



MEMORIAL BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday, January 17, 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.

SYMPATHY EXPRESSED

We extend our sincere Christian sympathy to the family of Mrs. Louise Chitty in her passing on January 15, 2021. May God comfort this family in their sorrow

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 TODAY

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.

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)

RESULTS OF CHURCH CONFERENCE

The church, in conference on January 10, elected Jane Horton to serve on the Constitution and By-Laws Committee, replacing Kelley Steen.

PASTORAL PONDERINGS

Dr. Bert Welch, Interim Pastor

SMOOTH STONES... Then David took his staff in his hand, chose five smooth stones from the stream, put them in the pouch of his shepherd's bag and, with his sling in his hand, approached the Philistine. (I Samuel 17:40)

I am sure there are many good reasons the shepherd David carefully chose smooth stones for his sling-shot that killed old Goliath. The main reason likely being the aerodynamics of a rounded object being more consistent in flight. A good outdoorsman like David knew much about the value of accuracy through his dangerous duties as a shepherd.

In our walk and witness for the Lord, we too need to be like smooth stones. We need to be shaped and molded by His presence and Word to be effective in our witness for Him. God is ready and able to remove the rough edges of selfishness, arrogance, pride, hatred, prejudice, and anything that hinders our daily walk as disciples. The prophet Isaiah said, **"O LORD, you are our Father. We are the clay, you are the potter; we are all the work of your hand."**

A vital sign of authentic faith is being honest about our sins before the Lord. I know I have some rough edges (sins) in my life that displeases God and hinders my witness and ministry. I continually pray that God would reveal them to me, so that I may confess my sins before Him and ask forgiveness in the Name and Power of Jesus Christ.

5th SUNDAY OFFERING

A 5th Sunday Special Offering will be received on January 31. It will go toward the Guzman Loan (balance \$13,961.24). You may include it in your tithe check (note on bottom of check how much for budget and how much for special offering), or you may write a separate check (note on bottom that it is for Guzman loan).

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memorialbaptistch@att.net

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 10, 2021

35

Tithes and Offerings

Needs per Week - \$5,442.11

Rec. 1/10/21 - \$2,145.00

Deacon of the Week

January 17-23

Shawn Riley

Service Time

Sundays: 10:00 am

Radio 90.5 FM

Masks and Social Distancing guidelines are observed.

January 17, 2021 Memorial Baptist Church
SERMON SERIES: Blueprint for a Healthy Church: “Meeting the Cretans”
TEXT: Titus 1:1-4

2 Timothy 3:16-17 All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be **thoroughly equipped** for every good work.

Titus 1:4 To Titus, my true son in our common faith:

Titus 1:5 The reason I left you in Crete was that you might straighten out what was left unfinished and appoint elders in every town, as I directed you.

Titus 1:12 Even one of their own prophets has said, “Cretans are always liars, evil brutes, lazy gluttons.”

1) UNDERSTAND YOUR IDENTITY: Titus 1:1 Paul, a servant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ....

Matthew 5:13,14,16 “You are the salt of the earth. “You are the light of the world.” Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

2) GROW IN GODLINESS: Titus 1:1-2a ...for the faith of God’s elect and the knowledge of the truth that leads to godliness—a faith and knowledge resting on the hope of eternal life.

Philippians 4:8-9 Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me—put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.

1 Timothy 4:7 Have nothing to do with godless myths and old wives’ tales; rather, train yourself to be godly.

3) TRUST GOD’S CHARACTER AND TIMING: Titus 1:2b-3a “...which God, who does not lie, promised before the beginning of time, and at his appointed season he brought his word to light,”

Numbers 23:19 God is not a man, that he should lie, nor a son of man, that he should change his mind. Does he speak and then not act? Does he promise and not fulfill?

1 Samuel 15:29 He who is the Glory of Israel does not lie or change his mind; for he is not a man, that he should change his mind.”

Revelation 21:8 But the cowardly, the unbelieving, the vile, the murderers, the sexually immoral, those who practice magic arts, the idolaters and all liars—they will be consigned to the fiery lake of burning sulfur. This is the second death.”

4) WITNESS FAITHFULLY: Titus 1:3b “...through the preaching entrusted to me by the command of God our Savior,”

Romans 10:14 How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them?

