

VITAL SIGNS

Budget Gifts Sunday\$7,293.00
 Budget Gifts to Date\$7,293.00
 Annie Armstrong to Date.....\$2,500.00

Birthdays

May 13 Jan Blakey
 May 13 Matthew Davidson
 May 13 Bro. Tommy Duke

Anniversaries

May 11 Mr. & Mrs. Rocky Dekle



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Church Services

We are creating the guidelines that are needed to return back to church. There are many things we need to accomplish to make sure we are ready to open up safely. We have already set many things in motion so we will be ready when that time comes. Some things are still going to take a little more time to make sure we do them right. Our guidelines will also include the different phases. Phase one will be starting Sunday Morning Worship only. As we get closer we will share with you the guidelines to accomplish this first phase. Continue to pray for wisdom and miracles.

ONLINE OPPORTUNITIES

Sunday 11am and Wednesday 7pm

Join us at fbcgc.live

Past Services

*You can now go to the website (fbcgc.net) and watch previous services under the **WORSHIP SERVICES** tab

Online Giving

*You can now give online by going to the website (fbcgc.net) and click on the **ONLINE GIVING** tab

Office Hours during COVID-19

Monday – Thursday 10:00am to 2:00pm



35 Nelson Avenue, Garden City, GA 31408
 912-964-1448 or fbcgc@yahoo.com
www.fbcgc.net

Office Hours: 9:00am to 2:00pm Monday - Thursday
 Closed on Fridays

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May 6, 2020

Tommy Duke—Interim Pastor
 Randall Frantz—Minister of Ed/Youth
 Debbie Traywick—Director of Music

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Farewell Old Friend

We got word last week that our summer youth mission trip with World Changers had been cancelled. Even worse they were getting rid of World Changers all together. My heart is very heavy and it was hard to tell our youth about this change. World Changers was more than an event it was really a way of life. Let me explain. When they did a test project they knew they had hit on something special. During the week while working on the home the teens noticed some kids playing basketball down the street with a make shift goal. During their afternoon off instead of doing some activity for themselves they pooled their money and bought a new goal and took it to the kids down the street. They found that teens loved to serve others and God. On my first trip I had a paint crew of all middle schoolers in the inter city of Memphis. The kids watched the neighborhood as we drove to the house we would work on. When we arrived no one wanted to get out of the van. I assured them God was with us and we went to work and we all were excited to share Christ with everyone we met. The only problem was the only person we saw all week was the postman. The kids were discouraged. While we were cleaning up on Friday all the neighbors came out and said how much they were going to miss us. They had watched all week without us knowing it. There are so many incredible stories throughout the years and so many lives changed.

Also through WC we learned some valuable lessons that not only helped us through the week but also through life. We did not allow any complaining. If there was a problem it was ok to talk about because it could be solved. A complaint was something that couldn't be solved and we just needed to move on and make the best of it. This got us through a lot, especially when the bus would break down, lol. We also learned to be flexible. Notice that both these

lessons deal with attitude. God can do so much more with us when we are trusting Him and putting ourselves aside. I could tell stories for days. I could also tell you how it changed me (also remember it was WC that God used to save my sight). Now for the good news, several years back the founder of WC went out on his own and created Mission Serve (WC without the name and the song). We will still get to be used by God with the same type of projects next summer. As one chapter closes, God opens a new one. We serve a great God.

Randall

WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE TO RESPOND WITH HOPE?

Each Sunday since Easter (and through May 24) we've been looking at how Jesus – and specifically His “I AM” statements about Himself – provides Hope as we face difficult, uncertain and hopeless times.

The worldwide COVID-19 crisis that we continue to go through is just that: a situation where hope is often hard to find. It has been an unprecedented time for us, but I want to encourage you to take heart that the Church has faced similar situations in the past.

So, let's take a look at one example of how believers in church history have responded with the hope of Jesus in the midst of a public health crisis.

It was August, 1527, when the bubonic plague reached Wittenberg, Germany. A young minister named Martin Luther and his pregnant wife went against the urging of friends and colleagues who wanted them to leave town for their own safety. Martin and Katharina Luther chose to respond with HOPE.

Responding with HOPE looks like COMPASSION.

The Luther's chose to stay in town to be available to minister and show love to those who were suffering. They chose in that dark hour to obey Jesus' command

to love your neighbor over our human instinct for self-preservation. In fact, here's what he said about it:

There you hear that the command to love your neighbor is equal to the greatest commandment to love God, and that what you do or fail to do for your neighbor means doing the same to God.

If you wish to serve Christ and to wait on him, very well, you have your sick neighbor close at hand. Go to him and serve him, and you will surely find Christ in him...

Incidentally, Luther didn't look negatively toward those who *did* leave town. He did encourage Christians to seek to love their neighbors when it mattered most.

One way to define love is to place others' needs above our own, so “how” we're loving our neighbors has been different than at other times. Loving those around us has taken the shape of physical distancing, wearing masks in public and limiting in-person meeting, all while staying in touch relationally through calls, texts and video chats.

Here's my question for you:

Who has God called you to serve this week?

Remember, your compassion toward others is an expression of the hope that Christ has placed inside you!

Join us on these upcoming Sundays at fbccg.live:

- Mother's Day - Sunday, May 10
Hope... When I Don't Have Enough
- Sunday, May 17
Hope... When the System Seems Broken
- Sunday, May 24
Hope... When I Feel Disconnected

Compassionately Yours,
Tommy