

# First Baptist Church

**“To Know Him and Make Him Known”**

February 2018

*Blast from the Past: This Pastor's Paragraph was written in June, 2007. Personally, I think it has aged well!*

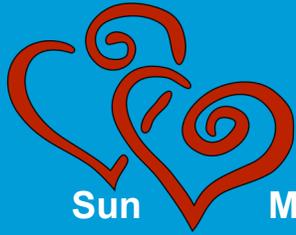
“We have heard a lot of discussion recently about protecting the environment, saving the planet, and preventing global warming. There are many different views concerning this popular crisis of the hour. Those of us who are serious about thinking Biblically may raise a question. How should Christians respond to the current buzz about saving the earth from the evils of global warming? There are many ways to answer this question. Some try to analyze the scientific data and build a rational argument. I, however, am no scientist. I am a theologian. So, I would rather examine the broader scope of the arguments. I analyze the worldviews which are the philosophical underpinnings of the current arguments. In other words, let the scientists examine the leaves under a microscope; I will stand back and describe the forest to you. Without debating the science, the current urgent appeal to save the planet from the imminent peril of global warming is based on some serious philosophical flaws which I reject as a Biblical theologian with a Christian worldview.

1. I reject the arrogance of the secular humanists. They have completely rejected God, and now claim that mankind has the power to destroy the world, or that mankind has the power to save the world. To the contrary, my Bible teaches that God is the Creator of the universe. He spoke the galaxies into existence. He is the sustainer of the universe, “He is before all things, and in Him all things consist.” (Col. 1:17) The universe is held together by the eternal power of God. If you read the closing chapters of the book of Job, you will hear God launch a lengthy tirade against the arrogance of men. For two long chapters (Job 39-40), God uses nature to demonstrate the total ignorance and inability of man. God made the seasons, and man cannot change them. God gives the rain, and man is dependent upon it. God created the animals with instincts that man can never understand. It is foolish arrogance to presume that man is able to destroy that which God has created, or that man possesses the power to save that which God sustains. It is God's to save or to destroy, not ours.

2. I reject the fear-mongering predictions of imminent doom and disaster. Those that have cast off God and His Word have replaced Divine Revelation with their own version of apocalyptic judgment to come. As a theologian with a Christian worldview, I believe that the fate of the universe is in the hands of a loving and sovereign God. Therefore, I need not fear the future. Some have predicted global disasters, melted ice caps, flooded cities, and mass death and destruction. The book of Revelation does indeed predict some global judgments upon the earth. However, most (if not all) of those judgments are direct acts of God. He is in control. The fate of the world is not in the hands of man. Rather, if we trust the sovereign God of the Scriptures, there is no need to fear the future of our planet. Those apostles of environmental doom and gloom are really demonstrating their lack of faith in God.

3. I reject the pseudo-morality of those who have rejected absolute truth. Secular humanism has cast off God and His holy standards. This has left life meaningless and empty. Every individual longs for something meaningful and eternal, something bigger than one's own pitiful existence. Saving the planet provides a moral imperative for those who mock Biblical morality. For years they lectured us (Christians) about the impossibility of legislating morality, and now they are attempting to legislate their own version of morality. For years they told us not to push our morality on others, and now they are trying to force everyone else to accept their twisted morality. A transcendent God has been replaced by the false goddess, Mother Earth, and God's eternal commandments have been replaced by the imperative to save our environment. It has become a false religion for those who despise Christianity.

So, we can debate the details of the scientific data. However, I already have some serious problems with the global warming hysteria. If the earth is indeed heating up, it may be because it has an appointment with its creator!” ~Pastor (See 2 Peter 3:10)



# February

# 2018

Sun

Mon

Tue

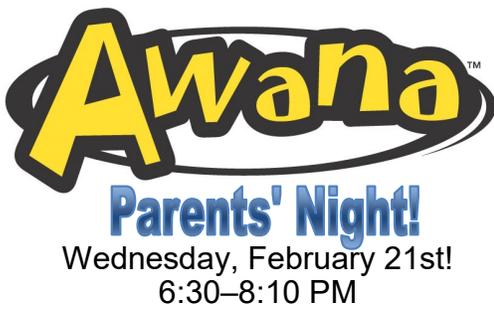
Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

				1	2 Happy Groundhog Day! 	3 Trustees' Mtg 8 AM Deacons' Mtg 9 AM
4 Communion Right Hand of Fellowship Choir Practice	5  Welcome!	6 Deacons' Mtg 7 PM	7 AWANA 6:30-8 PM	8	9	10
11 Choir Practice	12	13	14  AWANA 6:30-8 PM	15	16	17
18 Choir Practice	19  PRESIDENTS' DAY	20	21 AWANA 6:30-8 PM Parents' Night!	22	23	24
25 Missionary Ron Hemsworth Choir Practice	26	27	28 AWANA 6:30-8 PM Store Night!			



**Awana**  
Parents' Night!  
Wednesday, February 21st!  
6:30-8:10 PM

### Valentine Gift Card

We currently have one college student, Helena Valquier. We want to send her our love and encouragement, however, instead of collecting items for a care package, we will be sending her a gift card!



On Communion Sunday, February 4th, we welcome Val Roloff into our church membership with the Right Hand of Fellowship!

**John 3:16**  
For GOD so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten SON, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting LIFE.



### December Finances

#### Balance Forward 12/1/2017

Deacon's Fund	\$698.29
Designated Fund	\$56.42
General Fund	\$27,019.61
Checking Account	\$27,774.32

December Income	\$52,082.32
December Expenses	\$44,155.33
Net Increase	\$7,926.99

#### Balance 1/31/2017

Deacon's Fund	\$698.29
Designated Fund	\$156.42
General Fund	\$36,976.66
Checking Account	\$37,831.37