

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH COURIER

APRIL 2020 EDITION



OUR STAFF

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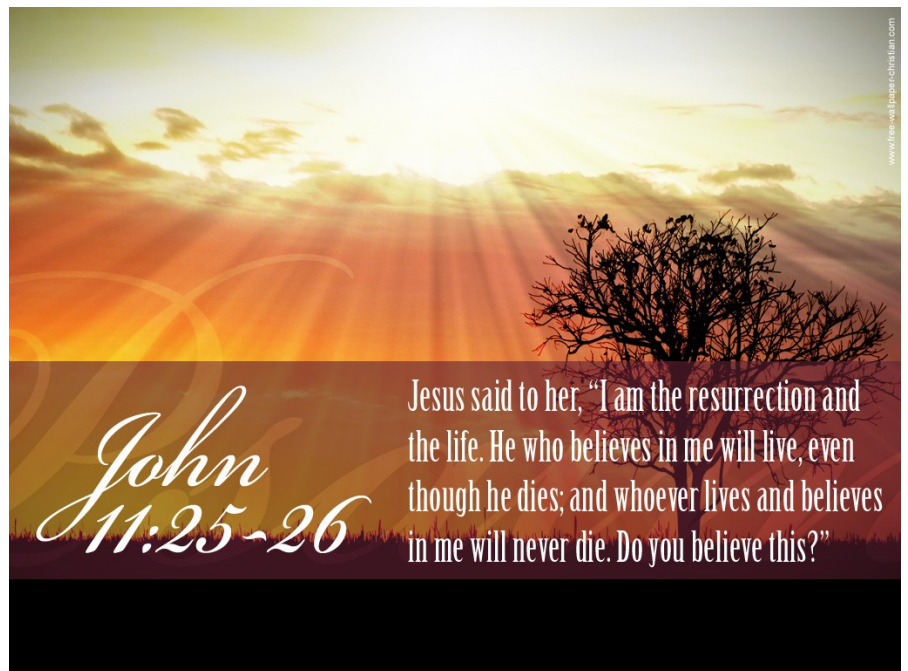
Office Hours:

Monday, Wednesday, & Friday 8-5

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

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Live a Life that Matters

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

... a loud voice of a great multitude in heaven, saying, "Hallelujah! Salvation and glory and power belong to our God;..." Rev 19:1

This is the month we celebrate the sacrifice and victory of Jesus our Savior! Salvation is ours because of Jesus. But how do you think of that salvation. Is it something that you received in the past or something you're experiencing as you grow in Christ or something that you'll obtain when we meet Jesus in Eternity? Well no matter how you answered that question, you're right.

Salvation is ours when we receive Christ by confession and belief, yet we're in process and ultimately we'll be saved. That's what we're taught in God's Word. It's referred to as "the three tenses of salvation".

We know that past tense, that we have been saved. For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, *it is* the gift of God; not as a result of works, that no one should boast. Ephesians 2:8- That is that one-time act of God wherein He justifies us and removes the penalty of sin and guilt from our life through the finished work of Christ on the cross. That occurs in a moment of time when we believe.

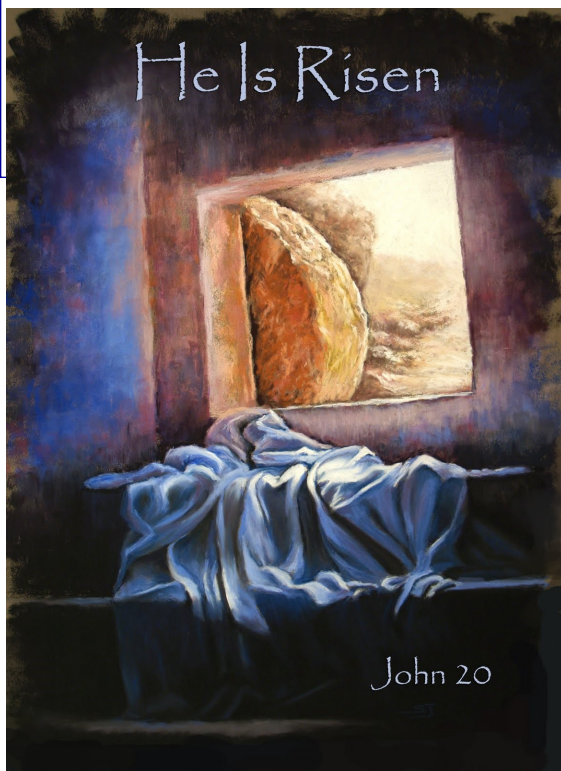
Yet there's more to come. God's not finished with us. At that point, we are simply being the process called salvation. Paul speaks of us as being saved (For the word of the cross is to those who are perishing foolishness, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. 1 Corinthians 1:18) It's a participle and so it's an "ing-word". The process is often called sanctification. It's the process by which we are "set apart" unto God. All of life is to be the continual process of drawing closer to Jesus, so that one day we will be made conformed to His very image!

Beyond that there is still the future tense of the word, when we will be saved. Jesus reminds His disciples that they're in for some very rough treatment from this world's system. He says, "And you will be hated by all on account of My name, but it is the one who has endured to the end who will be saved." Matthew 10:22 Often this is referred to as glorification. When God transforms our mortal bodies into glorious bodies that are just like His.

Romans 13 reminds us about godly living: And this *do*, knowing the time, that it is already the hour for you to awaken from sleep; for now salvation is nearer to us than when we believed. (Romans 13:11) Take a moment right now to stop and worship and reaffirm your love to the One that has saved You, past, present and future!

Thank you Redeemer and Savior,

Pastor Rod



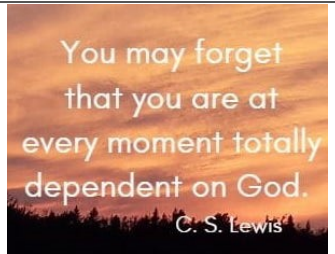
PASTOR PHIL'S MESSAGE

"Never be afraid to trust an unknown future to a known God." — Corrie ten Boom



*If it had not been the **LORD who was on our side**— let Israel now say—
if it had not been the **LORD who was on our side** when people rose up against us,
then they would have swallowed us up alive when their anger was kindled against us;
then the flood would have swept us away, the torrent would have gone over us;*

then over us would have gone, the raging waters. -Psalm 124:1-5



Waking up in a dark room with just one light on and a nurse sitting and writing at a desk my three-year-old mind panicked. "Where is Mom?" was the first thing that went through my mind before I started crying out. It is easy to allow our emotions to control our actions rather than the truth of God's promises in His Word. It becomes the default in our lives when we listen more to the world and their panic than to the Holy Spirit's promptings. We often fear the suffering of death more than we fear God as our Maker and Lord. This results in a flood of emotions that debilitates us and causes our hearts to run to idols (money, relationships, power, entertainment, etc.). When we seek anything before seeking God, even good things, we are trying to find answers in the wrong things.

David writes this psalm to remind God's People, Israel, that they would not even be a nation unless God revealed Himself. Think about it, Moses tries to help His people in His strength by killing an Egyptian taskmaster. His attempts end up in Him being hunted down as a fugitive, he flees and ends up on the other side of the desert across the Sinai Peninsula in the land of Midian. It is there on the back of the wilderness as he shepherds lost sheep that a burning bush draws his attention. God seeks to draw us close and to hear from our creator. God will use what He wills to call us with His megaphone. It is the hound of heaven that tracks us down and looks to make Himself known. "I am", God states as His name after Moses removed His sandals on holy ground. This is what we need today. We must be still and know that God is working always for His Glory and your good if you love and trust Him.

God is in the business of rescue right now and we are invited even to tell others the Good News. The flood of evil is countered with another kind of flood. God has visited and brought us His answer to the way the world is today. **"Where sin flooded, grace did much more overflow"**, (Romans 5:20). He has not left us alone, we can trust Him.

1. Bring your emotions and anxiety to God and let them be a cry to the Father. (Have Faith in the Father!)
2. Pray for godly leaders and our churches as we seek God's help amid this pandemic.

Look for ways to reach out and encourage others during this time. (See others through God's eyes.)
May God keep you in His overflowing grace! Listen to His Word. Trust Our Savior Jesus, He has it all under control!

Pastor Phil

Deacons Devotional



Concerning prayer.

After watching a Francis Chan series on [rightnowmedia](http://rightnowmedia.com), I was convicted about a few things concerning unanswered prayer. Many times when our prayers are not answered we blame God or wonder if God is even listening, but many times it is our own fault that our prayers are not being answered. The video stated 4 main reasons that can keep our prayers from being effective and I would like to share them.

1. When we hold on to sin.

Proverbs 28:9

If anyone turns a deaf ear to My instructions, even their prayers are detestable. Many people like the idea of praying to God, but they also like the sinful life they live. The two cannot coexist. An example of this is a young couple who is living together, but not married, yet they pray to God to bless their home. God will not bless anything goes against His teachings.

2. When we ask for selfish desire.

James 4:3

When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures.

To some people God is like a genie, to be pulled out whenever they need something. Prayer is not supposed to be just a time for asking, it should be about being in the presence of the Creator and Almighty God. A time of reflection and allow the Holy Spirit to guide, a time to be still and know God. We can see this when a person might pray for a Mustang just because they don't like PT Cruiser they own.

3. When we ask for things that are not in step with God's will

1 John 5:14

This is the confidence we have in approaching God; that if we ask anything, according to his will, he hears us.

Too many times we put our goals and our ambitions before God's will. God has a plan for our lives and we need to pray in a way that follows that plan. This may be the prayer of a person who is looking for a new job goes unanswered, because God wants them there to witness to their fellow employees.

4. We do not ask in faith.

Mark 11:24

Whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you will receive it.

Unfortunately some people's prayer time has become a mere habit, something to check off a list after devotions. They do not believe that their prayer is going to be answered and eventually they stop praying for it and move to something else that has come up. People often pray for a financial need, but continue to complain that they will "never get the money in time". They do not truly believe that God will help them.

Remember the Lord's prayer, the prayer Jesus used as an example to the disciples. It is not a list of wants and demands for selfish goals. It starts with worshiping a Holy God, a request for what is needed, not wanted, for that day and protection from the evil one. And all this for the glory of God not ourselves.

So expand your prayers to include worship and openness to do God's will and a faith that if we are doing God's will our prayers will be heard.

SS Lesson from "The Wired Word"

Confronting the News With Scripture and Hope

Here are some Bible verses to guide you:

James 4:13-15

Come now, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go to such and such a town and spend a year there, doing business and making money." Yet you do not even know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes. Instead you ought to say, "If the Lord wishes, we will live and do this or that."

"Uncertain times." We're starting to hear that term a lot these days when no one can accurately predict how long our world will be dealing with the coronavirus pandemic. In a way, "uncertain times" is an odd term, since in reality all times are uncertain, as James reminds us in the verses above.

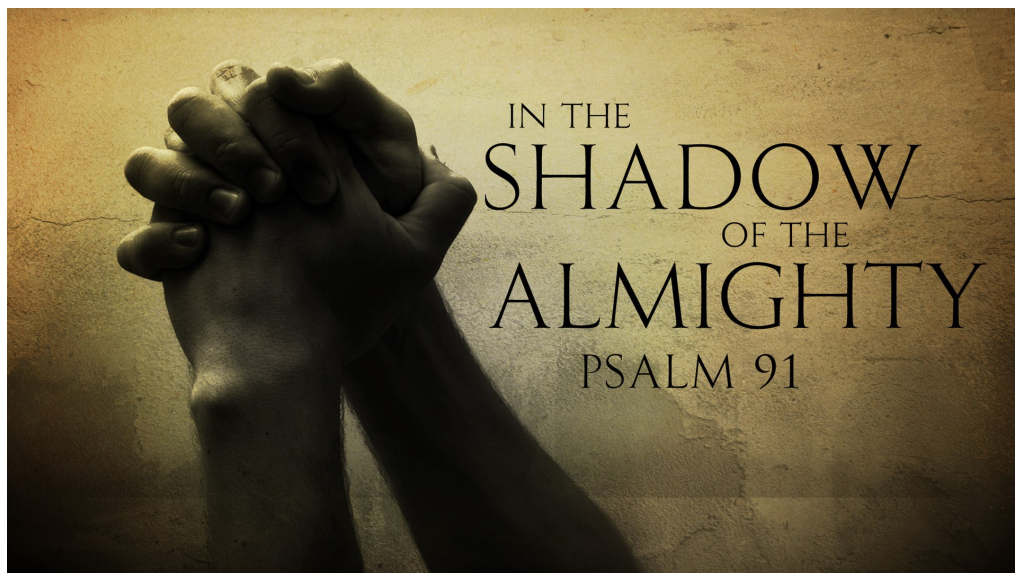
Questions: What role ought planning for the future have in a Christian's approach to life? What or who might be overlooked because of future planning? What or who that might have been overlooked be included because of future planning? How do your appointment calendar and happenstance intersect? How do your appointment calendar and God's will intersect?

Hebrews 10:24-25

And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching. (For context, read 10:23-25.)

Perhaps one of the reasons "social distancing" is a challenge for churches (and for many others) is that it makes the act of "encouraging one another" more difficult. Of course, even from a distance, we can send email and Facebook messages and texts, as well as make phone calls of encouragement (or of friendship or of support, etc.). But there is something that being physically present with others for whom faith in Christ is important is not so easily replaced from a distance.

What's more, the Bible often represents people in forced social isolation as "cut off" from the temple or family or fellowship (see, for example, Leviticus 13:45-46; Psalm 38:11; Numbers 12:10-15; Luke 17:12). On the other hand, one way salvation is sometimes characterized is as God or Jesus bridging the distance to those in social isolation (see Jeremiah 23:23; Luke 15:20; 17:12-14; 18:13-14; Ephesians 2:13).



Health Ministry

Prevention & Treatment Of Co-Vid19

There is currently no vaccine to prevent coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to this virus. However, as a reminder, CDC always recommends everyday preventive actions to help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases, including:

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.
- Follow CDC's recommendations for using a facemask.
 - CDC does not recommend that people who are well wear a facemask to protect themselves from respiratory diseases, including COVID-19.

Facemasks should be used by people who show symptoms of COVID-19 to help prevent the spread of the disease to others. The use of facemasks is also crucial for health workers and people who are taking care of someone in close settings (at home or in a health care facility).

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
- If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol. Always wash hands with soap and water if hands are visibly dirty.

These are everyday habits that can help prevent the spread of several viruses. CDC does have specific guidance for travelers.

Treatment

There is no specific antiviral treatment recommended for COVID-19. People with COVID-19 should receive supportive care to help relieve symptoms. For severe cases, treatment should include care to support vital organ functions.

People who think they may have been exposed to COVID-19 should contact their healthcare provider immediately.



A way to keep focused

Isaiah 43:1-3 speaks to our fear and gives us God's perspective in times of crisis.

But now, thus says the LORD, your Creator, O Jacob,

And He who formed you, O Israel,

"Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;

I have called you by name; you are Mine!

"When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;

And through the rivers, they will not overflow you.

When you walk through the fire, you will not be scorched,

Nor will the flame burn you.

"For I am the LORD your God,

The Holy One of Israel, your Savior;

I have given Egypt as your ransom,

Cush and Seba in your place.

Does this makes us feel like we should be spared from pestilence or trials, or that no difficulties will overtake us? Do God's people have some special immunity when the latest plague hits? Of course not! We live in a world subject to disease, natural disaster, and even the evil choices that people make. All these things can impact us: the deep waters, troubles, fire, and hard trials—but God promises that he will be with us, and that ultimately these things will not overwhelm or destroy us.

Take a moment to thank God today for the gift of salvation, that he did not leave us in our weakness, corruption, and separation from him. Thank you, God, that "when the right time fully came" you sent your own Son, "as the son of a human mother" ... "But when the fullness of the time came, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the Law, so that He might redeem those who were under the Law, that we might receive the adoption as sons. Galatians 4: 4 & 5

Thank you, God, that you continually remind us to not be afraid. We don't know what may come tomorrow. We can't see the end of this latest pandemic. We don't know how it will affect us. But we know that "God is with us" and we can take comfort in his words to us: "Don't be afraid!"



Announcements

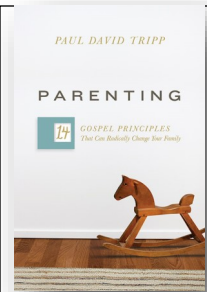


Tuesday
April 7th
Prayer Meeting
7 pm
TENTATIVE DUE TO COVID 19



L.O.V.E. Marriage Small group
will meet every 3rd Friday at
the Hovis'. The next meeting is
Friday April 17th at 6 pm.

L.O.V.E. stands for Living Our
Vows Everyday. **TENTATIVE DUE TO COVID 19**



Parenting Small Group
Friday April 3RD
7 pm
@ Lowther's
TENTATIVE DUE TO COVID 19

Health Ministry Informational meeting
Saturday April 25th 8 am till 12 Noon
TENTATIVE DUE TO COVID 19 QUARANTINE

Men's Breakfast Fellowship

Saturday 25TH April 8 am.

Come for breakfast.

Stay for Bible Study.

TENTATIVE DUE TO COVID 19



**MAY NEWSLETTER
ARTICLES ARE DUE
TO THE OFFICE BY
APRIL 24TH.**

**WHETHER COVID 19 QUARANTINE
IS STILL IN EFFECT OR NOT!**

PRAYERS and Monthly EVENTS

The Grieving: Charlotte Kirk, Kay and Dwight Dunton, Karen Held family, Leona Smith

Cancer: Meghan Cunningham, Chris Peterman

Health Issues: Rose Cummings, Brian Smith, Bob Wilmoth, Randy Gorske, Lee Manross

Rehabilitating: Janet Wise, Judy Wrye, Randy Gorske, John Belfiore, Ed Kovschak, Bill Weaver, **Judy Santey**

Nursing Home: Ralph Batchelor, Judy Klemm, Bill Hodge



Military: Dillon Lang, Keith Bentley, Howard VanMatre, Adam Alm, Jimmy Humes, Gregg Merritt, Wesley Fleischer, Christian Ross, Austin Shearer, Wyatt Fleischer, Tyler Hauf, Bryce Kirk, Wyatt Doubet

Guidance: Brian & Lynette Smith, Eugene and Fawn Pabon, Lucas and Estela Crowe

College Students: Madison Klemm, Mark VanMatre, Stephen VanMatre, Katie Duda, Jordan Anderson, Neely Colvin, Clayton Dingle, Zachary Dingle, Austin Jones, Jillian Risjan, Cami Schmidt, Cori Schmidt, Ryan Shaffer, Alex Wheeler, Brenna Rindfuss

Newborns: Jonathan Held

Expectant Moms: Bettina Baer, Brean (Walczak) Longnecker

Others to be in prayer for during this Quarantine:

Bartlett Gardens: Janet Beanland, Judy Wrye, Judy Santey, Juanita Robinson, Raetta Porter

Home Bound: Vince and Audrey Byrne, Phyllis Gaines, Louise Gamble, Betty Held, Betty Rhodes, Bill Weaver

All school students and teachers

Laid off workers

“Front Line” workers



CALENDAR
WILL BE
PUBLISHED ONCE
COVID19 QUARANTINE
IS LIFTED
THANK YOU FOR
YOUR PATIENCE



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April Birthdays and Anniversaries



26th: Paige Porter
 27th: Bryce Kania
 30th: Trent Wheeler
 Karon Runyan

1st: Ken Walczak
 3rd: Julie Kania
 4th: Larry Klemm
 5th: David Humes
 Linda Shearer
 Chris Zirkle
 6th: Beckett Joslin
 7th: Barb Ellis
 8th: Tom Gage, Jr.
 11th: Judy Wrye
 12th: Karen Joslin
 14th: Kobe Wheeler
 17th: Bonnie Boylan
 Bill Roth
 19th: Cyrus Gage
 Brian Smith
 20th: Ken Dine
 23rd: Drew Jardina



4th: Diamond and Amy Jones
 11th: Dave and Janet Wise
 16th: Dan and Cathy Williams
 22nd: Jay and Lorraine Acklin

1st Service:

5th: Karen Burchill and Missy Zimmerman
 12th: Amy and Cassidy Boylan
 19th: Marilyn Dine and Debbie Dine
 26th: Gina Brace and Tenae Gage

Sunday School:

5th: Debbie Dine and Karen Joslin
 12th: Ken Dine and Paul Sellers
 19th: Josh and Emily Mumau
 26th: Wendy Gardner and Stacie Klemm

2nd Service:

5th: Darlene Gorske and Robyn Kovschak
 12th: Andi Lundin and Brenda Morrow
 19th: Stacie and Aubrey Klemm
 26th: Andi and Jillian Risjan

Nursery

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

4th: Toni Merritt and Karon Runyan
 11th: Closed for Easter
 18th: Bonnie Boylan and Debbie Shearer
 25th: Lynn Smith and Dana Encapera



God isn't panicking

Mark 4: 35-41

- **Jesus wasn't surprised at the storm** on the Sea of Galilee, and He's not surprised by today's global storm. He knew the storm was coming that night, and He knew the COVID-19 virus storm was coming to our world today. And He is with us now in this storm as He takes us to the other side. (Read v. 35-37.)
- **Jesus is peace in the midst of the storm.** It's not just that He was at peace, He is peace. Exhausted, He fell asleep on a cushion in the bottom of the boat. He knew the storm was raging, yet He was peace. We don't have to worry; we can rest in His peace. (Read v. 38.)
- **Jesus has the authority to calm the storm.** He rebuked the wind and the waves simply with His voice. And everything became completely calm. Jesus has the authority to end this pandemic when the time is fulfilled. But in the meantime, He can calm individual hearts while we're in the storm. Storms do have an end, and so will this one. (Read v. 39.)

Jesus uses the storm to deepen our faith. Just as He asked the disciples that day, He asks us: "Why are you so afraid?" Fear is our human reaction to trials, but God wants our faith in Him to grow. The number 1 priority Jesus had in the disciples' training was to develop their faith. It is the same with us today. Hebrews 11:6 tells us that faith is important to God: "Without faith it is impossible to please God." When we are in the middle of a storm, in our fear we often pray that God would change our circumstances, that He would "make it go away" so that we can return to normal. The disciples in that boat likely felt this way too. But Jesus wants to not just change our circumstances, but He wants to change us. (Read v. 40.)

How to listen to God everyday.

Radio Stations: WCTL 106.3; Moody Radio 91.9; Family Life Network 89.9

Don't forget to sign into RightNow Media on your computer or TV for Bible Studies and Kids programs
Please click on the link below to sign up for your rightnow media account!

<http://www.rightnowmedia.org/Account/Invite/csfbc>

Don't forget to go to our website: www.csfbc.org for more updates!