

THIS SUNDAY

April 26, 2020

10:00 AM "DRIVE UP" WORSHIP SERVICE

From the Front Porch of the Sanctuary

We must insist that everyone remain in their cars.

Broadcast Live on

Woodruff Radio WQUL 101.7 FM 1510 AM

Pastor's Message:

UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT

2 Corinthians 5:17; Ezekiel 36:26; Psalm 51:10

(In Christ there is an opportunity for a fresh start.

We do not have to go back to doing things
as we have always done them.)

12:15 PM RADIO WORSHIP SERVICE

Pastor's Message:

THANK GOD FOR... THORNS?

2 Corinthians 12:9; 1 Thessalonians 5:18

(Learn to see God's power at work even in trouble.

Learn to trust God's goodness in spite of trouble.

Learn to surrender your troubles to God
– He won't waste pain.

Learn to let God's peace guard your soul.)

Broadcast on

Woodruff Radio WQUL 101.7 FM 1510 AM

We plan to post the service on our church YouTube channel at the end of week both as a complete service and as individual segments that can be watched separately.

YOUTUBE CHANNEL

Each week we are recording and posting a number of sermons, special music and lessons for youth and children on our Church YouTube Channel. Visit our church website www.fbcwoodruff.org for a link to this channel or search for "First Baptist Woodruff" on YouTube. We give thanks for all who have been involved in recording, editing, and making this possible.

RADIO BROADCAST EACH SUNDAY

Join with your First Baptist Family on our Woodruff radio station, **WQUL 101.7 FM 1510 AM**, each Sunday at **12:15 pm**. WQUL will broadcast sermons and music from our church YouTube channel. **This Sunday (April 26)** there will be an additional broadcast at **10:00 am** that will be "live" from the front porch of our sanctuary.

ONLINE GIVING

Secure online giving is available

on our church website: www.fbcwoodruff.org

Giving online is easy and convenient but if you need assistance, Carol Morgan, our Church Secretary, is able to help. Feel free to give her a call, 476-8171.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

**REGULAR SERVICES,
ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS
REMAIN CANCELED**

We give thanks for Governor McMaster and continue to pray that God will give him wisdom and discernment as he makes decisions for the health and welfare of the people of South Carolina. While there have been attacks on religious liberty during these days in other states, we are thankful that Governor McMaster has upheld the religious liberties spelled out in the first amendment and has consistently spoken of freedom to worship as an "essential service." He has also asked churches to use common sense, practice social distancing, and to act in ways that promote the wellbeing of their congregations and communities.

This Sunday, April 26, we will continue our new practices of a live drive up service and a recorded service for our YouTube channel with both of these being broadcast on Woodruff Radio – WQUL. In the coming weeks as social distancing guidelines and practices are allowed to become more relaxed, we will need to figure out together the best ways we can work to fulfill our mission as a church (even in ever changing situations.) Please pray for your church leadership as we seek the Lord's will and guidance.

LET US KNOW IF YOU NEED HELP!

If you need help picking up groceries or items from the pharmacy, please contact us. We are very happy to help. Contact our pastor, church staff or deacons if you discover ways our church can be a channel of God's love and care. Check on each other. During this time that we are not able to meet together, reach out by telephone to those in your Sunday School class and others that God places on your heart.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Tonya Jett, 4-28 **Courtney Morgan**, 4-28
Sergey Culbreath, 4-29 **Mason Meadows**, 4-29
Amy Carlile, 5-1 **Kate Hames**, 5-2
Missy Workman, 5-3 **John Lehman**, 5-3
Megan Agardi, 5-3 **Beau Brooks**, 5-3
Pam Pattillo, 5-4 **Ami Webster**, 5-4
Carla Blanton, 5-7 **Emma Lynn Lanford**, 5-7
Margaret Murphy, 5-9 **Hadley Kate Thompson**, 5-9

FAITHFUL GIVING

Remember to give faithfully (through the mail or online or through the church office) so that our church will have the resources to continue to pay bills, meet obligations, enable ministry and serve effectively.

OVER AND ABOVE PROJECT

\$85,709.38 has been contributed!

ANNIE ARMSTRONG OFFERING FOR NORTH AMERICAN MISSIONS

Church Goal: \$3,500.00 * Received: \$1,690.00

As a U.S. Air Force chaplain, Lt. Col. Daniel Thompson serves at the Resolute Support Headquarters in Kabul, Afghanistan. Thompson has been leaning on technology to help increase opportunities for ministry. One of the tools he is using is a Military Bible Stick, which is an MP3 player that provides a verbal retelling of the NT with music. *"Nothing gives me any greater joy than seeing soldiers listening to the Bible sticks as they walk around our tiny camp."* Chaplains are handing out the sticks to other coalition partners as well, including soldiers from the Turkish & Macedonian armies, many of whom are taking several to send back to their families. Thompson has also seen God expand his preaching ministry through podcasts. With more soldiers confined because of social distancing, many, he said, have been turning to messages that *"bring them hope, rather than narratives of despair through other channels."* *"What the coronavirus may have meant for evil, God has intended for good. Please pray that the Lord will continue to allow us to transform our current restrictive situations into a means that will radically make a difference in the lives of our troops. Please pray that in my remaining time that I will be able to not only prepare the soil, but that I will be able to plant more seeds so that when my replacement arrives, he'll be able to reach a harvest that spills out over all of Afghanistan."* Please continue to pray for our chaplains and missionaries and prayerfully consider your gift to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering.

BLOOD DRIVE

Wednesday, May 6 * 4:00-7:30 pm

Due to the need for social distancing *The Blood Connection* strongly encourages donors to sign up for a time in advance. Sign up online through their scheduler https://donate.thebloodconnection.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/143284 or call the church office, 476-8171, and we will add you to their schedule. Thanks!

GIFTS TO THE GLORY OF GOD!

Annie Armstrong Easter Offering

In Memory of Ginny Suggs

Noelle Suggs

FINANCIAL REPORT

BUDGET	April 19	2020
Needs	\$ 8,821.10	\$141,137.60
Offering	\$ 11,460.80	\$139,618.77
Over/(Under)	\$ 2,639.70	(\$ 1,518.83)
Additional Offerings Given for Special Accounts		
Annie Armstrong Offering		\$ 400.00
Katie Hauser Europe Trip		\$ 100.00
City of Woodruff – Reimbursement		\$ 37.50

FUGE: YOUTH SUMMER CAMP

New Dates – New Location

July 6-10 * Charleston Southern University

Join us for a fantastic week of fun and discipleship. Contact Bryan Thompson as soon as possible if you would like to go.

INFORMATION FOR YOUTH PARENTS

We use an app called "remind" to help our youth know about meetings, events and resources. During the quarantine it has been used to help the youth know how to tune into Bible Studies on Zoom and when new lessons have been posted on our YouTube channel. Messages can also be sent to youth parents. If you have not been receiving these messages, text "@wfbyp" to 81010 or contact Bryan Thompson to be added to the list.

"MISCELLANEOUS" PAGE

We have added a "Miscellaneous" page to our church website. This gives us a place to post longer documents online and a link can then be sent through social media. So far we have posted: A Maundy Thursday Message; Resiliency Workshop Notes; Ministry During Grief Workshop Notes and a handout – The Gospel... According to Non-Christians: Exploring the Outside Historical Corroboration of the Story of Jesus. Our pastor is presently working on "Instructions for a Meaningful Observance of the Lord's Supper at Home" that he hopes to be able to post soon. To access this page, go to our church website – www.fbcwoodruff.org and click on "miscellaneous" in the navigation bar.

KATIE HAUSER

To Serve Through Live 10:27 Ministries

Katie plans to be part of an evangelistic team in Europe July 23-Aug. 8. They will use "world view" survey cards to ask questions & open conversations to develop relationships that help to move people closer to Jesus. If you would like to give financial support to Katie as she prepares write "Katie – Europe" on the outside of your contribution envelope or visit her "gofundme" page www.gofundme.com/f/gospel-for-western-europe.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

April 22 – John 6	April 30 – John 13
April 23 – John 7	May 1 – John 14
April 24 – John 8	May 3 – John 15
April 26 – John 9	May 4 – John 16
April 27 – John 10	May 5 – John 17
April 28 – John 11	May 6 – John 18
April 29 – John 12	May 7 – John 20

THANK YOU!

Thank you to David Babson, Kent McAbee & Jonathan Montjoy for helping Tommie Jo McAbee & Randy Rhodes with the removal of 2 dead trees at the church.

WHEN THE SEA GULL DOESN'T COME Habakkuk 3:17-19

One of the great stories from the World War II era is the one about Captain Eddie Rickenbacker. During the war his plane crashed in the Pacific. Seven of the eight crew members survived. They battled weather, rough seas, sharks and sun; but most of all they battled hunger and they prayed for God's deliverance. After eight days their rations were all gone. At the height of their hunger, a sea gull landed on the head of Capt. Rickenbacker. He caught it. The crew ate the bird and used the intestines for bait to catch fish. For 24 days, they were on the sea surviving and they were rescued because the seagull came.

We like stories of rescue, but not every crisis ends with a glorious deliverance. In this world and all around us tragic things happen. It is hard for us to understand. Sometimes the sea gull does not come. We know this life on earth is just for a little while. We do not understand why some people have cancer, heart attacks, strokes, and debilitating diseases and others do not. There are many, many tragic circumstances in life. We do not understand why some people have so much trouble and sorrow while others seemingly live trouble-free lives.

Habakkuk struggled with this. He lived in times that were hard to have faith. He saw the righteous suffering and the wicked prospering. He asked God why He allowed these things to happen and how long before He would rectify them. Habakkuk realized that though he struggled to understand the ways of God and the timing of God, still he could not doubt the wisdom of God, or the love of God, or the reliability of God... and that is when he spoke his great affirmation of trust and faith. **Though the fig tree does not bud and there are no grapes on the vines, though the olive crop fails and the fields produce no food, though there are no sheep in the pen and no cattle in the stalls, yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will be joyful in God my Savior.** Habakkuk 3:17-18

Corrie Ten Boom said several years before she died: *"The older I get the less I question and the more I trust."* Such faith grows through experience, prayer and maturity. Charles Spurgeon expressed the kind of undaunted faith we need when he said, *"God is too kind to be cruel; God is too wise to make a mistake; When we cannot trace the hand of God, we must trust the heart of God."* The Hebrew young adults told Nebuchadnezzar, **If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God we serve is able to deliver us from it, and He will deliver us from Your Majesty's hand. But even if He does not, we want you to know, Your Majesty, that we will not serve your gods or worship the image of gold you have set up.** Daniel 3:17-18

I. TRUST THE WAYS OF GOD. Paul spoke of our limited understanding: **For now we see only a reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known.** 1 Corinthians 13:12 The glass he refers to is a mirror. In the ancient world, before the discovery of quicksilver and development of clear glass, mirrors were made of polished metal. At best they gave an imperfect and distorted reflection. Paul was saying that in this life our vision is clouded and our knowledge is partial. But one day in Heaven we will see as if we were face to face and we will know just as we are known. Trust the ways of God. Even when the sea gull does not come.

II. TRUST THE LOVE OF GOD. The tapestry of God's pattern weaving in our lives is often so fine, so delicate, we cannot make it out. But even when His gracious design cannot be discerned, we can be absolutely sure that God is good. He is never cruel or malicious in His dealing with us. We can claim **Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose.** It does not say that everything that happens is good... or that everything will turn out ok for everyone. No, but these words do say: God is at work in the world. His glorious purpose is to make us like His Son, Jesus Christ. And to that good end, God can and does use all things — the good and the bad, that which He causes and that which He only permits. It assures us that no experience has to be a total waste. If we give it to God, He will take that experience and bring something good out of it. Even when the sea gull does not come.

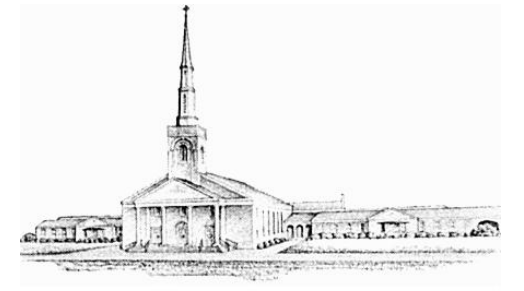
III. TRUST THE TIMING OF GOD. So many times we try to impose our timetable on God. That was a part of Habakkuk's problem. He wanted God to act in a hurry. Remember, we are on Eastern Daylight time, but God operates on Eternal Standard Time. Actually, He is not limited by time or space at all. We must not run ahead of Him and we must not lag behind Him. We must walk beside Him and wait patiently on Him. In His own time He will do what He promised. His timing is perfect. Don't give up. God is faithful to His promises. At times we may not have the answers: Yet, we do have the answer. The answer is the LORD Himself. So Habakkuk says, **The Sovereign LORD is my strength; He makes my feet like the feet of a deer, He enables me to tread on the heights.** Habakkuk 3:19 He refers to a mountain deer who had sure and steady feet to walk on high and narrow places. On the most treacherous terrain it would not fall. The LORD is able to keep us on our feet as we travel the treacherous paths of life. He is with us even in the valley and the shadow of death. Trust the timing of God even when the sea gull does not come.

In our times of crisis the sea gull may come as it did for Captain Rickenbacker and his crew. By God's grace we may be rescued, delivered, and restored every time. But even if the sea gull does not come — trust God. Your faith in Him will not be disappointed. He loves you and He is at work for your good. He is worthy of your trust.

THE ENCOURAGER


"...to prepare all God's people for the work of Christian Service to build up the body of Christ."

www.fbcwoodruff.org



First Baptist Church * Woodruff, South Carolina

April 22, 2020



**"I wait for
the LORD
my soul waits,
and in
His word
I hope."**

Psalm 130:5

C. Andrew Shull, Pastor
Bryan C. Thompson, Associate Pastor for Youth
John C. Carroll, Minister of Music
Lisa C. Abercrombie, Ministry Coordinator
Carol R. Morgan, Secretary
Kay M. Young, Pianist
Tommie Jo McAbee, Site Manager
Randy C. Rhodes, Site Manager

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