



First View of First Baptist Church Dresden

490 Morrow St | PO Box 176, Dresden TN 38225

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CONNECT

with an Open Heart
Mark 12:29-31



GROW

in Body, Mind & Spirit
Romans 12:2



SERVE

with Willing Hands
1 Peter 4:10-11



GO

with Ready Feet
Matthew 28:19-20



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Contact us @ 731-364-2212 or

dresfbc@frontiernet.net

Dr. Don McCulley, Pastor



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Financial Gifts to the Church

In Memory of:

Jimmy Parham.....by Roger & Marylou Tibbs,
Richard & Barbara Ferrell, Sylvia Swearingen

Becky Williamson.....by Sylvia Swearingen,
Richard & Barbara Ferrell, VotaVita Class, Ron, Pat & Allie Phillips

A Thank You to the church family was received from David, Melanie, Joshua and Emma Parham

(All cards received are posted on the Information Station Board)

a monthly publication of First Baptist Church Dresden

APRIL 2020



First View

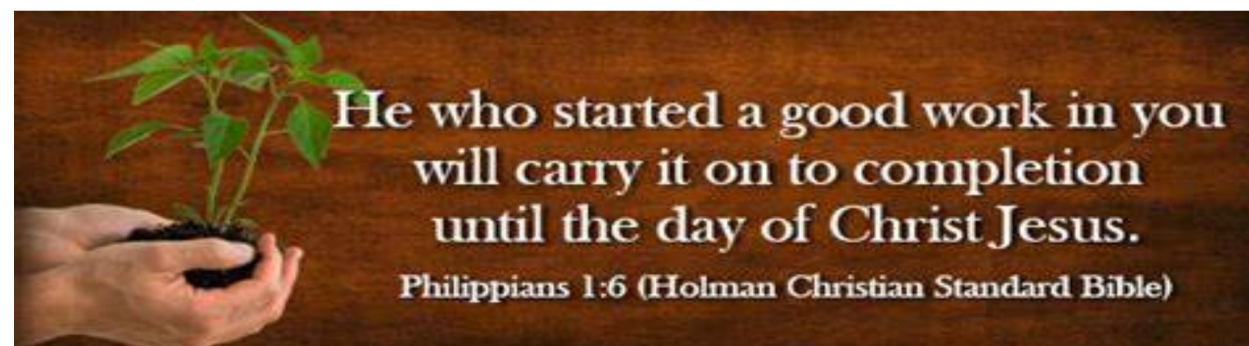
From the Pastor's Desk

For the last several months we have been considering "some questions about church." Why do we believe in the church? We have thoughts about the **source** of the church, the **nature** of the church and the **mission** of the church. In this final article let's consider the **future** of the church.

To this point our review of the church has been positive. All of this does not prevent us from admitting that the church is imperfect. The failures of the church are well known. At times the church has persecuted dissents, initiated violence, repressed intellectual curiosity, and been unfaithful to the gospel. The sins that are found in the world are also found in the church. The church includes human ordinary, flawed persons who have been forgiven by God, but who have not yet been delivered from all their failures.

Not yet, but they will be. Our faith and hope as Christians reminds us that God will complete the good work that He has begun in the church (Phil. 1:6). The future of the church is bright: "Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, and to present her to himself as a radiant church" (Eph. 5:25-26).

We believe in the church because of its radiant future.



If the church had been created by human beings, or if God had no interest in the church, we would be foolish to believe in the church, for the church is an all-too-human institution that is filled with contradictions and flaws. But God has created the church, and God cares for the church.

Why believe in the church? We should believe in the church because it:

- * *Fulfills God's eternal purposes*
- * *Is the people of God, the body of Christ, and the fellowship of the Spirit*
- * *Does God's work in our world*
- * *Has a radiant future*

Our future is indeed bright! Given the circumstances in which we find ourselves at present some might doubt that, but let us trust our Lord and be faithful to His cause.

Let me remind our church family that in the days ahead our leadership team will be meeting to discuss our plans and strategies for the next few weeks. We will relay that to you as soon as possible.

God bless,

Bro Don

APRIL Birthdays

- 3 Jason Taylor
Andrew Pritchett
- 5 Donivon Sawyer
Gwen Joyner
- 6 Hudson McDaniel
Ryan Evans
Shirley Halliburton
- 7 Marlee Scronce
- 8 Paige Mallon
- 12 Robert Browning
- 14 Gracie Kibbler
- 18 Harley Taylor
BJ Wetherell
Renza Adams
Patrick Powers
- 19 Carla Hutcherson
- 20 Mitch White
- 21 Don Cleek
- 26 ShyAnne Bowlin
Donna Ferrell
- 27 Emma Parham
Lou Ann Powers

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Hello church family, what a month it has been. The amount of change that has come upon us these last couple of weeks have been sudden and exhausting in many ways. Like you, the student ministry is taking things week by week and adapting as we get further information on the situation at hand. As you know, we have canceled our weekly gatherings and are unable to meet in person until further notice. However, the church is trying to reach out to you by other means. Our student ministry is doing the same. So let’s talk about some good news!

I am trying to reach out to our students through the means of social media. That is the direction student ministers are heading all across America now that they are unable to meet in person. Which I find ironic since we usually harp on students about their excessive social media use. Now we are asking them to use it! What a crazy time we are living in...I digress. I have adapted the way I reach out to our students now that we are unable to gather together. The media outlets I have chosen to use to encourage our students are Instagram and YouTube. I have been preparing lessons for our students and uploading them to these media outlets and will continue to do so until we are able to meet again. It has gone well so far, but like everything else, I will continue to adapt as time goes on.

Also, more good news, we as a student ministry are beginning a new chapter here at FBC Dresden. With the great size of our student ministry, I want us to have an identity and a purpose statement that we associate with. With that being said, we now have a name, logo, and identity that distinguishes us from other student ministries. We are now the True North Student Ministry of Dresden FBC. True North Student ognize it as our student FBC. Within our aim is to glorify foundation as a stusire to glorify the Christ in everything pass always points we desire our lives the glory of God in all that we do. The Scripture verse we adhere to is Romans 11:36; “For from him and through him and for him are all things. To him be the glory forever! Amen.” These are exciting times for our student ministry, and I believe this new identity will spark a zeal for the glory of the name of Christ and a passion for our local church. We are True North Student Ministry, and our aim is to Glorify the Name.

I want to encourage you with these words of Christ, “I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world” (John 16:33). He has not promised us a world without trouble and distress, but He has promised that He will overcome it. Do not lose heart, find your peace in Christ.

Grace and Peace,
Christian Carr
Minister of Students
chracarr@gmail.com



Now when you see Ministry, you will recdent ministry at Dresour student ministry, the Name. This is our dent ministry. We deName of God through we do. Just as a comtoward True North, to always point toward

Spring has finally arrived, but with normal March weather – windy, rainy, cool and crisp temperatures. Time for April to appear and bring better weather and some green begin to appear on the plants and trees – and the grass in your yard begins to need mowing. We welcome this time of year when God seems to say, “Time for refreshment and revitalization of the earth.” This is encouraging at a time when we need to have our hope restored and our eyes lifted to our Great God and all He is doing in our world.

I was disappointed that we had to postpone our Sunday School Appreciation banquet for our teachers and faculty scheduled for March 31, 2020 but the scare of the coronavirus has closed most gatherings of 10 or more and we want to do our part in keeping our church family safe. We will re-schedule this event as soon as the virus has passed through. We want our Sunday School faculty to know they are loved and appreciated for what they do every week and every Sunday. We are certainly missing their teaching each Sunday because our Bible studies are cancelled until this crisis is over.

We are entering into the Easter season which is the most sacred of religious celebrations! Our very life and salvation depend on whether the resurrection of Jesus took place or not. If there is no resurrection then the Bible is a book of lies and Jesus is a false prophet. But of course, we know that Jesus is God and the Bible is His Word of direction and encouragement to His people, the Family of God. He did rise from the dead and we have a living Savior and that distinctive separates Christianity from every other religion in this world. It is exciting to be able to know Jesus in a personal relationship and know that He lives inside every believer. Praise God for the RESURRECTION OF JESUS!!

Please permit me to remind you of a couple of things. First, of all people, we should keep our heads up and our eyes on Jesus for our comfort and encouragement. Second, don’t forget to support the Kingdom of God through your church in attendance, tithes, and worship.

See you in church!
Bro. Wayne
fbwayne40@gmail.com



As you know our March meeting was cancelled but hopefully on April 21st we will be able to meet again. Our program in April will be presented by representatives from Be the Village. Make your plans to attend and you will learn about this fairly new organization in our town and your opportunity to assist them with foster care needs. Our meal will be catered and we will have Mexican lasagna, Spanish rice, salad and a layered strawberry dessert. Our Penny the Pig offering for this quarter will be going to Be the Village.

Stay tuned for our May meeting. We will be listening to Kenny Presley as he presents Gospel Songs of Elvis. Sheila Swearingen
JOY Director

My, how so many things in our lives can change on a dime – so many of which we tend to take for granted. It's hard to believe that only a couple of weeks ago we were moving along with our "normal" daily lives and church lives. MOST of that has changed dramatically in our daily routine, in our work lives and in the way we gather to worship each week. But praise God that He is still on the throne, that the church is still the church – wherever and however we gather – AND that music transcends all degrees of isolation. No matter if we're self isolating or in some form of cautiously going to work or the grocery store or whatever, we still have ready access to music. I encourage you all to draw strength and encouragement each day from whatever source you use for Christian music. God is already using His music in a new and mighty way during this virus crisis, and He will continue to do so.

So, what does this shifting "new normal" mean for the music ministry at First Baptist Dresden? It means that we continue in ways that are logistically feasible and personally prudent for safe social distancing. As our choir member John Johnson said the other day, it's no accident that Dennis Moon had the vision to go to Facebook live before this crisis and that the church's AV Committee had the vision to request the new lighting before we had any clue that this crisis was coming. For those reasons, while there are adjustments along the way, our church is not scrambling from square one to stream our services. Thanks, Dennis, and the rest of the AV team (Dickie, Joe and Clint) for your dedication, which is all the more important during these challenging days.

More specifically, the changes mean that our Adult Choir can't safely meet and rehearse each week, as much as they would LOVE to. It was my decision to be extra cautious to suspend rehearsals for the next few weeks, though the majority of choir members were hoping to continue. The group size is too large for safe social distancing.

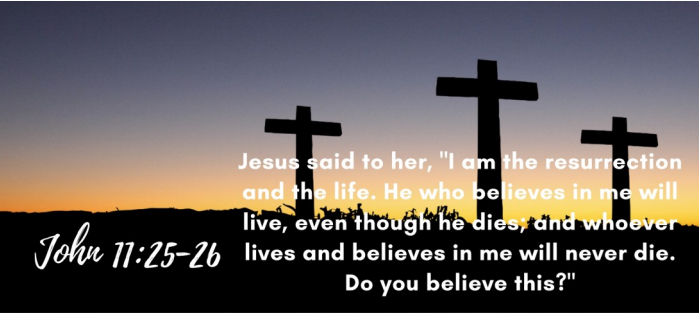
It also means that we are increasingly using the Adult Praise Team to lead in worship as they are available. They've done such a wonderful job of doing that for the last three Sundays. I'm so proud of their dedication. And it means that we will use other small groups or soloists for special music on Sunday morning during this crisis – as they are available and willing.

What about the Easter cantata? When we had to suspend rehearsals, we had worked on all songs but one. If everything returns to normal in the next couple of weeks, it's possible to still present the cantata on Easter morning. However as the virus evolves, I frankly see that as being a long shot. We will play it by ear.

So, while there's some scaling back on the numbers of people involved to foster social distancing as best we can, we are thankful that the music ministry continues right along. God will bless our efforts to do the best we can, and we continue to thank Him for this opportunity and blessing!

Stay positive, safe and well. God is not surprised by any of this. Trust Him and find a way to worship each day through music, however and whenever you access it.

God bless you.
Dr. Robert Nanney
Minister of Music
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Since our church calendar is "on hold" at the moment, our planned Call to Worship by the Youth Hand Chimes on April 5th may not happen. The youth were going to play "Were You There" to help all of us prepare our hearts for the Easter celebration of Christ's resurrection. In this time of uncertainty, whether we celebrate Easter in our sanctuary or in our homes, WHAT we celebrate is a constant in our lives: CHRIST IS RISEN!

The Adult Hand Chime Choir played "O, God, Our Help in Ages Past" on March 1st for the Call to Worship. Several of our "regulars" were not available to play this time, so we barely had enough to make a choir. That being said, we are always looking for new folks to join us as well as those who may have played before who would be willing to play again.

If you are interested in playing with the Adult Hand Chime Choir (high school age and up), please let me know. We would love to have you! I try to schedule at least one Call to Worship per month, which requires a grand total of less than an hour of your time (30 minutes of practice on the Wednesday before we play, and then about 15 minutes of practice on performance day) The blessing you will receive is well worth it!

When this time of uncertainty and postponements and cancellations has passed (and I believe it WILL pass), we will once again be able to praise the Lord in person as a congregation, and the chimes will ring again, perhaps more loudly and more beautifully than ever before! Until that day, may you find peace in knowing that God is still in control, and He is worthy of our praise!

Jeanie Nanney
Hand Chime Choir Director

