilmoth |
| 22nd: Diamond Jim Jones | |
| 23rd: Nicole Oakes | |
| 24th: Adalee Baer | |
| 25th: Molly Billingsley | |
| 27th: Grayson Frazier | |



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|-------------------------------|
| 4th: Bill and Ginger VanMatre |
| 17th: Jordan and Karen Joslin |
| 18th: Phil and Rachelle Held |



Nursery

1st Service:

- | |
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| 6th: Dani and Cami Schmidt |
| 13th: Debbie Acker and Betsy Mateja |
| 20th: LuAnn Wheeler and Brenda VanMatre |
| 27th: Karen Burchill and Missy Zimmerman |

Sunday School:

- | |
|--------------------------------------|
| 6th: Chris Zirkle and Debbie Dine |
| 13th: Ken Dine and Paul Sellers |
| 20th: Wendy Gardner and Dani Schmidt |
| 27th: Pam Lowther and Lydia Sellers |

2nd Service:

- | |
|--------------------------------------|
| 6th: Barb Beardsley and Kristin Held |
| 13th: Darlene Gorske and Emily Cadle |
| 20th: Andi Lundin and Brenda Morrow |
| 27th: Stacie and Aubrey Klemm |

Garden Room Schedule

Please be sure to call your partner prior to working to confirm. If you are unable to work, please call to switch with someone and notify your partner. If you cannot work or find anyone to switch please call Laura at 398-2507



January

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| 5th: Laura Stone and Kris Bancroft |
| 12th: Paula Steudler and Bonnie Boylan |
| 19th: Toni Merritt and Karon Runyan |
| 26th: Sandy and Heidi Mumau |

SPECIAL PRAYERS

" I believe in prayer. It is
the best way to draw
strength from heaven."

Josphine Baker

The Grieving:

Katie Mitchell Family, Sam Shokry, Karon Runyan, Chris Zirkle, Pam Lowther, Celia Thayer family, Terry and Renee Terrill, **Dan Viglione**

Cancer:

Karen Held, Larry Haroon, **Linda Roth, Kelsey McClellan**

Health Issues:

Emily Williams, **Kim Marzke**, Audrey Byrne, Eulalia Beers, Juanita Robinson, **Misty Hovis, Bettina Baer**

Rehabilitating:

Janet Wise, Gary Boylan, **Lynn Smith, Marilyn Dine, Bill Hodge**

Nursing Home:

Paul Kirk, Jean Port, Ralph Batchelor, Judy Klemm

College Students:

Austin Jones, Katie Duda, Stephen VanMatre, Cami Schmidt, Neely Colvin, Brenna Rindfuss, Clayton Dingle, Zachary Dingle, Mark VanMatre

Military:

Dillon Lang, Keith Bentley, Howard VanMatre, Adam Alm, Jimmy Humes, Gregg Merritt, Wesley Fleischer, **Christian Ross**

Guidance:

Brian & Lynette Smith

Book of the Month

OUR ONLY HOPE - William W. Richmond

This gentleman spoke at the French Creek Association Rally this past October. He was a wonderful speaker and had quite a story of his life to tell.

He writes that life can be very difficult and many feel helpless and defeated when struggles become too much to handle. In this book, he describes the extreme hardships he faced throughout his youth and adult life, more than most individuals could imagine facing an entire lifetime. If you are searching for hope and a purpose, the book will give you the encouragement and inspiration to move forward through the most difficult times.

The author was abandoned, abused, homeless, bullied and entered a life of drug and alcohol abuse. He also survived many other hardships including blindness and a horrific accident that left him an amputee.

Read and see how he came through his adversities and Who he turned to, to help get him through.

I did forget to mention that he is fairly local - from Linesville!

“Reading gives us some place to go when we have to stay where we are.”

Mason Cooley

[©K-3TeacherResources.com](http://K-3TeacherResources.com) Free Quote Wednesday

Everything You Need

Are you hoping that a change in circumstances will bring a change in your attitude? If so, you are in prison, and you need to learn a secret of traveling light. *What you have in your Shepherd is greater than what you don't have in life.*

May I meddle for a moment? What is the one thing separating you from joy? How do you fill in this blank: “I will be happy when _____”? When I am healed. When I am promoted. When I am married. When I am single. When I am rich. How would you finish that statement?

Now, with your answer firmly in mind, answer this. If your ship never comes in, if your dream never comes true, if the situation never changes, could you be happy? If not, then you are sleeping in the cold cell of discontent. You are in prison. And you need to know what you have in your Shepherd.

You have a God who hears you, the power of love behind you, the Holy Spirit within you, and all of heaven ahead of you. If you have the Shepherd, you have grace for every sin, direction for every turn, a candle for every corner, and an anchor for every storm. You have everything you need.

From Max Lucado's Traveling Light

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Happy New Year 	2 Office Open 8-5	3 6:30 pm Prison Ministry 6:45 pm Ladies Bible Study 7 pm Praise Group	4 Office Open 8:30-5 6 pm First Friday Teen Night Out	5 Pray for Pastor Rod
6 COMMUNION Commissioning of Church Officers 6 pm Youth 3:16	7 Office Open 8-5 7 pm Trustees Mtg. Pray for Pastor Phil	8 7 pm Prayer Mtg.	9 Office Open 8-5 6:30 pm Safe Food Preparation class	10 6:45 pm Ladies Bible Study 7 pm Praise Group	11 Office Open 8:30-5	12 Pray for Pastor Rod
13 6 pm Youth 3:16	14 Office Open 8-5 6 pm Christian Education Board Pray for Pastor Phil	15	16 Office Open 8-5 Annual Reports Due	17 6:45 pm Ladies Bible Study 7 pm Praise Group	18 Office Open 8:30-5 March for Life Washington DC	19 March for Life Washington DC Pray for Pastor Rod
20 Mission Moment Pregnancy Center of Meadville 12:30 pm Missions Committee Meeting 6 pm Youth 3:16	21 Office Open 8-5 6:30 pm Deacons Pray for Pastor Phil	22	23 Office Open 8-5 6 pm Annual Business Meeting & Tureen Dinner	24 6:45 pm Ladies Bible Study 7 pm Praise Group	25 Office Open 8:30-5 Newsletter Articles Due	26 Pray for Pastor Rod
27 6 pm Youth 3:16	28 Office Open 8-5 Pray for Pastor Phil	29	30 Office Open 8-5	31 6:45 pm Ladies Bible Study 7 pm Praise Group		
					2019	