

May Scroll

Pastor's Corner





"Look at the birds of the air, that they do not sow, nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not worth much more than they?"
(Matt. 6:26 NASB)

Dear Smyrna Family,


I sure do appreciate the beauty of freshly cut green lawns and fields that have been bush-hogged. I love the pretty flowers that are popping up everywhere and the freshly plowed gardens and fields in anticipation of planting our summer fruits and vegetables. Oh yes, there are some challenges to "country" living but I sure do enjoy our community. You know, the longer I live the more I realize that God teaches us so much about life from creation. Let me just share a few simple truths that I have been reminded of over the past few weeks as I pull grass and weeds from my flowers and shrubs and as I cut grass and plant a variety of things on my property.

I can't say that I always like sweating in the hot sun while running a weed eater in the war with trimming. But, I sure do love the way our place looks after the grass has been cut and freshly manicured. By the way, doesn't John Tucker do a fabulous job on our grass at the church?

 **Lesson One** - It takes time, energy, and resources but the effort is worth the reward. It is also true that "prettifying up" your life takes diligence and hard work too. Oh, the joy of the fruit of the Spirit being produced in your life when you've put in the time, energy, and hard work of cleaning up your life. To be able to sit back, on the front porch, and feel the pleasure of God after walking in a manner worthy of His calling. Others get to "ride by" and see the beauty of your life too - a life dedicated to serving the Lord and others. It sure is pretty. I remember when Mr. Roland Powell used to say, "I can tell when you've been with Jesus."

 **Lesson Two** - Although things look so pretty for a few days after I cut the grass and work the soil, it doesn't take long before you can't tell I invested all of that time and energy. As a matter of fact, I have to keep doing it over and over or it gets out of control and begins to look awful. If I let the weeds get too far ahead of me in my flowers and gardens, I eventually lose heart and just

give up. The same thing is true in our spiritual journey. If I invest in my walk with the Lord, I can look a lot like Jesus for a little while. When I drink from His Fountain of living water I get so refreshed, energized, and dedicated for a while. You know what I find though, I must have holes in me because it keeps running out. I can dry up pretty quickly. If I neglect the field of my heart and soul, it doesn't take long before you can tell that I haven't been with Jesus. You can tell that my attitude, speech, patience, and resemblance to Christ have waned. The weeds can take over in my heart and I will soon lose heart and feel like giving up. You have to constantly work at it beloved or the flesh will get the upper hand. (Eph. 5:16)

 **Lesson Three** - There are seasons in life. Right now we are entering the season in which winter has ended and everything is coming back to life. The earth is waking up from hibernation in our little part of the universe and it is time to manage it all once again. This is the season of hustle and bustle. This is a time of hard work and fast paced activity - just to keep up. This is a wonderful season but it can be a dangerous season because we can get worn out and fall behind. Beloved, thank God for the wonders of this season but don't let them overtake you or control you. Just like in your lawn and garden - stay on top of your spiritual life too. I find it helps to work my garden and flowers (reading, praying) early in the morning before the sun gets too hot and the demands on my life kick in. It also makes me feel much better about my day when I start the day right. Don't let things pile up on you. Work at it a little each day and you will find that things in your life stay beautiful all summer long. Live this summer so we know you have been with Jesus.

Devotedly,
Pastor Robert



Volume 14, Issue 5

May 2018

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Special Points of Interest:

- ▶ WOG Ladies Tea, Saturday, May 5th @ 12 Noon
- ▶ Mission-Themed Music Presentation, Sunday, May 6th @ 10:45 am
- ▶ Deacons Meeting, Mon. May 7th @ 7:00 pm
- ▶ Beautiful Older People (BOP) luncheon is Wednesday, May 9th @ 11:00 am
- ▶ Baptist Men will meet Saturday, May 19th at 8:00 am for breakfast & fellowship.
- ▶ Monday, May 28th, the Church Office will be Closed for Memorial Day

The Scripture speaks often of the reality that this world we live in is a battleground. It doesn't take a person with great levels of intuition to recognize this truth. Whether we like to admit it or not, we are at war. As believers, we are war with the demonic and we are at war with our own sin. These opponents are both powerful and seductive, they are crafty and persistent. In fact, the Scripture is clear that we will continue to fight evil until either we pass away or Christ returns.

While we long for the day of Christ's return, we are given explicit instructions as to how to wage this war until He arrives. Our temptation is to give into the world and all of its temptations but our command is to not be conformed to this world, instead we are to be transformed by the "renewing of our minds." In short, the Bible commands us to think on and apply good, righteous truths to our lives in faith that God will utilize them to support us and even transform us in the battle.

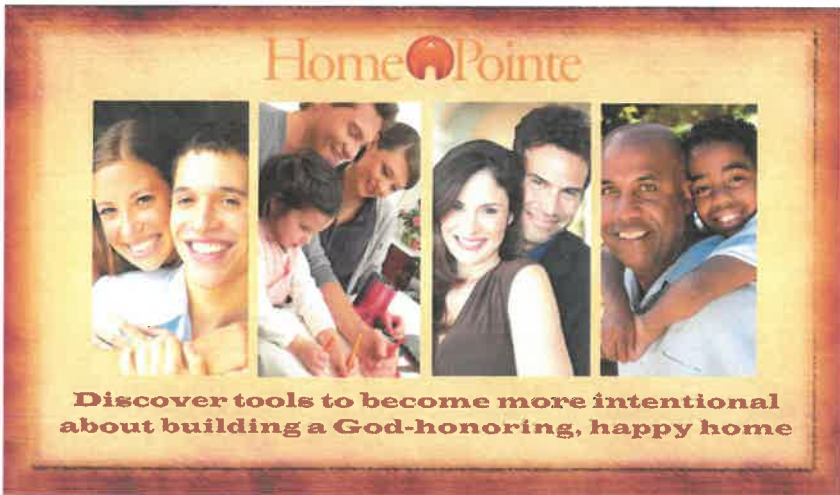
What we think matters! This reality should categorically inform the way we view discipleship, particularly the task of raising up our own children and grandchildren to love the Lord. If our thoughts are so intimately connected to our spiritual transformation, then we must do our very best to instill Godly, biblical truths into the hearts and souls of our little ones. To be sure, the Spirit of God must do the work of giving growth, but you and I as parents, grandparents and even fellow believers in the body of Christ must be faithful to plant and water seeds of truth!

This is the reason why our staff is unveiling a new resource called "Homeointe" in the month of May. Homeointe is a ministry that is dedicated to providing families biblical resources for the purpose of instruction and assistance as we seek to disciple those who have been entrusted to us by God. The Homeointe ministry center is equipped with numerous pamphlets, DVD's and other resources designed to assist you in thinking biblically and implementing a discipleship process in your home.

The center will be opened for the first time on May 13th (Mother's Day) and we would love for you to check it out! It is located just off the main foyer in what used to be called the "missions room", All of the resources in this center are totally free to you! Come check it out on May 13th!

**Devotedly,
Pastor Aaron**

Associate Pastor of Family Discipleship & Education
Email: assocpastor@smyrna1897.org



Greetings Smyrna Family,

As I sit here at my desk, with the window open, enjoying the slight breeze and the chirping of the birds, I can't make up my mind on what to write about. It's tempting to write about what I've been reading lately, but unfortunately, this scroll entry is probably too short a space to relay what I'm learning from James K.A. Smith's *Desiring the Kingdom* or Sinclair Ferguson's *The Whole Christ* or Timothy Witmer's *The Shepherd Leader*. Although, I would love to talk to you about those books if you're interested! I'd also love to talk to you about the importance of membership in the life of a local church or, likewise, about the significance and role of baptism and the Lord's Supper in the life of the local church. And, of course, I'm always down to talk about missions!

At this point, I know what I've decided on. So, let me give you a personal exhortation and then I will highlight what's coming up in the world of missions and administration.

You've probably heard the saying, "give a man a fish and you feed him for a day; teach a man to fish and you feed him for a lifetime." Let me tell you how we, the pastors, fish. Ready? 1... 2... 3...**we read!** Yep, that's the secret. See, I could tell you all about what I'm learning through books, or what the other pastors are learning, or what the rest of the staff is learning (part-timers included!), but wouldn't it be better if I simply encouraged you to start reading yourself? Friends, if you asked me (or anyone else on the Smyrna staff) how to be a "better" Christian, we would tell you to read your bible, pray, get involved in church and...read! You can learn so, so, so, so much through reading. And I get it, not everyone is a reader, but let me tell you that most of us on staff aren't natural readers either! We've just learned it as a discipline for our benefit and we've come to love it through the years.

So let me encourage you to become a reader. Make use of the Smyrna Library located towards the end of the East hallway (the West hallway is the kids area). Mrs. Sherrill Mellick has stocked it full of phenomenal books from guys like Matt Chandler, David Platt, John Piper, John MacArthur, Paul David Tripp, J.I. Packer, Charles Spurgeon, and a host of others. If you become a reader, I *promise* you that you won't regret it.

Well, I'd love to talk about that more and more, but let me give you some missions and administrative news: May 6th will be Missions Emphasis Sunday. Tim Robinson and his family will be with us again and you will have an opportunity after the service to eat with and get to know them even more. We are so excited for more and more people to get to now Tim and his family, so that we can be untied as a church in our efforts to help them spread the gospel in Massachusetts! If you'd like to know more what a partnership with Tim would be like, please pick up a packet in the foyer at the "Tim Table". In regards to administration, we are in the process of FINALLY bringing Comcast to us, which would allow us to do many things that we cannot currently do because of our slow internet speeds. Please pray that everything works out and that we have blazing fast internet here soon! If you have any questions regarding missions or administration (another word for anything and everything) don't hesitate to ask!

For the King,

Pastor Joe

Associate Pastor of Administration and Missions

Email: assocpastor2@smyrna1897.org



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Monthly Missions Prayer Guide - May 2018

Gary Kittredge and Family (Liberia, West Africa)

- a. Pray for Gary and Michelle as they prepare to send off their daughter, Ashley, to school in Budapest, Hungary.
- b. Pray for strength and perseverance for the entire Kittredge family. Ministry is hard enough, but the challenges of ministry in a foreign country, away from family, etc. are on a whole different level at times.

Drew Cheatham and Family (Portland, Oregon)

- a. Pray for Drew and Eunice to have wisdom with what to do next. They still want to move to Portland to minister there, but now that they are pregnant, their plans will have to change.
- b. Pray that God will provide a way to go and that He would give them patience and wisdom in the meantime.

Tim Robinson and Family (Fitchburg, Massachusetts)

- a. Pray for God to give the staff and congregation direction regarding the possible partnership with Tim.

Dinwiddie County

- a. As you have already read about in Pastor Joe's entry last month, pray for our School Supply initiative. Pray that we would be willing to raise supplies and that the ministry would open doors to share the gospel.
- b. Pray that our members at Smyrna would start to see themselves as missionaries right here in Dinwiddie County.



A MESSAGE FROM... JOSH ROWLAND, NEXT GENERATION PASTOR

Smyrna Family,

Last month I wrote some about church membership. This month, I want to continue with that theme of "the church" and discuss the concepts of Believer's Baptism and the Lord's Supper. These two ordinances (the only two in our view) help to define the "what" and "who" of the local church. We will discuss the theological applications and implications at another time. Today we want to go over some of the practical realities that we proclaim in the ordinances.



First, let's discuss Believer's Baptism. Again, Believer's Baptism is *more* than what I am about to say, but it is at least this. We are merely focusing on the practical nature of it. When a person is baptized, they do so under *the authority of the local church*. Matthew 18 gives the CHURCH the right to "bind and loose", not the Pope, not the Presbytery, not the Bishop. This is why as Baptists we cherish local church autonomy - it is the Biblical model. So, then, there are two sides to this proclamation. On one side, you have the individual: he or she is proclaiming that they are going public with their belief. They are willingly submitting now to the accountability of the local church body. On the other side, the church has affirmed and is proclaiming that they believe this individual is a believer. There are responsibilities that come along with both sides. Overall, we can summarize it this way: baptism binds the *one* to *many*.

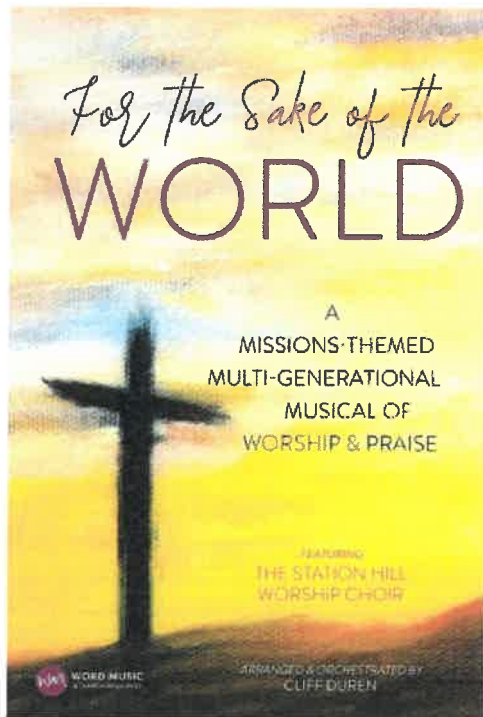
Now, how does the Lord's Supper play into this? Again, in a practical sense, it functions like Baptism. There are differing theological implications, but there is a practical side that is in much the same vein. When we take the Lord's Supper, there is a vertical element - we remember the sacrifice of Christ and look forward to His return. But there is also a horizontal element. When we take the bread and wine (or juice), Paul tells us this: "Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for all of us to share that one bread" (1 Cor. 10:17) We are essentially *reaffirming* what we proclaimed in the one-time event of baptism. We are affirming that we are a single body, committed to one another in the work of ministry. So, to summarize, the Lord's Supper binds the *many* into *one*.

I hope these reflections prove helpful! For a more thorough treatment, read Bobby Jamieson's books: *Going Public: Why Baptism is Required for Church Membership* or *Understanding the Lord's Supper*.

In Christ,

Joshua Rowland, Next Generation Pastor

Email: youthpastor@smyrna1897.org



Sunday, May 6th

10:45 am

Worship Service

*Featuring the
Children's Choir,
Worship Choir,
Worship Teams & Soloists*

"Sing to the Lord, all the earth! Tell of His salvation from day to day. Declare His glory among the nations, His marvelous works among all the peoples! For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised..." (1 Chronicles 16:23-25a)

The hymns that we will be singing in the May worship are familiar, "How Great Thou Art" and a hymn written in the 8th century, "Be Thou My Vision". An unknown poet wrote a prayer asking God to be his Vision, his Wisdom, and His Best Thought by day or night. In 1905 an Irish scholar, Mary Elizabeth Byrne, translated this ancient poem into English. Another scholar, Eleanor Hull, took Byrne's translation and crafted it into verses with rhyme and meter. A short time later it was set to a traditional Irish folk song. It is one of our oldest hymns.

We have been introducing songs from Sovereign Grace Music such as "Beloved Our God", "All I Have Is Christ" and more recently, "O Lord, Rock and My Redeemer". Sovereign Grace has a new album release, "Prayers of the Saints". I encourage you to get this album on iTunes or from their website, sovereigngracemusic.org, add it to your playlist. It will encourage your walk with the Lord.

Singing His Praises,
Melodie & Brad



Sovereign Grace Music

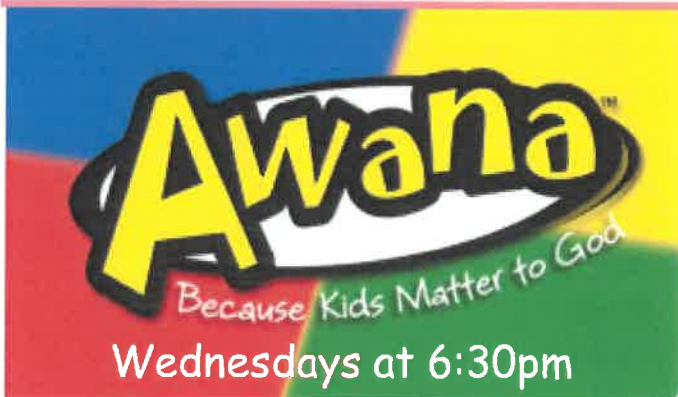
Kidz News



If you are unable to volunteer on your specified date/time, please find your own replacement and notify the Children's Dept. Coordinator with your replacements name - **THANK YOU** for serving the children of Smyrna Baptist Church!



MAY 2018	10:30 am - 12:15 pm					CHECK-IN (9:15 - 10:30)	CHECK-IN (10:30 - 12:15)
	SS NURSERY (9:20 - 10:40)	NURSERY (10:30)	TODDLER 1's & 2's	TODDLERS 3's & 4's	CHILDREN'S CHURCH		
May 6th	Annette Perkinson	Stephanie Rowland	Tia Wilson	Michelle Ochtyun	Roselyn Stell	Kim Davis	Kalley Saye
	Ashley Perkinson	Melissa Snellings	McKenzie Wilson	John Ochtyun	Gracie Saye		
May 13th	Kathy Miles	Jann Etheredge	Betsy Adam	Diane Burton	Danna Gammon	Kalley Saye	Kalley Saye
	Mason Wells	Diana Neville	R Saye	Angel Davis	Bryant Gammon		
May 20th	Jordan Smith	Chena Crocker	Renee Silvestro	Shay Tench	Johanna Rowland	Ashley Perkinson	Angela Walker
	Holly McCaffity	Catherine Crocker	Laura Rowland	Robert Tench	Jaeda Rich		
May 27th	Ashley Bobo	Gina Perkinson	Brandy Barchanowicz	Rhonda Kester	Cheryl Joyner	Aimee Kennedy	Pam Reynolds
	Heather Gordon	Kristin Rowland	Janelle McCoig	Rebekah Servis	Sierra Servis		



- ☼ May 2nd - Regular club meeting
- ☼ May 9th - Regular club meeting
- ☼ May 16th - "Moving On Up"
- ☼ May 23rd - Regular club Meeting
- ☼ May 30th - Regular club meeting

KIDZ CHOIR
Wednesdays at 6:00pm
Ages 3 to 12
 3 yrs. to Pre-K Room 114
 K to 6th Grade Room 125



Smyrna Baptist Church

Calendar of Events - MAY 2018



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
BOP Wednesday, 5/9 @ 11am		1 9:30am—Noon Busy Fingers Ministry/Room 121 American Heritage Girls Troop VA1897 6-8 pm	2 5:30pm Wed. Night Dinner 6:00pm Kidz Choir Practice 6:30pm AWANA/ Youth Mid-Week Worship Worship Ministry Practice	3	4	5 12 - 2:00 pm - WOG Ladies Tea 6:00 - 7:30 pm - Missions Fundraiser Dinner
6 9:30 am Sunday School 10:45am 'For the Sake of the World' Music Presentation 6:00 pm Re Engage	7 Deacon's Meeting 7pm	8 9:30am—Noon Busy Fingers Ministry/Room 121	9 BOP 5:30pm Wed. Night Dinner 6:00pm Kidz Choir Practice 6:30pm AWANA/ Youth Mid-Week Worship Worship Ministry Practice	10	11	12
13 9:30 am Sunday School 10:45am Worship Service 6:00 pm Re Engage MOTHER'S DAY	14	15 9:30am—Noon Busy Fingers Ministry/Room 121 American Heritage Girls Troop VA1897 6-8 pm	16 5:30pm Wed. Night Dinner 6:00pm Kidz Choir Practice 6:30pm AWANA/ Youth Mid-Week Worship Worship Ministry Practice	17	18	19 B MEN Breakfast & Workday 8am
20 9:30 am Sunday School 10:45am Worship Service Noon - 2:00 pm - First Touch Luncheon 6:00 pm Re Engage	21	22 9:30am—Noon Busy Fingers Ministry/Room 121 AHG Banquet Practice 6:30-7:30 pm	23 5:30pm Wed. Night Dinner 6:00pm Kidz Choir Practice 6:30pm AWANA/ Youth Mid-Week Worship Worship Ministry Practice	24	25	26
27 9:30 am Sunday School 10:45am Worship Service 6:00 pm Re Engage	28 MEMORIAL DAY Church Office Closed	29 9:30am—Noon Busy Fingers Ministry/Room 121 AHG Court of Awards Ceremony	30	31	Ladies Bible Study Every Wed. @ 10 am	

May Birthdays

- | | | |
|------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 Jason Crowder | Aaron Graham | 25 Erin Shifflett Clark |
| Audrey Erdmann | 16 Allen (AG) Jones | Ashley Jones |
| 3 Ronald Snellings | 17 Sharon Connelly | Alison Page |
| 4 Billy Lewis | Caden Sweat | Lee Phillingane |
| Josh Snead | 18 Jane Byrd | 25 Marian Rowland |
| 6 Cothran Rainey | 19 LeAnn Adkins | 26 Donna Allen |
| 8 Richard (RW) Jenkins | 20 Dennis Felter | 27 Ashley C. Jones |
| Linda Slayden | 21 Jewell Barnhouse | Michelle Ochtyun |
| 9 David Gammon | 21 Pastor Aaron Bobo | 28 Joe Bryant |
| 10 Mary Dean Bell | Amanda Davis | Peggy Turner |
| Michael Conrad | David Hale | 29 Tami Gibbs |
| 12 Blake Montgomery | Diana Neville | Terrie Grissom |
| 13 Joshua Aultman | 22 Melissa Taylor | Deni Harris |
| Harry Saye | 23 Roger Arnett | Lynn Rhodes |
| Stephanie Varga | Susan Eubank | 31 John Mellick |
| 15 Jean Bishop | 24 Carolyn Bain | |





SMYRNA BAPTIST CHURCH

building community • equipping believers • serving jesus

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If you are able to sponsor a child for Centri-Kid Camp from June 25th - June 29th please contact Kally Saye at 804-712-0056

Mission Statement

Smyrna Baptist Church exists for the purpose of building up a community of fully equipped believers who give glory to God with every aspect of their lives.

JUNE

- ☀ 4th, Mon - Deacon's Meeting @ 7:00 pm
- ☀ 7th - 16th - Mission Trip to Liberia
- ☀ 13th, Wed - BOP Luncheon
- ☀ 14th, Thu - Last Day of School
- ☀ 16th, Sat - BMen Fellowship
- ☀ 17th, Sun - FATHER'S DAY
- ☀ 18th - 22nd - YOUTH Student life Camp in Myrtle Beach, SC
- ☀ 25th - 29th - Centri-Kid Camp @ Eagle Eyrie in Lynchburg, VA

JULY 16th - 20th

GEAR UP! GET READY! GAME ON!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

WE WILL NEED VOLUNTEERS FOR VBSII

PLEASE CONTACT KALLY SAYE OR ASHLEY BOBO

IF YOU ARE ABLE TO HELP