



Church Newsletter

First Baptist Church of
Niles

Volume 2/Issue 13

WHAT WE ARE DOING? AND WHAT WE SHOULD DO?

IN THIS ISSUE

WELCOME

Welcome to Volume 2 of the FBCN Newsletter or the “current new normal” editions.

This week’s reading will be Psalm 89, titled *I Will Sing of the Steadfast Love of the LORD*

A Maskil of Ethan the Ezrahite.

1 I will sing of the steadfast love of the LORD, forever; with my mouth I will make known your faithfulness to all generations. **2** For I said, “Steadfast love will be built up forever; in the heavens you will establish your faithfulness.” **3** You have said, “I have made a covenant with my chosen one; I have sworn to David my servant: **4** I will establish your offspring forever, and build your throne for all generations.” Selah **5** Let the heavens praise your wonders, O LORD, your faithfulness in the assembly of the holy ones! **6** For who in the skies can be compared to the LORD? Who among

the heavenly beings is like the LORD, **7** a God greatly to be feared in the council of the holy ones, and awesome above all who are around him? **8** O LORD God of hosts, who is mighty as you are, O LORD, with your faithfulness all around you? **9** You rule the raging of the sea; when its waves rise, you still them. **10** You crushed Rahab like a carcass; you scattered your enemies with your mighty arm. **11** The heavens are yours; the earth also is yours; the world and all that is in it, you have founded them. **12** The north and the south, you have created them; Tabor and Hermon joyously praise your name. **13** You have a mighty arm; strong is your hand, high your right hand. **14** Righteousness and justice are the foundation of your throne; steadfast love and faithfulness go before you. **15** Blessed are the people who know the festal shout, who walk, O LORD, in the light of your face, **16** who exult in your name all the day and in your righteousness are exalted. **17** For you are the glory of their strength; by your favor our horn is exalted. **18** For our shield belongs to

the LORD, our king to the Holy One of Israel. **19** Of old you spoke in a vision to your godly one, and said: “I have granted help to one who is mighty; I have exalted one chosen from the people. **20** I have found David, my servant; with my holy oil I have anointed him, **21** so that my hand shall be established with him; my arm also shall strengthen him. **22** The enemy shall not outwit him; the wicked shall not humble him. **23** I will crush his foes before him and strike down those who hate him. **24** My faithfulness and my steadfast love shall be with him, and in my name shall his horn be exalted. **25** I will set his hand on the sea and his right hand on the rivers. **26** He shall cry to me, ‘You are my Father, my God, and the Rock of my salvation.’ **27** And I will make him the firstborn, the highest of the kings of the earth. **28** My steadfast love I will keep for him forever, and my covenant will stand firm for him. **29** I will establish his offspring forever and his throne as the days of the heavens. **30** If his children forsake my law and do not walk according to my rules, **31** if they

violate my statutes and do not keep my commandments, 32then I will punish their transgression with the rod and their iniquity with stripes, 33but I will not remove from him my steadfast love or be false to my faithfulness. 34I will not violate my covenant or alter the word that went forth from my lips. 35Once for all I have sworn by my holiness; I will not lie to David. 36His offspring shall endure forever, his throne as long as the sun before me. 37Like the moon it shall be established forever, a faithful witness in the skies.” Selah
38But now you have cast off and rejected; you are full of wrath against your anointed. 39You have renounced the covenant with your servant; you have defiled his crown in the dust. 40You have breached all his walls; you have laid his strongholds in ruins. 41All who pass by plunder him; he has become the scorn of his neighbors. 42You have exalted the right hand of his foes; you have made all his enemies rejoice. 43You have also turned back the edge of his sword, and you have not made him stand in battle. 44You have made his splendor to cease and cast his throne to the ground. 45You have cut short the days of his youth; you have covered him with shame. Selah
46How long, O LORD? Will you hide yourself forever? How long will your wrath burn like fire? 47Remember how short my time is! For what vanity you have created all the children of man! 48What man can live and never see death? Who can deliver his soul from the power of Sheol? Selah
49Lord, where is your steadfast love of old, which by your faithfulness you swore to David? 50Remember, O Lord, how your servants are mocked, and how I bear in my heart the insults of all the many nations,

51with which your enemies mock, O LORD, with which they mock the footsteps of your anointed. 52Blessed be the LORD forever! Amen and Amen.

(We have defined the word Maskil in previous newsletters. According to a majority of translations it has the meaning of a song enforcing some lesson of wisdom or piety, a didactic song.)

Gaetano Paolino from the Orchard Church will be preaching the next two weeks.

We invite you to Join us for a virtual prayer meeting on Wednesdays at 7:00pm.

Wednesday Bible Study ([Click Here](#))

Meeting ID: 899 2251 1230

Password: 409807

One tap mobile

+13126266799

Meeting ID: 899 2251 1230

Password: 409807

Make sure you view the updated prayer list. There are so many needs.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

There will be a MENS BBQ FELLOWSHIP @ 2:00PM on Saturday, September 19, 2020 at the home of Al Nuzikowski. All men are invited.

The Nuzikowski Estate
1542 Woodbury Circle
Gurnee, IL 60031

UPCOMING CHURCH BUSINESS - All MEMBERS

Sunday, September 20, 2020

Pastoral Candidate Brandon Myers will be available following the service to answer questions. We encourage all members to make themselves available for this important meeting.

Sunday, September 27, 2020

Pastoral Candidate Brandon Myers Will be preaching.

Sunday, October 4, 2020

A vote to call Pastor Brandon Myers as Senior Pastor of First Baptist Church of Niles will follow the morning service.

It is important that all members vote.

Special provisions are being made for eligible Church Members who have not been able to attend services due to Covid-19. No Touch Absentee Ballot Collection will take place on Sunday, October 4, 2020 in the parking lot between 10:00am and 1:00pm.

This week we are sharing a special testimony by Al Nuzikowski.

[A Look Back at the First Baptist Church of Niles](#)

I first came to the First Baptist Church of Niles in 1986. The Lord led me to the church using an ice storm as a vehicle. Not wanting to make the trip to Moody in treacherous weather, I came to a small church in Niles.

The LORD has blessed me in many ways. One of these ways was to surround me with men of faith. One was Pastor McManus, the other was my father-in-law Rev. Loreto Figueroa. Both men served as pastors and stewards of the Word for over 50 years.

¹⁴ How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? Romans 10:14

Without preaching from the Word, how would we know the truth? How can we live a life worthy to be called sons of God?

The men God supplied in my life, tailored my life into one led by the Word. The dedication to the many of the church members can be attributed to the leadership of Pastor McManus.

The Bible gives us warnings about false teachers.

²⁴ For false Christs and false prophets will arise and perform great signs and wonders, so as to lead astray, if possible, even the elect. Matthew 24:24

¹³ For such men are false apostles, deceitful workmen, disguising themselves as apostles of Christ. ¹⁴ And no wonder, for even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light. ¹⁵ So it is no surprise if his servants, also, disguise themselves as servants of righteousness. Their end will correspond to their deeds. 1 Cor 11:13-15

Today, there are many that may be considered as false teachers. They may have large congregations and considered to be successful. But are they presenting the Word in truth and in whole?

What is the truth? Jesus himself sums it up simply. We need Christ. We are all sinners, however large or small, and we need a Savior.

Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. John 14:6

I am grateful that I have been surrounded by the truth in my time at our church. I am confident that I have not been led astray by false teachings.

I once was in the church and read a document that Pastor McManus prepared for one who was to be baptized. It is a simple document, that simply presents what it means to be a Christian. It has read by many globally. I encourage you to read it, and to see how it can transform your life.

<http://firstbaptistchurchniles.org/fait-resources/for-new-believers.html>

Pastor McManus served us for many years, until ill health forced him from the pulpit. Many questioned as to what would happen to the church he

so diligently built. God had a plan. One that He instituted long ago.

Pulpit fill was used both while the pastor was ill and following his death. The LORD faithfully supplied us with godly men, who would carry forth His message.

Some of these men called, served from the pulpit for long periods of time. They had to travel distances to preach at our church. They sacrificed much of themselves. The truth continued to be echoed from the pulpit.

When I consider some of the men that filled the pulpit, I am in awe of what the LORD gave to us.

Pastors Billow, Davis, Eddy and Vitel were all men of conviction. They were all faithful to spreading the gospel and were unwavering from the truth. I am especially thankful to Pastor Davis, who officiated the funeral service for my wife. Recently the Orchard Church has supplied men who continue to preach the Gospel in truth. While many may have doubted if the church would survive without Pastor McManus, the leadership provided by Christ alone proved otherwise. I salute them all and give thanks to the Lord for the privilege of knowing them.

We now come upon the next saga of our church as we prepare to call a new pastor. It is imperative that we pray diligently to know God's will. We must act inspired by God's will only. Change will come, but what we cannot allow to change is the dedication to preserve the gospel as presented in the Bible.

I read various documents regarding the selection of a pastor to envision what we should be looking for.

- 1) The pastor must have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Church leaders must strive to grow their relationship with Christ. How can a pastor lead others to this personal relationship if they themselves do not have such a relationship?
- 2) A Burden for People and Souls – Simply stated a pastor primary desire is to have people come to the knowledge and acceptance of Christ as their Savior.
- 3) Service - Pastors are first and foremost to serve Christ. I think that is an important point because it means the pastor's primary job is to carry out the will of Jesus and not the will of the church. That is not to say a pastor should not serve his church. That is not it at all. Pastors should certainly serve their church. But as John MacArthur puts it, "When I serve Christ, I will best serve His people. When I serve His people, I may not serve Him."
- 4) Integrity – Integrity, defines this characteristic as "discerning what is right and what is wrong; ... acting on what you have discerned, even at personal cost; and ... saying openly that you are acting on your understanding of right and wrong"
- 5) Humility - Great leaders have genuine humility. They must work at this – and sometimes they struggle with it. But the best genuinely sees themselves as servants for others and strive to put the needs of others before their own.
- 6) Passion - Leaders genuinely believe in what they are doing; they have convictions. But leadership goes beyond mere convictions to the ability to inspire others with those convictions.
- 7) Vision - Leaders see things that others do not see. They see opportunities others miss. They anticipate problems before they become problems. They know how to think strategically. They see potential others simply do not see.
- 8) Perseverance - Leaders never give up on anything critical without a fight. They know that there will always be opposition and roadblocks to accomplishing great things. They do not run over people, but they are also not deterred at the first sign of opposition and they do not allow temporary setbacks and defeats to determine their future.
- 9) Encouragement and Mentoring - Great leaders know how to encourage others. They constantly praise others and build them up. They love to help others succeed and be their best. They exercise restraint in criticism but pursue praise and encouragement with a passion. Successful leaders mentor others and help others hear God's call into ministry.

Above all we should be committed to the purpose of our church.

We are a Bible believing fellowship, committed to the glory of God through doing all we can... in every way we can... to help as many as we can... to follow Christ more completely and consistently.



PRAYER LIST

- ✓ ✓ Continuing Prayers for loss: All the families that have lost loved ones this past year. Remember those who have recently lost loved ones due to COVID 19.
- ✓ ✓ Continuing Prayers for physical needs: Rita McManus, Maria Hatfield, Erwin and Elizabeth Lickman, Gloria-Lynn Fernandez, Betty Matson, Ronaldo Claveria
- ✓ ✓ Continuing Prayers for our Ministry Needs: The Pastoral Search Committee, Pulpit Supply, Our Deacons, Financial support
- ✓ ✓ Continuing Prayers for our Sister Ministries: BIEM Ministries, Orchard Church, Pastors Davis, Billow, Eddy, Vitel. The Perinbaraj's as they continue their studies preparing for the mission field of India.
- ✓ ✓ Continuing Prayers for Spiritual Needs: Leonard Hatfield, Carol Pelfrey's family, Daniel Ruehlman, George Bizadellis
- ✓ ✓ Continuing Prayers for: The spread of the Gospel, Our Government, Our Nation, Our Community, Our Neighbors, Our Families, pray for our members that have lost employment and for those who still have jobs and need to interact with others on a daily basis. Pray for those still working that God will protect. Lift up all our health professionals and their families who are on the front line of this pandemic especially Mylin and Errol Lardizabal and Liza Mitchell, Carol Riemer and family.
- ✓ URGENT Erwin Lickmann is requesting prayer for finalizing decisions regarding the future living arrangements for himself and Elizabeth. This is an urgent need as Elizabeth's health and mental faculties are quickly deteriorating.
- ✓ Alex Figueroa, (relative of Al Nuzikowski) is undergoing treatments on his eye. Pray for a full recovery.
- ✓ Norma Weinthal and family – Herb Weinthal went home to be with the Lord last week.

If you have prayer requests or updates on your family, we encourage to submit them to the Newsletter email address at the end of this newsletter.

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