

Thank You



To the members and staff at First Baptist Church,

First, a huge thank you for providing us dinner. We love BBQ and peach cobbler, so it really hit the spot. Secondly, thank you for supporting Mom in all the years she worked at the school. The school was a passion for her and allowed her to do what she loved for over 30 years. Lastly, thank you for all the friendships and relationships you have provided to us over the years, that alone means the world to all of us.

Sincerely,
The Family of Betsy Rhames

First Baptist, Jasper.....	384-2527
Donnie Wiltshire, Interim Pastor.....	384-2527
Woody Wade, Minister of Music and Senior Adults.....ext. 1018.....	382-5575
Jim Slaton, Minister of Youth and Education.....ext. 1004.....	382-5425
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THE COMPASS

Love Your Neighbor

Matthew 22:37-39

This unusual time in our world has opened the door to unique opportunities for us to love our neighbor. Though we have been asked to stay home and keep our distance from one another as much as possible, it is important to remember that the Gospel can't be quarantined. Let's continue to be the church in our community. Reach out to your neighbor, co-worker, delivery driver, cashier, etc. and let them know where your peace during uncertain and fearful times comes from. People tend to be more open to Christ during times of trouble and transition. Please continue reading inside for practical ways we can all love our neighbor.



Shirley Clark	May 25
Kristen McClain	May 26
Jourdan Shillings	May 27
George Hamilton	May 28
Rebecca Tatum	May 31
Carolyn Armitage	June 01
Bruno Wisniewski	June 01
Tom Westmoreland	June 02
Jan Yeates	June 03
Addie Cammack	June 04
Caleb Penney	June 05
Nancy Ebarb	June 06

Join us for
Worship
In Person
or
Facebook Live
Sunday
10:30 a.m.

Stream all Services:
Sunday: 10:30 a.m. & 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday: 6:00 p.m.
 on Facebook Live
 You can watch the service on YouTube once the live stream has ended.

Like our Facebook page:
First Baptist Church Jasper
 and subscribe to our
 YouTube channel:
First Baptist Church Jasper Texas

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Dear Church Family,

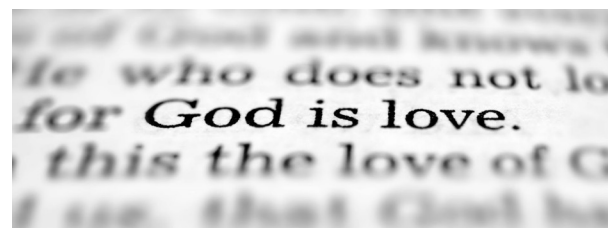
Last Sunday, for the first time in about two months, we were able to gather in the worship center for worship. It was such a joy to be able to see so many of you. Even though we practiced (as best we could) social distancing, we were still about to look each other in the eye, flash winsome smiles, and share our love across the auditorium. There was a wonderful spirit in the room as everyone gave thanks for being back together in the presence of the Lord.

I tried, from the Philippians 3 passage, to share from my heart and God's Word what I think (at least in part) God wants us to learn from our recent shut-down time. The lesson basically is this - we long to go back to a "normal" time; but God longs for us to move forward into His desired future.

I don't think any of us knows exactly what that future looks like but in a great many ways it does not look like the past. In the future, we will proclaim the same gospel to the same broken world. But we will have to do it out of a deeper relationship with Christ. We will have to do it with an insistent urgency. We will have to do it with deeper passion for our needy neighbors. And, we will have to do it with a sharp focus on Making Disciples.

If you can safely join us this Sunday, come. If you need to stay away for a longer time, stay. But begin to develop in your heart an anticipation for a fresh movement of God's Spirit among us leading us "further up and further in" on this magnificent spiritual journey.

You are loved,
Brother Donnie



A Note from Bro. Woody

*Do not remember the former things, nor consider the things of old.
Behold, I will do a new thing, now it shall spring forth;
Shall you not know it? I will even make a road in the wilderness
and rivers in the desert.*

--Isaiah 43: 18-19--

When was the last time you were lost? In this age of GPS, lostness is not as common as it used to be. Recently I was driving to an unfamiliar location. I put the address information into the navigation app on my phone and headed out in confidence that I would get where I needed to go. But something unexpected happened. For some reason, the system I was relying on to give me direction failed. After a couple of u-turns and some very confusing instructions from the computerized voice talking to me, I started feeling uncomfortable. I had the sense that something wasn't right with the guidance I was receiving. I had that sinking feeling inside that said, "You're lost!" After a few moments of concern, I remembered the power of recalibration. I shut down the GPS app and restarted the phone. I knew that everything needed to be reset. For some reason, totally unknown to me, something was off in the system, and the reboot was the cure. It worked. When I restarted the program, re-entered the address and began the navigation again, everything worked as it was supposed to. The reset got me back on track. It brought me out of lostness into a sure direction again.

Many times in our life journey we get off track. Through the busyness of life, the influence of wrong thinking, wrong people, wrong priorities, or whatever, our internal sense of direction is confused. We end up wandering into territory we shouldn't be in. We start listening to voices that misguide us. And before long, we have that sinking feeling that says, "You're lost!" What we need in times like these is a spiritual reset — a spiritual reboot. We need to recalibrate with God, His Word, His people, His priorities, and His heart. We need to slow down long enough to get back on track with the voice of heaven. Is it time for a spiritual recalibration in your life? Could this be one of the lessons that could be learned during this unusual time?

You are loved,
Bro. Woody

A Page from Jim's Journal

Have you ever been canoeing at Martin Dies State Park? They have trails marked that take you through open water and then through dense canopies of trees that grow up from the water. Sometimes the trail can be dark because of the thick tree cover above you. For someone new to the area, it would be easy for someone to lose their way and get off the trail because all the trees look alike.

Thankfully, someone had the foresight to nail small reflective signs onto the trees at moderate intervals to point paddlers in the right direction. Those little signs offer piece of mind. They give assurance that you are still on the trail. Simply follow the signs and you will arrive back at the dock.

John 1:6-9 says, "There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light. The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world."

John was called by God to point people toward the coming arrival of Jesus on Earth. He was to live his life in such a way that people could see that his passion and desire was for something much more than selfishness and temporary fame. Much like the little signs nailed on the trees within the canoe trail, John's testimony — the way he lived his life — was a means to point people to the hope of Jesus Christ.

By living to please God, John pointed people to Jesus. Where does your life point? Be challenged today to live your life in such a way that it points people to Jesus



Love Your Neighbor:

As we are all aware, many people have put their own health at risk to continue to work and provide essentials for our community. As a gesture of appreciation, for the next few weeks we will be asking you for donations of baked goods to deliver to local businesses for their break room. We will leave a thank you card and information about the church with each delivery.

We've heard from some of you about how you are loving your neighbor by taking casseroles or picking up groceries and delivering them. Sometimes a very simple act of kindness goes a long way. If you would like to do something, here are some ideas:

- a phone call, text or card just letting someone know you are praying for and thinking of them
- pick up and deliver groceries or medicine to neighbor or shut in
- when you are purchasing your coffee, candy bar, snack or meal, purchase one for your cashier, server or the next person in line
- donate blood
- be kind, patient and smile often
- please continue to give - to the church and to missions

Church, we appreciate your kindness and generosity! If you have ideas or would like to share ways you have loved your neighbor please email the church office.

