



Newsletter

JUNE - 2022

Greetings!

WHAT IF?

One of the books I read this year was from the letters and conversations of Brother Lawrence. The title of the book, which was written in 1693, two years after he died, is called *The Practice of the Presence of God*.

In his first letter, he stated,

Having found in many books different methods of going to God and diverse practices of the spiritual life, I thought this would serve rather to puzzle me than facilitate what I sought after, which was nothing but how to become wholly God's. This made me resolve to give the all for the All. After having given myself wholly to God, to make all the satisfaction I could for my sins, I renounced, for the love of Him, everything that was not He, and I began to live as if there was none but He and I in the world.
– Letter 1

Have you ever thought about that? Have you ever tried that? It seems so outrageous, to focus your every thought upon God and to attempt to dismiss all other non-God thoughts.

Imagine it's just you and God. Nobody else to get in the way. No distractions. I know that's not reasonable or possible. Yet, what if . . . What would life be like if I was fully devoted to God? How would I act, what would I say, how would I do life differently?

It seems like there are so many questions associated with this thought. Yet, is this so far fetched that we would not focus on God at every moment, in every decision. That are hearts would be purer than ever before and our actions would be based on His love, which would compel us to act in so many different ways, ways which would honor God in all we did.

We would find our time to rest and re-create. We find our time to worship with passion and devotion. Nothing would hold us back, not even ourselves. We would live differently. I think maybe even with more joy and passion that ever before, fully submitted to God.

Hmm, what if . . . ?

Pastor Michael

NEWS AND EVENTS

The Missions Team at First Baptist Church invites you to join them as they do various service projects in our community during the month of June.

Monday, June 6, 9:00am-12:00pm - Organizing the church library

Tuesday, June 14, 9:00am-12:00pm - To be determined

Wednesday, June 22, 9:00am-12:00pm - Heaven's Wearhouse, Pete's Pantry, and Beauty for Ashes

Thursday, June 30, 9:00am-12:00pm - To be determined

At some point, we will also be painting the Teacher's Lounge at the Jr/Sr High School!

For more information, see Gerry Cloncs or Linda Nelson.



Kindly join us for a wedding shower honoring Joshua Deutsch and Taylor Jackson at First Baptist Church in the Family Life Center at 12:00pm on Sunday, June 5th. Lunch will be hosted by the deaconesses.

RSVP to Jane Kleyla at 765-635-9396 or Missy Swanson at 765-620-7680
Requesting gift cards from Target, Amazon, VISA or Williams Sonoma.
Registered at Target and Williams Sonoma.

S.A.L.T. Society will take the church van to Hoosier Routes in Summitville on Tuesday, June 21st at 11:00am. You're invited!



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Monday-Thursday, June 20-23, 2022
6:00-8:30pm

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.

Kids in pre-school through 6th grade are invited!

MISSION TRIP TO KENTUCKY!

The youth and adults who are going on the mission trip will leave on June 25th and return on July 1st. We greatly appreciate all of your prayers and support as we head south to help with tornado cleanup. Here are the people who are going so that you can pray for them by name!

Eric Prophet
Heather Prophet
Jill Thomas
Jeff Miller
Linda Nelson
Morgan Prophet
Sophie Earnest
Caden Weller
Kaitlin Jones
Lilly Thomas
Blake Thomas
Jason Alexander
Jason Stillwell
Eli Chastain

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.

SERVICES



Sunday

10:30am: Worship Celebration

Tuesday

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

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

WALKING WITH OTHERS

Billy, a loving and loyal dog, became an internet star in 2020. His owner, Russell, had broken his ankle and was using crutches to walk. Soon the dog also began to hobble when walking with his owner. Concerned, Russell took Billy to the vet, who said there was nothing wrong with him! He ran freely when he was by himself. It turned out that the dog faked a limp when he walked with his owner. That's what you call trying to truly identify with someone's pain!

Coming alongside others is forefront in the apostle Paul's instructions to the church in Rome. He summed up the last five of the Ten Commandments in this way: "Love your neighbor as yourself" (Romans 13:9). We can see the importance of walking with others in verse 8 as well: "Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another."

Author Jenny Albers advises: "When someone is broken, don't try to fix them. (You can't.) When someone is hurting, don't attempt to take away their pain. (You can't.) Instead, love them by walking beside them in the hurt. (You can.) Because sometimes what people need is simply to know they aren't alone."

Because Jesus, our Savior, walks alongside us through all our hurt and pain, we know what it means to walk with others.

ANNE CETAS

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