

"The Connection"

April 30, 2020

Connecting People to God and Each Other!

Camp Verde Baptist Church



Camp Verde Baptist Church
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GREETINGS IN THE WONDERFUL NAME OF JESUS!

It is hard to imagine that we have now gone six Sunday's without having church worship services. We are not sure when we will be able to resume public worship services. The governor's order is set to expire May 15th. It is possible he will extend it. We will let you know when we have more information and as we discuss among leadership when we feel it is safe to reopen. (It is possible churches will not open until June 1.)

Each week I have been preaching a sermon that is put on the church website and on our church FaceBook. I know that some of you do not have computers or speakers on your computers and some of you may not be sure how to find the sermons. So, I

don't know how many hear the sermon each week. From time to time we will duplicate in the newsletter something we may have used in a sermon. Such is the case here.

My thirteen year old granddaughter Kenzie texted me on April 18th and included a picture of a wall in her bedroom that had sheets of construction paper on it. The text read, "I'm making a prayer wall! Is there anything you want me to pray for u?" I think it goes without saying that this thrilled my heart.

I texted her back that it was such a great idea and I was proud of her for doing that. I also shared some prayer requests with her. I enlarged the pictures on the wall on my phone and was impressed to see the prayer requests she had received from friends and family.

I asked Kenzie where she got the idea. She told me she follows this Christian account on Instagram and the person there made a prayer wall and she thought it was cool. She said she also follows some of the Bible journaling pages.

She sent me a picture of a Bible journal from that account and sent me pictures of how she had decorated the front of her Bible journal. We then texted about her reading the Bible and how she would like to read the Bible through and that she was doing a daily Bible Plan with her group and on the daily Bible app as well. She also reads a devotional book at night. Once again, proud grandpa.

A few days later she texted me and sent a picture of her Bible and the tabs that she had made for it for each book of the Bible.

On April 4th our daughter-in-law sent us a text with pictures of how Keegan and Kenzie were spending their time. They had done a beautiful mural in chalk on their driveway. On a trail they walk on they had written in chalk on a large rock, "Faith not fear."

At home they painted several smaller rocks with various scenes and words. I believe they were going to give these to people or place them in strategic areas. One rock had a cactus painted on it and another had the three crosses on a hill at sunset painted on it. Another rock was decorated with a square made out of dots and then painted on it was "Don't be afraid Just Believe." (Mark 5:36) A fourth rock had a bumble bee painted on it with a trail as if it was flying and a heart above the bee with the words "Bee Happy?" Still another had two cacti painted on it with the sunset behind and the desert sand in front. The last rock was painted with the words, "The Lord Is My Rock. Psalms 18:2".

(Continued on next page)



Once again I find it interesting that some people sit around bored at this time or they search and search to find what God wants them to do to be a witness. Like Kenzie let God lead you and then follow Him when the opportunity arises. She is reading the Bible, discussing the Bible and prayer requests with friends. She is Bible Journaling and think of the people she is praying for as she looks at her prayer wall constantly in her bedroom. It reminds me of the faith-based film "War Room". An African American woman had a prayer closet she called a "War Room" and she had the opportunity to teach a young woman how to have her own "War Room" to battle against the attacks of Satan and to seek God's face as she did spiritual battle.

As I stated above, my older granddaughter Keegan, who is 16 is also involved in some of these projects. I am not sure of all of her projects. As you know, sixteen-year-olds are less likely to share these things with grandparents. However, I am sure she is being a witness also.

Who is God going to put in your path that you can pray with, share a witness with, exchange prayer requests with, pray with over the telephone or talk and pray with as you walk? Will you relate to someone who just needs a listening ear or a word of comfort and encouragement?

How about letting God use you today any way He sees fit? Take up your cross, die to self and give your life and your day totally to Him as well as all of your coming days. Will you say to God, not my will but your will be done in my life? I give my life to you, please use it for your glory. When we give our day to Him, He will make those Divine appointments for us and we won't have to spend a lot of time trying to figure out how or where we are supposed to minister and to whom.

Sandy and I look forward to when we can resume in-person church meetings. We would love to see you and fellowship with you again. May God richly bless you!

JUST REMEMBER THAT GOD LOVES YOU AND SO DO SANDY AND I!

Pastor Dana



INTERNET SERMON



Each week Pastor Dana prepares and preaches at least one sermon in this time when we are not meeting in the church Sanctuary. Pastor Dana uses his usual study time to prepare the sermon and type his notes which is usually a few hours. The pastor and Sandy go to the Sanctuary, usually on Saturday or Saturday night and the pastor preaches the sermon and Sandy records the sermon. That process is about an hour to an hour and a half by the time they set everything up and shut the equipment and sanctuary down after recording. Sandy then puts the sermon on the internet with the title and Scripture reference and date. That takes about an hour if all goes well. Brent and Lois Payne then put the sermon on FaceBook which Brent said takes about three and one half hours to put together and upload to FaceBook. As you can see it takes about two hours to record and put the sermon on the website and another three and half hours to put it on FaceBook. In addition Brent and Lois do other postings to our church FaceBook page. We appreciate all the hours they put in to make this page informative and nice looking as well as useful.

ANNIE ARMSTRONG
EASTER OFFERING
FOR NORTH AMERICAN MISSIONS

GOAL \$1,500
GIVEN TO DATE \$2,500


PRAISES
for a GREAT
HOME MISSIONS
OFFERING!



NO TIME FOR RETREAT

COVID-19 has not stopped the work of Southern Baptists. Cooperative Program Sunday was April 26th and a nice video had been produced, however our people were not in church to see it. Our missionaries are still on the field overseas and in North America and our seminary students are still being trained for ministry and missions. Disaster Relief is still operating as is Send Relief. Our Chaplains are still ministering. At an unprecedented time all of these ministries are present and making a difference for Jesus Christ and churches are making it happen by their financial support. The SBC does not plan to retreat during this looming threat. The overseas mission force is growing again with 3,700 full-time fully-funded missionaries and their 2,880 children. The International Mission Board has 1,001 candidates in the pipeline with about half preparing for long-time career service. That is over a 400 percent growth in 18 months. The SBC has 47,500 local churches and 1,100 associations, 41 conventions and 12 national entities. We have 5,017 missionaries in North America and 3,500 fully endorsed chaplains. These are all supported by 15 million Southern Baptists through the Cooperative Program. Many of these are the brightest lights in their areas of influence from business to entertainment to law to education to medicine to our homes and beyond. Who knows how many Southern Baptists are on the front line in the battle today in hospitals and clinics? Each is a bright shining light of life, peace and hope for the hurting, the dying and the grieving. We support all of these together through the Cooperative Program. Now is not the time to retreat. Thank you for your generous and consistent giving.

ANNIE ARMSTRONG EASTER OFFERING RECIPIENTS



Planting Together

"We moved to Cincinnati to plant Revive City Church. I realize now we were crazy. I walked away from a steady paycheck, and my wife was nine months pregnant," Kirk explains. "When we started, we had no denomination or network behind us. We felt alone."

They started their first church in a downtown, multi-ethnic area with great spiritual need. In 2016, they prayed about starting a second church. Only this time, they knew they did not have to do it alone.

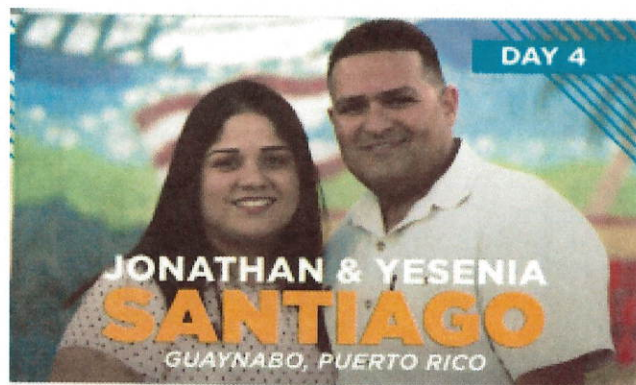
"That's when we became a part of the Southern Baptist Convention, and it's the best move we ever made," says Kirk.

As Southern Baptist church planting missionaries, the Kirklands received the support to successfully launch a second church and expand their community outreach ministries. They now are looking forward to planting additional churches as God leads.

PRAY

For the church leaders to develop disciples and multiply small groups throughout the Cincinnati metro area.

For their plans to plant a third church.



The Road to Recovery

The immediate threat has blown over, but Hurricane Maria left a deep impact in social, emotional and financial scars on Puerto Rico. That overwhelming need is what drew Jonathan and Yesenia back to the island from their home in New York.

Jonathan serves as the director of Send Relief Puerto Rico. He works with local churches and agencies to identify people and communities in crisis and match the needs with the volunteer relief teams arriving each week. Jonathan says that physical needs are easier to address, but it's the emotional and spiritual issues that also must be acknowledged.

"Although very religious, because of its catholic background that connects to our Spanish heritage, Puerto Rico is mostly lost. I always tell our volunteers, the most important part of their work isn't the roof they are replacing, it's the people under the roof," says Jonathan.

PRAY

For wisdom and direction for Jonathan, his family and the volunteers who serve with them.

That God will open doors to share the gospel.

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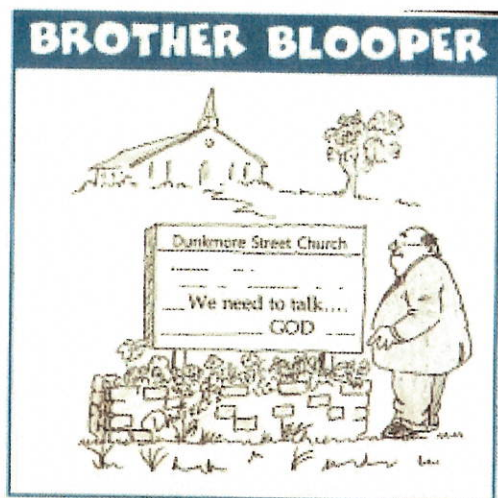
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Offerings to Date
Annie Armstrong Easter Offering \$ 2,500
Budget Giving to Date for April \$ 12,782
Total Monthly Budget Offering Needed \$ 10,000



NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER
MAY 7th
11:30 AM - 12:30 PM
AT THE TOWN GAZEBO
 (Call the church office to see if we will be able to meet.)



FELLOWSHIP HALL REDECORATING

The carpet has been removed from Fellowship Hall and disposed of as well as the countertops and back splash. The stove, hood and the sink and faucet also have been removed. The painter should be working the week of May 4th. We are hoping the carpet will be installed the week of May 11th. We anticipate the entire redecorating project being completed before the end of May.

CHURCH NEWSLETTER

If you have never worked in a church office or spent much time there you probably are not aware of the time it takes to produce a church newsletter. Pastor Dana usually spends two to three hours writing his article and finding other articles or information he wants in the newsletter. Sandy then spends two to three hours designing the layout, finding pictures and graphics and putting the newsletter together. We generally proofread the newsletter four or five times. About 42 envelopes are stamped and addressed and the newsletter is folded and put in the envelopes after it is run. The newsletter is then taken to the post office where it is hand delivered to the counter and told it is for Camp Verde. The mail is then handled here and not sent to Phoenix and back. It is usually in your mailbox the next day since it does not go through Phoenix. Sandy then gets the newsletter ready to put on the Church website and also gets it ready to Email to several people as a group mailing, which can take up to an hour. From start to mailing the newsletter is about a six hour project.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Sunday

9:00 am Prayer Time
 9:30 am Bible Study
 11:00 am Worship Service
 6:00 pm Pastor-led Bible Study

Wednesday

10:00 am Haven Nursing Home
 6:00 pm Church Prayer Time

Church Staff

Pastor: Dana L. Burris
 Church Secretary: Sandy Burris
 Music Director: Brent Payne
 Pianist: Pat Eudy
 Deacons: Dug Tryon & Fred Weber
 Treasurer: Vickie Clawson
 Custodian: Lois Payne

Pastor's Office Hours

Monday-Thursday
 9:00 am-Noon
 1:00 pm-3:00 pm

Secretary Office Hours

Tuesday-Thursday
 9:00 - 12:00 pm



WHEN CHURCHES REOPEN

Churches are now beginning to discuss how they will reopen once the "Stay at Home" order is rescinded. Larger churches especially will face greater challenges. "Baptist Press" has related how some larger churches will attempt to meet this challenge. The pastors are urging courage and caution. Possibly the churches will phase back into their worship services and normal calendar over a lengthy period of time. As one pastor related, "We are not wanting our passion to exceed our wisdom."

The process will require careful planning and the ability to adapt to changing circumstances. We do not know what will happen once we open society again. Will we face another increase in cases? It is not so much how and or when in-person church services will begin, but what they will look like when they do.

Churches will be urged to practice social distancing even when services resume. The "meet and greet" time will probably be a thing of the past and handshakes and hugs discouraged.

One church with an attendance of 700 plans to have two staff members monitor two designated entrances. There would be no greeters and the two doors would remain open throughout the services. Attendees would be seated by households with groups seated at least six feet apart. The groups would be formally seated and dismissed in order to maintain social distancing. There would be no printed bulletins. Restroom use would be limited.

Reopening probably will not be instantaneous in most churches, but more like a slow return over a few months. Some churches will go to more than one worship service, not because of size but because of social distancing. Also, consideration will be given as to if and when to return to Sunday School classes as well as programs for children, and youth. Will churches have nurseries and if so what will that look like?

Some larger churches have more than one location. Some have a campus in more than one state. The guidelines of each state will determine when that church may reopen and how it will reopen.

Some churches may continue online services for awhile and encourage their people to gather in small groups to watch together until the church can be fully opened. Some churches are considering continuing to use drive-in church services for some time until they see what happens when businesses return to regular operation.

Additional questions to consider are how do you take an offering without passing the plate through the congregation and everyone touching it? When will it be safe to resume the Lord's Supper and how will it be observed without passing the elements for everyone to touch and breathe over? Even if members walk to the communion table individually there is a chance of transfer to the bread and elements.

Will churches have to sanitize after each area is used? Will hand sanitizing stations be necessary throughout all church buildings? At the present time it is possible to buy the stations but the sanitizer will not be available until late May or early June.

When churches reopen, will people feel safe to come, even to the smaller churches or will people stay home for a few weeks or months to make sure it is safe?

Church may look different once we accept our new normal, however with patience and grace we will work it out. Even with the changes, it will be good to get back in God's house and worship with fellow believers.

Pastor Dana and our church leadership are awaiting the Governor's decisions on when to reopen churches and then they will make sensible informed decisions as they seek to be led by the Lord as to when and how we will reopen. Foremost in their minds is that we are mindful of the welfare of our church family and their health. Please pray for Pastor Dana and the church leaders as they make these decisions.

Hello Pastor Dana!

April 7

This is Pastor. Franklin Bague from Bohol, Philippines.

I am emailing you to keep in touch with you because our Post Office here is closed as of the moment ; Bohol has been on lockdown to avoid the spreading of Corona Virus. We had 3,000 positive cases here in the Philippines but thankfully , we have a zero COVID19-Case here in Bohol. How are you and the congregation? Praying fervently to keep Camp Verde Brethren from the terrible virus. Due to the mandatory No-Gathering-Policy and the lockdown , one of the challenges that Church is facing now is being isolated from the members. During this time, we take advantage of the available technology. Nothing can replace face to face contact and human touch, but many of us today live in a very connected world - tuning in to online sermons, keeping prayer chain on the phone , and reading the Word at home.

I would like to inform that I received the church cheque (no.6048 dated 1-31-20) three weeks ago before the lockdown. Thank you to the Camp Verde Brethren for your continued support. It has been a great help for us especially in times like this.

The coronavirus is truly invisible, but neither is Jesus. As believers in Christ, we know that Jesus lives in us. COVID-19 is not a joke and has claimed many lives. But in the end, we either let fear be our god or you let God be the only God in your life. Keep safe Pastor.

You're always in my prayer. May God bless you richly.

**Here are two e-mails
that we recently
received from Brother
Franklin**

April 14

I was glad upon receiving your response email Pastor Dana!

Please bare with my slow response rate as our area is far from the city thus we have a slow internet connection. My second daughter has offered me to send you an email instead as the post office is closed. She and my grandson is staying with us for now during the quarantine period while his husband is away working outside Bohol.

Praise God for having a zero-Covid19 case in your church ! I'm delighted to hear that you and your family and the congregation is doing well amidst the Covid-19 pandemic threat. We are texting/calling our members personally one by one to get in touch as most of our members has no access to internet. Good thing the technology has been so useful in your area during this social-distancing period to stay in touch with the congregation.

I'm sorry to hear regarding your need to postpone your second operation. It must have been hard for you.

Me including my family and our church here would include you in our prayers for your fast recovery.

Regarding the ways of sending the check. I have two options here. (1)I have open a dollar account in RCBC BANK where I deposited the dollar checks you sent to me to convert it to Philippine peso. Is it possible for you to deposit it directly into my RCBC account ?

(2)If not possible , you may sent it temporarily while the post office is closed thru Remittance Center like Mhulhier.

You may send the info (tracking number, sender, amount) thru this email.

Thank you for filling me in with updates on your work there.

God still provides our needs in some other way. He is a God of provision. Thank you for your continued support and prayers. May God richly bless you all !

Franklin Bague

