

FIRST SOUTHERN BAPTIST CHURCH

The LINK

November 2019

Volume 20, Issue 11

STUDENT NEWS ~ Jody Beckham

The youth are learning about spiritual disciplines and how we are to discipline ourselves for the purpose of godliness (1 Tim 4:7). As I've been preparing for these lessons, God has given me opportunity to talk to a couple people about church membership. I realized that I wasn't completely confident on why the Bible calls us to be in membership with the church so I would like to share some insights I believe the Lord gives us in His Word regarding membership in the church.

Here's the question that started it all. Why do I need to become a member when I'm already involved in the church and doing many of the things a member should do? Here's what God's Word says about the benefits of church membership and what He requires of His people.

There's **loving accountability** through fellowship with your brothers and sisters in Christ who can help you fight off sin and hold you accountable (1 Thess 5:11; Gal 6:1; Mat 18:15-17). In this way, you stop being an independent Christian. Your independence places you outside the way Jesus wants things to happen.

We get **Biblical preaching & oversight**. We are sanctified by the Word of God (John 17:17) and by putting ourselves under the preaching of God's Word (1 Tim 4:13; Heb 13:17), our sin gets exposed and we are instructed on how to grow in Christlikeness. This is a pastor's charge. How can the pastor oversee those he is responsible for if they are not identified as such (Acts 20:28).

We were made **to worship God**. While all of life should be an act of worship (Rom 12:1-2), God places a special emphasis on the importance of the regular gathering of His people where we join our voices in singing together (Col 3:16) and in fellowship with and serving one another as the body of Christ (1 Cor 12:12-27; Heb 10:23-25).

For many believers, sharing the gospel, **effective evangelism**, is not naturally easy. Being alone only enhances our fear and laziness toward evangelism. Yet when we unite in the purpose of sharing the gospel, we walk in a manner worthy of our heavenly citizenship (Philippians 1:27). Evangelizing alongside other Christians emboldens us when we are fearful and spurs us on when we are lazy.

Mutual edification occurs when each believer recognizes their unique spiritual gifts given to them for the "common good" of the body of Christ and for the "equipping of the saints" (1 Cor 12:7; Eph 4:12). There's a proper working to each individual part of the body of Christ and when one part suffers, all suffer just as when one member is honored, all members rejoice (1 Cor 12:26).

You identify yourself with Christ. Joining a church is one of the plainest ways to say you're not ashamed to identify yourself with Jesus and with His people (Mark 8:38). "How believable is our testimony of the goodness and greatness of Christ if we don't want to identify openly with Christ's family" (Dr. Whitney)?

After pondering some of these you might be saying to yourself, "well I already do these things so why do I need to join the church"? If you are already an active part of the church but not official on paper, why wouldn't you want to be identified officially? As a believer of Jesus Christ, you are in covenant relationship with the body of Christ. And by joining the local church, you are in submission and obedient to the Lord. The majority of the time in the New Testament, the Word "church" refers to the local church. The New Testament church practiced church membership of regenerate members and so should we.

If you are not an official member of FSBC but you are a born again believer in Jesus Christ, I would encourage you to seek the Lord for wisdom and courage to be obedient to Him first and foremost.

PARKING LOT

The wonderful Walmart of Great Bend has been undergoing a transformation inside and out. I'm not speaking in metaphor and if you have been inside the joke on every aisle is the scavenger hunt of navigating the remodeled store. When trips take a little longer right now I have to remind myself, that it will be better in the end.

One thing is for sure, plans change, detours happen, but in the end it will be better. This is certainly the case for our parking lot project. We have been at this for around a year. We have had multiple meetings with the city and some that completely change original plans. We recently had a city council meeting that on the surface did not look as things were in our favor. We have a God who moves and acts favorably on behalf of our church. In a moment where we had every right to speak up and push back before residents and the council, our chairman chose grace. We after all had jumped through all the hoops and extra hoops to do the things that we were told could happen. Objections were made and plans have changed. Guess what? It's going to be better than originally planned. Thank you Lord that we don't always have to get "our way." Thank you Lord for your grace that flows to and through us. Thank you Lord for a team of people and a church that desires to not do things the same way they have always been done before. Thank you Lord for the possibilities, safety, and blessings of designated parking. Thank you Lord for your church that is bought by your work on and off the cross.

Thankful, are you?

Gratefully, Pastor Tim



"I will give thanks to you, Lord, with all my heart; I will tell of all your wonderful deeds" (Psalms 9:1).

THANKSGIVING MEAL AND FELLOWSHIP

Please join us as we fellowship during this season of Thanksgiving.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24 – 5:30 PM

FIRST SOUTHERN BAPTIST CHURCH ANNEX

FSB will provide the turkey, ham, stuffing, mashed potatoes and drinks.

Bring your favorite side dish and/or dessert.

RSVP by emailing FirstSouthernGB@gmail.com; call the church at 620-793-8444 *or* fill out the RSVP form in the Sunday bulletin and put it in the offering plate.

***Invite your friends, family, and neighbors and please let us know
how many to expect!***

"Let the little children come to me."

Children's Ministry ~ Roz Crane

THANKSGIVING...thankfulness..."Thank-you!" Two little words that can go a long way. But sometimes, like teaching kids to cover their nose when they sneeze or to buckle their seatbelts, teaching them to say "Thank-you!" can become so automatic that it loses its meaning. Being thankful should never be an absent minded habit but should be intentional.

Being thankful is an important part of being a Christian. God wants us to be thankful every time we pray...to count our blessings and praise him for all of them. God also wants us to show gratitude to the people who do good things for us, big and small, every day.

Now, I know this isn't an earthshattering news, but sometimes the obvious gets lost or forgotten in the hubbub of life. Sooooo, lets take a few extra minutes this month to think about thankfulness ourselves and to think about how to impart this important Christian discipline to our kids.

Teaching thoughtfulness not only through our words but also through our actions benefits character development and well-being. When we help kids show appreciation for what they have and for those around them, we are all reminded, over and over, of how blessed we truly are.

A grateful heart can't be a sad heart for very long because a grateful heart is always aware of just how much our God and our loved ones care for us!

I've included a few activities you can do at home to help you child be intentional about being thankful during this special season.

****Thankfulness Jar** - Have your kids decorate a jar or basket, placing a notepad and pen next to it. Leave the jar out this month and have family members (or friends!) write down things for which they are thankful. They can be big things or small little gestures. Young kids can draw pictures, or you can write things down for them. Every now and then read what has been put in the jar during dinner.

Alternate idea: Put up a dry erase board and have family members write or draw things and people for whom they are thankful.

****Thank-you notes** - Write notes or have kids draw pictures for neighbors. Deliver them with a few cookies or a piece of fruit. Thank-you for being a good neighbor!

****Brainstorm** - What are some things you could do for a neighbor to show thankfulness.

****Pinterest** – Check it out! There are so many easy November projects. As little hands are busy, it's a good time to talk about being thankful!

Pictures from Long's Pumpkin Patch on October 19, 2019



Prayer Ministry, Nancy Rogers

Prayer Leader of the Month: Nancy Rogers

Each day is God's gift to you. What you do with that day is your gift to God.

Moses, on his once a year journey into the Holy of Holies, wore special priestly garments with six of the tribes names on his left and six on his right shoulder. In addition all 12 tribes were represented by precious stones on his breastplate. In the way he carried all the nations of Israel into the meeting with God. And likewise as we but speak the names of the ones we are praying for we carry them to the throne room of God by our prayers.

Prayer Requests in the Month of October, 2019

May our church become a "house of prayer" as we unite together in prayer. We are not just praying for others but also praying to build a church and be a lighthouse and blessing to our city.

(1) Always pray for Pastor Tim Singleton, and his family. Pray for him to be anointed with the power of the Holy Spirit to proclaim messages on the mercy and grace of Jesus Christ.

(2) Pray that the eyes, ears and minds of the unbeliever will be opened to realize the saving knowledge of God's grace.

(3) Pray for our leaders, teachers, and all who attend that we will bring honor and glory to God.

Knox Rebel, son of Garrett and Rebecca Rebel, - **PRAISE** — thanks to the miracle of prayer and good doctors Knox is home recovering after a serious scare with an E. Coli infection and an emergency trip to the Kansas City Children's Mercy Hospital. The whole family wishes to thank everyone for their prayers and kind words. Continue to pray for Knox's total recovery.

Melissa Ramsey's brother—the cancer has returned. Please pray for him and the doctors treating him.

Mike, Renetta Furrow's brother is battling bladder cancer. He is on daily dialysis. Pray for wisdom for his doctors and for healing.

The DeWald Family—pray for clarity, comfort and that God's presence would be felt by each member of the family.

Casey, Jolene Peter's son, had surgery to repair back issues. **PRAISE** He is walking and feeling good.

Greg Allison—was in a motorcycle accident. He is in stable condition, but had brain bleed and part of his skull removed. Pray for him and his family as the face a long road to recovery.

Linda Rogers, Nancy's daughter-in-law, has finishing her radiation treatments and is waiting the results of further testing. Thank you for uplifting her in prayer for healing.

Hilda Coronel, (church custodian) - Had surgery to remove damaged section of liver. Pray for complete healing.

Iris House— Pray for her healing and for her husband, Martin.

Levi, Mary Kirkendall Miller's nephew got his leg caught and mangled in a combine. All damage was below the knee. Pray for him, and his brother and sister's relationship with the Lord.

Rusty Sievers, Gary and Brenda's son, had his should go out for 9th time. Pray something can be done to help him—and pray for his relationship with the Lord.

Reggie Wilks—heart function in a attest was shown to be at 36%. Theresa an Reggie will be moving to Salina where Reggie can be monitored regularly. Pray for strength for Theresa as she packs for the move.

Friend of Dale Dickens has come to hard times and Dals has asked for her protection and God's provision of all her needs.

Darlene Miorandi—continue to pray for relief of pain and answers to help.

Lois Kaufman—was taken to hospital and non-responsive. She is doing better. Doctors not sure what happened. Continue to pray for her.

Marline Amerine—**PRAISE**—has found relief and feeling much better.

To all who have requested prayer support—may the loving thoughts and prayers of people who care about you find their way into you heart and bring God's joy to you this day.

"Thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." 1 Corinthians 15:57

PRAY FOR THE MISSIONARY LISTED IN SUNDAY'S BULLETIN

Pray for their protection, strength of mind, body and spirit in their work for our Lord.

Alan and Beth Locke, missionaries to Ghana, Africa. Pray for them regularly—for them to feel God working through them every day. **Read their letter in our Link to see further prayer requests.**

They have asked for prayer for a new young believer. She has been given permission to attend high school in a nearby town and will be living with a family ho are Christian. The minister call to ask for pray for a new crisis has occurred. Pray she will remain true to Christ. Pray for the wisdom for the Reve and her host family. Pray that in the midst of this crisis she will have the peace that passes all understanding and pray for the salvation of her family and tribe.

The Cousins Family—Pray for them as they transition to full-time work at Wycliffe, pray for faith and perseverance, for financial support partners, for translation work done by Wycliffe, and for people who are hungry for the Bible but do not have success

Clint and Kelsey Gilliam, IMB missionaries serving in Southeast Asia. **PRAISE**—their visas came through? Pray for wisdom in their work and His guidance in decupling two young women.

Spanish Mission Church, Nueva Esperanza (New Hope) and their pastor Luis Guerrero and wife Enedeli

"Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have." 1 Peter 3:15

Prayer Ministry, continued

PRAY FOR THE MISSION OUTREACH OF OUR YOUTH

The LIT group—(Leaders In Training) - Continue to pray for this group and they minister in our own community.

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths.”
Proverbs 3:5, 6

PRAY FOR THOSE IN NURSING HOMES AND ASSISTED LIVING

Alta Fry, River Bend, Great Bend

Margaret Suppes, Cherry Village, Great Bend

Grady Bolding, Brookdale Assisted Living, Great Bend

“Behold, God is my salvation. I will trust and not be afraid; for the Lord is my strength and song, and He also has become my salvation.” *Isaiah 12:2*

HEARTFELT SYMPATHY TO FAMILIES WHO HAVE LOST LOVED ONES

Pray for the family's peace and comfort at this sorrowful time.

Pray for the family of **Richard and Annie Schenk** as they and the city mourns their passing.

“And this is the testimony: God has given us eternal life and this life is in His Son.” *1 John 5:11*

PRAY FOR THOSE SERVING IN THE US ARMED FORCES

Tucker Alexander, Navy, son of Gary and Gail Alexander

Kayla Callahan, Marines, serving in Kuwait

Gregg Dodds, Air Force, Shaw AF Base, SC, Wife Morgan, son Greyson. Granddaughter of Darlene Bergren.

Forest Drescher, Ft. Pendleton, CA., son of Kevin and Kelly Drescher

Monique Durant, friend of Darlene Miorandi, home from Afghanistan!

Michael Frayser, Air Force, son of Bob and Donna Frayser

Anthony Hollin, Army, son of SuLin

Casey Lynch, Air Force, g-daughter, Darlene Bergren. Husband Chris, Children: Braedon, Madyson, Gracyn

Kevin Martin, Navy, wife Cindy and sons Donnell and Tristen

Daniel McCray, Ft. Bragg, Texas, Darlene Miorandi's cousins' son

Morgan Whorton, National Guard, a relative of Marla Brocher

Cordell Merten, Air Force, son of Mike and Pam Merten; grandson of Jack and Wilda Merten

John Miner, Air Force, wife, Maranda, son-in-law of Steve & Judi Swagerty

Danielle Miorandi-Letzelter, granddaughter of John and Darlene Miorandi, home from Afghanistan!

Bryce Letzelter, (Danielle's husband) - also home from Afghanistan!

Brett McPherson, Navy now at boot camp.

Steven McPherson, Army serving in Afghanistan

Tyler Penn, son of Mike Penn

Justin Powers, Army, wife Angela and daughter Jocelyn.

Devin Ramsey, Army National Guard, son of Aaron Noblitt and Kathye Phelps.

Jasper Rankin, US Marine Corp, son of Denise Rankin and grandson of Freddie Rankin

Dan Reed, Air Force, wife Megan, son-in-law of Steve & Judi Swagerty

Jonathan Schneweis, Navy, wife Alicia, children Gage and Kinsley

Rian Winters, Marines, son of Tony & Robin Schneweis

“The Lord is my strength and my shield; My heart trusted in Him, and I am helped.”

Therefore my heart greatly rejoices, and with my song I will praise Him.” *Psalm 28:7*



PRAY FOR OUR NATION

“First, of all, then, I urge that petitions, prayers, requests, and thanksgivings be offered to God for all people;

for kings and all others who are in authority, that we may live a quiet and peaceful life with all reverence toward God and with proper conduct.” *1 Timothy 2:1, 2*

As we pray for America, whose pledge of allegiance recounts that we are “one nation under God,” and whose currency states that it is “in God we trust,” we want Americans to encounter the God who rules over this country—the Lord God Almighty is His name.

PRAY FOR JERUSALEM AND THE NATION OF ISRAEL

Israel will be a blessing to the nations:

“I will bless those who bless you, I will curse those who curse you. And through you, I will bless all the nations.”
Genesis 12:3

“Pray for the peace of Jerusalem. May they prosper who love you.” *Psalm 122:6*

“The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man has great power and wonderful results.” *James 5:16*



November Birthdays

- 3 Dale Dawson
- 4 Jordan Kitch
- 4 Briley Ferguson
- 6 Coby Holland
- 9 Joan Rathbun
- 9 Jody Beckham
- 10 Danielle Feist
- 12 Chandis Alexander
- 13 Harlow Howard
- 14 Steve Lamb
- 15 Marty Aldrich
- 17 Marcus Herrera
- 18 Betty McCord
- 18 Teagan Livingston
- 19 Iris House
- 19 Anna Burke
- 23 Aron Lindberg
- 24 Jeff Alsup
- 24 Don Elliott
- 24 Tyler Tomlinson
- 26 Ryan McHenry
- 30 Cliff Burt



November Families of the Week

November 3 - Walt and Barbara Pennington

November 10 - John and Jolene Peters

November 17 - Rick and Kathy Phelps

Keylin, Brevan, Madi and Isabelle

November 24 - Dorothy Piland

Wednesday Meal Schedule for November

Everyone is invited to attend the church supper every Wednesday at 5:30. Adult Bible Study and classes for pre-school, children and youth follow at 6:30.

November 6 — *Potluck*

November 13 — Cook: Jolene Peters

November 20 — Cooks: Cliff and Kathy Burt

November 27—NO MEAL (Happy Thanksgiving)



Extended Care-Nov 3—Special Population/Children’s Workers

Extended Care for Nov 10 & 17—Youth/Preschool Workers

Extended Care for Nov 24 & Dec 1—Debbie Tomlinson Class

Classes & Times

- Adult Small Group/Kids Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
- Sunday Morning Worship 10:45 a.m.
- Sunday Evening Bible Study & Prayer 6:00 p.m.

- Wednesday Night Supper 5:30 p.m.
- Preschool, Kids, Youth and Adult Bible Study 6:30 p.m.

Parking and Future Building Projects Fund

- Total Contributions: \$ 141,563.27
- Expenses Paid: \$ 34,183.12
- Current Balance: \$ 107,380.15

Church E-mail: FirstSouthernGB@gmail.com
Church Website: www.fsbcgreatbend.com

Prayer Request Line: (620) 793-6800
Phone: (620) 793-8444
Fax: (620) 793-8445

LOCKE UPDATE

The Lord is good, a stronghold in a day of distress: He cares for those who take refuge in Him. Nahum 1:7

Our expat Bible study group is reading In His Image (Ten ways God calls us to reflect his Character) by Jen Wilkin. The current chapter of study: God Most Good.

We often tell our kids "be good". But for them and for us as God's kids, what does that entail? And how can we "be good"? In God's light is goodness. It shows us in scriptures that *good* has to do with moral character, a way of behaving, pure motives. Acting in ways in which God approves. We are also charged to not choose the opposite, evil. The ultimate "good" (something complete and right) is the Good News of Jesus Christ.

UPDATES-PRAISES

The northeast training went really well. A big goal of the training is to encourage and give time for participants to obey what they know God is saying. After visits in the community practicing their new skills, they came back excited that so many people would not only listen to Bible stories but respond to God. Some hearers became believers, while others wanted to hear more. Each language/area group was to plan together and then use Bible stories to witness, disciple and plant churches. Several groups have been faithful to this task. Thank you for PRAYING.

Please continue to PRAY for all to share God's story and to faithful to continue with those who become God's adopted children. PRAY for unity on language teams. PRAY for encouragement when things don't go as planned.

THANK YOU for PRAYING. Rev. Sp went to see the family of the girl we asked you to pray for, not as pastor, but as a friend of a teacher in the local school. In the meantime, a church leader in the larger town gave this young woman a job at her business and a place to live as well. The parents traveled to see her workplace and living arrangements in the larger town. They are pleased and are allowing her to stay. (When we first asked you to pray she was in high school. She has since graduated and applied, but was not accepted, to nursing school. That continues to be her goal.)

PRAY for strong discipleship for her and time to become firmly rooted in Christ. Continue to PRAY salvation for her parents and extended family. PRAY for godly wisdom for the older woman who has taken her in, and the church to be a good family substitute.

Coming UP—In a few weeks, Alan will be joining the Ghana Baptist Convention's Director of Evangelism and Mission on a trip to the rural north-central area of Ghana. Many department heads will be going on this evangelism and leadership training trip. Many Ghanaian (and American) churches minimize evangelism and missions. The convention is giving an example and setting a standard of the importance of what God has asked us to do.

PRAY for their trip's logistics. PRAY for their example is seen by many. PRAY for interactions with the people in a culture a bit different than their own. PRAY for the salvation of many. And PRAY encouragement for believers to follow God more closely.



Pastor's wives (in national blue cloth) supporting Mildred and her husband as he was robbed. At the annual national convention meeting pastors are ordained, but each church is encouraged to later have a robing service for their pastor. Robes are primarily worn for specific special (when you are preaching as a fellowship constitutes as a church, etc.).

Just in case any of you wondered where I was in the earlier picture--I took it. PRAY for pastor's wives world-wide to pray for their husbands and be supportive. For us to rely on Christ alone.

Please PRAY for Knox, a dear friend's grandson. Last weekend he was very sick, and as a result his kidneys quit working and his red blood cells greatly reduced. (It is called HUS (Hemolytic - Uremic Syndrome.) Currently he is in ICU at a children's hospital on 18 hours daily of dialysis.

PRAY for his kidneys to begin to work. PRAY he (under age 5) would be able to cope well with unknown people, PICC lines, prodding and tests. His parents and grandparents are with him. His siblings are in their hometown. So, please PRAY for them to be at peace away from family and give their caregivers grace and kindness.

Your love and prayers sustain us. Thank you for approaching the Throne of Grace on our behalf and for the peoples of Ghana.)

*Alan & Beth Locke, Ben Locke
Accra, Ghana, West Africa*



MORE Pictures from Long's Pumpkin Patch on October 19, 2019



November 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3 9:30am Adult Small Group/ Kids Sunday School 10:45am Church 4:00pm Financial Stewards 6:00pm Evening Bible Study and Prayer	4	5	6 5:30pm Potluck 6:30pm Preschool, Kids, Youth & Adult Bible Study	7 5:30pm Missions 6:30pm Trustees 7:30pm Deacons	8	9
10 9:30am Adult Small Group/ Kids Sunday School 10:45am Church 4:00pm Church Council 6:00pm Evening Bible Study and Prayer	11	12	13 5:30pm Dinner 6:30pm Preschool, Kids, Youth & Adult Bible Study	14	15	16
17 9:30am Adult Small Group/ Kids Sunday School 10:45am Church 6:00pm Evening Bible Study and Prayer	18	19	20 5:30pm Dinner 6:30pm Preschool, Kids, Youth & Adult Bible Study	21	22	23
24 9:30am Adult Small Group/ Kids Sunday School 10:45am Church 5:30pm Thanksgiving Meal	25	26	27 NO EVENING ACTIVITIES Regular Schedule will resume Wed., Dec. 4th	28  Thanksgiving	29	30