

Pastor's Notes

Hello Church Family,

2024 is well on its way. As the ole saying goes, Father Time doesn't stop or slow for anyone. But that's ok, because of each passing day, we are one day closer to being with Christ!

February will not be too busy, at least as far as church activities go. We will begin our search for a children's ministry pastor/director. I ask that we be in prayer for God to connect us with the right person—the one He has chosen. He knows our needs better than we do.

Bro Neil (our newly ordained student pastor) will have their annual fundraiser dinner Feb. 18, immediately following the business meeting. Ask the Lord for His leading in how you might give to this important ministry.

We will be preparing for our Easter Matters campaign. We will distribute DVDs to every home in Doniphan. Within the packet we will have information about our ministries and a focus on our Easter Matters Worship Service. We will distribute the packets on March 9, 16, 23 and will meet each Saturday at 9:00 am.

Stay in prayer as we work through some of the problems with the carpet and please be patient. We will get it fixed one way or the other and our auditorium will be beautiful as we all want it to be.

Bro Monty

Church Events

- Feb 4th -CPR Review / Children's Ministry Meeting
- Feb 9th S.A.M. Game Night
- Feb 11th Young Adult
 Team Meeting
- Feb 18th Business Meeting
 Youth Fundraiser Dinner
- Feb 6th& 20th 4:14 Men

I got friends in high places! The FATHER, The SON and The HOLY SPIRIT!



First Baptist Church



God bless everyone who worked SO HARD on the auditorium remodel. The results are wonderful!





I will call a meeting of the Senior Adult Ministry committee very soon. The Committee consists of:

Billy Cunningham Sara Stallsworth Karen Shepard Tina Gannon Ron Gannon

If you have suggestions or comments please make them known to one of the above committee members so that we can consider your comments and input during the next meeting.

The movie night scheduled for 12 January, 2024 was canceled due to weather and heat issues in the FLC. We will reschedule this event during the next meeting. Friday, Feb. 9 we will have a game night. It begins at 5:30. However, this event is pending on heat in the FLC. If the heat situation in the FLC does not change this event will be cancelled.

The nursing home ministry is an enjoyable activity that brings joy to those residents in attendance. If you want to take part please come to the next event at Colonial Home beginning at 3:00 PM, on 14 February, 2024. The 14th of February is Valentine's Day, so consider coming to warm the hearts of those precious residents of Colonial Home.

Joyce and I will celebrate our 55th Anniversary on the 23rd of February. God has blessed us tremendously for these 55 years and perhaps we will see many more wonderful years together in His service.

31:23-24 "O love the LORD, all ye his saints: for the LORD preserveth the faithful, and plentifully rewardeth the proud doer. Be of good courage, and he shall strengthen your heart, all ye that hope in the LORD" (KJV).



Have you ever been called by God to do something outside your comfort zone? Maybe it was even out of the realm of what seemed possible...or normal? What a great question for us to stop and ponder.

In the Mission Mosaic for February associate that question with courage. The article states, "Courage Comes from I AM." Then asked, "Are You Relying on YHWH (Yahweh) To Give You Courage?" Moses found himself in this situation in Exodus 3. Through a burning bush, God told Moses to confront Pharaoh and bring His people out of Egypt. This was no small task, but because of Moses's history, he was the man for the job. If you have read the story, you will remember Moses put up many excuses to show he wasn't the right person and God should really choose someone else. He had been the prince of Egypt; he might have put his faith in himself for courage. Maybe after 40 years in Midian as a shepherd had dwindled his self-reliance. He had no option but to trust in God for courage. Moses knew God was the same as He always been-and Moses could place his faith in Him.

Generations later, we still recount the Exodus because Moses trusted God and was obedient. What about you, are you relying on God for courage? Today, it still takes courage to step out of our comfort zones and it still takes obedience, even if reluctantly.

We have spent the past several months in great celebration and fellowship and even a wonderful transformation in our Sanctuary. Now is the time to get off those new seats and step out of our comfort zone for the big task we are being asked to accomplish.

The "Easter Matters" Campaign is getting underway. Everyone is needed to get the word out. Easter is coming and it does matter. Saturate USA is providing us with 3 Jesus films on one DVD. Our calling is to saturate Doniphan with the DVD and a personal invite one door at a time starting March 9, 16, 23. Printed materials are being developed for the teams.

Let's follow Moses' example, work through the excuses, put your trust in God, show up and we will get our courage from Him. There are so many in Doniphan and our families that need to hear, "Easter Matters."

Calendar:

February - PRAY, PRAY, PRAY March – INVITE, INVITE, INVITE

Youth Pastor's Pen

I am getting excited for 2024, as we planned out the year for the 412 Youth Group! This month we are holding our annual Youth Fundraiser, and we are going to be serving Chili and deserts and holding a silent auction. This will allow us to take the kids to Camp again this year in Van Buren. Last year was a big success at camp and many of the kids are talking about how they want to go back again this year. I am thankful for our church family and for the support you are giving our group. I am praying that this year God will continue to bless our ministry and grow it.

God's blessings are continuous, and we need to stop and look at all He has given us in our lives. Its easy to take things for granted and expect more from God daily. However, when we learn to trust Him more and more, we will find ourselves not focused on the world, but on Him. Trusting Him can also be painful as he breaks us of our old ways and disciplines us like a father would a child. Sometimes God will put you through something that rocks you to your core. As you sit and wonder why or think what did I do that brought this trial upon me? Down the road you can normally see the hand of God using that trial to teach and discipline you.

God knows your heart and he knows what is best for you, and its up to you to learn to trust Him no matter the outcome. Sometimes it is painful, sometimes it is joyful, but no matter what it is God's plan for you. I think Hebrews says it best:

"My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, nor be weary when reproved by him. **6**For the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives."

It is for discipline that you have to endure. God is treating you as sons. For what son is there whom his father does not discipline? If you are left without discipline, in which all have participated, then you are illegitimate children and not sons. Besides this, we have had earthly fathers who disciplined us and we respected them. Shall we not much more be subject to the Father of spirits and live? 10 For they disciplined us for a short time as it seemed best to them, but he disciplines us for our good, that we may share his holiness. 11 For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.



Don't shine so others can see you. Shine so that, through you, others can see Him.