



April 19, 2020

# Ferguson Avenue Baptist Church

10050 Ferguson Avenue ❖ Savannah, Georgia 31406

*Where Christ Is Exalted and the Fellowship Is Exciting*

## Announcements

### Church Activities Suspended

As of now, all church activities are suspended through April 22. We will revise our schedule as effects of the COVID-19 recommendations progress. Please call the church if you have any pressing needs. Here is our live stream schedule:

*Sunday Morning Worship, 10:30 a.m.*

*Wednesday Prayer and Bible Study, 7:00 p.m.*

*Monday - Friday "Feeding on the Word," 12:00 p.m.*

Links to both FaceBook and YouTube can be found on our website:

[www.fabchurch.com/live-stream](http://www.fabchurch.com/live-stream)

### Secret Church

David Platt and Radical are committed to proceeding with the simulcast, although it will not be done with a live audience. They are also giving churches permission to share login information with interested members so they can stream the simulcast from their own homes. As of today, individuals can test their connections by going to the Radical website with login credentials to make sure their internet connection is sufficient to stream the simulcast. **This event takes place this Friday, April 24!**

If you would like to stream Secret Church, please email [tim@fabchurch.com](mailto:tim@fabchurch.com), and he will reply to you with login information and instructions. The quicker you let Tim know that you are interested, the better, so you can have time to test your connection. You can also swing by the church and pick up a copy of the workbooks for you and your family. Here is a link to the website for more information about Secret Church:

<https://secrechurch.radical.net/>

## FABC Elders

Bob Dimmitt  
Senior Pastor  
912-398-4363  
[bob@fabchurch.com](mailto:bob@fabchurch.com)

Tim Wade  
Assoc. Pastor/  
Youth  
912-231-7199  
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Tom Keller  
Assoc. Pastor/  
Senior Adults  
912-308-3767  
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Steve Posner  
Elder  
912-704-5617  
[steve@fabchurch.com](mailto:steve@fabchurch.com)

April 19, 2020

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10:30 a.m.

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship  
2 Timothy 1:12-14

**Hymn 224, bulletin p. 4**  
*"I Know Whom I Have Believed"*

Prayer of General Confession  
Tom Keller  
*Psalm 111:1 & 9*

**Hymn, bulletin p. 5**  
*"We Will Feast"*

Scripture Reading  
1 Corinthians 9:1-18  
Tom Keller

**Hymn #475, bulletin p. 6**  
*"Redeemed"*

Message  
Bob Dimmitt  
*Embracing Self-control*  
*1 Corinthians 9:24-27, 1 Corinthians #50*

**Hymn, below**  
*"Doxology"*  
*Old Hundred tune*

### **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

## Embracing Self-Control

1 Corinthians #50

1 Corinthians 9:24-27

This phrase: Exercises self control = means to control the strength of - The self-controlled individual exercises restraint over his own impulses, emotions, appetites and desires.

**WHAT IS SELF-CONTROL?** Self Control is ultimately a fruit of the Spirit; Self-control is the inward rule or regulation of every area of your life under the ultimate authority and control of God's Spirit in line with His Word.

**1. Self-control is primarily**

**2. Self-control operates**

**3. Self-control is not self-willed, but**

Effective self-control is not ultimately *self* controlling *self*.

**4. Self-control is not**

**5. Self-control is not**

**6. Self-control is not**

The aim of self-control is always to enable us to love God & to love others.

## I Know Whom I Have Believed

DANIEL W. WHITTLE, 1840-1901

JAMES McGRANAHAN, 1840-1907



1. I know not why God's wondrous grace To me He hath made known,
2. I know not how this sav-ing faith To me He did im - part,
3. I know not how the Spir-it moves, Con-vinc-ing men of sin,
4. I know not what of good or ill May be re-served for me,
5. I know not when my Lord may come- At night or noon-day fair,



Nor why, un-wor- thy, Christ in love Re-deemed me for His own.  
 Nor how be-liev-ing in His Word Wrought peace with-in my heart.  
 Re-veal-ing Je-sus thru the Word, Cre-at-ing faith in Him.  
 Of wea-ry ways or gold-en days Be-fore His face I see.  
 Nor if I'll walk the vale with Him Or meet Him in the air.



## CHORUS



But "I know whom I have be-liev-ed, And am per-suad-ed that He is



a - ble To keep that which I've com-mit-ted Un-to Him a-against that day."



# We Will Feast

by Sandra McCracken and Josh Moore



We will feast in the house of Zi - on. We will sing with our



hearts re - stored. "He has done great things," we will say to - geth - er.



We will feast, and weep no more.



1. We will not be burned \_\_\_\_\_ by the fire; He  
2. In the dark of night \_\_\_\_\_ be - fore the dawn, my  
3. Ev - 'ry vor we've bro - ken and be - trayed, You



is the Lord our God. We are not con - sumed \_\_\_\_\_ by the  
soul be not a - fraid; For the pro - mised morn - ing, Oh how  
are the faith - ful One; And \_\_\_\_\_ from the gar - den to the



flood up - held, pro - tect - ed, ga - thered up.  
long! O God of Ja - cob, be my strength!  
grave, bind us to - geth - er, bring sha - lom.

# Redeemed

475

FANNY J. CROSBY, 1820-1915

WILLIAM J. KIRKPATRICK, 1838-1921

1. Re - deemed - how I love to pro - claim it! Re - deemed by the  
2. Re - deemed and so hap - py in Je - sus, No lan - guage my  
3. I think of my bless - ed Re - deem - er, I think of Him  
4. I know I shall see in His beau - ty The King in whose

blood of the Lamb; Re - deemed thru His in - fin - ite mer - cy - His  
rap - ture can tell; I know that the light of His pres - ence With  
all the day long; I sing, for I can - not be si - lent, His  
law I de - light, Who lov - ing - ly guard - eth my foot - steps And

## CHORUS

child, and for - ev - er, I am. Re - deemed, — re -  
me doth con - tin - ual - ly dwell. re - deemed,  
love is the theme of my song. re - deemed,  
giv - eth me songs in the night.

deemed, — Re - deemed by the blood of the Lamb; Re -  
re - deemed,

deemed, — re - deemed, — His child, and for - ev - er, I am.  
re - deemed, re - deemed,

# Articles

## Virtual Worship and the Lord's Supper

In my readings I came across an interesting article written by a pastor (Jeff Johnson) in Arkansas. The article was written to address questions that have arisen due to governmental restrictions which affect churches, in particular surrounding the issue of partaking of the Lord's supper. Do we partake together virtually in our homes? Or small groups? Do we participate in a drive through manner as some churches have done? Here is a portion of that article:

**The local church is not a mystical gathering. Its fellowship is not merely spiritual. The local church gathers together in a physical location and has personal and face-to-face communion together.** A common meal eaten together by the church signifies not only the church's spiritual communion with Christ, it signifies its physical communion with one another. Here are 4 points to consider:

### **1. The Lord's Supper Is Meaningless Outside the Gathered Assembly**

Because the Lord's Supper is a physical sign that includes physical elements (bread and wine) that represents spiritual and physical realities, it matters how the ordinances are physically observed by the church. That is, the church is not free to change the meaning of the Lord's supper. The church is not free to say the bread and wine represents something else than the body and blood of Christ. The church is not free to do away with the bread and wine. And the church is not free to observe the Lord's Supper outside of their assembled gatherings.

### **2. The Lord's Supper Was Given to the Church to Carry Out in Their Gathered Assemblies**

**The Lord's Supper is not a personal or private ordinance. It doesn't signify a Christian's personal communion with God.** Communion ceases to have meaning when it's done in isolation. Christians partaking of the ordinance by themselves (or a family partaking of communion at home) is a gross misrepresentation of its meaning. **The Lord's Supper doesn't just symbolize Christ's death and anticipates His return, it symbolizes the church's communion together in Christ.** It was for this reason that Paul instructed the church of Corinth to wait until the whole assembly is gathered together before they observe the Lord's Supper (1 Cor. 11:20). Eating the Lord's Supper as a common meal together as a church body was Paul's instruction. Paul explains the importance of observing the Lord's Supper as a common meal: "*The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a participation in the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a participation in the body of Christ? Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread*" (1 Cor. 10:16-17). The importance of the Lord's Supper being a common meal is the symbolism behind it. Just as the bread represents Christ's body and the wine represents Christ's blood, the common meal (one bread and one cup) represents the oneness and mutual fellowship of the body of Christ. Individuals and families partaking of the Lord's Supper at home, therefore, are misrepresenting the meaning of the Lord's supper.

### 3. *Unassembled Partaking of the Lord's Supper Is Not Discerning the Lord's Body*

The Lord's Supper is holy. It is a serious thing to mishandle it. Many of the Corinthians had fallen ill and died because of their misuse of the Lord's Supper (1 Cor. 11:29-30). Why were their actions worthy of death? They simply observed the Lord's Supper without discerning the Lord's body? That is, they were partaking of the Lord's Supper in small groups while being unconcerned with the rest of the assembly. They were fragmenting the assembly by gathering into small clusters. They were eating and drinking while other church members were doing without (1 Cor. 11:18-22). They failed to see that the Lord's Supper was a common meal for everyone in the church. The Lord's Supper is designed to symbolize and facilitate communion among the saints. Yet, the Corinthians were misrepresenting its significance by eating private meals in fragmented groups. This was worthy of death because it turned the Lord's Supper into a lie.

If we want to eat a meal together as a family or to invite a few Christians over for dinner that's fine. But don't call such a dinner the Lord's Supper (1 Cor. 11:22). Paul says we have homes to enjoy dinner parties, but the Lord's Supper is reserved for "*when we come together as a church*" (1 Cor. 1:18). "*So then,*" as Paul says, "*my brothers, when you come together to eat, wait for one another—if anyone is hungry, let him eat at home—so that when you come together it will not be for judgment*" (1 Cor. 11:33-34). We are to wait *until* the whole church is assembled before partaking of the Lord's Supper. In other words, we are to discern the Lord's body. By discerning the Lord's body, we are to examine ourselves. **We are to not only make sure our hearts are right with God; we are to make sure our hearts are right with the saints.** If a husband can't pray without being right with his wife (1 Pet. 3:7), and if believers can't worship God without being in good standing his neighbor (Matt. 5:24), then individual church members cannot worship and properly partake of the Lord's Supper without being in good fellowship with the saints. And like the Corinthians, if we partake of the Lord's Supper without being in good standing with Christ and His church, we turn the truth of the ordinance into a falsehood. When the church partakes of the Lord's Supper as a unified body it demonstrates its collective unity in Christ Jesus.

In short, discerning the Lord's body means that we are not free to partake of the Lord's Supper outside of physical fellowship and communion of our local church. The church breaking into smaller groups and partaking of the Lord's supper, or families taking the Lord's Supper at home, is a misrepresentation of the meaning of the Lord's supper.

### 4. *Without the Gathered Assembly, the Lord's Supper Becomes a Meaningless Sign*

Again, the ordinances/sacraments represent both spiritual and physical realities. The Lord's supper, for instance, doesn't just signify the physical feast that God's people will one day enjoy together with Christ in heaven, it also signifies (and facilitates) the present communion that church members already enjoy with one another in Christ Jesus. If this is a vital part of the significance, purpose, and efficacy of the Lord's supper, then the church is not free to alter its meaning and purpose by observing it outside of its gathered assemblies. Lies, for instance, are never (directly) used by the Spirit to bestow faith and grace. Lies and error are the instruments of Satan. If the Lord's Supper is going to function as a means of grace, its symbolism

must be demonstrated by the manner it is carried out. The truths that the Lord's Supper is designed to display must be communicated in both the elements and mode of its administration. What does the body represent? What does the wine represent? What does the one bread and one cup represent? It is only when we know the answers to these questions will the Lord's Supper be an effectual means of grace. If we add additional elements to the Lord's Supper other than bread and wine, then we are adding to the Word of God. If we alter how we observed the Lord's supper, we are altering its meaning. Consequently, if we alter its meaning, we are undermining its efficacy. For example, as a Baptist, I don't see how sprinkling infants properly signifies a believer's death and resurrection in Christ Jesus (Rom. 6:3-4). How does sprinkling communicate being buried (immersed) into Christ? Likewise, I don't see how the Lord's Supper can properly signify the church's spiritual and physical communion together if it is observed outside of the assembly of the saints. In short, once we alter the elements or mode of the Lord's supper, we are altering its meaning and efficacy.

The Lord's Supper is not designed to be a virtual meal that assimilates actual communion and fellowship with the body of Christ. **Fellowship and communion with the saints requires the local church assembling together.** Anything less than a common meal partaken together in the spiritual presence of Christ and the physical presence of the saints is not the real thing. Being away from our gathered assemblies and away from Lord's Supper should be difficult. During this time, we should grow in our appreciation of our gathered worship services and long to observe the Lord's Supper with the assembled church. Let's not seek to minimize our exile from one another by creating a cheap and meaningless and ineffectual substitute. ❖



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## Planning the Summer?

### Tentative dates to know:

Children's Music Camp

Wednesdays, May 20—August 5

Vacation Bible School: Mystery Island

June 22—26

D3 Camp

June 28—July 3

Children's Camp

July 20—23

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# Missionary of the Week

## Mario & Elizabeta Kushner Croatia

Mario and Elizabeta have reestablished a church in a small Croatian town. Mario was a student at the TBA, where Kris Brackett is a teacher. We emailed Mario this week for an update, and here is his response.



Hello, dear saints at FABC!

We are very grateful that you think of us and keep us in your prayers. Your support means a lot to us.

As you might have guessed, we are in lockdown. It has been probably a month now. The Coronavirus situation is not too bad in Croatia. Our county has only 2 people with CoViD-19. That is the smallest number of all the counties in Croatia (which in total has a little over 1700 infected people, with almost 500 who already recovered, and 34 that died).

All public meetings are forbidden, which means that all of us in the church communicate only via WhatsApp messages and phone calls. I have continued doing 1-on-1 Bible study with one of the men, but we take the necessary precautions as much as possible, so we believe there is very little risk. Most of the members of our church are relatively young and healthy, with the exception of Zoran (who has had several cancers), Slava (an elderly lady), and Davor (who is also elderly, but also has diabetes).

Even in the midst of this situation, we still have some good opportunities to witness to our unsaved friends, neighbors, and townspeople. I have created a new Facebook page on which I post my video sermons from before. After running an ad for only \$7, the page got over 250 followers in five days. Also, since people are spending more time at home, we are having more good talks about God, the Bible, and faith with our next door neighbors (Franjo [Fran-yo] and his wife Ankica [Anne-kee-tca]).

Churches here in Croatia are starting to use Zoom (a video conferencing app) for various teaching opportunities. Together with two other pastors, I will soon begin teaching a series of Zoom seminars (which we are calling Zoominars), on Tuesdays and Thursdays. This next Tuesday, I will start teaching an overview of the General epistles, and after that probably an expository series on Romans. We expect that believers from all over former Yugoslavia will join us.

Elizabeta works from home, so not much has changed there. She is in her 23rd week of pregnancy. Both her and our baby daughter are doing well. The last ultrasound, which was a week ago, showed that our little Tena is developing like she is supposed to. I started having migraines from time to time. They used to bother me more a few years ago, and had subsided for a while, but they have lately started again.

## This Week at FABC

### Today

Morning Worship: Live stream only on  
YouTube and Facebook 10:30 a.m.

### Monday - Friday

Feeding on the Word: Daily 15-minute  
lunchtime devotionals 12:00 p.m.

### Wednesday

Prayer & Bible Study: Live stream only on  
YouTube and Facebook 7:00 p.m.



*Here are some of our prayer needs:*

- that Elizabeta and Tena would continue to be healthy
- that the birth would go without complications
- that I would not have migraines and frequent headaches
- that Franjo and Ankica would understand the Gospel and be saved
- that God would protect our church from the Coronavirus, esp. Slava, Davor, and Zoran
- that we would get even more opportunities to share the Gospel
- that we would soon be able to hold church services
- that our Zoominars would be helpful to believers all across Croatia and even in the surrounding countries
- that this situation would strengthen and purify churches in Croatia, and that it would be a good thing for the spread of the Gospel, so that many would be saved

## Bible Reading Schedule

April 2020

Philippians

1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30

### Memorize:

<sup>4</sup> Rejoice in the Lord always;  
again I will say, rejoice.

Let your reasonableness be  
known to everyone.

The Lord is at hand;

<sup>6</sup> do not be anxious about  
anything,

but in everything by prayer and  
supplication with thanksgiving  
let your requests be made  
known to God.

<sup>7</sup> And the peace of God,

which surpasses all  
understanding,

will guard your hearts and your  
minds in Christ Jesus.

*Philippians 4:4-7, ESV*

## Extra Notes:

Church Phone:

355-0949

Church Email:

office@fabchurch.com

Church Website:

www.fabchurch.com

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



Video and audio recordings of the messages are available for listening or downloading from

**[www.fabchurch.com/sermons](http://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.