

May 2020

First Baptist Church

"To Know Him and Make Him Known"

Pastor's Paragraph

King Jehoshaphat's Prayer

King Jehoshaphat was generally a good king over Judah. He led a revival among the people, encouraging them to return to God. When faced with a national crisis (surrounded by an enemy army!) he gathered the multitude together in the court of God's temple in Jerusalem and led a prayer meeting. His prayer is one of the most memorable prayers recorded in the scriptures. His heartfelt supplication to God is extremely timely and relevant for our situation today. First, he affirmed his absolute trust in the Almighty God. Then, he prayed these words, "If disaster comes upon us—sword, judgment, pestilence, or famine—we will stand before this temple and in Your presence (for Your name is in this temple), and cry out to You in our affliction, and You will hear and save." (2 Chronicles 20:9) Basically, he was acknowledging the sovereignty of God and accepting whatever fate God allowed. No matter what happened (notice the possibility of a **pestilence!**), he would stand in God's temple and continue to worship the God who saves. That should be our response to the covid-19 pandemic. No matter what happens, we will return to church and worship our Almighty Savior!

The key concept is that of trust. Jehoshaphat trusted God. Notice what he did not do. He did not summon his military commanders to come up with a plan to protect his city. He did not convene a panel of scientific experts to analyze the situation and formulate a scientific solution. He did not call for an economic council to invest in infrastructure to defend against the enemy. He did not even call the priests to get a religious perspective. He just went straight to God, the One in whom he trusted completely. It was a humble admission that even the King could not save his own people. He needed some divine intervention. (It would be nice to have a politician demonstrate some humility like that every once in a while!) His prayer ends with another great line, "O our God, will You not judge them? For we have no power against this great multitude that is coming against us; nor do we know what to do, but our eyes are upon You." He humbly admitted that he had no idea what to do, but his eyes were fixed upon the One Who Saves. I'm sure Jehoshaphat was surrounded by competent military officers and brilliant scientists and shrewd economists. But, they could not save him from this enemy. And, so it is with us. We should not wait for the government to save us. We should not put our trust in the scientific experts. We have a great health-care system, but it will not be our salvation when we really need it. But no matter what dangers we face, we can stand in the presence of God with absolute confidence.

The good news is that we will be able to do just that in the month of May! Sunday, May 10th will be a busy day! It will be the first Sunday that we are able to engage in our normal public worship services (following the new guidelines!). On May 10th, we will have Sunday School, celebrate Mother's Day, Honor our Graduates, and have a baptism service. You can tell that we have been isolated too long! We really need to get back to church! We will still plan to live-stream the preaching service on Facebook for those who are not yet prepared to risk public encounters. For those who are ready, I can't wait to see you in God's House! God is good . . . All the time. ~Pastor

May 2020

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

					1	2 Trustees' Mtg 8:00 AM
3 Livestream 10:30 AM 6 PM Prayer Youth Group	4 Prayer 7PM Pastor's Day-off	5 Deacon's Mtg 7:00 PM	6	7	8 Official final Day of NCPS	9
10 Mother's Day S.S. 9:15 Worship 10:30 Baptism	11 Prayer 7PM Pastor's Day-off	12 [Nebraska Pri- mary Election]	13	14	15	16
17 S.S. 9:15 Worship 10:30 Prayer 6:00 PM Teens 6:00 PM	18 Prayer 7PM Pastor's Day-off	19	20	21	22	23
24 S.S. 9:15 Worship 10:30 Prayer 6:00 PM Teens 6:00 PM	25 Prayer 7PM  Pastor's Day-off	26	27	28	29	30
31 S.S. 9:15 Worship 10:30 Prayer 6:00 PM Teens 6:00 PM						



1- Johnathon Miller
12- Fred Pierce
14- Rachel Baltensperger
22- Eli Lenhart
22- Ronda Johnson
24- Beth Trimble*
30- Edna Chastain



28- Jim & Wanda McCord



May Flowers

Lynda Schweitzer

May Greeters

Dan & Cindy Patton

May Ushers

Bob Cline & Jim Webster

Dear First Baptist Church Family,
Just a little note to say thank you for the beautiful plant you all sent in memory of our dad. We appreciated the plant, cards, and all of the prayers you've sent. Thank you for thinking of us! Sincerely, Samantha, Dominick, and the entire Curto Family

Dear Brothers & Sisters at First Baptist Church, Thank you for the plant in remembrance of my older brother, Robert. He was a fellow believer and is in glory now. —Gary Rademacher



Dear Pastor Hunt & Church Family,
Thank you so much for the lovely plant in memory of my brother. I especially appreciate all your prayers. This has been extremely difficult for me. We would often text each other to see if there was time to visit. My last text went unanswered. Thanks again for all your prayers. —Sharon Kerwin Gygi (A poem written by John is posted on the bulletin board at church.)

Year to Date Finances

Balance Forward 1/1/2020

Deacon's Fund	\$626.46
Designated Fund	\$4,764.74
General Fund	\$33,145.65
Checking Account	\$38,536.85
YTD Income	\$65,059.23
YTD Expenses	\$47,345.65
Net Increase	\$17,713.58

Balance 4/26/2020

Deacon's Fund	\$4,046.46
Designated Fund	\$4,417.26
General Fund	\$47,786.71
Checking Account	\$56,250.43