



Church Newsletter

First Baptist Church of
Niles

Volume 2/Issue 22

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 98, titled Make a Joyful Noise to the LORD

Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things! His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.

²The LORD has made known his salvation; he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations. ³He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.⁴Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises!

⁵Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody! ⁶With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD!

⁷Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who dwell in it!

⁸Let the rivers clap their hands; let the hills sing for joy together

⁹before the LORD, for he comes to judge the earth. He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity.

This week Pastor Brandon Myers will continue his series on the from the book of Galatians. If you can’t join us in person I highly recommend watching his messages on one of the two FBN channels.

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. And don’t forget the 30-day

prayer challenge as we bring Pastor Myers and his family before God’s throne.



Today let's all pause to praise God for those who have served in the U.S. military. If you know someone who has served thank God for them and reach out to them personally and thank them. Buy their meal, send them a card but do acknowledge them! In our own church family at FBC, We thank God for George Henning, Claude Covington, George Sargis, Ardi Benliro and Nel Varilla who served in the military. We are grateful to God for the dedication and sacrifice of so many to defend our God-given freedoms in this blessed nation!

November 11, 2020

Grace and peace from God our Father through Jesus Christ our risen Lord brothers and sisters in Christ! And a very warm hello to all the friends of First Baptist Church of Niles! It is such an honor and one of the greatest blessings of my life to have been called by the Lord through you to serve as your next pastor. My wife (Kaiti) and I are overjoyed at the Lord's leading us to you all and you have been much in our prayers and will remain so. We are so excited to see how God will glorify Himself and spread His saving gospel to many of our neighbors nearby and among the nations!

Below you will see a picture of our family (Eva Grace-6, Audrey Ann-4, Patrick David-1 and though you can't see him he is there—Haddon Ray-due next month Lord willing!). Kaiti and I cannot wait for you to meet our children and get to know them better-they add much joy to our lives and are incredible gifts from God! I will tell you more about Kaiti and the kids soon.



In this newsletter you can read more about me, followed by ways to pray for First Baptist and at the end you will see a “Hope From God’s Word” that has biblical reflections drawn from John 16. May our God encourage you from His Word and may you be encouraged to know this day friends that the Lord of lords and the King of kings is on the throne and in our Rock we cannot be shaken.

The LORD is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold. (Psalm 18:2)

Pastor Brandon’s Testimony

In God’s kindness, I heard His saving Gospel from my mother and father from a very young age. I often say, this means God knew my stubborn heart needed to hear His good news of Jesus Christ crucified for sin and risen for our justification not a few dozen times but a few thousand times! God is good! By God’s grace. all of my grandparents were born again and repented of their sins and trusted in Christ and urged their children to do the same. As a very small boy I remember sitting at my grandpa’s feet in the morning as he read his Bible and prayed. When I was five years old, my mother shared the gospel with me (again!). I prayed to receive Christ, repenting of my sin and trusting in what God did in Christ

alone to forgive me and give eternal life and peace with God (John 3:16; Romans 5:1). Next to salvation, I consider being born into a united and believing home with faithful disciple-parents in both my mom and dad (and many relatives), one of the greatest blessings from the Lord. They brought me up in the faith and disciplined me for my good (though growing up I did not always view it as for my good!). I was baptized as a teenager and encouraged by many faithful brothers and sisters in Christ at our home church in Wheeling, IL. Growing up was difficult in more than one way for me—it was one of constant repentance and the Lord humbling me. I still remember reading Romans 1:30 “...they are “disobedient to their parents” listed next to murderers, and inventors of evil and confessing greatly to the Lord for my heinous, wrath-deserving sins. Later through the leading of mentors, friends, family and prayers, the Lord led me to vocational pastoral ministry a little over nine years ago. He affirmed my call to joyfully serve, preach, pastor, lead and lovingly come alongside God’s people for God’s glory. The Lord was and is totally faithful! Praise be to God for his grace in Christ! Surely with the Apostle Paul I 100% affirm about anything good you see in me, “By the grace of God, I am what I am...” (1 Cor. 15:10)

Prayers for First Baptist Church of Niles:

- Pray for God to be supremely glorified in all we do.
- Pray God's Word is faithfully preached and further sets us apart for God (John 17:17)
- Pray for us as a church family to have unity in what matters the most.
- Pray we have unity around and under the inerrant and sufficient Word of God above all other authorities (2 Timothy 2:16-17);
- Pray we have unity as we seek first God's kingdom (Matthew 6:33);
- Pray for unity as we strive to be holy and obedient disciples and make disciples of the Lord Jesus and so fulfill the Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20)
- Pray we would welcome one another as Christ as welcomed us for the glory of God (Romans 15:7)
- Pray for wisdom, love, patience, endurance and faithfulness in these difficult times to lead.
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"Truly, truly, I say to you, whatever you ask of the Father in my name, he will give it to you. ²⁴ Until now you have asked nothing in my name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full. —The Lord Jesus in John 16:23-24

Hope from God's Word:

"In this world you will have tribulation. But take heart, I have overcome the world."

These are difficult days for many people. The church of the risen Lord Jesus faces a host of new challenges and tribulations. But we are not the first disciples to experience sorrow, confusion and tribulation (and should the Lord tarry we won't be the last!)

In John 16, the first disciples of Jesus had not yet witnessed the sufferings and death of their Lord on the cross. But soon they would. In fact, Jesus promised in his death that his disciples would face intense sorrow even as the world rejoiced (John 16:20).

Imagine, how would you react to these words from Jesus—"Friend, soon you will experience great grief even as others in this sinful world rejoice?" "How would you respond?"

Praise God His Word does not stop there! Jesus addressed these soon to be sorrow-filled disciples by telling them they would not remain sorrowful very long. Jesus who guaranteed their sorrow also guaranteed their sorrow would turn to joy.

And not just any joy, Jesus declared, but the deepest joy there is—a joy that no human being can steal (John 16:22) and an untouchable joy rooted in His coming resurrection. As the early disciples had the promise of an untouchable, resurrection-shaped joy that would swallow up and replace their anguish, so

do we who are in Christ friends (John 16:21)!

In his resurrection Jesus displayed he is more powerful than our greatest fears. Our God alone is the strong conquering King. In His death and resurrection, Jesus demonstrated He has total power over the grave, over fears, over enslavement to sin and over the devil (who in some sense had the power of death but no longer, see Hebrews 2:14). The crucifixion and resurrection brought in a new day. A day ushered in by the fulfillment of promises God made by the prophets. Prophets like Isaiah who 700 years before the start of Jesus incarnate ministry on earth stated:

You shall see, and your heart shall rejoice; your bones shall flourish like the grass; and the hand of the LORD shall be known to his servants, and he shall show his indignation against his enemies. Isaiah 66:14

Jesus knew even with all these words of assurance from his mouth, his most loyal disciples would soon abandon him as he went to the cross. But Jesus also knew his Father would back him and not leave him alone (John 16:31-32). In declaring his disciples would leave him and be scattered (vs. 32), Jesus drives every Christian to the one who never fails and who we owe our ultimate allegiance to: God almighty.

"It is part of the character and genius of the Church that its foundation members were discredited men; it owed its existence not to their faith, courage, or virtue, but to what Christ had done with them; and this they could never forget." - C.H. Dodd

Friends, our Lord promised his first disciples their sorrow would turn to joy and made good on that. Ours is a resurrection-shaped, untouchable joy that produces hope even in times of fear. The Lord longs to have our hearts consumed by what He has done for us in the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

The disciples were slow to get this as we often are. But no matter what we face or what tribulation or trouble we presently endure, remember our Lord's words have been revealed and given to us for our good. When we dwell on the words of our Lord, he grants us peace as we are reminded again that for those of us in Christ, the most important and eternal things have been settled forever.

I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world." –the Lord Jesus in John 16:33

"Peace is one of the fundamental characteristics of the messianic kingdom anticipated in the Old Testament (Nu. 6:26; Ps. 29:11; Is. 9:6–7; 52:7; 54:13; 57:19; Ezk. 37:26; Hg. 2:9) and fulfilled in the New (Acts 10:36; Rom. 1:7; 5:1; 14:17)." –D.A. Carson

Soli Deo Gloria!

In and for Christ,

Pastor Brandon D. Myers

p.s. I think I have tried to call every member and regular attender of our church to connect with you but if I missed you I apologize and will soon! However, please don't hesitate to reach out to me especially if you think for some reason your contact information not incorrect in the current FBC directory: I can be reached by phone # 847-647-8751 and email:

pastor@firstbaptistchurchniles.org

I look forward to hearing of God's grace in your life, how can I be praying and encouraging you with God's Word!



PRAYER LIST

- ✓ Continuing Prayers for loss: All the families that have lost loved ones this past year. Remember those who continue to lose loved ones due to COVID 19.
- ✓ Continuing Prayers for physical needs: Rita McManus, Maria Hatfield, Gloria-Lynn Fernandez, Betty Matson, Ronaldo Claveria, Alex Figueroa, Kurt Pazdra II, Pastoral Intern at The Orchard.
- ✓ Continuing Prayers for our Ministry Needs: Pastor Brandon Myers, Our Deacons, Financial support.
- ✓ Continuing Prayers for our Sister Ministries: BIEM Ministries, Orchard Church, Pastors Davis, Billow, Eddy, Vitel, Ebi and Esther Perinbaraj, Gaetano and Krista Paolino
- ✓ 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. Erwin Lickmann pray for wisdom regarding future living arrangements for Elizabeth and himself. Mikaelle (Mikey) at Olivet Nazarene College. George Sargis. Continue to remember the Benlro Family as they work through self isolation due to Ardi's Covid 19. The (Dewain) Karnes family as they grieve the loss of a relative to Covid 19

Remember our 30 days of Prayer for Pastor Myers his wife Kaiti their daughters Eva and Audrey and son Patrick.

First Baptist Church of Niles
"The Country Church"
7339 Waukegan Rd.
Niles, IL 60714

<http://firstbaptistchurchniles.org> or
<https://www.facebook.com/firstbaptistchurchofniles>
s or

firstbaptistchurchniles@gmail.com

Newsletter email: nilesbaptistnews@outlook.com