

# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

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OCTOBER - 2024

I was reading a popular blog and the title was **STOP NEEDING APPROVAL. START LIVING.**

That caught my eye. Part of the blog stated, "You don't need everyone to love or approve of you. That's a lie you keep telling yourself. The belief that you need constant approval is irrational and it's keeping you weak. Here's the reality: Not everyone will like you. Not everyone will approve of you, and that's perfectly fine. The world isn't here to cater to your need for validation. Trying to win over every person is a waste of your energy and your potential.

You're making yourself miserable chasing after the approval of people who don't even matter. If you live your life constantly needing other people's approval, you'll never be free.

Here's a rational truth: You can be content with or without their approval. You're not less worthy if someone doesn't give you the validation you're chasing. You make yourself worthwhile by what you do, not by how many people say they like you.

Stop the irrational thinking. Stop worrying about who loves you and start focusing on

what you want to do. You can't control what others think, but you can control whether you let it control you."

This is Pastor Michael now. There's a lot of great wisdom in there... and while I don't need your approval and you don't need me to validate you, the **BIBLE** tells us to encourage one another, to build one another up. And that is so necessary, which is missing from this blog.

The main item missing from this blog isn't an item, it's the person of Jesus Christ. It's God! Everything I do, I do for God. I want God's approval. If I have God's approval and know it, then I don't need anyone to approve of what I'm doing, because my work has eternal consequences and has been blessed by God.

Consider these verses...

**Colossians 3:23-24 -23 Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, 24 knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ.**

**1 Thessalonians 5:9-11 - 9 For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, 10 who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with Him. 11 Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.**

Go into the world believing and trusting you are loved by the King of kings and Lord of lords. The Great I Am created you for this very moment. Celebrate God as He celebrates you!!

Blessings in Christ!!

Pastor Michael

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## Did You Ever Wonder?...

Did you ever wonder... #1.

Did you ever wonder what keeps getting announced as "SALT Society?" This group of gatherers are "Seasoned Adults Learning Together."

This group originated back in the 1980s when we used to meet at our old facility, now known as The Commons Theatre. Many of the pitch-in lunches took place in the annex named The Trout House. The founding members, mostly from the JOY class, were newly retired and craved fellowship, yet also wanted to learn. So... SALT.

Many of those beautiful saints have received their reward, but some still come to this updated version. And many of us are now retired, understanding the original desire for fellowship, let alone the delicious food at our pitch-ins. Some months we take a road trip to a restaurant or activity including museums and orchards.

Even if you aren't retired and happen to have a day off, come join us. There's lots of fun and laughter. And prayer. We meet the first Tuesday of every month, most often in the room off the kitchen.

This month we have a special guest! Renfang Taylor will be sharing.

If you would like more information, see Linda Nelson or Judy Swisher.

Beth Thompson

### Did You Ever Wonder?...

Did you ever wonder... #2?

Did you ever wonder how the various church boards select new members to serve each year? Or how long a person serves? To understand, we have to dig a bit into the church by-laws.

Our church operates under a set of by-laws. Those by-laws direct for specific boards (Deacons, Trustees, Deaconesses, Christian Education, Music, Ushers and Finance). Each board member serves for 3 years. The by-laws also direct that for a person to serve on a Board, a person must be a member of the church who has been voted on through our membership process.

Each Board selects its own chairman and he or she, along with all of the other Chairpersons, form the Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee selects names from the congregation to be asked to serve on each Board. Once the vacancies are filled, a final list is voted on by the church membership at the December business meeting.

The most important part of this Nomination process is the willingness of those who are asked to serve their church on the various Boards. The church relies on volunteers to serve. If you are interested in serving on a particular Board, let Pastor Michael or a Board Chairperson know of your interest.

Kevin Thompson

## NEWS AND EVENTS

### **S.A.L.T. Society**

(Seasoned Adults Learning Together)

On **Tuesday, October 1st at Noon**, we will have a pitch in lunch at the church.  
Special guest, Renfang Taylor, sharing.



# PRAYER

WOW Fall is here already!

**Thursday, October 3rd at 3:15pm** will be our second monthly Watchmen prayer gathering. We will meet on the east side of the Alexandria High School at door 2. If the weather is not good, we have permission to meet inside at that door. We had 13 in attendance last month. Hopefully we will be doubling that this month. The walls of our schools contain valuable individuals, so join us as we support them. Two teachers that attended last month shared how good it was for them. Half an hour out of the whole month can have a huge outcome!

Another reminder to start shopping for Operation Christmas Child. If anyone would like to give money for others to shop, see Elaine Bronner or Gerry Cloncs.

In Christ's service,

Gerry Cloncs



Pastor  
Appreciation  
Day

### A Message from the Board of Deacons

October 13th is Pastor Appreciation Day here at First Baptist Church. While George is going to continue to lead us in worship, the Deacons will be taking Pastor Michael's place during the service, giving him the opportunity to worship. Our speaker that morning will be Rev. Greg Dyson, who is the campus pastor for Taylor University. After the service there will be a pitch-in dinner for the entire congregation. The church will be providing chicken and a few additional basics to the menu. Please bring a dish or two to add to our table. If you would like to show your appreciation in a more tangible way, there will be labeled boxes available for each pastor - Michael, Eric, George, and Jill. Rumor has it that candy is accepted as well as cards.

### Attention FBC Kids!

There will be no High Point, Crew 456, or Impact on Wednesday, October 9th

Friday, October 11th from 7:00pm-8:00am - Lock-in for kids in K-6th grades

\*Please RSVP by Wednesday, October 9th\*

Sunday, October 13th - Kids will sing "The Blessing" by Cody Carnes and Kari Jobe in the morning worship service for Pastor Appreciation Day

# THE THIRD TUESDAY TABLE

The Deaconesses of First Baptist Church are hosting community dinners!  
These are held on the Third Tuesday of each month. **EVERYONE IS INVITED.**

This month's dinner will be **October 15th from 5:00pm-6:00pm.**

Meal will be Chili Soup with all the fixings; cheese, sour cream, onions, tortilla chips, and apple crisp for dessert.

Dine in only - no carry outs.

## Fall Festival

AT

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20TH**

**3:00-6:00PM**

2107 S PARK AVE ALEXANDRIA



Come out to our Fall Festival and enjoy food, games, hayrides, a campfire, and much more! There will be fun for the whole family!

## Attention Youth!

Friday, October 25th from 8:00pm-8:00am - Fall Party and Lock-in at FBC

Come dressed in a great costume. Best costume will win a prize!

\*Guys bring 2-liter of pop - Girls bring snacks\*

We will have a hayride, a campfire, lots of games and fun activities at this Fall Party/Lock-in combo event! Be sure to come and bring a friend or two!

BETTERMAN men's ministry meets every Sunday evening from 6:00-7:30pm. If you haven't signed up already, please visit [www.betterman.com/register](http://www.betterman.com/register)

All material is free and the hope is that we grow in our relationships as men and become a better-man.

 BETTERMAN



## Books and More Books

I have laid out many books in the Family Life Center for people to take. I don't want them back. I want you to have them, keep them, sell them, give them as gifts (but not to me!).

Pastor Michael

## SERVICES



Sunday

10:30am: Worship Celebration  
6:00pm: Betterman Men's Ministry

**Tuesday**

7:00pm: Ladies Zoom Bible Study with Debbie Deutsch  
S.A.L.T. Society meets on the first Tuesday of every month

**Wednesday**

6:30pm: Bible Study  
6:30pm: High Point (K-3rd), Crew 456 (4th-6th), Impact (7th-12th)



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