



# MEMORIAL BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday, January 10, 2021

## PLEASE NOTE

Due to the up-tick in COVID-19 cases in our community, we have decided to temporarily discontinue our in-person Sunday morning worship service. You are invited to participate by gathering with our fellow members in the parking lot and listening on FM-90.5 or joining by Facebook. We hope to resume in-person worship soon and will inform the congregation when a date is determined.

## SPRING CLEANING IN JANUARY

Spring cleaning at the church is planned for Jan. 23 and 30, beginning at 8:30 a.m. Volunteers are encouraged to come and help with interior clean up and clean out.

## NEW SERMON SERIES BEGINS JAN. 17

### BLUEPRINT FOR A HEALTHY CHURCH

The book of Titus is a guide to setting up order in the local churches of first-century Crete, but today it still gives us a theology of counter-cultural Christian living and enjoying a healthy and vibrant church experience. I trust you will join your fellow believers as we journey through the Word together.

Dr. Bert Welch

## PASTOR SEARCH COMMITTEE AND SURVEY

Please continue to pray for the Pastor Search Committee: Heath All, Jerry Beard, Shannon Dulaney, Wayne Eadon, Samuel Horne, Dixie Meyer, and Susan Patrick. If you have not turned in your Pastor Search Survey, please bring it to church office or mail it (P.O. Box 566, St. Geo., SC 29477)

## CHURCH CONFERENCE TODAY

A church conference will be held this morning for the purpose of approving Jane Horton to serve on the Constitution and By-laws Committee. Jane replaces Kelley Steen.

## PASTORAL PONDERINGS

Dr. Bert Welch, Interim Pastor

Dear friends, we have encountered a very challenging period together over the past several months. When I first arrived as your Interim Pastor we were sweltering in the sunny summer days with our parking lots and radio services. We then moved back inside the sanctuary in early October with social distancing precautions. Now, we are back to the parking lot, radio and virtual gatherings again. Life is certainly not routine around Memorial Baptist! I do want to express two significant thoughts to you in the next weeks. One is more personal and the other relates to a sort of "State of the Church" theme. Today, I simply want to convey my concern for each of you. In doing so, I want to use the words the Apostle John writes to his beloved co-worker Gaius, expressing his appreciation for his Kingdom labors. John writes,

*To my dear friend Gaius, whom I love in the truth. Dear friend, I pray that you may enjoy good health and that all may go well with you, even as your soul is getting along well. (3 John 1-2)*

I first want to say that I am praying for your health This COVID-19 pandemic has taken its toll on many and we have all been impacted by it in some way or another. Some among us have contracted the virus and have recovered, while others have lost friends or loved ones to the virus. We are all concerned about the health and well-being of our loved ones and community friends. We all pray and long for the day when this will be but a distant memory.

Like the Apostle, I too am very concerned about people's spiritual health during this protracted season of caution. Without normal worship services, Sunday School, ministry activities, and other discipleship opportunities, we know that some have had their spiritual lives challenged. Church life will not save us, but it certainly does nourish us spiritually. I pray that you have discovered ways to enhance your spiritual development during these days and have not neglected your spiritual well-being. So, please hear my heart's plea for you. I pray for both your physical and spiritual health and well-being God bless you all.

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### Dr. Bert Welch

Interim Pastor

803-289-0027

### Mary Murray

Church Administrator

843-560-8150

### Jason Dulaney

Music Minister

Interim Youth/Children

843-810-5637

## Worship Attendance

January 3, 2021

27

## Tithes and Offerings

January 3, 2021

\$4,134.00

## Deacon of the Week

January 10-16

Seth Phillips

## Service Time

Sundays: 10:00 am

Radio 90.5 FM

Masks and Social Distancing guidelines are observed.

**January 10, 2021 Memorial Baptist Title: CLIMBING OUT ON A LIMB**

**TEXT: Luke 19:1-10**

**Matthew 9:35** Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the good news of the kingdom, and healing every disease and sickness. When He saw the crowds, He was moved with compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.

**Luke 19:1-10** Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. A man was there by the name of Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was wealthy. He wanted to see who Jesus was, but being a short man he could not, because of the crowd. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree to see him, since Jesus was coming that way. When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him, “Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today.” So he came down at once and welcomed him gladly. All the people saw this and began to mutter, “He has gone to be the guest of a ‘sinner.’” But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, “Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount.” Jesus to him, “Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost.”

**THE STORY BEHIND THE STORY.**

**WHY DID ZACCHAEUS PASSIONATELY DESIRE TO SEE JESUS?**

**(1)The Weeping Widow: Luke 7:11-17**

**Luke 7:11** This news about Jesus spread throughout Judea and the surrounding country.

**(2) The Demon-possessed Man: Luke 8:26-39**

**Luke 8:39** “Return home and tell how much God has done for you.” So the man went away and told all over town how much Jesus had done for him.

**(3) The Blind Beggar: Luke 18:35-43**

**Luke 18:43** Immediately, he received his sight and followed Jesus, praising God. When all the people saw it, they also praised God.

**John 12:46** “I have come into the world as a light, so that no one who believes in me should stay in darkness.”

**Matthew 5:14-16** “You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.

**Acts 20-24** However, I consider my life worth nothing to me, if only I may finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me—the task of testifying to the gospel of God’s grace.