# WEDNESDAY

Begin August 9th. Mark you Calendar!



Ronnie Woods	July 24
Mark Shaw	July 25
Levi Calicott	July 26
Randy Harlan	July 27
Conner Marx	July 28
Colin Townsend	July 29
Cyndi Ezernack	July 30
Sharon Lane	July 30
Barry Martindale	Aug 01
Linda Elam	Aug 03
Steve Garcia	Aug 06

You are Invited to the 2023 Operation Christmas Child Annual Celebration Banquet



Friday July 28, 2023 at 6:00 - 8:00 pm Ministry Blessings Guest Speaker- Valerie Hicks

#### Taking the Good News of Jesus to the ends of the earth!

Ms. Hicks is a former teacher at the First Baptist Church Christian School and member of First Baptist Church. Upon moving to the Dallas area, Valerie started to volunteer with Operation Christmas Child, first at the Dallas Processing Center then at the Processing Center in Charlotte North Carolina. After seeing the Operation Christmas Child ministry in action, Valerie decided to join the ministry as a Year-Round Volunteer in bringing the gospel to the ends of the earth. Please join us to hear Valerie's journey of faith.

> For more information contact Cindy Downs at cmdwns@gmail.com or call 409-384-3485.

First Baptist, Jasper409-384-2527
Donnie Wiltshire, Pastor919-524-8302
Woody Wade, Minister of Music and Senior Adults409-382-5575
Jim Slaton, Minister of Youth and Education409-382-5425
Kim Gill, Church Secretary409-384-2527
Beth Penney, Financial Secretary409-384-2527
Christian School409-384-7033

**Our Vision:** To see every life in Jasper transformed by Christ resulting in an impact in His name felt to the very ends of the earth.

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Church, we are asking you to bring desserts for this luncheon. Please sign up in the foyer or church office and bring your dessert by Monday afternoon, July 31st.



### I've Been Thinking...

Dear Church Family,

Irma and I leave this Thursday for a "once in a lifetime" event. What you ask? We are going to join our children, our in-law children, and our grandchildren to celebrate our 50th wedding anniversary. On July 28, 1973, Irma and I were married. We gathered with our families and about 100 of our friends at the Trinity Baptist Church in Corpus Christi, Texas, and said, "I do," when the preacher said, "Do you. . ." We've been marking off the years ever since then and this year we have reached the big 50. Yep, once in a lifetime event.

This has come at a good time in our worship/ preaching series. As you know (if you have been coming to Sunday morning worship), we are in the middle of a series on "family" matters. I guess the series is somewhat broader than family but that's the best word I could come up with. We have looked at God's word to understand our authority on family matters (the Bible), the origin of the family (God's creation), God's plan for the family, the Fall into sin (so families like everything else are broken), the chief duty of husbands (love as in agape), the chief duty of wives, and what Jesus said about these matters (see Matthew 19:1-6). Along the way we have learned some important but hard lessons. Well, perhaps you know by now if you don't learn these lessons from God's Word you will learn them through hard knocks.

I will be gone for two Sundays (with the whole 17 member menagerie of us), but there is more for us to cover on these issues in the weeks ahead. We have to look at divorce (more Matthew 19), the life Christ has for singles, where children fit in the mix, and how we speak to our culture about all these matters. I hope you will come along with us on this "family" journey. Ahh, not the anniversary trip, thank you. But the continued trip down this family path. God has a plan for your family and His word will help you find it.

I can hardly wait . . .

Brother Donnie



## Note from Bro. Woody

Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, dwell on these things.

--Philippians 4: 8 --

Norman Cousins, a prominent writer of the 20th century, was diagnosed with a rare, crippling, and incurable disease. Tired of being in the hospital for so long and with little hope for recovery, he checked himself out of the hospital and went home. At home, he began his own treatment to comfort the pain. He borrowed a movie projector and watched old Marx Brothers films and Candid Camera reruns. He soon found that after 10 minutes of good laughter, he could sleep peacefully for two hours. When the pain returned, he would simply turn the projector back on and he would have another two hours of painless sleep.

You see, attitude matters. When we're fighting tough battles in life and it's hard to see a way forward, the attitude we have during the struggle will certainly determine how it affects us. This isn't just emotional. Our attitudes can affect us both mentally, physically and spiritually. Whether it's sickness, hard emotional times, or grief, we need to look for reasons to laugh. Instead of withdrawing, we need to do something we enjoy and spend time with others who can cheer us up. We can be positive no matter what challenge we're facing, and we will be renewed both mentally and physically! So if difficulties have come your way, pray and ask God to help you face the challenges you encounter with a healthy attitude and a smile.

In moments like these, I sing out a song,
I sing out a love song to Jesus.
In moments like these, I lift up my hands,
I lift up my hands to the Lord.
Singing, "I love You, Lord." Singing, "I love You, Lord."
Singing, "I love You, Lord. I love You."

You are loved, Bro. Woody

#### A Page from Jim's Journal





will be for 4 and 5 year-olds only



