

Falls Fellowship

Prayer

How much time do you spend in prayer? I know that I don't spend enough. The hurried press of life often consumes me, and my daily moments of prayer sometimes are rambling and disconnected. I've purposed to spend more time in prayer and Bible study this year.

I have been encouraged to

spend more time in prayer by a book written by Anthony DeStefano. DeStefano writes about some prayers that God will always answer, such as the prayer of the penitent sinner asking forgiveness and seeking salvation. What particularly caught my attention was

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Missions Corner

The job of the FBC Missions Committee is to emphasize and communicate goals for our major seasonal missions giving (such as Annie Armstrong and Lottie Moon) and to plan and promote missions projects throughout the year. FBC does not require 100 percent participation in all missions projects put forth to the congrega-

tion. Each church member should prayerfully consider where God leads when considering participation in missions.

This year, the FBC Missions Committee is working to improve internal communication and external outreach efforts. These improve-

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We Are Judged Everyday



Several years ago, a radio preacher on the west coast announced that the world would come to an end on May 21. The prophecy gained traction among a host of believers. Billboards were posted across the nation warning us about judgment day on May 21 and several recreational vehicles with judgment day announcements on them crisscrossed the country.

Most of us went about our ordinary lives on May 21 with little regard for the prophecy. I, for one, am willing to leave the matter in the hands of the judge. God alone knows the date and the time. Remember, Jesus said that the day comes like a thief in the night and if you knew when the thief in the night was coming, well, you get the point.

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Missions continued ...

ments include:

- Planning fewer projects which are more focused and aligned with FBC's mission and direction.
- Spreading missions projects out over several months.
- Publishing a missions projects calendar for the year to assist church members with planning and budgeting.
- Creating a "missions room" where we can collect items for donation on a year round basis.
- Organizing "packing parties" for Fair Kits, Operations Christmas Child, Backpack Buddies, School Supplies, etc.
- Communicating missions information will be posted on the screen in church sanctuary on Sunday mornings. We will continue to publish missions information in the Sunday bulletin, the church newsletter and verbally during announcements. When more immediate notifications are needed, we will utilize mass e-mail, mass phone calls and/or app notifications.

We appreciate your suggestions, feedback and support as we work to implement these changes.

Event Calendar

- February 9 — Valentines Dinner 6 PM
please sign up!
- February 10 — Deacons' Meeting 4 PM
- February 16 — Men's Fellowship Breakfast 9 AM
- March 3 — Deacons Meeting 4 PM
- April 7 — Deacons' Meeting 4 PM
- April 13 — Men's Fellowship Breakfast 9 AM
- April 17 — Ash Wednesday Service
- April 19 — Good Friday Service
- April 21 — Easter Sunrise Service followed by
breakfast at the fellowship hall

NEW — Women's Small Group Fellowship

The support and love of a small circle of friends can nurture a woman in a unique way. This circle of friends can have multiple names — "small group," "life group" or "women's ministry" — but they all accomplish the same tasks: they provide acceptance, affirmation and accountability to those involved, and they are founded on the principles of the Bible.

The Sisterhood Committee will be hosting a Women's Small Group Fellowship on Tuesday evenings at 7pm beginning on March 5th. First up, a 15-week session to discuss the book *It's Not Supposed to Be This Way* by Lifeway author and Proverbs 31 Ministries President, Lysa TerKeurst. *It's Not Supposed to Be This Way* offers a safe guide, fresh biblical insight, and life-giving perspectives for living in between Eden and eternity. With grit, vulnerability, and honest humor, Lysa helps readers:

- Stop being pulled into the anxiety of disappointment by discovering how to better process unmet expectations and other painful situations.
- Train themselves to recognize the three strategies of the enemy so they can stand strong and persevere through unsettling relationships and uncertain outcomes.
- Discover the secret of being steadfast and not panicking when God actually does give them more than they can handle.

February Birthdays

- 13 Francine Leclercq
- 22 Nina Barham
- 23 Joan Barham
- 24 Woody Leonard
- 25 Zoe Davis
- 27 Mike Leclercq
- 27 Pat Nowak



- Shift their suspicion that God is cruel or reckless to the biblical assurance that God is protecting and preparing them.
- Know how to encourage a friend and help them navigate hard realities with real help from God's truth.

The Women's Small Group Fellowship is open to all ladies of the church and guests. Please invite a friend! Cost is \$20 for the book (funds are available for those on a limited budget — please ask if you need assistance). The Sisterhood Committee is funding the purchase of the study guide workbooks for all participants.

Please RSVP no later than February 24th to a Sisterhood Co-Chair: Ruth Ann Long or Mindy Barham.



Old photos of our church and/or area needed

Anyone/everyone who has an old picture of the mill, the original church, or the new church under construction, please allow me to borrow the pictures for our church archives.

Thanks,

— Paul Barham

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Prayer continued ...

DeStefano's prayer asking God to make us an instrument of his mission and purpose. St. Francis wrote a prayer in the twelfth century which is familiar to many of us. It begins with the line, "Lord, make me an instrument of your peace." This is a prayer that God will answer. Why?

God works through us. God does not manifest himself in a physical presence nor does he alter the natural events of his creation to reveal himself. He reveals himself most profoundly through us as we become instruments of his will. There are many examples of this in the Bible such as God's calling Moses to lead the captives from Egypt, God's instructing Samuel to anoint David as King and even Jesus committing his work to an ordinary and fully human band of followers. God does his work through us.

One morning I received a telephone call from a person in deep distress. I did not know him. He called the church where I was serving at that time because someone had sent him information about the church and invited him to be his guest. He found the brochure in a stack of old mail. At the moment of his great need he found the name and phone number of a church he could call for help. That was not a coincidence. Someone in the church

sent a note in which he shared information about the church. God used the effort of that person as an instrument of his mission and purpose.

Pray this prayer asking God to make you his instrument and see what happens. Don't pray the prayer without sincerity and be ready for action because God will send someone into your life who needs help. Offer the prayer; expect God to use you and then tell me about how he used you.

— Tom Jenkins



Deacons

Linwood Barham, Chairman	919-418-1162
Hubert Jenks, Vice Chairman	919-270-8765
Alan Watkins, Secretary	919-793-5548
Tommy Brown	843-446-6540
Kevin Barham	919-618-4214
Brandon Long	252-903-4662

Judged continued ...

The host of the radio program on which the prophecy was made and promoted offered a revisionist view on May 22, the day after judgment was supposed to come. He said that there was a “silent judgment” on May 21. God began judgment silently on May 21 and would bring it to its conclusion with the end of the world on October 21. This is now several years after the original prophecy and we are still here.

The prophet did get one thing right: a silent judgment occurs every day of our lives. As Christians, we are daily judged by our actions. We are known to a lost world by what we do and not by what we say. Edgar Guest said, “I’d rather see a sermon than hear one any day.” Each day the Christian is confronted with a litany of choices and the way he responds to each one passes judgment on his convictions and his obedience to Jesus Christ. We all preach a sermon with our lives every day.

I’m old enough to remember the days when you could drive into a service station, that’s what they were called in those days, and an attendant would put gas in your car for you. When I was a student preacher, I purchased gas at a service station near the church I served. I had invited the attendant to church, but he never came. One Saturday when I paid, he gave me more change than he should have. I caught his mistake

as I got into the car. I went back to him and pointed out the mistake. He smiled and said, “I was just testing you to see if you’re what you say you are. If you hadn’t come back, I would’ve wondered about your Christianity.” I was judged that day and had I not been attentive, I could have failed the test.

— Tom Jenkins



Have You Downloaded Our App?

Our new mobile app is ready and in use by 57 people at this writing. It is available for Apple and Android devices, so search for Falls Baptist in your App Store or you can use the link on our website at www.fallsbaptistchurch.org.



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