

Our mission is to lead people to faith and growth in Christ

The Network



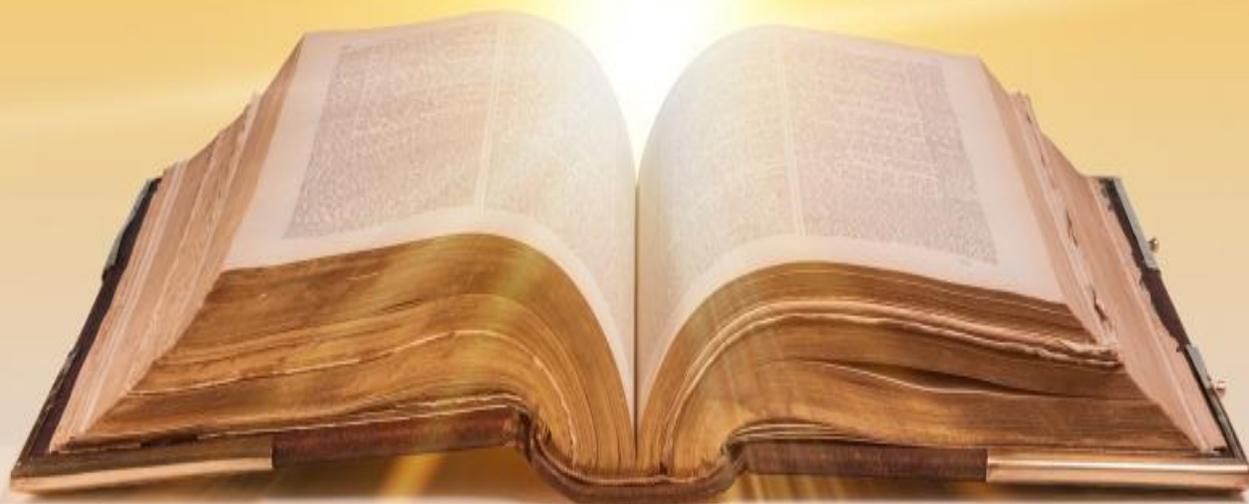
The Weekly Newsletter of First Baptist Church, Paris, Tennessee

Volume 59, Number 14

April 5, 2020

After this, when Jesus knew that everything was now finished that the Scripture might be fulfilled, he said, "I'm thirsty." A jar full of sour wine was sitting there; so they fixed a sponge full of sour wine on a hyssop branch and held it up to his mouth. When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, "It is finished." Then bowing his head, he gave up his spirit.

- John 19:28-30 (CSB)



FROM THE PASTOR'S

DESK



As I have mentioned before, the Psalms are a constant source of comfort and encouragement for me. This year, I am reading a book written by Tim Keller titled *The Songs of Jesus*, which is a year of daily devotions in the Psalms. On Sunday, March 29, the reading was from Psalm 42:1-5. Part of that passage says, *“As a deer pants for flowing streams, so pants my soul for you, O God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When shall I come and appear before God? ... These things I remember, as I pour out my soul: how I would go with the throng and lead them in procession to the house of God with glad shouts and songs of praise, a multitude keeping festival. Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my salvation and my God.”*

In his comments on this passage Keller writes, *“The psalmist has lost not belief in God but the experience of meeting with the living God (verse 2). Human beings need the sense of God’s presence and love as much as the body pants after water (verse 1). His first response to this dryness is to simply remind himself that it will not last (verse 5). ‘This too shall pass’ is a fact about any condition in this changeful world. While often painful, the truth can be used for comfort too. Though our good things will inevitably be shaken, a believer’s difficult times will always end as well. Only when we are safe in heaven, surrounded forever by love unshakable, will all fear of change be gone. Hope in God, for we shall again praise him.”*

During this time in which our normal pattern of worshiping together in person has been temporarily interrupted, may we all continue to thirst for God. May we seek Him in our daily times of Bible reading and prayer. May we seek Him as we listen for the voice of His Holy Spirit, prompting us to reach out to those in need around us. May we continue seeking Him personally as we look forward to the time when we will again be able to worship Him together corporately. May our downcast souls find our hope in Him.

Our church staff is continuing to monitor conditions and recommendations regarding the current COVID-19 crisis. Therefore, based on current recommendations, **we will not have any in-person worship services or activities through at least April 30.** We will continue to broadcast Sunday morning worship services at 10:15 a.m. via our Facebook page. As always, we will continue to communicate information to you through our Facebook page, our website and our weekly newsletter.

I am looking forward to sharing a message with you this Sunday from John 19 as we consider the theme *“At the Cross.”*

In Christ,
Bro. Trent

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

There will be no in-person Holy Week services this year. However, there will be a 30-minute live broadcast each day Monday, April 6, through Friday, April 10, beginning at Noon on the Downtown Paris Association’s Facebook page.



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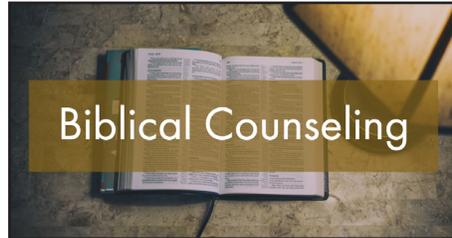
Submission deadline for
the next issue is
Monday, April 6, 2020

Deacon Nomination List

During the month of April, the church office will begin preparing the deacon nomination list for the upcoming 2019-20 deacon selection process. The list will include the names of all men 25 years of age or older who have been resident members of our church for at least one year prior to June 1. Any man who does not wish for his name to appear on the nomination list may request that his name be removed from the nomination list prior to its publication by contacting the church office. The last day to request a name be removed from the nomination list is Wednesday, April 29.



For the next few weeks, our church office will operate with a slightly different schedule. The office will continue to be open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, closing only for lunch from Noon to 1 p.m. each day.



The Biblical Counseling ministry is continuing to operate, but in a different format. All counseling sessions are now conducted either by video or phone call. For more information, see the Biblical Counseling tab on our church website (www.fbcparis.org) or e-mail Ken at counseling@fbcparis.org.



New FBC website

We have updated our website! It went live just last week. Please check out our new look at www.fbcparis.org.

Services on website

If you are not on Facebook, a video of our Sunday morning service will be available on our website each week.

Help for Fire Victims

In the early hours of Saturday, March 14, there was a fire at Hilltop Lodge, an apartment building, on East Antioch Road. All of the residents suffered a complete and total loss. Clothing donations are being requested. If you would like to donate, these are the sizes:

Men

- Pants 30 - 32
- Shirts Med - Large
- Shoes 8.5 - 9

Women

- Pants 7 - 14
- Shirts Med - Large
- Shoes 7 - 10

**Donated clothing can be dropped off at the church office.*

This Week At First Baptist

SUNDAY, April 5

10:15 Morning Worship on Facebook Live
(No in-person worship)
***No Other Activities**

WEDNESDAY, April 8

No Activities

SUNDAY, April 12

10:15 Morning Worship on Facebook Live
(No in-person worship)
***No Other Activities**

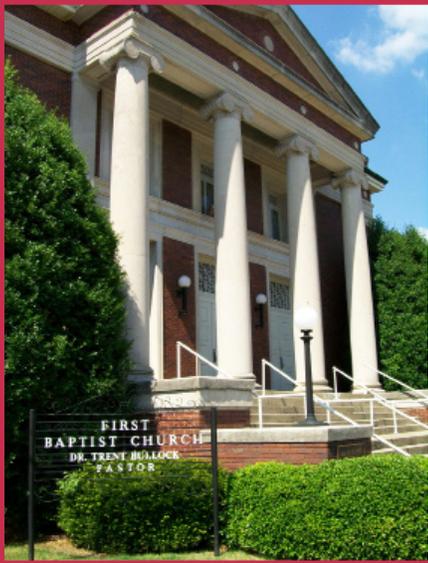
WEDNESDAY, April 15

No Activities

How to Pray During COVID-19

1. Pray that God would guard your heart and mind from fear and worry (Philippians 4:6-7).
2. Pray for those who have been diagnosed with the virus and pray for their families too.
3. Pray for medical professionals as they care for their patients. Pray the health of all health care workers.
4. Pray for those who are in the high-risk category, especially our senior adults.
5. Pray for families with young children and teens as parents help them understand the necessary changes that are taking place around them.
6. Pray for small business owners who are being affected by decreased income or have temporary closed their businesses.
7. Pray for those who have been laid off from work or lost their jobs during this crisis.
8. Pray for your pastor and church staff as they seek new ways to continue ministry to our church members and our community.
9. Prayer walk your neighborhood and pray for your neighbors.
10. Go for a drive around our community and pray for your Sunday School members, small group members, church members, and those who need the Lord.

First Baptist Church



313 N Poplar Street
Paris, Tennessee 38242
*One Block North
of the Court Square*

Sunday School

9 a.m.

Sunday Morning Worship

10:15 a.m.

Sunday Evening Events

6 p.m.



Sunday, April 5

At the Cross
John 19:1-42

Sunday Nights

No in-person D Group meetings

WEDNESDAY NIGHT

April 8

No Activities

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FINANCIAL REPORT

Week Ending March 27

Budget Required \$26,411.75
Budget Received \$21,160.00
Other Designated \$1,500.00
Total \$22,660.00

Annie Armstrong Easter Offering Update

Goal: \$12,000

Received to Date: \$6,729

GIFTS RECEIVED:

Jimmy & Peggy Williams in
memory of **Quentell Osbron.**



Even though we are not meeting together as a church family, you can still give your tithes and offerings by either mail or by physically bringing it to the church office. The church office is still open through regular working hours (8 a.m.-5 p.m.), but is closed for lunch (Noon-1 p.m.).

FOUNDATIONS

A 260-DAY READING PLAN FOR BUSY BELIEVERS

Foundations Bible Reading Plan

Week 14 (Week of March 29)

	<u>OT & NT Plan</u>	<u>NT Plan</u>
Day 1	Judges 6-7	1 Cor. 4
Day 2	Judges 13-14	1 Cor. 5
Day 3	Judges 15-16	1 Cor. 6
Day 4	Ruth 1-2	1 Cor. 7
Day 5	Ruth 3-4	1 Cor. 8

Week 15 (Week of April 5)

	<u>OT & NT Plan</u>	<u>NT Plan</u>
Day 1	I Samuel 1-2	1 Cor. 9
Day 2	I Samuel 3; 8	1 Cor. 10
Day 3	I Samuel 9-10	1 Cor. 11
Day 4	I Samuel 13-14	1 Cor. 12
Day 5	I Samuel 15-16	1 Cor. 1



Another option available for giving tithes and offerings is through on-line giving. To make an on-line donation, go to our website (www.fbcparis.org) and click on the "GIVING" link located in the top right-hand corner of the page and follow the directions posted.