

in an impact in His name felf

to the very ends of the earth.



Financial Report

Offerings......(07/01 - 07/31) \$ 60,610.62

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Volume 18 Issue 15 August 5, 2021





You are cordially invited to our

Operation Christmas Child Banquet

Friday, August 20, 2021

6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

First Baptist Church Family Life Center



If you plan to attend, please sign up in the foyer or call the church office.

You are asked to bring a salad or dessert.

Childcare will be provided, please sign up if needed.

I've Been Thinking...

Dear Church Family,

I hope you have not grown tired of me sharing our vision. Our desire is, "see(ing) every life in Jasper transformed by Christ with a result that an impact is made in His name to the ends of the earth." Often, I wake up in the morning thinking how this vision can become a reality. Yet, I know there is no way we can make this happen. Only God can transform lives and impact the world. However, God in His great mercy invites us into the work of bringing His "kingdom on earth as it is in heaven."

We are in the process now of "retooling" our congregation. We are asking people to serve on committees, to minister through teams, to disciple through Sunday School, and to work as officers. Someone may have recently spoken to you about being a part of this retooling. I hope you have prayerfully considered any request that has come to you.

But I have a big favor to ask of the whole church and to ask especially of those who have agreed to serve. The favor is this – <u>look at your place of service in a new way</u>. Don't think of your role as one of getting a particular job done so the church can run a bit more efficiently. Look at every job, every committee, every classroom as an opportunity to make a disciple! Does that sound odd? Can my service on the building and grounds make disciples? Or what about kitchen team or budget committee? Sure, teaching Sunday School informs students, but does it do more?

The answer to all those questions is "yes!" We are moving from where we are as a church to life transformation by Christ. How do we get from point "A" (where we are now) to point "B" (where Christ is taking us)? The only way we can do it is by letting the aim of every last thing we do be the making of mature reproducing followers of Christ. To fulfill our vision, that is what we are asking you to do.

Ready? I can't wait!

Brother Donnie



A Note from

Bro. Woody

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
You have anointed my head with oil;
My cup overflows.
--Psalm 23: 5--

Our grandson was home with his mom and dad on Saturday afternoon recently, and he decided he was big enough to go to the bathroom without anyone's help. He unknowingly locked the door behind him and couldn't unlock it when it was time to leave. He started to panic and called for help. His dad had to come in through the bathroom window and unlock the door from the inside. "Thanks, Daddy," the boy said. And he ran out to play.

A lot of people see God like our grandson sees his Daddy. We get in trouble, He comes in, bails us out, and sends us on our way. But what happens when God doesn't unlock the door? What happens when our friends betray us, our finances take a nosedive, our health worsens, or we lose a loved one? When we're locked in that dark room, God still climbs in. But instead of quickly unlocking the door, He sits with us, because spending time with Him is more important than quickly getting on with our lives. So instead of praying, "Get me outta here!" when hard times hit, maybe we should ask God to sit with us and show us something even greater than a quick fix – His presence. As hard as it is may seem, we should pray and ask God to show us His presence in the midst of our trials.

Bow the knee; trust the heart of your Father When the answer goes beyond what you can see. Bow the knee; lift your eyes toward heaven And believe the One who holds eternity.

And when you don't understand

The purpose of His plan,
In the presence of the King, bow the knee.

P.S. Thank you so much, church, for the very generous bonus. Although it was certainly not expected, it was appreciated more than you know!

You are loved, Bro Woody

A Page from Jim's Journal



"It's almost time to move our incoming 7th graders into the youth group! I want to invite all of our students to participate in a fun day at Inspire Rock. We will be participating in a bunch of group-based challenges to help us get to know our new 7th graders and help them feel comfortable, like they are part of the family. Afterwards, we will have plenty of free time to climb in the gym at the level you are most comfortable with. You are welcome to invite your friends. Call the church office or sign up in the youth room to let us know you are coming."

Jim







Christmas Music Listening Party

Sunday. August 29

following the





If you would be interested in singing with us for Christmas, we invite you to listen to

"I Call Him Lord" with us at the church!!