



Church Newsletter

First Baptist Church of
Niles

Volume 2/Issue 39

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.

Pastor Myers has started a new series from the Book of Philippians. The title of this weeks sermon is, “Salvation-God’s Role and Ours” The scripture passage will be Philippians 2:12-30.

Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling,¹³ for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.¹⁴ Do all things without grumbling or disputing,¹⁵ that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world,¹⁶ holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain.¹⁷ Even if I am to be poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrificial offering of your

faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all.¹⁸ Likewise you also should be glad and rejoice with me.¹⁹ I hope in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you soon, so that I too may be cheered by news of you.²⁰ For I have no one like him, who will be genuinely concerned for your welfare.²¹ For they all seek their own interests, not those of Jesus Christ.²² But you know Timothy's proven worth, how as a son with a father he has served with me in the gospel.²³ I hope therefore to send him just as soon as I see how it will go with me,²⁴ and I trust in the Lord that shortly I myself will come also.²⁵ I have thought it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus my brother and fellow worker and fellow soldier, and your messenger and minister to my need,²⁶ for he has been longing for you all and has been distressed because you heard that he was ill.²⁷ Indeed he was ill, near to death. But God had mercy on him, and not only on him but on me also, lest I should have sorrow upon sorrow.²⁸ I am the more eager to send him, therefore, that you may rejoice at seeing him again, and that I may be less anxious.²⁹ So receive him in the Lord with all joy, and honor such

men,³⁰ for he nearly died for the work of Christ, risking his life to complete what was lacking in your service to me.

FBC Newsletter March 3, 2021

God and God alone, is man's highest good. All creatures owe their existence from moment to moment solely to Him who is the one eternal and omnipresent Being. – Christian Theologian Herman Bavinck (1854-1921)

Praise God for biblically faithful and thoughtful Christians down through the centuries! And praise God for historic confessions of faith and catechisms. God has blessed us in the 21st century tremendously! We have so many resources to help us grow in our faith in and knowledge of the Lord. Yet I realize there is so much out there it can be difficult to keep track of it all and to know what is worthwhile. In this week's church newsletter I want to highlight a few excellent (and free!) Baptist resources. God willing in days ahead, we will look more at these together. Below you will find three

Baptist Confessions of Faith followed by some catechism tools:

[The London Baptist Confession of Faith of 1689 was put on a very clean and helpful pastors right here in the Chicagoland area. Check it out and be blessed!](#)

Chapter 24 Paragraph 1 of LBCF 1689 confession says of civil government:

God, the supreme Lord and King of all the world, has ordained civil magistrates to be under him, over the people, for his own glory and the public good; and to this end has armed them with the power of the sword, for defence and encouragement of them that do good, and for the punishment of evil doers.

[And the 1792 Philadelphia Confession of Faith can be found here](#)

Chapter 8 Point 9 declares in line with the Bible:

9. This office of mediator between God and man is proper only to Christ, who is the prophet, priest, and king of the church of God; and may not be either in whole, or any part thereof, transferred from him to any other.

[Here is the 1833 New Hampshire Confession of Faith.](#)

XI. Of Perseverance of the Saints We believe that such only are real believers as endure unto the end: that their persevering attachment to Christ is the grand mark which distinguishes them from superficial professors; that a special providence watches over their welfare, and that

they are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation.

On all of these I would urge you to walk through them. Look at the different verses that are referenced and be blessed by the beauty, clarity and biblical basis of the statements! They are not perfect but they do capture very very faithfully much of the most important aspects of our Christianity!

Here are a few catechism (i.e. teaching/instructional) tools for your family and you: Benjamin Keach's Catechism:

<http://www.reformedreader.org/cc/c/keachcat.htm>

And an updated version of these is found here:

<https://www.desiringgod.org/articles/a-baptist-catechism>

[Truth and Grace Memory Book by Dr. Thomas Ascol is excellent!](#)

In future weeks we will look be looking at how to use these to God's glory! However for now be blessed and explore these resources! Why do we do this? Why do we do anything—because our Lord commands it:

but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory, both now and to the day of eternity. Amen. (2 Peter 3:18)

Praying for all of you friends and so grateful to the Lord for you!

In and for Christ,



PRAYER LIST

- ✓ Continuing Prayers for comfort for the families that have lost loved ones this past year. Including the families of Juanita Cariaga, Brenda Covington and Carmen Pearson
- ✓ Continuing Prayers for physical needs: Gloria-Lynn Fernandez, Kaiti and Haddon Myers, Brenda Covington
- ✓ Pray for our shut-ins Betty Matson, Rita McManus, Maria Hatfield, Nancy Yatabe, Erwin and Elizabeth Lickmann, George Sargis.
- ✓ Continuing Prayers for our Ministry Needs: Pastor Brandon Kaiti, Eva, Audrey, Patrick and Haddon Myers, Our Deacons, Continued 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 that God will protect. Pray for safety for those who are attending schools during the Pandemic. Lift up all our health professionals and their families who are on the front line of this pandemic. Remember Mylin and her mother and brother as they continue to recover from the effects of COVID 19. , Nel and Brendas Daughter Nina recovering from surgery.

Betty Matson was in the hospital and has been transferred to the Fairmont Care Rehab Facility: 5061 N Pulaski Rd, Chicago, IL 60630. (773) 604-8112 Pray for Bettys recovery and reach out to her.

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Pastor mentioned three specific areas of prayer for First Baptist Church of Niles for 2021. Remember these in prayer.

1. Continue to fortify the congregation by increased community prayer, provide opportunities for growth as disciples of Christ and introduce times of fellowship with respect to current health concerns.
2. Fortify the church membership by strengthening the leadership and solidifying the foundational beliefs, i.e. Statement of Faith. Pastor Myers conveyed Pastor McManus' heart for the congregation citing I Corinthians 1:10, *"I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment."*
3. Nurture a heart for evangelism by reaching the local community and our neighbors..

SAVE THE DATES

All Men of the church are invited to call in to a Zoom Meeting with Pastor beginning on Wednesday, March 10 at 7:30pm. The topic of the meeting will be Biblical Eldership and what Scripture reveals about eldership, clearly define what Biblical Eldership is and according to the New Testament concept of eldership Elders lead the church, teach and preach the Word, protect the church from false teachers, exhort and admonish the saints in sound doctrine, visit the sick and pray. Providing a path to build Church Leadership.

Call information:

Topic: Biblical Eldership

Time: Wednesday, March 10, 2021 @ 7:30pm

Join Zoom Meeting <https://zoom.com>

Meeting ID: 873 1076 7885

Passcode: 269498

To join by audio: 13126266799

Meeting ID: 873 1076 7885

Passcode: 269498

All current and prospective members are encouraged to attend an in-person follow-up discussion around the topics of the current Church Constitution, By-Laws and Statement of Faith. The discussion will be held on consecutive Sundays beginning March 14, 2021 at 9:45am downstairs in the Fellowship Hall. Coffee plus will be available.

Chili Fellowship. Saturday March 20 @ 3:00pm Be sure to sign-up.