

FROM THE PASTOR

“Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?”
Isaiah 43:19

Only God is the same yesterday, today and tomorrow.
The Church has always been changing.

I don't know if you noticed this past weekend, but Fall is upon us. The brisk morning air and earlier arrival of dusk reminds us that change is upon us. With each season that comes, we rejoice in what lies ahead, while lamenting what we are leaving behind. Change in all aspects of life brings the same emotions and thoughts. In the life of our church, we are approaching a potential season of change, as well. For some, it is a time of excitement about future blessings, while for others it is a time of sadness. Only God is the same yesterday, today and forever. The Church has been and always will be a changing organism. I am grateful for the ongoing discussions we have had as a church family regarding our proposed schedule adjustment. On Sunday night, our deacon body and ministerial staff discussed at length again, many of the concerns and compliments we have received regarding the schedule proposal. I have enjoyed hearing from those of various view points. While I do not wish to lump everyone into this discussion, I believe it is important to point out a major clarifier. The decision to move into two services on Sunday morning and shift away from evening service to evening serving on Sunday night is not a theological or biblical issue. However, for many of you, you have spent your entire life attending worship on Sunday night. Pastors have reinforced the belief that those who attend Sunday evening are the truly faithful few. Some have asked, “what am I to do on Sunday night if serving is not for me?” For some, this question reveals a struggle that many have relating their Christian experience to a tradition. I love Sunday night worship. I love preaching Sunday nights to so many. But, I also know that Sunday night is not the barometer of my spiritual life. Being at home on a Sunday night is not unbiblical, nor detrimental to my spiritual growth. I am not at risk of losing blessing nor commitment by the absence of such a service. Ultimately, this transition is essential to the health of our church. Our entire staff and active deacon body supports such a decision. While ultimately you will decide this Sunday what is right for you, I hope you know that regardless of the outcome, our church will continue to grow and honor the Lord. Also, don't forget that on Sunday, October 4, we will return to a full schedule of events, dictated by Sunday's vote.

For His glory,
Justin Hiens

SAMPLE BALLOT

Provide 2 worship services on Sunday morning (8:30 & 10:30) with Life Groups (9:45).

Sunday Night: No Weekly Corporate Worship
Student Worship, Children's Programming, Discipleship, Outreach, and Fellowship will be available with all programs ending at 6:00 PM

SUPPORT

OPPOSE

OPEN HOUSE & ROUND UP

We want to invite you to join us from 3:00-5:00 PM (Come and Go), on Sunday, October 4 in our newly renovated fellowship hall/gymnasium. We will begin at 3:00 PM with a simple celebration and time of prayer rededicating the facility to the Lord. Also during this time, there will be a Ministry Round Up event in the gym as we celebrate getting back in the saddle of church again. Multiple ministries will be present sharing and providing information on how you can get involved. A drawing for an Apple iWatch will be given to those who complete a Round up card by visiting 5 ministry tables during the afternoon. Light refreshments and drinks will be served as well.



EDUCATION

We have one more Sunday until our Life Groups regather on Sunday Mornings! Most of 2020 has been spent trying to avoid other people, but now is the time to come back into a community opportunity. This week I want to challenge you to check in on fellow members of your Life Groups and see if they're planning to come. Look around you on a Sunday morning for people to invite to your group for the first time. Approach one of the many visitors you see in our services and ask them to join your group on October 4th. God has blessed us with an influx of visitors over the last few months. It's up to us to be good stewards of God's blessing and extend the invitation of connection and community to them through Life Groups.

Firmly in His Hands,
Bro. Sam

FROM THE COUNSELOR'S DESK

Why? Why God? Why me God? Like most of us, Jeremiah wrestled with this question. He, like Job asked, *“Why did I come out from the womb to see toil and sorrow, and spend my days in shame?”* While the question why? is an honest question the sufferer often asks when they are suffering, it's a question we may never know the answer. You may never know why God allowed you to lose your job or why your spouse died so soon or why you were stricken with cancer or why you are experiencing the effects of COVID-19. In fact, I don't think Jeremiah nor Job were ever given the answer to their question of why? While we may never be given an explanation for our suffering, we are assured the end result of all our suffering. Romans 5:3 says, *“We rejoice in our sufferings, KNOWING that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character.”* Furthermore, James 1:3 says, *“You KNOW that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness.”* Did you catch the end result of your suffering? You can rest assured your suffering is not in vain. You can know beyond a shadow of a doubt, God is using your suffering to produce endurance in you so that *“you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.”* So when you are tempted to ask why God? know that you may never receive the answer to your question, but you can know as you persevere one of these days God will say, *well done good and faithful servant* because you lived a life of faithful endurance amidst your suffering.

Because of Him,
Bro. Russell

YOUTH

Just a reminder that on **Wednesday** nights we have started having a short Bible study for our students in the Upper Room. I will be having something for our students to get involved in each week. This will include small groups, serve opportunities, service projects, special events, etc.

THIS IS A DATE CHANGE...this **Sunday, September 27** we will be having our Back 2 School Blowout at the Pavilion. This will begin from 5:00-7:00 PM with a meal, worship, games and a lot of great prizes. We have been forced to reschedule this event a couple of times so hopefully this will be the week it happens.

On October 28 we will be having a big scavenger hunt at the fairground instead of our annual Pumpkin Chase. We will be partnering with First Baptist Youth for this event. We will need volunteers so be on the lookout for those announcements.

One last note: I am in need of a middle school guys Life Group leader. If you or someone you know is interested in serving in this area please contact me or Sam Coleman.

Blessings,
Bro. Brad

MUSIC

Worship Choir is resuming rehearsals Wednesday, September 30! If you would like to join us, we will meet in the choir room from 7:10-8:00 PM. We would love to have you! If you have questions, please contact Barry Keathley 731-504-2772.

LADIES

I am so excited about our Women's Retreat this year! The dates are Friday, November 13 and Saturday, November 14. Jennifer Hand will be returning to lead us as we study how God can turn our graves into gardens. We will be staying at Kentucky Dam Village State Resort Park and the cost is \$100. A sign-up sheet will be at the Information Center and a \$25 deposit is due by October 18. I cannot wait to see what God has in store for us.

Cherry Hiens

THANK YOU

Thank you for the donation to The Seed Company in memory of my father, John W. Cook. We appreciate the phone calls, visits and texts from our church family.

Brad Cook & family

SYMPATHY

The family of Al Anderson on his death.

The family of Glenda Taylor on her death.

Ouida Osborne and her family on the death of her brother, Wayne Cochran.

Debbie Allen and her family on the death of her sister, Monie Watson.

BIBLE READING PLAN

Mon.	September 21	Ezekiel 24 & Psalm 72
Tues.	September 22	Ezekiel 25 & Psalm 73
Wed.	September 23	Ezekiel 26 & Psalm 74
Thurs.	September 24	Ezekiel 27 & Psalm 75-76
Fri.	September 25	Ezekiel 28 & Psalm 77
Sat.	September 26	Ezekiel 29 & Psalm 78:1-39
Sun.	September 27	Ezekiel 30 & Psalm 78:40-72

FINANCIALS

Week of September 13, 2020

Budget Actual	\$	28,871.00
Budget Goal	\$	33,934.05
Journey of Faith	\$	635.00
Children's Home	\$	525.00
Golden State	\$	785.00
Annie Armstrong	\$	420.00
Designated Offering	\$	1,337.00

Year-To-Date

Budget Actual	\$	65,780.61
Budget Goal	\$	67,868.10
Journey of Faith	\$	1,710.00
Children's Home	\$	620.00
Golden State	\$	1,530.00
Annie Armstrong	\$	420.00

Please note: When making your contributions online, please choose the option to use your routing number and account number, instead of using your debit card. The fees for debit card use are on the rise and we want to use as much of your contribution as possible for the Kingdom.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **YOUTH BACK 2 SCHOOL BLOWOUT:** Sunday, September 27 from 5:00-7:00 PM at the pavilion.
- **WORSHIP CHOIR:** Rehearsals begin Wednesday, September 30 from 7:10-8:00 PM in the choir room.
- **OPEN HOUSE & ROUND UP:** Sunday, October 4 from 3:00-5:00 PM in the gym/fellowship hall.
- **WOMEN'S RETREAT:** November 13-14 at Kentucky Dam Village State Resort Park.

WATCH THE SERVICES

Stay connected by viewing our Sunday morning and evening services through these avenues:

Television: Sundays • 8:00 PM on CH 8 or 26

Radio: Sundays • 10:15 AM on FM 104.9

Facebook: Second Baptist Church-Union City Official

YouTube: Search Second Baptist UC (live Sunday AM)

SEPTEMBER 22, 2020



SECOND BAPTIST
GATHER • GROW • GO • GIVE

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