



First Baptist Church Pelham, Georgia

The Crier

Volume 58 Issue 5

Phone: (229) 294-8073

www.pelhamfbc.org

May 2021

I've got to prove who I am again. I'm heading to the driver's license office. They need papers and cards with my name and information so they might make an assessment as to my identity. Upon successfully confirming that I am who I say I am, the great state of Georgia will happily sale me the privilege of driving on our roadways.

You know what? There is a many of a man of God and a woman of God who spends the majority of their time trying to prove who they are in Christ. From works seeking the affirmation of others to petitions searching for the confirmation of God, not a few Christians spend day after day attempting to make an assessment of their identity. "Am I saved?" "Does God love me?" "Does God even like me?" "Am I doing enough to make it?" And so we fret, worry and toil trying to prove to ourselves and others that our identity and worth are fit for the kingdom of heaven.

Or the other side of the coin turns up. "I can never be good enough!" As a matter of fact, many that have heard the truth of salvation and understand that God forgave all sin through His Son, still hold their sin as beyond the reach of the blood of Christ. It's as if somehow God can forgive the woman at the well and the thief upon the cross and a murderous man named Paul, but my sin is special! "I'm more powerful than the council and actions of the trinity to hold my sin accountable when God has deemed it forgiven!"

The issue is identity. People either don't know or don't believe who they actually are in Christ. We don't need papers or cards. We don't need works and worry. The proof of who we are in Christ is simple. Do I believe what God says? The first 14 verses of Ephesians have always been a great encouragement to me. For in them, you find God's assessment of believer's identity. (Take time to read these today). You find they are SAINTS! Sainthood is not something to be achieved, it is something God ascribes to those that trust. You find that God calls them "faithful in Christ". They are already "blessed with every spiritual blessing". And our identity markers continue throughout the book.

I know, that was the church at Ephesus. But realize God moves Paul to do the same thing for the church at Corinth. The Corinthian church was a hot mess. Yet Paul tells them by the Spirit of God that they are already sanctified and belong to the sainthood as well.

The bottom line, you never have to prove your identity in Christ. All you have to do is believe what God has already said about you. As a matter of fact, it is God Who proves you. [Philippians 1:6 NKJV] *being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ;* tells me that God is the One willing and working to prove our identity to us. [Hebrews 13:20-21 NKJV] *20 Now may the God of peace who brought up our Lord Jesus from the dead, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, 21 make you complete in every good work to do His will, working in you what is well pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.* You are made complete by the working of God through His covenant.

Search the scriptures and see God's assessment of your identity. If you have trusted Christ, the only man to rise from the dead, for salvation, then search and see who He knows you know to be by His forgiveness. There is liberty in truth. There is bondage in lies. Be free my brothers and sisters.

Pastor Leroy

NO SWEAT EVANGELISM TRAINING Saturday, May 1

9:30 a.m. until noon

Harmony Baptist Church

Tim Williams of the Georgia Baptist
Mission Board will be our facilitator



Come be inspired as Christian singer, songwriter, speaker, and author Dawn Smith Jordan shares with us through testimony and song.

Learn more of Dawn's incredible story at dawnsmithjordan.com.

Register:
Register at fbcthamasville.com/events
Free Admission • Limited Seating

Location:
Thomasville First Baptist Church
210 N Broad St
Thomasville, GA 31792

Ladies Day Out

Saturday, May 15th
10:00 am
leaving our church
at 8:45 am

After the program, we will
go to eat

Let Laura Jane know if you
plan to go

Ladies Bible Study
Mondays at 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm
beginning this Monday, May 3rd

You are invited to join us for a study
on Isaac. It will be a 3 week study
and 4th week we are planning on a
dinner out. Please contact Laura
Jane Gray @ 336-3108 for more
information

Sunday, May 23rd Morning Service

2021 High School Seniors Recognition

Stephanie Lopez
Caleb Mejia
Mary Katherine Walton
Hannah Willis



**WELCOME
BACK TO
THE CHURCH
SANCTUARY!!**

**MAY 9TH
AM SERVICE**

**Attention Choir Members
& anyone interested in
joining us**

We will return to practice
Sunday, May 16th at 5:00

Deacons Meeting
Sunday, May 16th
6:00 pm

Georgia Baptist Children's Home Day Sunday, May 9th

At the children's home, we provide a safe place for
children and families in need, where they are well
cared for, continue education, and can find hope.
Through our care, thousands of children and
families have discovered God's healing power &
moved forward in their lives to find peace &
success.

With your support this Children's Home Day, we
can continue to change lives forever. Together,
we can give more kids hope and a home.

FBC Goal: \$1000

Please Help Us!!

We will be cleaning out clutter in the church.

Sunday School teachers, please refresh your rooms and
dispose of anything not being used.

If anyone has anything stored in a closet or one of the
side rooms, please box it up and label it so we will know
to keep it there.

Contact Marlene Bishop if you have any questions

Annie Armstrong Easter Offering
Our Goal: \$5000 Receipts: \$ 5160

Our Members Birthdays in the Month of May

1	Cheri Bentley	30	Roxanne Willingham
4	Kathy Frosteg	30	Jacob Harper
5	Cole NeSmith		
5	Kayla Bolen		
7	Brandon Rogers		
7	Willow Edenfield		
11	Cindy Smith		
14	Kate Drury		
14	Sarah Lunderman		
17	Philip Strickland		
19	Laura Jane Gray		
20	Linda Pollock		
21	Timothy Aldridge		
22	Gloria Hahn		
23	Kimberly NeSmith		
25	Joseph Cooper		
26	Theressia Hussey		
27	Robert Scott		
27	Deloris Stiltner		



Office Hours

Monday - Thursday
8:00 am - 4:00 pm
Closed on Friday

Activate The Prayer Chain

Tina Sellers 294-8443
Helen Schmidt 294-2818

Alternates:

Earlean Shiver 294-8073



Deacons of the Month

Donnie Palmer
221-8907

Robert Scott
221-7751



Staff at Home

Rev. Leroy Williams Pastor	321-292-9650
Rev. Harold Smith Minister of Youth	229-221-1565 harold@pelhamfbc.org
Rev. Andrew Chaffer Minister of Music	229-319-0472 revchaffer@gmail.com
Earlean Shiver Ministry Assistant	336-3445 eshiver@pelhamfbc.org
Jean Walters Nursery Assistant	294-7632
Wesley Palmer Deacon Chairman	229-403-2340

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit # 46
Pelham, GA 31779
Return Service Requested

"In God We Trust"

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
P. O. Box 287
Pelham, GA 31779

Prayer List

MEMBERS

David Bodin	lung cancer
Deloyd Butler	medical/ not doing well
Lane Butler	medical
Teresa Butler	medical
June Carter	medical
Nan Chapman	recovering from light stroke
Larry Frosteg	medical
Leah Gurley Humphries	medical/upcoming surgery
Charles Lauderdale	cancer
Linda Norman	upcoming surgery 5/4
Travis Hussey	medical
Mary Strickland	medical
Tasha Wall (Sherrod)	foot
David Wells	medical
Tad Williamson Family	bereavement
David Willis	medical

FRIENDS AND FAMILY

Edwin Adams (Wells)	bone cancer
Eula Beckwith	medical
Benny Britt (Monday)	bladder cancer
David Burt (Smith)	cancer/spiritual
Eddie Camp (Nan)	medical
Harry Camp (Nan)	hospital on ventilator
Ronnie Chaffer	cancer
James Cooper (Rich)	throat cancer
Margie Davis	upcoming back surgery
Larry Evans (Monday)	recovering lung transplant
Bobby Faircloth (Mejia)	medical
Dianne Green (Murphy)	medical
Jimmy Green (Wilson)	medical/hospital
Randy Harris (James)	liver cancer
Shelia Hatcher	cancer
Mallory James	medical
Ryliegh Lodge (James)	kidney transplant complications
Ricky Marshall (Lock)	medical
Jeannie Mellow (Lock)	medical
Denise Bozeman Miller	cancer
Tina Lynne Mirick	medical
Addison Mitchell	needs kidney/10 yrs old
Florine Moye	medical
Hayden Moye	medical
Jean Murphy (Monday)	medical
John Murphy (Monday)	medical
Roger Rumney	aortic rupture/stroke
Greg Shiver (Earlean)	cancer/doing well
Libby Sholar (Fenn)	hip surgery
Dorothy Sizemore	bone cancer
James Sizemore	medical
Randy Sizemore (Strickland)	leukemia/ home
Rev. David Smith (Mejia)	cancer
Candace Trimble (Monday)	medical
David Trimble (Monday)	medical
Kim Wall (Sherrod)	medical
Renae Wynn (Murphy)	medical

Our World City of Pelham City of Camilla Our Schools
Spiritual needs in our community Pregnancy Center

NURSING HOME RESIDENTS

DeLoyd Butler, Parkway #300
Marcelene Drawdy, Parkway
Eunice Hatcher, Parkway #403
Arvilla Jean, Parkway #409
Imogene Jones, Parkway
Charlotte Layton, Parkway #304
Libby Moats, Legacy Tville
Joyce Walton, Southern Pines

WNS Volunteer SIGN-UP SHEET

Will be on the back table or you can call the office for days and times. See Andrea or Katie

First Baptist Church - Pelham

SUNDAY

9:40 am	Children's Sunday School Opening Rally Choir room
9:40 am	Teens will be assisting in the in Opening Rally
9:45 am	Adult Sunday School Classes meet
10:00 am	Children's Sunday School Classes meet
10:00 am	Teen classes meet in rooms 204 & 206 upstairs
11:00 am	In-person service in New Fellowship hall and on Facebook @First Baptist Church Pelham
5:00 - 7:00 pm	Youth Ministry (skits, puppets & music)

Monday

6:00 - 7:30 pm	Ladies Bible Study
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Tuesday

12:00 Noon	Men's Lunch/Bible Study <i>Call church office to order lunch</i>
7:00 pm	Men's Bible Study "Dare To Be Uncommon"

Wednesday

6:00 - 8:30 pm	Youth Meeting
6:30 - 7:30 pm	Prayer Meeting

Kid's Spring Bible School



Preschool thru 6th Grade
Wednesday nights Through May 26th
Dinner @ 5:30 pm
Bible school 6:00 -7:30 pm

Memory Verse

Though he slay me, I will hope in him; yet I will argue my ways to his face.

Job 13:15 ESV

Weekly Bible Reading for May

May 3-9

Genesis 1-3
Genesis 4-7
Genesis 8-11
Job 1-5
Job 6-9
Job 10-13
Job 14-16

May 10 -16

Job 17-20
Job 21-23
Job 24-28
Job 29-31
Job 32-34
Job 35-37
Job 38-39

May 17-23

Job 40-42
Genesis 12-15
Genesis 16-18
Genesis 19-21
Genesis 22-24
Genesis 25-26
Genesis 27-29

May 24-30

Genesis 30-31
Genesis 32-34
Genesis 35-37
Genesis 38-40
Genesis 41-42
Genesis 43-45
Genesis 46-47

The Keeper of This Life

A big, black book in her small fragile hands
The words she read I was too young to understand
Between the thees and thous and the verilies
I watched my Mother live the truth in front of me

A little boy wakes from a dream in the night
Runs down the hall to where she left on the light
But I stopped when I saw her down on her knees
Where she prayed every night for me - In a whisper, I heard

**Jesus, Keeper of this life - You are my Refuge,
my Savior, my Guide
Watch over my little one tonight - and guard
his every footstep
As he travels this life - in some quiet moment
Draw him to Your side - That he may come to
know You Jesus
As the Keeper of this Life**

(Lyrics from the Song "The Keeper" by Geoff Moore and the Distance)

It was a warm and cloudy day in September of 2014 as my family and I prepared for my Mother's funeral. I was to perform this song during the ceremony as a tribute to her and to say that it was difficult would be an understatement. As flashes of memories flooded my head as I began to sing it became more and more of struggle just to get through it. Everyone in attendance was very supportive and understanding as I basically sobbed through the last few lines of the song. I had performed this song before in churches once or twice for Mother's Day but never with her present. This would be the last time I would perform the song for a while.

As you can tell my mother was a great influence on me. She was a prayer warrior and especially when it came to praying for the family. Believe it or not I was a very, very, very hyperactive child and I'm sure I drove my mother to brink of insanity. With my father serving in the military the burden of raising my sister and I fell on her and that included church attendance and being a Godly influence. It was very hard for her but I am a result of her prayers and witness. I remember the many talks we had about Jesus, scripture, and end time events. She is the reason for my love of studying Eschatology and prophecy in God's word. I recall her telling me many times, **"Jesus is coming soon and you need to be ready!"**

My mother was not perfect and if she were alive she would tell you so. She did the best she could under the circumstances set before her. As all mothers do who walk with Jesus on a daily basis and want to raise their children to know the Lord. Please do not forsake time with your mother (or adoptive mother) or ignore their advice. It may seem of little value now but as time goes by you will appreciate the precious moments spent with her. **Proverbs 6:20-22 says, "My son, keep your father's command and do not forsake your mother's teaching. Bind them always on your heart; fasten them around your neck. When you walk, they will guide you; when you sleep, they will watch over you; when you awake, they will speak to you."**

Keep the faith,

Bro. Andrew



The word Faith is tossed around pretty loosely in our world and even in our church circles today. We say we have faith, but quite often our actions do not back that up. In our men's Tuesday bible study, Dr Tony Evans brought out the point that faith must have feet! In other words, faith is not faith unless it is acted on or put into motion! When our faith is in motion, we are an example of Christ to the world around us!

In our family devotions, we recently read in Ezra 8, of Ezra as he prepares to return to Jerusalem to lead the Israelites in the teaching of the law, he gathers the people together (all 1754) and instructs the people to humbly fast and pray for safety on their journey back to Jerusalem. What is interesting and unique about this is the fact that he had refused to ask the king for protection with soldiers! Why? Because he had given testimony to the king of God's goodness and power over evil and now he wanted to show his faith in God by trusting God for the protection they needed! What a step of faith! Ezra listening to God's direction and responding by calling the people together for prayer and fasting to bring about God's blessing on their trip.

As I thought on this passage, I couldn't help but ask the question; do I look for ways God is leading me to be an example of faith to the world around me? Am I allowing God to show His greatness through my life? Am I spending that time in prayer and fasting that God would bless that desire?

Let's be a people of faith, a faith that is evident to the world of how great our God is!

In Christ,
Harold