

Charleston First Baptist Church Newsletter

March 2020

From the Pastor's Heart To God's Family

Hi God's Family! There is lots of excitement and good things going on at FBC.

The new servant keeper's prayer chain is 44 strong! We are averaging forty in attendance and the church community is full of the joy of the Lord!

We just finished a three-part series entitled Vision 2020. If you missed any of the messages you can catch up at www.charlestonfbc.org. We are now in a six-week series on Grace.

March will be a month of steady growth as we kick off the Standard Lesson Quarterly on March 1st in Tom Woodall's Sunday School class at 9:00am. Plenty of room for new students. They will be enjoying lessons on justice from Esther, Prophets, and 1st Corinthians. The education hour is important. Come a little early and have a cup of coffee, and maybe a donut with your church family.

Sunday March 1st is also our Communion Sunday. We now have a new worshipful, hygienic style for our communion service. Communion is a great statement of unity in the Body of Christ.

Our musical goal is to have classic worship every week. The choir will sing every week except for one week a month when we have special guests. On Sunday March 15th. Cindy Temple will join us in signing two beautiful old songs of the church, "He Giveth More Grace," and "It is Well." Cindy sings with her heart, and with great vocals.

What's coming? Psalm Sunday, April 5th, the world-famous Kingsman Quartet, will lead our worship as I preach a message entitled; "The Journey into Holiness." What a great opportunity to invite someone to church! Let's pack God's house.

So excited to be leading a new adult class entitled "Anxious for Nothing," to begin in our new education hour at 8:30 am, on April 19th. More to follow!

May God Enlarge His Territory

Pastor Steve

March Verse of the Month:

Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him and He will direct your paths. Pro 3:5&6



The March mission project is Wingman Ministries, a prison ministry directed by Gary Stephen. Gary works with young men in jails and prisons. If you recall last year when we gathered our extra Bibles and brought them to the church, they all went to Wingman. Once the young men are sent to prisons, Gary maintains contact with them by visiting them and giving them a Bible. He is the individual who renovated the old Douglas Nursing Home in Mattoon and made it into a drug rehab facility. He also owns a house in Charleston for individuals who come out of prison. Gary and Wingman are definitely helping God's children. If you wish to give financially to Wingman Ministries, please make your check payable to the church with "Wingman" in the memo line and place it in the offering plate.



AFT

All adults are welcome to attend our AFT fellowship on Thursday, March 19 from 11am to 1pm. We will have a potluck meal, games and plenty of fun fellowship together. There is a possibility that we will have a guest speaker.



Election Day is Tuesday, March 17

The church is a polling place so remember that our fellowship hall will be occupied that day.

Pastor Steve's Office Hours In Charleston

Monday & Wednesday: 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

Email address:
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IMPORTANT
ANNOUNCEMENT

We have revisited the decision that was made on the issue of leaving the ABC denomination. With study and much prayer the members as a whole have decided by a unanimous vote taken on 2-16-2020, to remain with the American Baptist Church.



Daylight savings time begins on Sunday, March 8th.

AFT / Mission Project

A shower for HOPE—the local domestic violence shelter will be held during our AFT meeting in April. We are asking for help collecting household items that can be used for the setting up of a home for those coming through the shelter who may need help in this way. If you wish to donate money for the shelter, you may do so by making your check payable to the church. Please write "HOPE" in the memo line. A box is provided in the church narthex for your donations, however all are invited to attend the AFT luncheon on April 16 when we actually hold the shower.



UNTIMELY ANSWERED PRAYER
During the minister's prayer one Sunday, there was a loud whistle from one of the back pews. Tommy's mother was horrified. She pinched him into silence and, after church, asked, 'Tommy, whatever made you do such a thing?' Tommy answered soberly, "Well, I asked God to teach me to whistle, and He did!"