



Lake of the Ozarks Baptist Association

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The Voice

MAY 2020

Well, it's been so long since we have been able to get together it seems like a month of Sundays . . . Oh wait, it has been a month of Sundays! Actually, it has been a bit over a month.

There has been a lot of discussion about whether all this quarantine stuff is constitutional or not. While advising people on how to stay safe and use caution would likely have been very well received, the heavy handedness and restrictions being enforced upon the people is what has angered many. I must say, I would likely have been a lot more cooperative myself if the government had suggested, and advised, but left it up to me to decide, rather than telling me had to do something, or that I cannot do something.

And already, some who are reading this are thinking of Romans 13 and other passages that tell us to obey our civil authorities for they are ordained of God. That is true. But it is not the whole truth. Almost as frustrating as the government decrees are those who follow them without question. There are at least five times in Scripture when people disobeyed the government – they practiced civil disobedience – and in so doing they were completely within the will of God and most were honored/blessed for it.

1. The Egyptian mid-wives who refused to slaughter the male babies of the Jews
2. The soldiers who refused to kill Jonathon in spite of King Saul's command
3. Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego when they refused to bow to the stature
4. Daniel, when he prayed even though there was a decree to not pray for 30 days
5. Queen Vashti rejecting the king's order to show her beauty at the banquet
6. Peter and John when they preached Jesus in spite of the restrictions from the Sanhedrin

In each of the above examples, those committing civil disobedience recognized that the civil authority was legitimate, and they sought to show honor even while maintaining that their allegiance was to a higher authority.

Each of us must evaluate our own life from time to time, and ask ourselves why we do what we do. That which motivates us, that which we seek to obey, is our authority. Sometimes, if we are not careful, we can allow ourselves to be our own authority. Other times we may allow the scrutiny of others to be our authority. Perhaps something else has become the authority in your life.... But ultimately, is Jesus – as revealed to us in the Scriptures – you're highest authority? Do we really forsake all else in our pursuit of obedience to Him?

As we begin to move past this most recent disruption of our lives and even society, before we settle into the same routines as before, ponder who you will submit to, and what that realization may mean for you....

Your Fellow Servant,
Timothy

CAMP DATES HAVE BEEN SET

**PLEASE MARK THESE DATES ON YOUR CALENDARS
CAMP FORMS ARE AVAILABLE ON THE WEB-SITE**

www.lakeoftheoarksba.com

CAMP P82, ROCKY MOUNT

JULY 13-15 Completed Grades K-3

JULY 13-17 Completed Grades 3-6



Group leaders and other volunteers are needed. If interested please Contact the Association Office, 392-6591.



**Pastors & Wives Fellowship
Breakfast
Saturday, May 9, 2020
8:30 AM
Blue Springs Baptist Church**

2020 SUMMER MISSIONARY

This year a young lady from Okmulgee, Oklahoma will serving as our summer missionary. Her name is Brooklyn Wadley. Brooklyn Graduated from Preston High School in 2018. While in High school, Brooklyn was in Drama Club, Band, Cheerleading, and National Honor Society.

Miss Wadley has participated in her church's summer missions projects for at least 5 years, and she has also volunteered with the Okmulgee Police Department for fundraising events. She feels called of the Lord to medical missions and is pursuing her nursing degree at East Central University.

We may also have a second summer missionary – a friend of Brooklyn's – but we are still in the process of working things out with her. If your church would like to have help in VBS or any other ministry / missions opportunity this summer please contact the office to check on the availability of our summer missionaries.

Going BEYOND SIMULCAST

with PRISCILLA SHIRER

May 16th, 2020 9:00 am – 3:00 pm

First Baptist Church of Eldon, MO

573-392-3124

Cost: \$15 if paid by April 18th, \$20 after April 18th

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email Address: _____

Church currently attending: _____

Preferred Method of Contact: ☐ Phone Call ☐ Text Message ☐ Email

Payment Method: ☐ Cash ☐ Check

- Make checks payable to "First Baptist Church of Eldon". Include "Going Beyond Simulcast" in memo line.

Registration form and payment may be mailed to: First Baptist Church, 209 South Aurora St, Eldon, MO 65026 OR submitted online at fbcelдон.net by clicking on the "Women's Ministry" page.

Must be registered and paid by April 18th to receive early registration rate.

No refunds will be given once payment is received.

The following was written by James Butterfield, Pastor, FBC Laurie. Though we'd share it with you all....

Turn It Off and Turn It Back On

In addition to being a pastor, I drive a school bus. (I am so very blessed to have not one, but two jobs that I truly love.) It has become somewhat of a joke among our drivers: When something goes wrong, the standard solution is, "Turn your bus off and turn it back on." Surprisingly, that does cure many problems!

Lately I have been praying a lot about where we as a church go from here. Our church has done a great job staying in touch with each other and helping each other when possible. I am proud of them. But otherwise, the coronavirus has brought just about everything to a stand-still in our church. Our regular weekly and monthly activities have been put on hold for several weeks. This is true of many churches.

I have come to think that perhaps this is not a bad thing after all. Like a school bus, a computer problem often has the same solution: "Turn it off and turn it back on." I believe we have been given a perfect opportunity to "reboot" as a church.

Too often what most churches do can become routine and ritualistic. People arrive Sunday mornings with preset ideas of what is going to occur. We have announcements. We have a prayer or two. We sing songs. We take up an offering. We listen to a sermon. We have an invitation. We go home. It's how we do things. It's that with which we are comfortable. It's what is expected.

Now please understand me, I am not being critical. I pastor a great church. The people love God, one another, and their pastor. Great unity and harmony characterize our family. They truly want God's will. In this positive context I believe we have been given a terrific opportunity to take a step back, reevaluate what we have been doing, and start afresh and anew.

Our church has been praying that God will move in our midst in miraculous ways. We are asking Him to do something extraordinary. It's what we believe God wants. It's what we want. That has become our church's eager and prayerful hope and expectation.

Remember: Moses had a reboot in his life. After 40 years of wilderness solitude God then used Him in powerful ways. Joseph had a reboot in his life. After years in slavery and imprisonment God then used Him in powerful ways. David had a reboot in his life. He spent years hiding from Saul before God then used him in powerful ways.

Hopefully we will begin functioning very soon. Are we willing to risk changing? Are we willing to abandon routine and ritual so God can then use us in powerful ways? Are willing to do something completely new and different?

I believe we would be foolish if we missed this opportunity to "reboot." We would be foolish to hope that things get back to "normal." We would be foolish to return to "business as usual."

With much prayer and great humility let us ask God what HE now wants to do, what He now wants US to do.

Youth Council Meeting
Thursday, May 7, 2:30 PM
LOBA Office

Camp Committee Meeting
Thursday, May 7, 6:00 PM
LOBA Office

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 7: National Day of Prayer

 Youth Committee Meeting, 2:30 PM

 Camp Committee Meeting, 6:00 PM

May 9: Pastors and Wives Breakfast, Blue Springs Baptist Church, 8:30 AM

May 10: Mothers' Day

May 22-23: Rocky Mount Food Pantry Open

May 25: Memorial Day

June 6: PHC Open House, 948 E. Hwy 54, Camdenton, 11:00-2:00

June 13: Pastors & Wives Breakfast, Blue Springs Baptist Church, 8:30 AM

June 21: Father's Day

June 26-27: Rocky Mount Food Pantry Open

June 30: Associational Council Meeting, 6:30 PM, Association Office

July 4: Independence Day

July 7: Executive Board Meeting, Olean Baptist Church, 7:00 PM

July 11: Pastors & Wives Breakfast, Blue Springs Baptist Church, 8:30 AM

July 13-17: Older Children's Camp, Camp P82 Rocky Mount

July 13-15: Younger Children's Camp, Camp P82, Rocky Mount

July 18: Association Ice Cream Social, Blue Springs Baptist Church

July 24-25: Rocky Mount Food Pantry Open

July 25-31: Mission Trip to Rochester MN



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Mother's Day, May 10