

THE VISION

Exalting Christ . . . Equipping the Church . . . Engaging the Community

VOLUME MMXIX ISSUE NO. 05

MARCH 6, 2019



Bruce Worley

I was talking with an individual the other day and this person made the comment of how much they loved the story of Abraham. We talked briefly about Abraham and then this person said “Where are the Abrahams today?” I thought it was a great question and it led me to consider this question in the context of God’s church. Those of us who have been in church most of our lives know the story of Abraham, who is repeatedly called in the New Testament the “Father of our Faith.” In other words, he provides us a great example of what faith looks like.

We are first introduced to Abraham (Abram) in Genesis 11 when his family makes a journey from the Ur of the Chaldeans to go to Canaan, but they got to a place of comfort and decided to stay in Haran instead of make the journey to Canaan. Then in Genesis 12:1 God communicates to Abraham these words, “*Leave your country, your people and your father’s household and go to the land I will show you.*” I do not know what went on in Abraham’s mind as God communicated this word to him. But it had to be a tough decision for him to make. God was asking Abraham to leave everything he held dear and venture to a place he did not know. God asked Abraham to leave the comfort of his own home. He asked him to leave the security of his family. He asked him to leave the surroundings in which he was so familiar. He was asked to leave everything that he had come to know and treasure to do something unknown and unfamiliar to him. Imagine what was going through his mind as he considered this call in his life.

The writer of Hebrews adds a little more information to his decision in Hebrews 11:8 when he writes, “*By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going.*” There was no hesitation on Abraham’s part. He “obeyed and went.” What an example of faith Abraham is to us today. The truth is that you cannot go where God sends you and stay where you are.

And if you remember the story of Abraham, he never actually experienced the promise of the land that God would show him. As a matter of fact God told Abraham “*All the land that you see I will give to you and your offspring forever.*” But the only thing that Abraham ever possessed in the Promised Land was a cave for his own burial. It would be hundreds of years before his offspring would actually enter the Promised land and take possession of the land.

You might ask, “What has all of this got to do with us?” I, too, believe that God is calling His church to take a step of faith and move into the realm of the unknown and trust him along the way. I believe God is issuing a call to his church, “To leave behind everything you hold dear, leave behind the things you treasure, the things that give you comfort and go to a place that I want to show you.” God has issued a call to HIS Church to step out on faith and trust him. He wants to revitalize HIS church so that we can reach the lost and the unchurched and impact our community with the gospel. But in order to do so, we have to be willing to step out on faith and venture into the unknown. And here is the thing: we may never experience it in our lifetime. What we do may simply set the table for the next generation to truly experience the blessings of God.

Martin Luther King had a vision for his people. He once said, “I just want to do God’s will. And he’s allowed me to go to the mountain. And I’ve looked over, and I’ve seen the Promised Land! I may not get there with you, but I want you to know that we as a people will get to the Promised Land.” He did not get there, but I believe his people are experiencing his vision and faithfulness today.

So I go back to the original question, “Where are the Abrahams today?” I believe God wants to do something amazing in HIS church. But in order to do so we as HIS people must take a step of faith into the unknown and realize we may never see everything that God has for us, but the next generation will. Will you be Abraham and step out on faith and trust God? Will it be hard? Probably! Will it require sacrifice? Probably! Will there be difficulties along the way? Probably! Will you experience the vision personally? I don’t know! But I know this: if we will be obedient today, God will bring the blessings in his time. I am challenging you to join with me as we step out on faith and follow the vision that God has for HIS Church. Just as Abraham was blessed to be a blessing, we too have been blessed to be a blessing. Will you be like Abraham and step out on faith? I pray God’s richest blessings on HIS church as we follow HIS will.

In HIS Service . . . Bruce

CHILDREN & EDUCATION MINISTRY

We are planning a special event for families called The Bible Character Lunch Bunch! The date is Sunday, March 31 and we will meet immediately following the contemporary service. Lunch will be provided, and we will have three Bible characters with us to share their stories with the children. Children will receive Bible story books, and the Bible characters will do a book signing! It will be a wonderful time as God's Word comes to life right here at Western Heights. One of our goals is for you bring a family with you! Please think of a family you would like to invite, and watch your mail. We will be sending your invitation soon!



Marcy Smith

Spring BREAKAWAY will be Wednesday, March 13 from 4:00-8:00. This is in lieu of our usual Wednesday night activities. We break away from our usual Wednesday night activities to do a service project and have some fun together with pizza and games! This event is for children in grades 1-6, but younger children are welcome to come with a parent. We will meet in the Garden Room at 4:00, then travel to CareNet Pregnancy Center to participate in a service project. After we work hard at CareNet we will play hard at Chuck E. Cheese! We will enjoy pizza and games, and arrive back at the church at 8:00. There is no cost to participate, and parents are welcome to join us! Each child must have a 2019 Medical Release Form in order to participate. Blank forms are available on the bulletin board near the Sanctuary, and you will also find them online at <https://whbcwaco.org/resources/forms>.

The Easter Block Party will be Saturday, April 20, from Noon-2:00. The purpose of this event is to provide a fun activity for our neighbors and have one-on-one conversations with those who attend. Our guests come for the free meal, games, music, crafts, and the egg hunt; our goal is to use this time to meet people and learn about them. We want to hear their stories and share our own. We want them to feel loved, accepted, and welcomed. Once we have spent time in conversation, we want to invite them to our church! You can help us with this outreach event in several ways. As a part of the Easter egg hunt we will give out 30 Easter baskets. Bible Study groups can create their own baskets and/or donate money to help our team create or purchase baskets. Special envelopes for the Easter Block Party are located in the Bible Study classrooms if you would like to donate for this event. Or simply write BLOCK PARTY on any offering envelope. The most important way you can help is to be at the event. We need our members to come and reach out to our guests. I suspect many of the families who come to the block party do not go to church at all. Many of the volunteers in charge of the various activities will not be particularly available to have these conversations, as we will be serving the meal, setting up the egg hunt, etc. We need you to simply come and talk to people. If you can do that, please join us!

YOUTH MINISTRY

UPCOMING TIME OUT DATES

March 24 - hosted by Sam and Marcy Smith and Scott and Sheri Day

April 28 - hosted by Robert and Marilyn Borchardt

May 26 - hosted by Phyllis Alexander and Katy and Ian Tyra

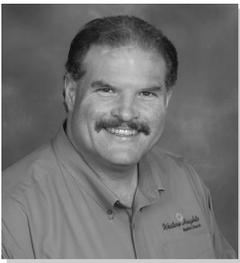
SPRING BREAK EVENTS

We have some amazing service and fellowship events planned for the week of Spring Break. Take a look at what is happening and make your plans to join us. And invite your friends!

- **Jaycee Park Project** - Monday and Tuesday (March 11-12) from 9:00-3:00. Meet at Jaycee Park at 9:00 to help with a painting project. Lunch will be provided.
- **Youth Chick-fil-a Lunch** - Wednesday, March 13. Meet at 12:30 at church if you need a ride or at Chick-fil-a at 1:00. Those who come to the church to ride the van will return to the church by 2:30 for parent pick up.
- **Youth Pizza and Escape Room** - Thursday, March 14 at WHBC from 6:30 - 9:00. Meet in the Garden Room.

YOUTH CAMP

The \$50 camp deposit is due. If you have not turned in your deposit, please see Cynthia.



Kip Osborne

CONGREGATIONAL CARE & MUSIC MINISTRY

EASTER CANTATA - APRIL 14, 2019 during the 8:45 service. This year's cantata is entitled "**NO MORE NIGHT**". It is a wonderful collection of worship music that points us to the eternal light of Jesus Christ and His saving power. There is still time to join us as we rehearse for this special morning of worship and praise. We meet each Wednesday evening at 7:30 PM in the Choir Room. We are also sharing this cantata in a dress rehearsal performance at Providence Village's Chapel on Sunday evening, April 7th at 6 PM.

HANDBELL RINGERS ANYONE? On Tuesday nights at 6:30 PM we meet for bell rehearsal in the Choir room. If you read music and would like to try your hand at bells, feel free to stop by and rehearse with us. We need a new member who can commit to our Tuesday rehearsals and Sunday morning 8:45 AM service ringing opportunities.

PRAYER MEETING ON WEDNESDAY EVENING - Everyone is invited to attend a concerted time of prayer on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall. We have chosen to track our prayer requests and document how God is faithful to answer the prayers of His people in His timing. There is room for you as we pray around the tables. In fact, some have chosen to Prayer Walk the church and you are welcome to do that as well. You won't regret time spent praying to the Lord!

COLLEGE & YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

"About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them, and suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken. And immediately all the doors were opened, and everyone's bonds were unfastened." Acts 16:25-26



Jeremy Wilson

Being a musical person, I find myself drawn to the narrative found in Acts 16. Paul and Silas had cast out a demon in Philippi. Unfortunately for them, the girl who was previously possessed by the demon was a cash cow for her owners. She would tell fortunes for clients for a substantial profit (16:16). After the demon was exorcised, she was no longer able to provide this service, which made her owners less than happy. They grabbed Paul and Silas, held a mock trial, and had them beaten. Eventually, Paul and Silas ended up in the local prison. Now my reaction to being put in chains for doing God's work definitely would not be praise to God. I would probably be sulking and arguing with Him to figure out what went wrong. Paul and Silas' response was prayer and praise. The results of the actions of Paul and Silas are miraculous; the prison literally falls apart, and an entire family is led to salvation in Jesus Christ.

There is just something powerful about music and songs that can take our minds off of our situation. Even greater are songs that point us to God. When we focus on Him, miracles can happen in the most dire of circumstances. These hymns and songs that we sing on Sunday have the capability of reminding us of the truth that our hope is in Jesus alone. That our God alone can save. That He is worthy of glory, honor, and praise. In the coming weeks let's focus on Him in our moments of trial and frustration. Rather than react, let's respond in praise of our God who has come to save us and will be by our side until the very end.

God bless,
Jeremy

**WHBC
MINISTERIAL
& SUPPORT STAFF**

2019

February

Bruce Worley

Pastor

bruce@whbcwaco.org

Marcy Smith

Associate Pastor for Children/ Education

marcy@whbcwaco.org

Jeremy Wilson

Associate Pastor for College & Young Adults/

Interim Contemporary Worship Leader

jeremy@whbcwaco.org

Frank Alexander

Financial Manager

frank@whbcwaco.org

Kip Osborne

Minister of Music and Senior Adults

kip@whbcwaco.org

Ann Albers

Church/Pastor's Secretary

whbc@whbcwaco.org

MaryAnn Bailey

Church/Pastor's Secretary

maryann@whbcwaco.org

Rachel Ellison

Children's Ministry Assistant

rachel@whbcwaco.org

Don Deatherage

Building Superintendent/ Custodian

don.deatherage@yahoo.com

Budget Receipts..... Month to Date.....	33,523
Budget Expenses.....Month to Date.....	42,583
Designated Receipts.....Month to Date.....	5,497
Budget Goal.....Year to Date.....	68,880
Budget Receipts.....Year to Date.....	63,315
Budget Expenses.....Year to Date.....	71,287
Designated Receipts.....Year to Date.....	11,464

Designated Mission Contributions

Annie Armstrong Easter Offering

Goal	2,750
Receipts To Date	75

**FAMILY
FELLOWSHIP MEALS**

The meals are on hold
until further notice.

OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Thursday

8:00 am-12:00 noon

1:00 pm-4:30 pm

The offices are closed
and telephones are not answered
between 12:00 noon and 1:00 pm, and
after 4:30 pm.



AFTER HOURS EMERGENCY

03/10/2019 thru 03/23/2019

Bruce Worley	254-716-0748
Ricky Berrier	666-9922
Don Deatherage	752-4847
Church Phone	254-776-2524

WESTERN HEIGHTS BAPTIST CHURCH
VISION CALENDAR OF OPPORTUNITIES
March 10, 2019 through April 6, 2019

Sunday, March 10, 2019

8:45 am Traditional Worship Service
9:45 am Bible Study
10:30 am Church Library Open
11:00 am Contemporary Worship Service
5:30 pm Bible Study with the Pastor
5:30 pm Mission Preschool
5:30 pm Bible Buddies/Bible Drill
5:30 pm Youth Sunday Night Live

Monday, March 11

9:00 am Prayer Walkers/Mall
9:00 am Youth Work Day at Jaycee Park
9:30 am With God's Help
4:30 pm Ministry Choir
5:30 pm BSF Class Meetings **will not meet**

Tuesday, March 12

9:00 am Prayer Walkers/Mall
9:00 am Youth Work Day at Jaycee Park
11:00 am Men's Weekly Fellowship Lunch
4:00 pm Colonial Kids' Club **will not meet**
6:30 pm College Grow Group
6:30 pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday, March 13

9:00 am Prayer Walkers/Mall
9:00 am Financial Review
12:30 pm Youth Lunch at Chick-fil-a
4:00 pm Spring Breakaway for children
6:00 pm Mission Preschool
6:00 pm Children's Choir/TeamKid
will not meet
6:00 pm Youth Fuel
6:30 pm Prayer Meeting
7:30 pm Sanctuary Choir

Thursday, March 14

9:00 am Prayer Walkers/Mall
11:00 am Merry Widows and Friends
6:30 pm Youth Pizza and Escape Room
7:00 pm Contemporary Worship Rehearsal

Friday, March 15

5:30 am BSF Leaders Meeting
9:00 am Prayer Walkers/Mall
9:30 am With God's Help

Saturday, March 16

8:00 am Prayer Group Meeting
9:00 am Senior Adult Fellowship Breakfast

Sunday, March 17

8:45 am Traditional Worship Service
9:45 am Bible Study
10:30 am Church Library Open
11:00 am Contemporary Worship Service
5:30 pm Bible Study with the Pastor
5:30 pm Mission Preschool
5:30 pm Church Bible Drill
5:30 pm Youth Sunday Night Live

Monday, March 18

9:00 am Prayer Walkers/Mall
9:30 am With God's Help
4:30 pm Ministry Choir
5:30 pm BSF Class Meetings

Tuesday, March 19

9:00 am Prayer Walkers/Mall
11:00 am Men's Weekly Fellowship Lunch
4:00 pm Colonial Kids' Club
6:30 pm College Grow Group
6:30 pm Handbell Rehearsal

Wednesday March 20

9:00 am Prayer Walkers/Mall
9:00 am Financial Review
6:00 pm Children's Choir/TeamKid
6:00 pm Mission Preschool
6:00 pm Youth Fuel
6:30 pm Prayer Meeting/Business Meeting
7:30 pm Sanctuary Choir

Thursday, March 21

9:00 am Prayer Walkers/Mall
11:00 am Merry Widows and Friends
7:00 pm Contemporary Worship Rehearsal

Friday, March 22

5:30 am BSF Leaders Meeting
9:00 am Prayer Walkers/Mall
9:30 am With God's Help

Saturday, March 23

8:00 am Prayer Group Meeting
9:00 am Senior Adult Fellowship Breakfast
1:00 pm Virtual Reality Day (hosted by
CYA
ministry)
2:00 pm 20th Anniversary Celebration for
Kip
Osborne

Sunday, March 24, 2019

8:45 am Traditional Worship Service
9:45 am Bible Study
10:30 am Church Library Open
11:00 am Contemporary Worship Service
2:00 pm WRBA Bible Drill
5:30 pm Bible Study with the Pastor
5:30 pm Mission Preschool
5:30 pm Bible Buddies/Bible Drill
5:30 pm Youth Time Out

Monday, March 25

9:00 am Prayer Walkers/Mall
9:30 am With God's Help
4:30 pm Ministry Choir
5:30 pm BSF Class Meetings

Tuesday, March 26

9:00 am Prayer Walkers/Mall
11:00 am Men's Weekly Fellowship Lunch
4:00 pm Colonial Kids' Club
6:30 pm College Grow Group
6:30 pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday, March 27

9:00 am Prayer Walkers/Mall
9:00 am Financial Review
6:00 pm Mission Preschool
6:00 pm Children's Choir/TeamKid
6:00 pm Youth Fuel
6:30 pm Prayer Meeting
7:30 pm Sanctuary Choir

Thursday, March 28

9:00 am Prayer Walkers/Mall
11:00 am Merry Widows and Friends
7:00 pm Contemporary Worship Rehearsal

Friday, March 29

5:30 am BSF Leaders Meeting
9:00 am Prayer Walkers/Mall
9:30 am With God's Help

Saturday, March 30

8:00 am Prayer Group Meeting
9:00 am Senior Adult Fellowship Breakfast

Sunday, March 31, 2019

8:45 am Traditional Worship Service
9:45 am Bible Study
10:30 am Church Library Open
11:00 am Contemporary Worship Service
12:15 pm Bible Character Lunch Bunch
5:30 pm Bible Study with the Pastor
5:30 pm Mission Preschool
5:30 pm Bible Buddies/Bible Drill
5:30 pm Youth Time Out

Monday, April 1

9:00 am Prayer Walkers/Mall
9:30 am With God's Help
4:00 pm Deacons' Meeting
4:30 pm Ministry Choir
5:30 pm BSF Class Meetings

Tuesday, April 2

9:00 am Prayer Walkers/Mall
11:00 am Men's Weekly Fellowship Lunch
4:00 pm Colonial Kids' Club
6:30 pm College Grow Group
6:30 pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday, April 3

9:00 am Prayer Walkers/Mall
9:00 am Financial Review
9:30 am Women on Mission
6:00 pm Mission Preschool
6:00 pm Children's Choir/TeamKid
6:00 pm Youth Fuel
6:30 pm Prayer Meeting
7:30 pm Sanctuary Choir

Thursday, April 4

9:00 am Prayer Walkers/Mall
11:00 am Merry Widows and Friends
7:00 pm Contemporary Worship Rehearsal

Friday, April 5

5:30 am BSF Leaders Meeting
9:00 am Prayer Walkers/Mall
9:30 am With God's Help

Saturday, April 6

8:00 am Prayer Group Meeting
9:00 am Senior Adult Fellowship Breakfast
6:00 pm Widow/Widower Banquet

WELCOME VISITORS

February Visitors

Annabella Deese, Dakota Seidmann, Daniel Walton,
Laurie Ingram Clark, Ralph Hayes, Ron Rhodes,
Jacob Gonzales, Sandy Barton, Ray & Donna
Griffin.

20TH ANNIVERSARY RECEPTION FOR KIP OSBORNE - MARCH 23, 2:00-4:00

The Sanctuary Choir cordially invites you to a reception honoring Kip Osborne on his 20th anniversary of service to the people of Western Heights Baptist Church. The reception will take place on Saturday, March 23 from 2:00-4:00 in the Fellowship Hall. Please join us as we show our appreciation to Kip and his family.

TEXT MESSAGE REMINDERS

We offer text message reminders for our children and youth ministries. It is easy to subscribe! To join the children's remind group text this message: @whbckid to this number: 81010. To join the youth remind group text this message: @whbcyouth to this number: 81010. Please note: we had received information that Verizon customers would no longer receive text messages from Remind. We are happy to report that Verizon has changed their policy, and now Verizon customers will again receive text messages from Remind. If you have questions, contact Marcy Smith at 776-2524 or marcy@whbcwaco.org.

WORSHIP CARE VOLUNTEERS

We have a very important ministry that takes place every Sunday, but you may not know about it. This ministry is Worship Care. Worship Care Volunteers help our preschool teachers with our littlest ones every Sunday during worship! These volunteers get to hold babies, play with preschoolers and assist our teachers as they share the Bible story of the day. It is a great way to serve the Lord and to bless the families of our church. Worship Care volunteers serve about one time every three months. If you enjoy spending time with precious preschoolers this is the opportunity for you! For more information or to join our team, contact Marcy at 776-2524.

COLONIAL KIDS' CLUB

Our Colonial Kids' Club meets at The Edmond (formerly Colonial Arms Apartments) from 4:00-5:15 every Tuesday. This ministry is reaching children and families who do not go to church on a regular basis. Some of them have even participated in activities here at Western Heights. We have a great team of volunteers, but would love to have a few more. If you would like to help us out please give Marcy a call in the office.

CARE NET BABY BOTTLES DUE

Thank you for participating in the CareNet Baby Bottle Campaign. The bottles are now due. Please return them to the church office.

CYA (COLLEGE-YOUNG ADULT) UPDATE

We began a Bible study on the book of Mark at the beginning of the semester. So far, it has been wonderful to travel through the Gospel together with fresh eyes. We have been averaging 12 each Tuesday night. We will be hosting a Virtual Reality Game Day in the Garden Room on March 23 from 1:00-6:00 pm. Dinner will be provided, and anyone who is interested is invited to come and check out the technological marvels of Virtual Reality! We are currently looking for more opportunities to serve within our church community and our community at large, so if you have a need that some young people could assist with around the house or with yard work, please let me (Jeremy) know. My phone number is 931-315-0147.

I plan for our church to host Secret Church again this year. The topic is Prayer, Fasting, and the Pursuit of God. The main simulcast is happening on Friday night, April 27. I plan to schedule it again on a Saturday afternoon, so be on the lookout for more information to come regarding Secret Church.

God Bless,
Jeremy

NEW IN THE LIBRARY

Tales from Grace Chapel Inn series:

Something Old, Something New by Jane Orcutt

The Price of Fame by Carlyne Aarsen

All in the Timing by Melody Carlson

Promises to Keep by Rebecca Kelly

Midsummer Melody by Rebecca Kelly

The Pipe Organ by Jane Orcutt

By C.S. Lewis

Out of the Silent Planet

Perelandra

That Hideous Strength

By Bernard Cornwell

The Last Kingdom series 1 and series 2

War of the Wolf: A Novel

Secrets of the Castleton Manor Library series:

- Pride and Publishing by DeAnna Julie Dodson
- A Literary Offense by Elizabeth Penney
- Up to Noir Good by Jan Fields
- For Letter or Worse by Margaret Welch
- On Pens and Needles by Sandra Orchard

A Tea Room Mystery: Tea and Promises by Susan Page Davis

By J. R. R. Tolkien

The Hobbit

The Silmarillion

The Fellowship of the Ring

The Two Towers

The Return of the King

A gift from a kind donor

A Just Ask Book Set (27 book set) by Chris

Arvetis and Carole Palmer

EASTER BLOCK PARTY, APRIL 20

FROM 12:00-2:00

The Easter Block Party will be Saturday, April 20, from Noon-2:00. The purpose of this event is to provide a fun activity for our neighbors and have one-on-one conversations with those who attend. Our guests come for the free meal, games, music, crafts, and the egg hunt; our goal is to use this time to meet people and learn about them. We want to hear their stories and share our own. We want them to feel loved, accepted, and welcomed. Once we have spent time in conversation, we want to invite them to our church!

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