



First Baptist Church of Sunny Side

FOCUSING ON CHRIST

www.firstbaptistsunnyside.com

October 2018

770.227.7164

My favorite season is the fall. The cooler temperatures are a welcomed relief from the long hot summer. The changing of the leaves light up the mountainside with flaming colors. That is not to say that I do not enjoy all four of the seasons. Each one having it's specific purpose. Spring a time of planting, Summer with its growth, fall to bring in the harvest and winter a time of rest. It reminds me of the seasons of life not only for individuals but also for organizations like the church. As human beings we all recognize that we are only able to go thru the seasons one time while an organization can experience many cycles. As I consider the long history of this church; having been organized in 1840, our church has seen many seasons in the past 178 years. There have been many times in which the church experienced new life, a resurgence of excitement that brought about spiritual and numerical growth and a great harvest for the Lord. And as in any organization, there have been some times of rest. And while some may not appreciate the winter season, seeing it as a dark and depressing time, God uses it to prepare His creation for the rebirth that will take place in the spring. As I consider what season we are currently experiencing I believe it to be the end of a long winter and I am looking forward with hope and excitement to the new life and energy that awaits us as a church. The calendar may tell us it is Fall, but my heart says we are about ready for a spiritual spring season of planting and growth.

God Bless, Joel



Fall Festival
October 27th — 11:30 - 2:00 p.m.
Food, Games, Crafts
Invite your family and friends

October Birthdays

Al Shadis 18th
 H.B. Dorsey 19th
 Diane Layton 19th
 John Minch 25th
 Bobi Johnson 28th
 Zoe Pettus 31st



November Birthdays

A.J. Stewart 3rd
 Natasha Crankshaw 17th
 Shelby Holmes 21st
 Calene Dunn 22nd
 Brenda McLeod 24th

Volunteers in Preschool October

October 7th
 Nikki Howell
 Emily Dunn
 John Crankshaw



October 14th
 Victor Barr
 Calene Dunn
 Kay Culverson

October 21st
 Emily Holmes
 Rick Betsill
 Fran Neesmith

October 28th
 Linda Muehlberger
 Lynn Varnadoe
 Farah Betsill

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A Note from Denise

In last month's newsletter, I wrote about my struggles as a young church pianist, and how God eventually called me to serve in music ministry. This month, in the spirit of Paul Harvey, I'd like to tell you the rest of the story.....

As you know from my last newsletter, my dad was the choir director at my home church in Alabama. He was a committed Christian and served the Lord faithfully. He was a small-built man, but he stood tall in strength, integrity, & personality. He was the rock of our family. All of the small children in our family learned to direct music by imitating my dad as he directed music at church. Another thing the children learned by imitation was how to 'spit' in a cup. Let me explain..... One of Dad's few vices was his love for snuff. He used an old soup can as his spit cup and kept it beside the fireplace in the dining room. At an early age, all of the kids & grandkids would practice trying to spit in the cup. (No snuff involved, of course!)

On March 2, 1998, Dad went home to be with the Lord. I was at the hospital with him when he took his last breath. I remember thinking, "I wonder what wonderful things his eyes see now." It was a hard loss for our family. But we were confident in God's promises and believed that Dad was now in God's presence in heaven. During this part of my life, I was serving as the music minister's assistant and had led music in his absence maybe 2 times. It was about 3 weeks after Dad's death when Pastor Joel called me and said that our minister of music had resigned and that I would be leading music until the church called a permanent minister of music.

Honestly, at that time, I didn't realize that God was calling me into this ministry. However, by the time the church decided to hire me as their permanent music minister, God had made His calling certain in my heart. While I was finally sure of God's direction, being the minister of music was one of the scariest things I've ever tried to do. I remember crying out to God and saying that this was too big of a job especially since I had just lost my father, my rock. If he was still alive, he could have been my mentor. But God clearly whispered, "I'll be your father." And at that moment, my dad's death became a 'passing of the torch' rather than just a tragic loss.

Over the past 19 to 20 years of music ministry, God has proved Himself to be a faithful Father. While I totally understand that my official anniversary date is the day that the church voted to hire me (October, 1999), I see my anniversary date as the first Sunday that I filled in for the absent minister of music. Yes, at that point, I was clueless. The position seemed temporary. But that's when God started me on this amazing journey. There are plenty of churches in this world, but there is no place that I would rather be than here at Sunny Side singing God's praises with my brothers & sisters who serve Christ by my side. I love you guys!

It is time to begin preparing for our Christmas Benevolence Ministry.

We have three opportunities for you to participate in to help to make Christmas special for a child this year?



Collection date is October 21st.
See Calene Dunn for more information.



Shoebboxes are ready to be picked up for you to fill. They need to be returned by November 12th.
See Victor Barr for more information



Do you know a local family that we can help this Christmas? Will you be willing to purchase a gift or donate funds.
See Joel for more information.

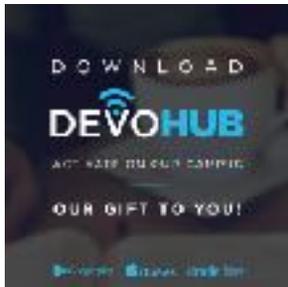


Paul's Pen

TRUST

The morning David Vaughn was born, his father, Brian, was holding him as any proud new father would hold his son. I was there also. Brian looked at me and asked me to hold David. I shook my head with a no, but Brian simply handed David to me. That was a moment of pure trust, allowing me to hold his new baby, just as he had been holding him.

On the days Brian was off from work, we played with David in the morning and then went into Brian's wood shop. One day we came to a problem with the design of the item we were putting together. Brian said "let's rest on this". The following afternoon Brian said "I'm glad we waited and didn't do it the hard way, here is a much easier and better way". It was and it worked; and that is how we should take care of hard decisions – not to power through it, but to rest, trust, wait, and quietly seek God's direction.



While on the church campus you can download the app and begin getting daily devotions to your mobile device.



Online Giving is available. Go to our web site www.firstbaptistsunnyside.com Click Give Online at the top of Home page and just follow the instructions. Please speak with Joel if you have any questions or concerns.

Help us spread the word.
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Deacon Ministry:
If you have a need and would like to speak with one of our deacons. The deacon of the month for October is Joey Jenkins.
You may reach him at. 678-603-9406



**Family Friendly
Outdoor Movie Night
Friday, October 12th
Movie will start at dusk
Free popcorn, candy, snow cones
and drinks**

*Ladies' Christmas Dinner
Friday, November 16, 2018
7:00 p.m.*

*Mark your Calendar
Invite your friends*



October

2018

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--|--------|---|-----------|-------------------------------------|---|--|
| 30 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| | | Senior Adult Lunch Concord Cafe @ 11:30 | | | | Men's Breakfast Golden Corral @ 7:30 |
| 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| Denise Varnadoe's Reception after church. Financial Peace Class @ 5:00 | | | | Ladies Bible Study 7pm at Church | Outdoor Movie Night | |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| Financial Peace Class @ 5:00 | | | | Ladies Bible Study 7pm at Church | Project Linus Sew Day - Starts At 10 am | |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| Financial Peace Class @ 5:00 | | | | Ladies Bible Study 7pm at Church | | Fall Festival |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Financial Peace Class @ 5:00 | | | | | | |