



Systematically Spontaneous

A few months back, while attending a memorial service, I heard a eulogy that has really stuck with me. The man who had passed away was being described by a loving family member as a person who had lived life always striving to be systematically spontaneous. That phrase was so unique that I haven't forgotten it, and ever since then I've been trying to learn for myself what living that way might look like.

Consider that phrase again for a moment: systematically spontaneous. Those words don't naturally go together. To be spontaneous is to live in the moment, being willing to change direction on a whim. To be systematic about something means to have a well thought out and organized plan. How can you have an organized plan to be spontaneous?

Before we try to answer that question for ourselves, let's look at a passage from Scripture that provides a good example. At the conclusion of the Apostle Paul's first letter to the church at Corinth, he writes:

I will visit you after passing through Macedonia, for I intend to pass through Macedonia, and perhaps I will stay with you or even spend the winter, so that you may help me on my journey, wherever I go. For I do not want to see you now just in passing. I hope to spend some time with you, if the Lord permits. But I will stay in Ephesus until Pentecost, for a wide door for effective work has opened to me, and there are many adversaries. (1 Corinthians 16:5-9, ESV)

This may seem like some obscure verse about Paul's travel plans, but there's much more going on here than meets the eye. Notice the phrases "I intend," "perhaps I will stay," "wherever I go," "I hope to," and "if the Lord permits." It may not seem like it, but this brief glance into Paul's journeys, provides an excellent example of what it means to be systematically spontaneous.

To understand what I mean, let's first state a couple of things about how Paul approached life. First, Paul knew God's plan for his life. Paul clearly realized that his salvation also came with a calling to preach the Gospel and plant churches. Second, Paul aimed to make his plans line up with God's plans. He took God's "big picture" and systematically planned out the steps he must take to stay on track with God. Just in these few verses you can see that Paul put a lot of thought and planning into where he was heading next.

But here's the coolest part - **Paul planned to have his plans changed!** He may have mapped out the road ahead, but he knew that God would have twists and turns for his route, different than what he could see at that moment. Not only did he know this, he was planning for things to change. In other words, he was being systematically spontaneous!

My point is this: Are you so focused on your plans, even if they are good plans, that you can't be spontaneous and change direction when God provides an unexpected opportunity? To be honest, I often fall victim to this very problem. When I put a plan in place, I don't want it to change. However, God's plan for me contains things that I know nothing of today and am unable to predict or anticipate. Since this is true, I must be willing to change direction, at a moment's notice, when God taps me on the shoulder and says, "Come, follow me."

Today, make a plan to have your plans changed by God. Today, be willing to be systematically spontaneous.

Blessings!
Pastor Greg

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Regular Schedule:	
Sunday	Wednesday
8:00 A.M. Worship	7:30-9:30 A.M. Walking Track
9:15 A.M. Bible Study	6:00-6:45 P.M. Session 1
10:30 A.M. Worship	Ignite; Children's Choirs, Small Group Study
Lighthouse Harbor Torchbearers	6:45-7:30 P.M. Session 2
5:00 P.M. Orchestra Rehearsal	Ignite; Adult Choir; Missions; Prayer Meeting
6:00 P.M. Worship	
Activities for February 21 through March 6	
Thursday	February 21
7:30-9:30 A.M. Walking Track	
10:00 A.M. Life PLUS Bible Study	
6:30 P.M. GLOW Ministry Craft Meeting	
	Revelation Study
7:00-9:00 P.M. Church/Community Recreation (gym)	
Friday	February 22
7:30-9:30 A.M. Walking Track	
Saturday	February 23
10:00 A.M.-2:00 P.M. Teen Parent Day	
Sunday	February 24
Regular A.M. Schedule	
4:00 P.M. Griefshare	
5:00 P.M. Trustees	
Monday	February 25
7:30-9:30 A.M. Walking Track	
1:30 P.M. CARE "E" Team	
7:00 P.M. FUEL Bible Study (boys meet in student center; girls at 362 Moss Ln)	
Tuesday	February 26
7:30-9:30 A.M. Walking Track	
11:00 A.M. Revelation Study	
7:00 P.M. Bible Study Fellowship	

Wednesday	February 27
Regular Schedule	
Thursday	February 28
7:30-9:30 A.M. Walking Track	
9:00 A.M. Seed Sew-ers	
10:00 A.M. Life PLUS Bible Study	
6:30 P.M. Revelation Study	
7:00-9:00 P.M. Church/Community Recreation (gym)	
Friday	March 1
7:30-9:30 A.M. Walking Track	
7:00-9:00 P.M. Youth Escape Night	
Saturday	March 2
Sunday	March 3
Regular Schedule	
NO Torchbearers/Lighthouse	
5:00 P.M. Finance Committee Meeting	
7:00 P.M. Deacons Meeting	
Monday	March 4
7:30-9:30 A.M. Walking Track	
1:30 P.M. CARE "C" Team	
7:00 P.M. FUEL Bible Study (boys meet in student center; girls at 362 Moss Ln)	
Tuesday	March 5
7:30-9:30 A.M. Walking Track	
9:00 A.M. Quilters Guild Meeting	
11:00 A.M. Revelation Study	
5:30 P.M. Recreation Team Meeting	
7:00 P.M. Bible Study Fellowship	
Wednesday	March 6
Regular Schedule	
5:00 P.M. Wednesday Night Meal	

Youth Mission Trip Service Projects

Do you have any projects that you need help with at your house? Spring cleaning, yard work, painting, etc? Our students would love to come and help you! In return, our students are accepting donations towards their mission trip this July in eastern Tennessee. Please contact Jason if you would like to have our students come and help you. If possible, please give us two weeks' notice to get the job done.

Mystery Dinner Theatre

We are taking a group to the Arcadia Academy on March 16 for a Sherlock Holmes themed Mystery Dinner Theatre. The cost is \$35 per person. Save the date! More information to come soon.

Parent/Teen Day

All parents are invited to bring their teens to church for a day of fun and relationship building between the generations this Saturday, February 23! During the day, we will create an opportunity to hear current perspectives from teens and parents and compete in exciting activities together. We will begin at 10:00 A.M. and end at 2:00 P.M. Lunch is provided.

Escape Night

Students, join us on Friday, May 1 from 7:00-10:00 P.M. for our version of an escape room with a night in which you will need to escape from multiple rooms throughout the church! More surprises will be revealed that night! Bring some friends.

Youth Mission Trip

Our group will serve in Cleveland, Tennessee this summer. We leave on Sunday, June 30 and return on Saturday, July 6. Save the date! Information packets are coming out soon!

Greeter Training Rescheduled

Our greeter training session has been rescheduled for Sunday, February 24 at 4:30 P.M. in the conference center.

Greeters assist guests in locating places such as the nursery, Sunday school classrooms, restrooms or the welcome center.

Greeters and ushers are both very important ministries in that you are the first point of contact for guests. Please come to this brief session and learn more.

Wednesday Small Group(s)

Our Wednesday small groups for adults are off to a good start with two different times and options available.

A small group study runs from 6:00-6:45 P.M. followed by a prayer group that ends at 7:30 P.M. You are welcome to stay for both groups but is not a requirement.

We want to start additional small groups and need your input for future studies. You can email Gordon at gordon@farmingtonfbc.org (please note new email addresses) or contact the church office at 573-756-4654 to share any suggestions or to volunteer to lead a small group.

Growing Pains

Please continue to bear with us as we update the churches web-site and other social media.

One change includes email addresses for the staff. The new emails are listed below. The current email addresses will expire in three months so updating your records now will keep things flowing smoothly.

Pastor Greg: greg@farmingtonfbc.org
 Jason: jason@farmingtonfbc.org
 Gordon: gordon@farmingtonfbc.org
 Karen: karen@farmingtonfbc.org
 Gay: gay@farmingtonfbc.org
 Church: fbc@farmingtonfbc.org

MBU Senior Adult Day

March 22 is Senior Adult Day at MBU. The bus will leave at 7:45 A.M. and travel to MBU where we will see *Anything Goes*, a hilarious shipboard romp wrapped around one of Cole Porter's most magical scores.

Cost is \$25, which includes show, meal and bus. Please sign up by March 3.



Pinterest Night

Thursday, March 7, 6:30 P.M.

Meet us in the conference center ready to choose from a couple of different fun craft ideas that Amy has prepared. Even if you are not 'crafty' come for a fun evening of fellowship.

SEMO Family Council Mission Project

During the month of March the GLOW women's ministry mission project will include items needed at the SEMO Family Violence Council.

In addition to collecting items a date will be set aside to 'clean out' their storage facility – please watch further publication(s) on how you can help.

Around the church are boxes to help collect items needed at the facility and also items the family themselves may need. General needs include: Trash bags, 13 or 30 gallon; conditioner, diapers size 4,5,6; razors, bath towels, bleach, laundry pods, disinfectant wipes, toilet paper; paper towels; bras (new); women's socks.

The agency accepts donations of all kinds including clothing, personal care items, food, cleaning supplies, household items and furniture. Monetary donations are also welcome. Contact one of the ladies on the GLOW team or call the church office if interested in donating these bigger items.

Thank You

Thank you for making Friday such a special day for us at the Baptist Home. Some of us, having attended the program, have been singing, "Don't Sit Under the Apple Tree" and other favorites. The cookies were delicious. It was so thoughtful of you to offer sugar-free and gluten free as well. Best wishes to each of you for. May God bless you.

In His love, Ruth Ann Short

I sincerely thank each of you for your prayers and concern for Gary. I am grateful to those who took me to Barnes and Mo. Baptist hospitals to see him. He is now in Anderson Hospital in Maryville, IL for speech and physical therapy. He is making progress but still has a long way to go. Your continued prayers are appreciated.

Doris Adolph

Thank you for the cards, words of encouragement, visits to the funeral home, food and hugs given to us after the death of our Mother, Grandmother, and Great-grandmother, Loraine Grix. Your friendship and love warmed and comforted our hearts and meant so much. Thank you.

Gary Grix and Family

Prayer List:

Charles Lee Wright (uncle to Jessie Stephens and Sue Kelly), Margaret Norton, Ollie Faircloth, Martin Bray

Christian Sympathy:

To Larry Reeder and family in the death of his sister, Jo Annette "Joey" Govreau.

To Elsie Stroud and family in the death of her husband, D.R. Stroud.

Financial Statistics for:

February 10, 2019

Budget Requirements (wkly)	\$ 18,591.00
Budget Receipts (2-10-19)	8,209.00
Requirement (wk 19)	353,229.00
Receipts (wk 19)	340,136.36
STB-BTS (from Oct)	23,594.00