

# Newsletter



MAY - 2022

Greetings!

I recently read this old article about a question asked to Billy Graham. I thought I would share it with you.

"Dear. Rev. Graham: Maybe I'm just old-fashioned, but from time to time our church's music director introduces new songs into the service, and I don't care for them. I like the old hymns and wish he'd just stick with them. Should I complain to the pastor?"

Answer: I know this has been a controversial issue in many churches and I don't pretend to have all the answers, especially since I'm not musical! But we have a singing faith, and God has given us the gift of music to praise Him. The Psalmist declared, "With singing lips my mouth will praise you" (Psalm 63:5).

Instead of complaining to your pastor (or anyone else), I urge you to ask God to help you be grateful for all music that points us to God, new or old. No, you may not like some of it, but others do, and God can use it in their lives to encourage them and bring them closer to Christ.

Remember: The old hymns you like were once new, and someone probably didn't like them either!

Sometimes, I'm afraid a hymn can become so familiar to us that we sing it without

even thinking about the words. But this is wrong because then our singing becomes empty and meaningless. Don't let this happen to you, but meditate on the words of the songs you sing, and even turn them into a prayer.

Your music director has probably been wise to introduce new songs slowly; completely changing everything all at once can be disruptive. Pray for him and encourage him, letting him know that you're grateful for his gifts.

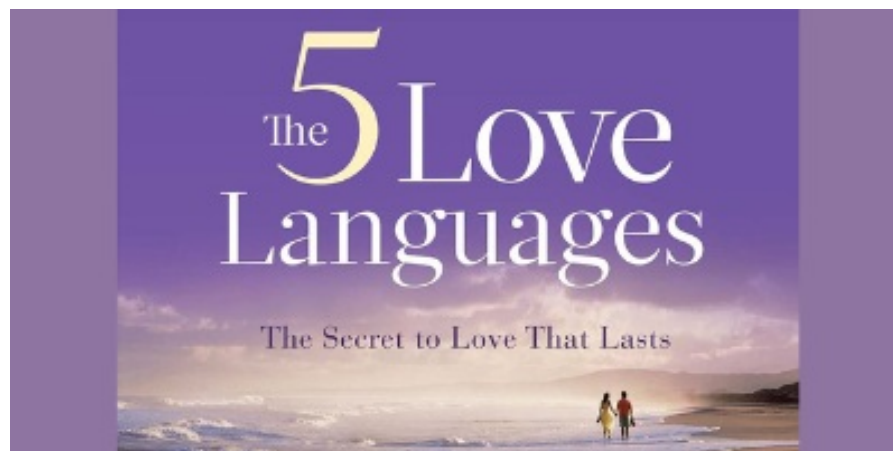
Yes, let him know you appreciate the old hymns, but support him also as he seeks to reach a new generation through music."

While I do not believe that is an issue in our church, I am also aware that we all have our preferences. It extends beyond music. It takes us to all of the ministries we do. We may change some things because we believe the changes lead us to better meet the needs of the people. Maybe it will help someone come to know Jesus.

In a time of constant change, oftentimes the church is slow to change, not wanting to disrupt the people. The greatest gifts we can offer one another is the gift of God's love and grace. We are not perfect and we will occasionally get it wrong. Yet, even when we don't accomplish all we were hoping to, I can still hear God proclaiming, "well done, good and faithful servant."

Go out and be a difference maker!

Pastor Michael




Pastor Michael is currently leading a series on The 5 Love Languages. Click [HERE](#) to take a short quiz to discover yours!

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## NEWS AND EVENTS

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IMPACT

*mission trip*

# OLYMPICS

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Sunday, May 15 - 12:00pm  
Behind the church

**Free meal includes Hot Dogs,  
Walking Tacos, Lemonade, and Dessert  
(Donations appreciated)**

Mark your calendars! On May 15th, those who are going on the mission trip this summer to Kentucky will be competing in the Impact Mission Trip Olympics. Come out and watch us compete in silly, fun games and cheer us on! This event is free, including lunch! We're planning to hold the event outside, but if the weather is bad, we'll do it in the Family Life Center. There is a table set up outside of the sanctuary where you can sign up to sponsor and/or pray for those going on the mission trip. Money is due to Youth Pastor Eric Prophet on or before May 15th. Thank you!

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The S.A.L.T. Society will have lunch at the church on **Tuesday, May 17th at Noon**.

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Graduate recognition Sunday is May 29th! All students graduating from high school,

college, or technology school, please give your information (school/open house) to the secretary's office or Pastor Michael. Deadline is May 22nd for church bulletin.



## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

June 12-16, 2022

Ready to cook up some fun? Cokesbury's Food Truck Party VBS invites children of all ages to get on a roll with God as a parade of Food Trucks rolls into their neighborhood for the summer's biggest party!

This VBS invites children to pray as Jesus teaches us in Matthew 6:11; "Give us this day our daily bread." These words serve as a reminder that everything we have comes from God — and that it's by turning to God in prayer that all of our daily needs are met.

At the center of the Food Truck Party is a special food truck called "On a Roll." Here, Kids (or "Chefs") will learn from the food truck's Top Chef, along with DJ Cupcake (an adorable cupcake puppet), about the Daily Specials (Daily Learnings), which are lines from the well-loved prayer that teaches us to turn to God to meet our needs.

**HELP WANTED!**



HELP! Camp Tippy is now in URGENT NEED of several directors, volunteer cabin leaders, nurses, and also the following paid summer staff: head cook, housekeeping, maintenance, worship, media and lifeguards.

If you are interested in serving or know someone else who would be good at doing so, please contact Rebecca Scott ASAP, phone 574-834-4184.

YOU'RE INVITED!

FISH FRY (AND CHICKEN) FUNDRAISER - Saturday, May 7, 2022 from 4:00-7:00pm. Drive-thru or Eat in shelter if weather permits.

## SERVICES



### Sunday

10:30am: Worship Celebration

4:00-6:00pm: Impact (grades 7-12)

### Tuesday

7:00pm: Ladies Zoom Bible Study  
with Debbie Deutsch

### Wednesday

6:30-7:30pm:

High Point (grades K-3)

Crew 456 (grades 4-6)

Impact (grades 7-12)

## FOOD FOR THOUGHT

### WHAT COUNTS

My friend recounted how she'd pointedly been asked by a fellow believer and colleague which political party she belonged to. His aim in asking the question seemed to be to predict whether he agreed with her on any number of issues

currently dividing their community. In an effort to find common ground between them, she simply replied, "Since we're both believers, I'd rather focus on our unity in Christ."

People were also divided in Paul's day, though over different issues. Topics such as what foods were permissible to eat and what days were considered holy brought disagreement among the Christians in Rome. Despite being "fully convinced in their own mind" on whichever position they held, Paul reminds them of their common ground: living for Jesus (Romans 14:5-9). Instead of passing judgment on one another, he encouraged them to "do what leads to peace and to mutual edification" (v.19).

In an era when many countries, churches, and communities are divided over issues large and small, we can point one another to the unifying truth of Christ's work on the cross to secure our life with Him eternally. Paul's reminder that we ought not "destroy the work of God" (v.20) with our individual positions is as timely today as it was 2,000 years ago. Instead of passing judgment on one another, we can act in love and live in a way that honors our brothers and sisters.

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