



January 6, 2019

Ferguson Avenue Baptist Church

10050 Ferguson Avenue ❖ Savannah, Georgia 31406

Where Christ Is Exalted and the Fellowship Is Exciting

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If you have any questions concerning the message from today, or are interested in obtaining information about church membership, please see the Pastor after the service, drop a note in the offering plate indicating your desire to talk with the Pastor, or call the church office.

Announcements

Wednesday Nights Upcoming

All activities resume January 6. If you are joining us for dinner please sign up in the hall.

Daily Bible Readings

This year, the daily Bible readings from the church will be in chronological order. Brochures with the entire reading guide are tucked inside the bulletin, if you would like to use them.

Senior Saints' Bible Study

Thursday, **January 10**, at 10:00 a.m., in the Fellowship Hall.

Joy Class

The crafters will resume their meetings on Tuesday, **January 8**, at 9:00 a.m. All ladies are invited!

Young Adult Bible Study

Thursday, **January 10**, at 6:30 p.m., at the Sheffield's.

Sacred Harp Singing

The next singing scheduled for the Savannah Sacred Harp Singers is Saturday, **January 12**, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. in the piano side overflow room. Join them!

This Week at FABC Today

Coffee Fellowship	9:00 a.m.
Sunday School	9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship	10:30 a.m.
Choir Practice	4:30 p.m.
Evening Worship	6:00 p.m.

Wednesday

Dinner—Tacos	5:45 p.m.
Youth & Awana	6:30 p.m.
Prayer & Bible Study	7:00 p.m.

Thursday

Senior Adult Bible Study 10:00 a.m.

FABC Deacons

Shawn Champion	433-0098
Ron Fowler	901-409-8628
Jimmy Kicklighter (CH)	355-5616
Jack Moore	547-5000
Joe Morris	398-0125
Jay Rowe	547-5770
John Sumner	658-4186
Michael Walker	655-2497

10:30 a.m.

Welcome and Announcements

*** Opening Chorus & Greeting**

“I Sing the Mighty Power of God”

Words are on the back of the bulletin

*** Call to Worship**

Psalm 90:1-2

*** Hymn #10**

“O God, Our Help in Ages Past”

Prayer of General Confession

Hebrews 1:1-4

Special Music

Scripture Reading

Acts 28:11-22

Robert Holland

Receiving of Tithes And

Offerings

*** Hymn #233**

“Depth of Mercy”

Message

Bob Dimmitt

**“Don’t Ever Assume—Remember
Instead”**

Ecclesiastes 12:1-8 ;Ecclesiastes 52

*** Hymn, to right**

“Doxology”

Old Hundred tune

6:00 p.m.

Welcome and Announcements

*** Hymn #142**

“Jesus Shall Reign”

Prayer

Receiving of Tithes And

Offerings

Hymn #520

“Another Year is Dawning”

Hymn #262

“Trusting Jesus”

Hymn #255

“Blessed Assurance”

Message

Tim Wade

“Church Unity Part 1: Blest Be the Tie”

Ephesians 4:1-16

*** Hymn, pp 6&7**

“Benediction”

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings
flow.

Praise Him, all creatures here below.

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host,

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Amen

* All those who are able, please stand.

Don't Ever Assume-Remember Instead

Ecclesiastes #52

Ecclesiastes 12:1-8

Os Guinness said it this way: "I post or I tweet; therefore I am."

Contrary to the warnings & command of scripture to not be conformed to the world or by the world - we are.

You can receive God's grace in vain & one sure way of doing that is by delaying to give answer to it

Generally, one ought to get wiser they get older – especially a Christian – but we are being reminded that there comes a point at which very often wisdom not only does not increase, what one has begins to leak out of your life.-Paul Van Gorder

Take this to heart: no one has ever regretted, not one single human being has ever regretted following the Lord as hard & as soon as possible, but vast multitudes will regret in eternity waiting until it was too late.- Paul Van Gorder

Blest Be the Tie

Church Unity Part 1

Ephesians 4:1-16

We promote unity in the church by:

1. Walking worthily
 - a. Humility
 - b. Gentleness
 - c. Patience
 - d. Love
2. Reflecting the triune God
3. Striving for maturity

The key is found in verses 7 &8, that by Grace Christ has freed us and enabled us to be unified to Him.

Congregational Meeting

Our next quarterly meeting is scheduled for Sunday, **January 13**. The time will be announced. One order of business is to affirm Tom Keller as an Elder. Please see the bottom of this page for more details.

*Thank
you*

Charles, Cindy & Emily Wise would like to thank our Pastors/Elders and members of our congregation for all of the visits, calls, texts, prayers and FB messages and for the delicious food that was delivered to the hospital during our admissions to St. Joe. What an encouragement it was to see and hear from you all!! Your love for us was apparent to all around us and we were humbled by it. Thank you from the depths of our hearts... we will always remember God's faithfulness through His children!



Weekly Catechism Question

Question #85:

What is the tenth commandment?

Answer:

The tenth commandment is, "Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's house. Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's wife, nor his man servant, nor his maid servant, nor his ox, nor his donkey, nor anything that is thy neighbor's."

Scripture:

Hebrews 13:5, 1 Timothy 6:6, Romans 12:15, 1 Corinthians 13:4-7, Leviticus 19:18

The elders of FABC would like to recommend that the congregation affirm Tom Keller to the position of elder at the regularly scheduled quarterly meeting on January 13th. Tom has been faithfully serving as a minister to senior adults at Ferguson Avenue Baptist Church for the better part of a year, and has dedicated his life to his ministerial calling long before joining our church family. Since coming on staff at FABC, he has consistently demonstrated his character and his skillful handling of the Word of God. Tom has been examined by the elders, and we believe that he is qualified and suited for the role.

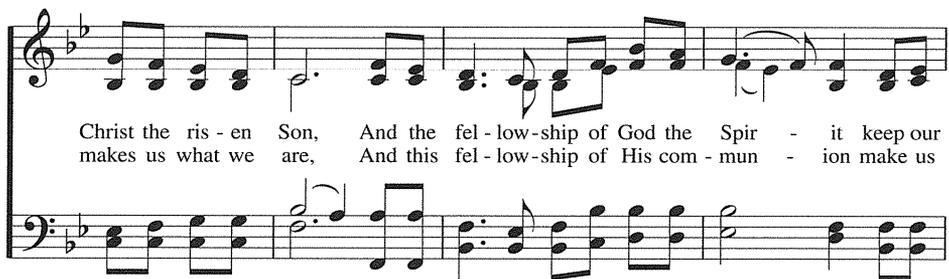
We understand that some of you may be wondering why this affirmation is necessary since Tom is already serving as a full-time minister of the church. We readily admit that ideally when a minister is hired by the church, the church should also be able to affirm that person as an elder. However, due to a confluence of factors at the time of Tom's hire including the church's transition to having elders, the special circumstances of Tom's hire, and the membership process having not yet been completed for Tom and his family, we could not immediately affirm Tom as an elder at the time of his hire. To be clear, this had nothing to do with any deficiencies on Tom's part, but with the protocol and precedents of our church, and a desire to not bypass the congregation at any step in this process. We would therefore rather be overly cautious than to leave any room for even the appearance of impropriety.

If you have any questions, please feel free to speak with Bob, Steve, or Tim, or submit them via email to elders@fabchurch.com.

438 Benediction



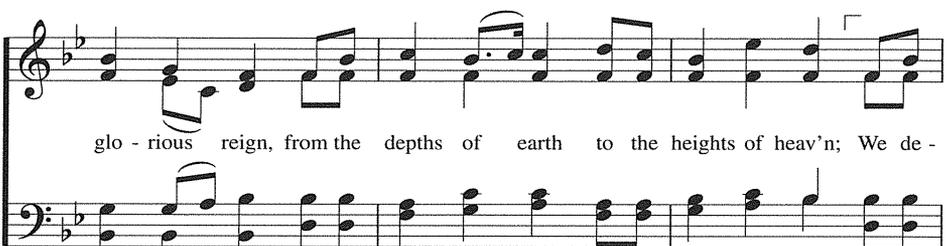
1. May the peace of God our Heav-'nly Fa - ther, and the grace of
2. May this peace which pass-es un - der - stand - ing, and this grace which



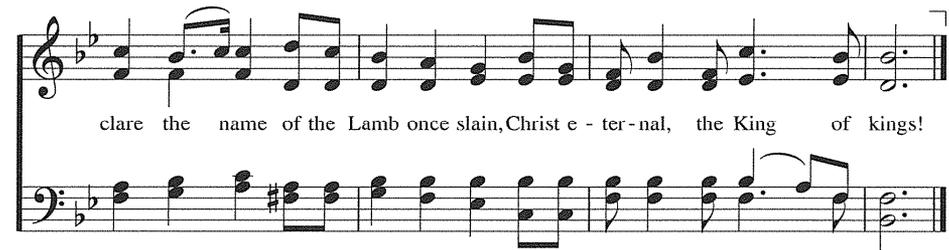
Christ the ris - en Son, And the fel - low-ship of God the Spir - it keep our
makes us what we are, And this fel - low-ship of His com - mun - ion make us



hearts and minds with - in His love. And to Him be praise for His
one in spir - it and in heart.



glo - rious reign, from the depths of earth to the heights of heav'n; We de -



clare the name of the Lamb once slain, Christ e - ter - nal, the King of kings!

A Pastor, His Dying Wife, and Their Church—a Group Text

My friend Brad is a pastor in England. His wife, Megan, is lying in a hospital bed, unconscious, a few days or even hours from death.

The story began last Friday, when she, almost nine months pregnant and healthy, got a small cut, leading to a Group A Strep infection. Her brain swelled, causing catastrophic damage. She declined precipitously on Saturday, and the doctors determined to immediately remove the child by C-section. Beautiful E. was born, the seventh child God gave to Brad and Megan in the last thirteen years. Praise God! Yet her decline continued. On Sunday, doctors declared Megan brain dead and placed her on life support. They give her a few days before her heart stops beating.

Oh, Lord—what?!

I belong to a What'sApp messaging group with scores (or more) of Brad and Megan's family, friends, and fellow church members. Brad offers updates, prayers, which alternate between the grieving and the inspiring. His friends offer encouragements and prayers.

On Wednesday morning—five days after normal ended—Brad shared the following (lightly edited, including removing children and church's names):

Another morning, another 4 or so hours of sleep. Another morning waking up crying. Another morning of [son] grabbing my hand. This is so hard. I've tried to say this to you over the last few days. I profoundly love Megan. We had 14 years of marriage, and we crammed a lot into those 14 years. Our lives are so interwoven. I can't even begin to separate how intertwined our lives have been. What's Megan's is mine. What's mine is Megan's. Every aspect of our lives and ministry. How do I deal with that? Not a question to be answered today.

Then these encouraging words about their marriage: "There's no unresolved conflict between us. None. I sinned against Megan, she sinned against me. But, by God's grace, we asked for and forgave each other. Truly. What a gift from God."

And these comments about her:

Megan has, under God, had a profound impact on the lives of people. Many of you have said this over this group. I appreciate that right now more than ever. She unwaveringly loves Jesus Christ, his Word, and other people. The children and I all know this. How many of us have profited either from food Megan has prepared in love or a conversation she had with us about God's Word? Who of us hasn't watched her life and seen a reflection of Christ (imperfect, yes; but clear nonetheless)? You saw it out there, the children and I saw it at home.

On Thursday morning, Brad put on his preacher hat and talked about the church, which is what prompted my desire to share it on the 9Marks platform. Naturally, I asked Brad for permission to share them with you. He's always been an open-book kind of guy, happy to live in this fallen world by God's grace in view of others. He writes,

Megan, the only love of my life, is fading. We pray for a miracle, yes. And I have not given up. But God hasn't done it yet. To prolong this by keeping her on life support (waiting for that miracle) or to pretend Megan's getting better when she's not; this may be selfish. I don't want to keep Megan from Jesus.

Continued on p8

Continued from p7

I feel more numb surrounding all of this today. The situation has grown graver. Hear me clearly though: I am/we are struck down, but we are not destroyed. Christ lives, and this changes everything.

I went to bed telling myself I wasn't going to write one of these again. I know my own sinful heart. I've asked my brothers in Christ to help me in this. Can I be honest? I'm doing this for myself as much as anybody else. I've always been this way. I figure out what I'm thinking by talking to others.

God has made all his people, in part, to be a "group project." God made his people for the local church, hasn't he? I need my family (especially my children) and Megan's family now, of course, but please understand me: I need the folks from [name of church] just as much, if not more. I think the Bible bears this reality out.

I also need the folks from the universal body of Christ. If you're a Christian, and you're reading this, are you a member of a local church? Not a video church, not a satellite campus where the pastor doesn't know you, not your own "church" at home, not a solo Christian. A "solo Christian" is an oxymoron, like warm ice cream or a likeable Arsenal [football] supporter (sorry about that Ali S., the Jacks, and little W. Brodie!).

As an aside, I hadn't checked the news in 4 days. But it did warm my heart that Spurs beat Cardiff a day or two ago. You know what's weird, I felt guilty checking the score. Like I was betraying Megan. It seems wrong to look at such trivial things. But I'm a real person. I need to remember that.

What was I saying? Ah, yes, the local church. Have I beat that drum enough? I really need the church right now. And they have been there! I don't mean just one or two of the paid staff team. I mean everybody. One couple (with a relatively new baby themselves) is watching our dog. Many are making meals. Others have watched our children, texted, prayed, sat with me, and pointed me to Christ. Another couple (who used to be members, but moved to Northern Ireland) are bringing a pizza meal from Belfast. Might get cold flying across the Irish Sea with it.

Guys, this is the local church: a group of people, saved by Jesus who live in roughly the same location (that's key) and are committed to each other for each other's spiritual and practical good to the glory of God. It's like a little outpost of heaven on earth. I can't help but plead pastorally with all of you: be an actual, committed, formal member of a local church. You need it to obey Jesus. You need it to be more like Jesus. You need it for moments like the one I'm in.

The nurses around Megan see this. They can't believe the reality of our church. My children right now love our church, because our church obviously loves us. Do you love the church? Enough to inconvenience yourself for her and commit to her? It pays off. Exhibit A: the nurses caring for my wife and child are seeing the glory of God.

Brad then takes off the preacher's hat and becomes the grieving husband again, but cannot leave the church far behind:

On a different tack: Megan and I went away in 2015 to Athens for 5 days (church folks watched our then 5 children!). We stayed in a flat connected to a church (thanks again, Georgios) in Athens. A really sweet 10-year anniversary. We started saving when we got back: a pound or two a week (in cash). It's in a mug in a secret location in our kitchen, by the way. Kids, if you read this, don't go get it down. We are saving for our 20-year anniversary getaway. Megan wants to go to Central Europe. We have like £250-300. That's a lot for us. But what on earth do I do with that money now if Megan goes home to the Lord? To spend it on a pair of Bluetooth headphones?! I know God's grace is deeper still. It is, right?

Beginning to think about a funeral. Please don't see this as a lack of faith. Pray that Megan's nurses come. They've said they will. I can think of a few things I'd like to happen at this funeral, the first being God's people (with sad but joyful hearts) belting out praise to our great God and Saviour. We want the attention to be on him now, then and forever.

Brad next asks for prayer for his own loneliness without Megan and for the ability to raise the seven children (especially the newborn) alone. He also implores the women of the church concerning his daughter: "Daughter" going to need some Titus 2 women. On that note, how sweet a thought that some of you women (Megan's "Titus 2 Club") could be that kind of women for her?+

He spends a paragraph unpacking Ephesians 3:20-21: "Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.+"

And he concludes by bringing it all together (you might think about how different his words are from so many false prosperity and word-of-faith preachers):

Guys, God may still miraculously heal my wife. Pray that he does. But have his miraculous power and glory not already been displayed in the church and in Christ over these last few days through so many of you? You, my fellow saints, have been born again by a work of the Holy Spirit - a miracle! You have trusted in a glorious Saviour who died for your sins - a miracle! You have lived together as a believing community and inconvenienced yourselves for each other - yep, miracle again! Starting to see the picture? Megan would want me to talk about her healing, but even more she would want me to talk about the miracles we see every day (and forget) to the glory of God. God has, is, and will be glorified in his church and in Christ Jesus for all generations, forever and ever! Even here in our hospital ward. Amen.

Amen, indeed. Pray now for Brad, his family, his church, and all those who are watching, that God might be glorified through Brad, Megan, and their church.

Pray finally for yourself and your fellow church members, that God would be so glorified in you, whether in life or in death.

Missionary of the Week

Coastal Jail Ministries of Georgia, Savannah

The Coastal Jail Ministries of Georgia employs three chaplains who minister to prisoners here in Chatham County and coordinate the efforts of volunteers who reach out to these men and women. The Life Learning Program gives opportunities for prisoners to join a structured environment and study the Scriptures.



Please pray for:

1. Chaplains Matt Coleman, Myra Mitchell, and Shaun Marksbury, and Transitional Program Coordinator Lorie Irish.
2. The Transitional Program has recently become a separate entity, Chatham Transitional Ministries. Pray for its expansion and continued effectiveness.
3. Former inmates to seek follow-up counsel from chaplains after release.
4. The ability for inmates to understand that God can forgive them and give them another chance.
5. Wisdom for the chaplains who are ministering to unique individuals in unique circumstances. Pray they would be truly led by the Holy Spirit.
6. Spiritual strength, health and growth for the chaplains.
7. The volunteers who take the time to minister, that their needs would be met and that they would be diligent to continue sharing the Word of God.
8. The financial needs of the ministry would continue to be met.
9. That the inmates in the Chaplains' program would be diligent to do their Bible studies, and that God's word will do its work in their lives. Pray also for enough graders to get all the tests corrected and for them to have wisdom in the notes they



Sunday School Classes & Descriptions

Adult

“Revelation” - Organ Side Overflow

Room: Matt Coleman

“Chronological Survey of the Bible” -

Fellowship Hall: Bob Dimmitt

“Church History” - Youth House: Steve Posner

Tamera Smith will start a new class beginning Jan 27

Students & Children

Babies - Room 3: Kay Stanford & Sandra Bridges

1s & 2s - Room 24: Michael & Ruth Kleinpeter/ Kamee Roberson

3s & 4s - Room 25: Emily Wise, Susan Su, Donna Martin

Kindergarten, 1st & 2nd Grade - Room 200: John & Pam Humphrey

3rd-6th Grade Boys - Room 202: Richie Mills

3rd-6th Grade Girls - Room 204: Mary Ann Fowler, Amy Horton

Youth Guys - Room 206: Tim Wade, Bobby Deloach, Shawn Champion

Youth Girls - Room 207: Sona Bailey, Jessica Dimmitt, & Lauren Wade

The price of refusing to forgive is high. Unforgiveness produces hatred, bitterness, animosity, anger, and retribution. It not only clogs up the arteries but also the courts with thousands of vengeful lawsuits. Refusing to forgive imprisons people in their past. Unforgiving people keep their pain alive by constantly picking at the open wounds and keeping it from healing. Bitterness takes root in their hearts and defiles them (Heb. 12:15). Anger rages out of control and negative emotions run unchecked. Life is filled with turmoil and strife instead of joy and peace.

John MacArthur

Bible Reading Schedule

January 2019

	1	Genesis 1-3
	2	Genesis 4-7
	3	Genesis 8-11
	4	Job 1-5
	5	Job 6-9
	6	Job 10-13
	7	Job 14-16
	8	Job 17-20
	9	Job 21-23
	10	Job 24-28
	11	Job 29-31
	12	Job 32-34
	13	Job 35-37
	14	Job 38-39
	15	Job 40-42
	16	Genesis 12-15
	17	Genesis 16-18
	18	Genesis 19-21
	19	Genesis 22-24
	20	Genesis 25-26
	21	Genesis 27-29
	22	Genesis 30-31
	23	Genesis 32-34
	24	Genesis 35-37
	25	Genesis 38-40
	26	Genesis 41-42
	27	Genesis 43-45
	28	Genesis 46-47
	29	Genesis 48-50
	30	Exodus 1-3
	31	Exodus 4-6



I Sing The Mighty Power Of God

I sing the mighty power of God
That made the mountains rise,
That spread the flowing seas abroad
And built the lofty skies.
I sing the wisdom that ordained
The sun to rule the day;
The moon shines full at His command,
And all the stars obey.

There's not a plant or flower below
But makes Thy glories known;
And clouds arise and tempests blow
By order from Thy throne;
While all that borrows life from Thee
Is ever in Thy care,
And everywhere that man can be,
Thou, God, art present there.

Video and audio recordings of the
messages are available for listening or
downloading from
www.fabchurch.com/sermons

For Hearing Impaired

If you have difficulties hearing, we have
listening aid devices available. Ask any
of the ushers, or the technician in the
sound booth, if you are in need of one of
these devices.

Nursery January 6

10:30 A.M.

Babies:

Carolyn Blanton, Lauren Wade

Toddlers - 4 year olds:

Ashley Strickland, Jordan Keller/
Emily Wise, Lilly Horton, Allie Mills

6:00 P.M.

Gena Russell, Haley Bull,
Napoleon & Savannah Martin

Nursery January 13

10:30 A.M.

Babies:

Cindy Wise, Beth Lewis

Toddlers - 4 year olds:

Karrie & Lindsey Walker/
Aaron Waite, Linnea Posner

6:00 P.M.

Sona Bailey, Cindy Dimmitt, Shawn
Champion

Ushers January 6

10:30 A.M.

Johnny Bridges, Reggie Brown,
Ron Fowler, Jimmy Kicklighter

6:00 P.M.

Jimmy Donaldson, Dean McCraw

Ushers January 13

10:30 A.M.

Bucky Lanier, Jack Moore, Mike
Morris, Danny Roberson

6:00 P.M.

Jimmy Donaldson, Dean McCraw

Sunday Greeters - January 6

Mary Fowler, Jeanie Groover

January Lock-Up Deacons

Shawn Champion, Ron Fowler