

The Current

Fbc Newsletter

JULY 2019

Pastor's Notes

Happy Birthday America!

She is 243 years old and is a very special place as we all know, living in the best country ever, and in my belief, since God spoke the universe into existence!

We have so much to be thankful for, beginning with our salvation and then the freedom we have to worship the Lord without fear! God indeed put a group of men, albeit not perfect, but men who feared God and wanted His perfect will in the establishment of this nation. After all these years, having read so much of our rich history, I am still amazed at the genius of our founding documents, the form of government and the envisioned liberty for our people that our forefathers had—all God given!

Be sure to take a moment to thank God for America and ask Him what you might do to be a better steward to this blessed land that He gave us. My thoughts on becoming a better citizen of this land is to become a better citizen of His, meaning the best thing we can do to help America is to be a more faithful steward to the Lord's Kingdom.

Don't forget that VBS kicks off July 29. We need your faithful involvement if this year's VBS will be all that God would have it to be. We owe it to Him and to our kids to make this the best VBS ever!

Bro Monty

Church Events

- **July 4th Independence Day Office Closed**
- **July 11th 11:00 AM Welcome the new R-1 School Superintendent**
- **July 15th –19th Children Camp at Bill Rice Ranch**
- **July 20th Bread Shed**
- **July 29th—Aug. 1 Vacation Bible School**

Closing The Gap

Hey Church, long time no hear!

It's time for the newsletter once again! It is always a privilege to be able to write to you and keep you up to date with everything going on in the Church. I guess that's why this segment is called *Closing The GAP*! In this month's edition of *Closing The GAP* we have several important things to address! Before we get into that though, I just want to thank God for all of you, and the amazing things that have been happening here in the body of Christ known as FBC Doniphan. You have been a tremendous blessing to serve alongside. Also, I thank you all for the many birthday wishes!

Now onto business! (Just kidding! Kind of...) We have so many things getting ready to take place this summer and I couldn't be more excited to see what God is going to do! We have VBS coming up July 29th - August 1st if you have an interest in serving in this ministry please see Amanda Lunsford ASAP! I can't stress enough how important VBS really is. It was 16 years ago that I surrendered to Christ as Lord and Savior. It was 16 years ago at a VBS in a small town, in a small church, in California where I was saved. VBS is one of the leading ministries where we see salvations all over the world! That's a great thing but that means it's up to us to volunteer and make ourselves readily available to help a child make the best decision of their lives!

We had an amazing Bread Shed last month. 282 families were served! All praise and glory to God! If you hadn't noticed, we had a new ministry introduced there as well. We all know how instrumental prayer is in our everyday lives. In fact, it was all due to a prayer we made that brought us into relationship with our Lord to begin with!

We have seen miracles and healing. We have seen needs met. We have had blessings after blessings but none of that happens without the power of prayer! It's an amazing tool that we have been provided with, giving us a direct line to the Father! How amazing is that!?!? What's even more amazing is that we can use this for others. It is my honor and privilege to announce the new Prayer Stop ministry! The idea is that we go into the community setting up a booth and simply pray for those who come! Our motto is "You stop, we pray!" We don't sell, push or prod anybody with anything. We just give them the hope that is known as Jesus Christ. I encourage you and even welcome you to come along side as we engage in this endeavor! Let's be a blessing and share this with others. "We love, because He first loved us."

Before I close this segment there is just one more thing, I would like to share with you. The North American Mission Board or NAMB is introducing a new program called Who's Your One. The idea of this program is that we would pick one person and pray for them daily until they come to know Jesus as Lord. There is nothing more important Church than seeing lost souls come to know Jesus! We have a duty and a responsibility to share the GOSPEL with everyone! It is going to be uncomfortable at times. We may not want to do it, but if we don't do it, who will? My one's name is John G. Join me in praying for your one.

That's all the time I have so until next time! God Bless you Church!

Zachariah Coonce, Connections Pastor
Zachariah Coonce

PRAY
UNCEASINGLY

You are needed
Meet with us at the church

Every Tuesday
6:00 AM
5:30 PM

Be a Prayer
Warrior



AMAZING ENCOUNTERS
WITH JESUS
JOHN 20:31

You're invited on a great
adventure this summer at

**First Baptist Church
Doniphan**

**Monday, July 29th through
Thursday, Aug. 1 from**

5:30 pm to 8:30 PM

For Pre-K through 6th grades

Youth Pastor's Pen

Happy summer church family and friends!

July is a busy month for our church, but, believe it or not, it's a slow month for our youth ministry. Which I can honestly say is a good thing because we've been running at full speed since way back in the spring and it's nice to have a little break. It's also Biblical to take some time to rest. God Himself created EVERYTHING in 6 days and on the 7th day He rested. I find it coincidentally fitting that July is the 7th month of the year so we can say we've been working hard these past 6 months and are going to enjoy a restful 7th month of July, Lord willing. Now, this doesn't mean we're just not doing anything right now, but on the contrary we are very active with our normal schedule. For example, we are continuing to meet each week at 6 on Wednesday night and Sunday nights for worship and small group Bible study. Our Wednesday night sermon series is going to wrap up as we close out the month of June. We've been discussing (the past 8 weeks) the topic of unity within the Church in a series called "UNITED: The Body of Christ". The highlight of this series has probably been helping these students learn about and discover their spiritual gifts. No matter how old or young all Christians have at least 1 (probably more than 1) spiritual gift and it's important that we identify our gifts so we can use them to edify and serve the Church. During our Sunday night Bible studies we've been exploring the Southern Baptist Doctrine and comparing what we believe (as Southern Baptists) to other denominations. I believe it's important we help our students and children understand what the Bible really says and why we interpret it the way we do. Not only that but it's been awesome to help them learn to read and interpret Scripture on their own and watch as they build their own foundation of faith on the truth of God's Holy Word and not just take me for my word. My words, thoughts, and opinions aren't worth much. In fact, compared to the infallible, inerrant, and Holy Word of God, nothing I say will ever even come close to measuring up to it. As Pastor Monty often says, the Word of God stands on its own. We just do our best, as pastors, to help clarify it so our people better understand it. This is why I don't want any of our students to just take what I say as absolute truth. I want them to have the ability and know how to take what any preacher or teacher says and put it to the test of Scriptures themselves (like the Bible says in **Acts 17:10-11**). This way they'll have the ability, as they grow older and move on with their life, to not succumb to the lies of false teachers, but they'll always be able to discern for themselves the truth of God's Word. I am SOOOO blessed and grateful to be these students youth pastor! We've got some students who are really growing into some mighty young warriors for Christ and I'm SOOOOO proud of them! Discipleship is so important and is really something that is lacking in the Church today. Because Churches aren't making healthy disciple making disciples we are seeing people (especially young families) leave the church. The reason for this is because they never built their faith on the foundation of Christ, but instead they built it on something else. No matter how long that foundation may last, if it's not built on Christ it will eventually, sooner or later, crumble. We are working hard during these summer months to really pour into and invest in the lives of each and every student we have come in our doors. So it doesn't matter if we have 3 or 30 we're diving deep into the Word of God! By His grace, guiding, and leading we have been able to really teach and disciple our students so far this summer and it's been a true blessing. I'm prayerful and hopeful that when school starts back this fall not only will we see many of our students return to church, but we'll also have many students who can help lead and guide others because they spent the summer months being heavily disciplined and because they've built their foundation on Christ they can help others do the same.

Thank you Church, as always, for all the love, prayers, and support! We couldn't do what we do without it and we are SO grateful for every bit of encouragement you all shower onto us! Keep praying, serving, and worshipping because as each day passes we know we are one day closer to the return of King Jesus! All Hail the KING!

God bless!

Drew Simmons



Women on Mission

Church on Mission



We **celebrate American** Independence Day on the **Fourth of July** every year. We think of **July 4, 1776**, as a day that represents the Declaration of Independence and the birth of the United States of **America** as an independent nation. We celebrate with flag waving, fireworks, family gatherings with games and BBQs. Everywhere and everything is decorated with the Red, White & Blue.

There was an article by Billy Graham stating, Our independence did not come easily; only after several difficult years of war would it finally be won. Our forefathers were determined to establish a free and democratic system of government, and the Declaration of Independence (together with our Constitution and the Bill of Rights) became the foundation for this. On July 4th we give thanks for the wisdom and faith and courage of those leaders.

Although it is not a religious holiday like Christmas or Easter, for many Americans July 4th is a time to reflect on God's goodness to us as a nation. Molded into the Liberty Bell in Philadelphia (which proclaimed our independence) are these words from the Bible: "Proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof" (Leviticus 25:10, KJV). Our legal system reflects our Judeo-Christian roots.

While we look with gratitude to the past on this July 4th, may we also look in faith to the future, and commit it and our lives to God and His will. The ancient words of the Psalmist are still true: "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord" (Psalm 33:12).

VBS is another time for us to celebrate with children and their families the freedom we can have through a new life in Christ. We are freed from the penalty and power of sin through the cross. We have been set free from sin by the Son of God who said, "If the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed" [John 8:36](#). (VBS is July 29-August 1st)

In preparation for VBS, we will seek God's favor on a prayer walk 7/22 at 6:30 pm. Plan to join us for this special time.

Emmanuel Baptist will be hosting the Associational WMU meeting on 7/13 at 6:30 pm, mark your calendar.

Our call is to live in **Unshakable Pursuit of His Mission, His Word, and His Glory.**

Remember to stand firm and everything you do for the Lord is worthwhile. (1 Corinthians 15:58)

Many hands and feet make Kingdom work, a work of joy. Thank you, for serving in the missions of our church.

Carol Wilhelmy, Missions Director