

VITAL SIGNS

Budget Gifts Sunday\$7,688.00
 Budget Gifts to Date\$22,857.64

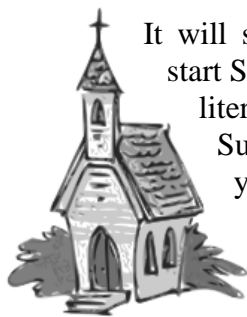
Birthdays

May 26	Donna Blissett
May 26	Kayman Read
May 27	Zim Nixon
May 30	Kay West

Anniversaries

May 30 Mr. & Mrs. Tony Bragg

Sunday School Literature



It will still be awhile before we are able to start Sunday School classes back but the new literature is in. It starts with the first Sunday in June. If you would like to get your literature you are welcome to stop by the church office and get it anytime Monday –Thursday from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Please call ahead and we will have it ready for you. If you need further assistance please contact Randall.



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

Vol. 60 No. 20 May 20, 2020

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



ONLINE OPPORTUNTIES

Sunday 11am and Wednesday 7pm
 Join us at fbcgc.live

Past Services

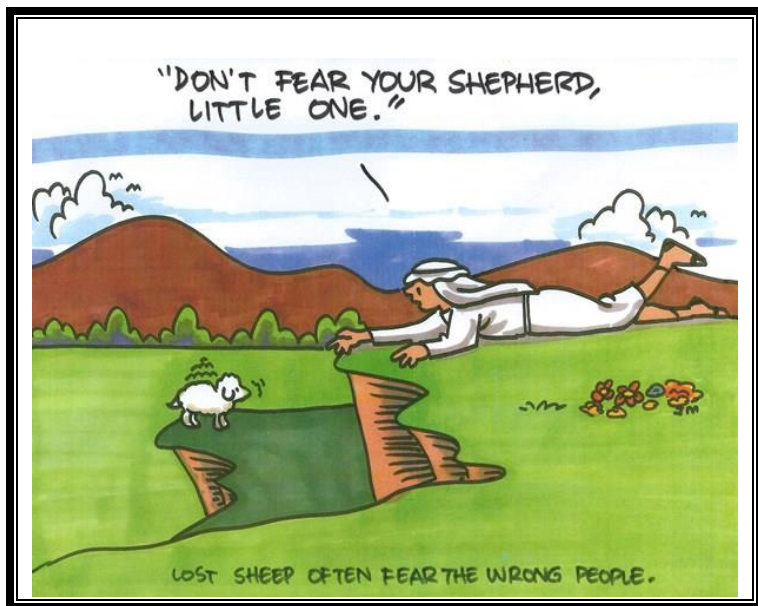
*You can now go to the website (fbcgc.net) and watch previous services under the **WORSHIP SERVICES** tab

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



Used by permission from Joe McKeever

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COURAGEOUSLY REFLECTING GOD'S HOPE

This coming Sunday I will share the final message of our HOPE series. Each Sunday since Easter we have been digging deeper into Jesus' "I AM" statements about Himself in John's gospel and examining how they provide a foundation for our hope, especially when we're going through difficult times.

I have also been pointing out in this newsletter how the church has responded to previous public health crises, demonstrating the hope we have in Jesus. The last two weeks we looked at how hope in crisis looks like *compassion* and *creativity*.

Today I want to look at another vital quality of our response to seasons like this...

Responding with HOPE looks like COURAGE.

Courage is an interesting word. I just turned 42 years old, so it's tough, but if I think hard enough, I can remember way back to my childhood. As a boy, my friends and I were quick to discuss, debate and even brag about which of us was the most courageous. In fact, courage was a trait that we must have known was important.

What makes courage so interesting is that it doesn't present itself until you need it, when you're facing a dangerous or risky situation. In other words, it became clear which of my friends were the most courageous when *one* of us had to jump the neighbor's fence and retrieve the football before their dog could bite us – no matter who won the debate an hour before.

The same is true for us as Christ followers. Hope, faith, trust, love and courage shine brightest in the darkest seasons. A brief survey of the past several

centuries shows us how the church has responded in situations similar to ours:

- We see Martin and Katharina Luther bravely staying in Wittenberg in 1527 to serve others during the bubonic plague.
- In the 1800's, we see Charles Spurgeon boldly praying for, caring for, and preaching Jesus to those who were suffering and dying from multiple cholera outbreaks.
- And just a century ago during the Spanish flu pandemic, we see churches across America demonstrating wisdom and courage in finding new ways to love God and love their neighbors.

Even now, as we pray and work toward gathering in-person again (hopefully soon), it will take courage: Courage to get out into public; courage to take precautions, even when they're new and uncomfortable; courage to stay home if we're sick or at higher risk of getting sick; and finally, courage to point people to Jesus, the ultimate source of our hope and courage.

Will you join us in praying for wisdom, direction, and courage as we continue to navigate the COVID-19 crisis?

And be sure to join us this Sunday at fbcgc.live

- This Sunday, May 24
Hope... When I Feel Disconnected

With Christ-inspired courage,
Tommy

This is the Day

This morning I was reading a post by Joe McKeever (the guy who draws the cartoons we have been including), and it really hit home. It was a challenge to quit saying the phrases "when this is over" or "when things get back to normal." Instead say, "this is the day the Lord has made we will rejoice and be glad in it" (Psalms 118:24). We look at the past and see the struggles, frustration and even sorrows. We look toward the future and dream of a better day but we forget to see the blessings of the day. God has made this day and even through the struggles God is doing some incredible things, even if it is just helping us make it through the day.

Tonight I got a hymn stuck inside my head and I don't even know why I started thinking about it. It really fit what God was trying to teach me today.

*Praise Him! Praise Him! Jesus, our blessed Redeemer!
Sing, O Earth, His wonderful love proclaim!
Hail Him! Hail Him! Highest archangels in glory;
Strength and honor give to His holy Name!
Like a shepherd, Jesus will guard His children,
In His arms He carries them all day long.*

*Praise Him! Praise Him! Tell of His excellent greatness;
Praise Him! Praise Him! Ever in joyful song!*

*Praise Him! Praise Him! Jesus, our blessed Redeemer!
For our sins He suffered, and bled, and died.
He our Rock, our hope of eternal salvation,
Hail Him! Hail Him! Jesus the Crucified.
Sound His praises! Jesus who bore our sorrows,
Love unbounded, wonderful, deep and strong.*

*Praise Him! Praise Him! Jesus, our blessed Redeemer!
Heav'nly portals loud with hosannas ring!
Jesus, Savior, reigneth forever and ever;
Crown Him! Crown Him! Prophet, and Priest, and King!
Christ is coming! over the world victorious,
Pow'r and glory unto the Lord belong.*

Thanks for the reminder Joe.

Randall