



**Psalm 46:1–3 (ESV)** -<sup>1</sup>God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

<sup>2</sup>Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, <sup>3</sup>though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling. Selah

**Mark 4:37–41 (ESV)** -<sup>37</sup>And a great windstorm arose, and the waves were breaking into the boat, so that the boat was already filling. <sup>38</sup>But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion. And they woke him and said to him, "Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?" <sup>39</sup>And he awoke and rebuked the wind and said to the sea, "Peace! Be still!" And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm. <sup>40</sup>He said to them, "Why are you so afraid? Have you still no faith?" <sup>41</sup>And they were filled with great fear and said to one another, "Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?"

As I write July's Newsletter, the electricity has just gone off as a severe thunderstorm is howling through the mountains of Carroll Valley. In times like these, I am mindful of the Lord's sovereign grace, care and protection. As horizontal rain smacks against the windows, I can see already some larger limbs of trees that have come down, yet we are safe in God's care.

I find it helpful in times like these to remember that God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in times of trouble. Regardless of the type of storms we find ourselves in, we can find refuge, peace and comfort in the One who can bring peace even in the midst of the storm.

Jeremiah used an image of a tree to reflect those who are trusting and walking closely with the Lord. In his picture, the tree's roots run deep, its leaves are green (even in drought) and its branches bear fruit. I imagine that this "tree" would face many storms, yet would endure those storms, confident of seeing better days.

One day, life as we know it will be transformed into glory and there will no longer be storms to endure. In the meantime, let us continue to be Rooted in Christ, Growing in His Word and Serving Him and others. Let us keep our eyes on the Author and Perfector of our faith, choosing to rest in Him, especially when the storms are howling. Let us not be afraid, but instead rest in the one who can calm the storm.

Blessings, PC



I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me.  
The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. Galatians 2:20

Welcome to July! We are half way through the summer and what a summer it has been! It's been so nice to have a more regular summer with the activities we've been able to do this year, and we continue to pray for health and safety for everyone. As the new school year approaches, anxiety will try to creep in, but God has a purpose in it! Read the devotion below to find out how even our anxiety can be used by God!

We have events like bonfires, swim nights, and more in addition to our regular youth group meetings planned in the coming months, so please check the Fusion Facebook page for updates, bring your friends ages 6th-12th grades, your Bibles, and your awesome selves and come learn about God with us! We look forward to a great year and can't wait to see what God does!

Please check out our Fusion Youth Ministry Facebook page, or see myself or Faith to sign up for our Fusion email chain to get more information on these events and more. Below is a devotional that I read about anxiety, and I pray it will encourage you.

A mob quickly formed against Paul and Silas, and the city officials ordered them stripped and beaten with wooden rods. They were severely beaten, and then they were thrown into prison. The jailer was ordered to make sure they didn't escape. So the jailer put them into the inner dungeon and clamped their feet in the stocks. Around midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the other prisoners were listening  
Acts 16:22-25 NLT

After two years went by in this way, Felix was succeeded by Porcius Festus. And because Felix wanted to gain favor with the Jewish people, he left Paul in prison. Acts 24:27 NLT

I pray that your love will overflow more and more, and that you will keep on growing in knowledge and understanding. For I want you to understand what really matters, so that you may live pure and blameless lives until the day of Christ's return. May you always be filled with the fruit of your salvation—the righteous character produced in your life by Jesus Christ—for this will bring much glory and praise to God. And I want you to know, my dear brothers and sisters, that everything that has happened to me here has helped to spread the Good News. For everyone here, including the whole palace guard, knows that I am in chains because of Christ. And because of my imprisonment, most of the believers here have gained confidence and boldly speak God's message without fear. It's true that some are preaching out of jealousy and rivalry. But others preach about Christ with pure motives. They preach because they love me, for they know I have been appointed to defend the Good News. Those others do not have pure motives as they preach about Christ. They preach with selfish ambition, not sincerely, intending to make my chains more painful to me. But that doesn't matter. Whether their motives are false or genuine, the message about Christ is being preached either way, so I rejoice. And I will continue to rejoice. For I know that as you pray for me and the Spirit of Jesus Christ helps me, this will lead to my deliverance. For I fully expect and hope that I will never be ashamed, but that I will continue to be bold for Christ, as I have been in the past. And I trust that my life will bring honor to Christ, whether I live or die. Philippians 1:9-20 NLT

### **Why does God allow anxiety?**

That's a really great question. I wish I had a good answer for you. I can throw out some reasons God might allow anxiety, but they would all just be guesses. So, instead of trying to answer the question of why God allows anxiety, I want to look at what God can do through our anxiety.

I love this quote: "The presence of anxiety is unavoidable, but the prison of anxiety is optional."

Sometimes, asking the question "why" can leave us frustrated, lost, and stuck. Why, you might ask? (See what I did there?) Because there are some "why" questions we can't know the answer to. So, let's move past "why" and start asking "what" God can do through our anxiety.

On Day 2 of this Plan, I shared a little about the experience with anxiety that my wife and I have had. And let me tell you, there have been lots of "why" questions asked in the process. For example, "Why would You let this happen to us? We both love You and are serving You the best we can. We are praying and praying for healing from this. Why won't You answer our prayers? We're doing everything we know how to, and the anxiety still hasn't gone away. Why are we still afflicted by this anxiety?"

Those questions just led to more frustration and caused bitterness to set in. But when we started to ask the question, "Okay God, what are You doing in this?" we started to see some pretty cool things that we probably would have missed otherwise. We started to see that God was using the pain of anxiety to bring us closer to each other and closer to Him. My wife and I had to learn how to communicate with each other effectively, to serve each other humbly, and to support one another when one of us was struggling. We also found ourselves praying to God with more honesty and passion than ever before. We started to experience the very real truth that what doesn't kill us made us stronger. Our faith grew stronger, our hearts grew larger, and our relationship grew closer. "The presence of anxiety is unavoidable, but the prison of anxiety is optional."

When you feel like you're locked in a prison, it's easy to become so focused on the cage around you, that you miss what God is doing inside you.

Paul is someone who knew the challenges of being imprisoned in a cage really well. How you might ask? Because he literally spent years locked up and imprisoned because of his faith in Jesus. What is so powerful about that detail in the story is it allows Paul to empathize with us when we feel like we are imprisoned by our anxiety. He felt it too. He experienced it. He lived it. And because of that, when we read his words, we are not just hearing someone who has all the answers, but someone who can truly empathize with us.

**Challenge:** Start asking the question, "God, what are You trying to do through my anxiety?" -Devotion on YouVersion Bible App

For information about Fusion events please find us on Facebook at Fusion Youth Ministry, email us at [fusionfbcg@gmail.com](mailto:fusionfbcg@gmail.com),

God Bless, Pastor Matt & Faith :)

## **Comparison**

**Jesus Christ is unique,  
and one cannot be in His presence  
and not reveal the man he really is.  
Jesus pulls each person from behind his mask.  
In the exposure of that bleeding love on the cross,  
men become what they really are.**

**You may think you are wonderful until you stand in the  
presence of the One who is purity itself.  
It is the pure light of God that pierces a man.  
You can keep up your pretense of being holy  
until you stand in that light.  
Then immediately there is nowhere to hide,  
all your masks are torn away,  
all your hollow smiles fade.  
Revival means to be exposed for what we are.  
The presence of the Lord is revealing.**

**\_\_Festo Kivengere**

Found on page 577 in the (red) hymnal

## Online conference: *Radiant Purity*

**July 9-10** for girls 12-22 and their moms. Cost \$25. For mom and 1 daughter, then \$10 for each additional max \$55.

(Late reg. \$35./Family Max \$65.) but not date listed for reg.

To register [www.brightlightsministry.com/register](http://www.brightlightsministry.com/register)

Taught by Sarah Hancock who was one of the speakers at the women's conference

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Look for information about our  
**NEW church directory**  
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It is important to  
know your flock.

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DIRECTORIES**

Pictures taken on Thursday, Sept 9 and Friday Sept 10 @ FBC

Sign ups coming soon!





*Supported By*

**WILL HOST A GOLF OUTING TO  
SUPPORT THE**

**ADAMS CHRISTIAN PRISON  
MINISTRIES**

**MONDAY, JULY 12<sup>TH</sup>, 2021**

Tee times beginning at 9:00 AM, last tee time at 1:30 PM

**-RAIN OR SHINE-**

Entry Fee: \$45 per player

-Entry fee includes golf cart, range balls and green fees.



**Entry deadline**

**July 6th for the first 150 players.**

**Don't Miss Out!!!**

To make Reservations, call the Hanover Country Club: 717-259-8422 ext. 3

Email: [golf@hanovercc.comcastbiz.net](mailto:golf@hanovercc.comcastbiz.net).



For more information go to the ACPM Facebook Page

## THE BIBLE HAS THE ANSWER

Psalm 11:3 – If the foundations are destroyed, What can the righteous do?

Ephesians 6:11-12 – Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.

One of the primary responsibilities of an Elder is to guard the spiritual life of the church body. This includes helping the congregation to think biblically about current events that effect our daily lives. Pastor Erwin Lutzer says we must have the courage to both engage the culture and stand against it.

Our Elders (Pastor Carl Harris, Pastor Sean Fitzgerald, Pastor Matt Rice, Jim Stockman, Mac McBeth and Mark Punchard) have become concerned over the social justice issues that seem to be brought up every time you turn on your television, pick up a newspaper, or listen to the radio. After much discussion and prayer over these last several months we feel it is necessary to alert those attending First Baptist Church about the danger of certain influential groups and provide a biblical foundation to discern the truth (and lies) of the issues, ideologies and philosophies being promoted.

In order to write this letter I (Mark) have read *Fault Lines by Voddie Baucham*, *We Will Not Be Silenced by Erwin W. Lutzer* and *Dark Agenda by David Horowitz*. These authors seem to have a good understanding of the issues. While two of these men are believers (Baucham and Lutzer), the third author David Horowitz, is a Jewish Agnostic who strange as it may seem, understands the importance of the Judeo-Christian influence in our society. For further thought and review of some of these subjects, I recommend these resources for a deeper understanding.

### Some definitions and facts:

1. The war we are raging against these strange ideas / philosophies is a spiritual one.
2. Black Lives Matter (BLM) – founded in 2013 by three trained Black organizers which is part of the Black Liberation Movement. They are Patrisse Cullors (who just recently resigned because of people questioning the mansions she has), Alicia Garza and Opal Tometi. All three of these women are lesbians. They are committed to LGBTQIA+ and pro-abortion with roots in the occult.

As Christ followers, we affirm that all life is precious regardless of color. God has made us all in His image. While we would all agree that “black lives matter” and affirm the message of equality and reject the evils of racism, the organization at the core appears anti-male, anti-family, revolutionary and feminist.

The three founders are said to practice witchcraft and also identify themselves as trained Marxists.

3. Critical Race Theory: Founded in 1989 by Harvard Law Professor Derrick Bell. His protege is Kimberle Crenshaw who introduced the idea of “Intersectionality”. This refers to the multiple layers of oppression minorities suffer.

Peggy McIntosh wrote an article about “White Privilege”. These names of ideology are all part of the same worldview known as Critical Social Justice or CSJ. This is a global movement that believes power and resources must be redistributed not only within nations but between them. This puts the focus on America since we are the wealthiest nation on earth.

4. Marxism: Karl Marx was born to Jewish parents in Germany. He met Friedrich Engels in 1844 while studying in Paris. Four years later they released their famous political document *The Communist Manifesto*. His philosophy was based on three beliefs: (1) Matter is the final reality (materialism); there is no God nor a human soul that survives the death of the body, (2) Economic forces propel history ever onward and upward and (3) private property is the source of all evil.

Marx hated Christianity which he saw as a source of oppression. He described religion as the opium of the people. In the Bible God provides a structure for the family unit. The husband and wife while they have different roles, still work together. Marx believed that mothers should work outside the home so that government-approved schools could raise the children who, in reality, belonged to the state. The family unit was no longer to be seen as an independent, economic unit of society; communal housing, had to replace private housing. His goal was a classless society with no kings or servants, no owners and workers, no rich and poor, no wives and husbands shaping the worldview of their children.

This is why parents today are challenging school boards and other authorities about what is being taught to their children such as CRT and The 1619 project. Lutzer says that Socialism builds a ladder to a place that does not exist. It talks about distributing wealth but it has no way to create it.

Socialism, which is basically the supremacy of the state over the individual, has failed in Russia, China, Cuba, under Hitler and now Venezuela. This country which became rich under capitalism because of their oil has an economy that has collapsed under socialism so people are scrounging for food, adults can afford protein-rich food only twice a month; malnutrition and starvation are everywhere. Criminals break into houses searching for food. If you criticize the regime, you can be persecuted or killed. There is no freedom of speech like we enjoy in America.

5. In 1973 homosexual activists persuaded the American Psychiatric Association to remove homosexuality from its list of psychiatric illnesses and reclassify it as normal behavior.

6. Antifa – a new fascist movement who say they are combating hate while employing extreme violence, destruction of public and private property, pillaging, breaking windows and setting cars on fire.

7. Lutzer says leftists do not care about whether religion is actively promoted in our schools as long as it is a religion that seeks to destroy Western values and make Christianity the villain.

In a 2008 survey by the American Textbook Council, an independent national research organization found that seventh grade textbooks describe Islam in glowing terms and Christianity in a harsh light. We must pay closer attention to what our children are learning. Our history is being rewritten.

8. The Equality Act (H.R. 5) passed the House of Representatives in May of 2019. It would amend the Civil Rights Act of 1964. The bill would redefine sex to include gender identity, undermine religious freedom, give males who identify as females the right to women's spaces, and sets a dangerous political precedent for the medicalization of gender-confused youth. (Lutzer)

9. Even David Horowitz understands the problem; he says it is the doctrine of original sin. Only God can change the heart.

10. If you do the research you will find that all these groups mentioned have MARXISM as their foundation for their beliefs. They do not believe the principles outlined in the Bible.

#### SO WHAT DOES SCRIPTURE SAY WE SHOULD DO?

1. I PETER 3:13-17 – reminds us that even if we suffer for righteousness sake, we are not to fear those people who bring accusations against us. We are in our hearts to honor Christ as Lord and to be prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks us for a reason for the hope that is in us. We are to do it with gentleness and respect. These people with the unbiblical beliefs are lost and confused spiritually and we need to point them to the Savior who is the only one who can save them and give them inner peace. (John 14:6, 27, Isaiah 26:3, Romans 5:1, Philippians 4:7)

2. 2 Corinthians 10:4-5 says our weapons are not carnal, but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds and casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ.

We need to put on the gospel armor Paul writes about in Ephesians 6:14-18. God has already provided the believer with everything we need to combat the forces of evil.

3. Voddie Baucham Jr. says our purpose in opposing these demonic ideologies should be to (1) Expose them – Ephesians 5:11, (2) Warn them – 2 Timothy 3:15 and (3) Correct them – 2 Timothy 2:25 in hopes that they may come to their senses and escape from the snare of the devil, after being captured by him to do his will (2 Timothy 2:26)

4. Racism has nothing to do with the amount of melanin in our system. Read Romans 3:23 that says we are all sinners. That statement eliminates this idea that one race is superior to another race. We are all created equal. All of us sin and are in need of being reconciled with our creator. What is most important is that we accept Jesus' offer of salvation and believe that He died, was buried and rose again on the third day giving us the promise of eternal life. The ground is level at the foot of the cross.

It is too late now for Karl Marx, Hitler, Stalin, Lenin and Fidel Castro. But it is not too late for us to do all we can to share the good news with these people that are protesting. Read Luke 16:19-31 to understand the gap between heaven and hell.

In closing I hope this quick summary gives you a better perspective for some of the issues that are facing our nation and church. Please continue to keep these issues in prayer and further be equipped to know how best to give the reason for the hope that you have. May we look for opportunities to speak God's truth in love to those who are perishing and be wise in not getting pulled into flawed and deceptive philosophies that might have some appeal but in the end lead to flesh and death.

Should you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact one of us Elders. We will be glad to do our best to answer your questions / concerns.

Keep Looking Up

Mark Punchard Sr.

# Volunteer Opportunities



VOLUNTEER

**Take your pick.  
How can you serve  
the Lord this year?**

**Start the year off RIGHT!!**

## **We Need:**

**Greeters** - welcome guests

**Sound technicians** - rock the house (training provided)

**Nursery Helpers** - baby duty

**Teachers** - Children's church

**Online Prayer Ministry  
Leader and Prayer Warriors** -

**Sign up today:**

(717) 334-2564 \* [kathy\\_negro@fbcgettysburg.net](mailto:kathy_negro@fbcgettysburg.net)

# **South Mountain Fair**

## **July 27-31, 2021**

**FBC will be having a booth at this year's  
South Mountain Fair.**

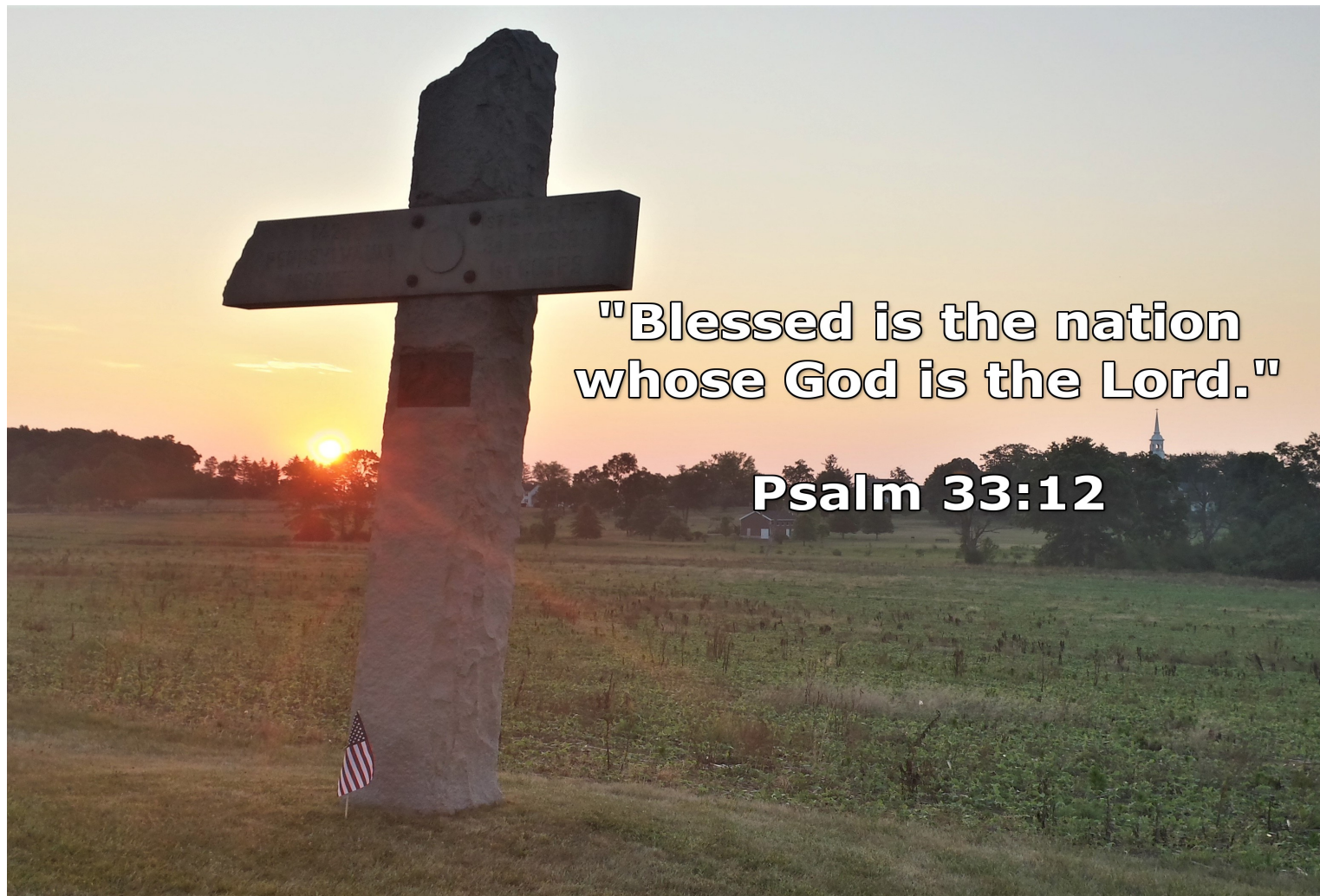
**We need volunteers to help  
run the booth throughout the day.**

**If you can help,  
please contact Pastor Carl  
and sign up on the sheet  
on the Welcome Center.  
Walking sticks will be handed out  
and a gospel message  
will be given to people.**

**South Mountain Fair Grounds**

**Rt. 234, Arendtsville, PA.**

**Central Pennsylvania's Agriculture Showplace**



**"Blessed is the nation  
whose God is the Lord."**

**Psalm 33:12**

## **FBC MISSIONS**

**JULY 4 - ED McMANNESS**

**JULY 25 - ANGEL PEREZ**

**VISITING  
SPEAKERS**

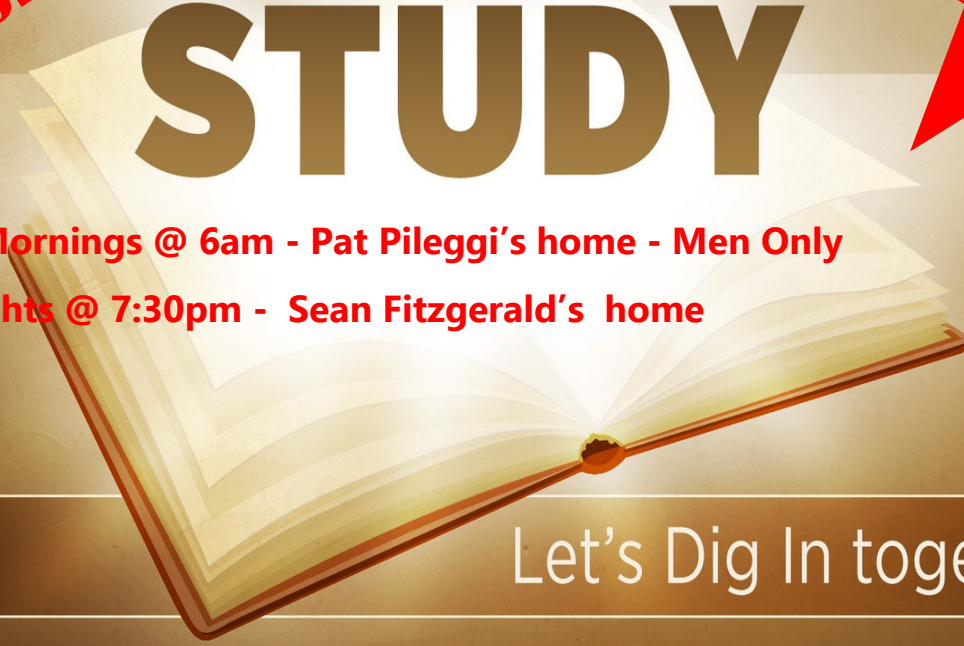
**Join one today!!!**

# **BIBLE STUDY**



**Monday Mornings @ 6am - Pat Pileggi's home - Men Only**

**Friday Nights @ 7:30pm - Sean Fitzgerald's home**



**Let's Dig In together**

# **HELLO**

**JOIN OUR TEAM OF SUNDAY MORNING GREETERS**

**We are looking for some enthusiastic folks to be GREETERS on Sunday Mornings! This can be done in couples or singles. You would only need to greet folks for the service you attend. If you feel like you would enjoy welcoming people as they enter our church on Sundays, please contact Kathy @ 717-476-5934. We would love to have you join up to be an FBC GREETER!**

**"But God, ... made us alive together with Christ—by grace  
you have been saved."**

**Ephesians 2:4-5**

ScriptureWay.com

**"Go, therefore, and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing  
them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit,  
teaching them to follow all that I commanded you; and behold,  
I am with you always, to the end of the age."**

**Matthew 28:19-20**

# July 19-23



**Volunteers Needed. See Jen Harris or Adrienne Fitzgerald**

## **W2 Group**

This group of Widows and Widowers meet on the last Sunday of each month after 2nd service to support and love each other. All are welcome!

**Next: July 25th**  
after 2nd service

## *Can You Guess The Hymn?*

Early let us seek Thy favor;  
Early let us do Thy will;  
Blessed Lord and only Savior,  
With Thy love our bosoms fill.  
Blessed Jesus, Blessed Jesus,  
Thou hast loved us, love us still;  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,  
Thou hast loved us,  
love us still.



# 15 Questions



## A time to weep

1. Who wept at thinking her son would die of thirst in the desert?
2. Who wept over the death of his rebellious son, Absalom?
3. What Old Testament woman is pictured as “weeping for her children and refusing to be comforted?”
4. At whose death did Abraham weep?
5. Who wept at seeing the new temple that was built after the exiles’ return from Babylon?
6. Whose second husband, Phaltiel, wept as he watched her return to her first husband, David?
7. What caused Nehemiah to weep?
8. Who cried as he begged Isaac for his rightful blessing?
9. Who wept because her husband’s other wife taunted her for being childless?
10. Who wept because he realized that David had a chance to kill him but chose not to?
11. Who said “Oh, that my head were waters, and mine eyes a fountain of tears”?
12. Who wept when he thought Joseph was dead?
13. Jacob wept with joy and love over what beautiful woman?
14. Who cried in Egypt when his brothers did not recognize him?
15. What Judge’s wife wept in front of him?



Dick Gallimore - 6  
 Paul Jay - 6  
 Tom Paull - 8  
 Bob Negro - 9  
 Gabriel Harrison - 11  
 Hannah Henson - 12  
 Kylee Roden - 12  
 Adrienne Holsopple - 15  
 Derek Tate - 15

Mac McBeth - 15  
 Grace Lustig - 16  
 Kate Shay - 16  
 Daniel Miley - 22  
 Edward Holsopple - 22  
 Benton Celius - 23  
 Sally Guise - 28  
 Makenzie McLaughlin - 29  
 Ron Miller - 31

HAPPY July ANNIVERSARY



Carl and Jennefer Harris - 4  
 Tony and Kim Gipe - 10  
 Kevin and Mary Ann Filler - 18  
 Matt and Sharla Reiter - 22  
 Ellen and Charles Van Arsdale - 26  
 Josh and Jaime Henson - 29  
 Andy and Kristen Hoffman - 30  
 Dennis and Sherry Weber - 30

## Our Ministry Team

### Senior Pastor

Rev. Carl G. Harris  
pastorcarl@fbcgettysburg.net **717-253-3968**

### Associate Pastor

Sean Fitzgerald  
fitzgerald08@fbcgettysburg.net **717-713-7948**

### Youth Pastor

Pastor Matt Rice  
pastormatt@fbcgettysburg.net

### Traditional Worship Leader

Whitney Myers  
Whitney@ScriptureWay.com or  
whitney\_myers@fbcgettysburg.net

### Contemporary Worship Leader

Jim Sitter  
jsitter@fbcgettysburg.net or  
jimsitter00001@gmail.com

### Secretary

Kathy Negro  
kathy\_negro@fbcgettysburg.net

### SonShine Christian Preschool

director: Natalie Potter  
sonshine@fbcgettysburg.net

### Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday 8:30 am - 4:30 pm  
Fridays 8:30 -12:30

### Mailing Address:

First Baptist Church  
1015 Chambersburg Road  
Gettysburg, PA 17325

### Telephone:

717-334-2564

### Fax:

717-334-6711

### CHECK OUT OUR WEB SITE & FACEBOOK PAGE

[www.fbcgettysburg.net](http://www.fbcgettysburg.net)

## Answers to June: 12 Questions

1. What judge had 70 sons? **GIDEON**  
(Judges 8:30)
2. Who was the first child mentioned in the bible? **CAIN**  
(Genesis 4:1)
3. Who was Noah's youngest son? **HAM**  
(Genesis 9:18-24)
4. What king was the youngest of eight brothers?  
**DAVID** (I Samuel 17:12-14)
5. Who was Joseph's younger son? **EPHRAIM**  
(Genesis 41:51-52)
6. Who is the youngest son of Adam mentioned by name? **SETH** (Genesis 4:25)
7. Who were the first twins mentioned in the bible?  
**JACOB & ESAU** (Genesis 25:23-26)
8. Which disciple was probably a twin? **THOMAS**  
(John 11:16)
9. Who died giving birth to Benjamin? **RACHEL**  
(Genesis 35:16-18)
10. Was the prodigal son the older or younger son?  
**YOUNGER** (Luke 15:11-32)
11. What wicked king of Israel had 70 sons? **AHAB**  
(II Kings 10:1)
12. Who had 19 sons and 1 daughter by his legitimate wives? **DAVID** (I Chronicles 3:1-9)
13. Who was older, Moses or Aaron? **AARON**  
(Exodus 7:7)
14. Who was Jacob's youngest son? **BENJAMIN**  
(Genesis 35:16-18)
15. Who was born first, Jacob or Esau? **ESAU**  
(Genesis 25:25-26)

ANSWER TO HYMN: Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

All articles for the newsletter must be submitted by the 20th of the previous month.