



Loving God, Loving People, and Lighting the Way

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Office Hours: 10:00am to 2:00pm Monday - Thursday
Closed on Fridays

Vol. 62 No. 14 March 30, 2022

Tommy Duke—Senior Pastor
Randall Frantz—Associate Pastor
Debbie Traywick—Worship Leader



OPPORTUNITIES
You're Invited to Join Us!
Sunday, April 3, 2022

9:30am – Breakfast Served

9:30am – Church Library Open

10:00am – Sunday School Groups

11:00am – Morning Worship
(In-Person or multiple Saturday & Sunday opportunities for Church Online at FBCGC.live)

6:00pm – Deacons Meeting

Wednesday, April 6, 2022

7:00pm – Adult, Youth and Children Bible Studies

VITAL SIGNS

Budget Gifts Sunday\$18,925.75
Budget Gifts to Date\$30,841.79



Given to date: \$1,774.00

Celebrating a Birthday

April 3 Patrick Miller
April 4 Dolly Duke
April 5 Ann Oglesby
April 6 Brett Williford
April 8 Steve VanWechel
April 9 Tracy Williford

Celebrating an Anniversary

April 3 Mr. & Mrs. Tommy Duke

Serving Our Church on Sunday

Ushers

Tony Bragg, Mike Durkin, J. D. Dyches,
Joe Jackson, Crawford Leonard,
Terry Nappier, Larry Olliff, Jay Walea

Counters

Gerald Ethridge, Co-Chairman
Jason McCullough, Co-Chairman
Robert Riley
Corley Zittrouer

Nursery

Patricia Frantz

Preschool

Marie Austin

Deacons Meeting

There will be a Deacons Meeting on
Sunday, April 3 at 6pm

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COMMITMENT OR RESERVATION

I'm going to share with you a football analogy. If you aren't into football that is ok because it is really more of a quote from a press conference that really applies to the church as much as it does football, so hang with me while I explain. The new coach to the OU Sooners college football ball team, Brent Venables, had some great insights in a press conference last week. In college football, players and teams are building their rosters for the fall season. Coach Venables was asked about players checking out colleges and changing commitments. He encourages players to check out as many colleges as possible that are interested in them. He also encourages them to save the Sooners for last. (Let me stop here for a minute, the Sooners will be joining the SEC in the next few years so it's ok to talk about them...lol). He wants the players to save them last because coach feels they are the best and have the most to offer. He went on say he does not encourage players to make commitments to one team and then leave if they get a better offer. The question was directed about some specific players, but the coach talked general principles instead. He then asked the reporter if he was married. The reporter answered yes. The coach asked if when he asked the love of his life to marry him and make a lifelong commitment if he continued to date other people until the marriage. He made a great point. Coach then made this statement which has stuck with me. **"A commitment is not a reservation."** A reservation you can cancel. A commitment you cannot, if you are a person of integrity.

So much of the time we do treat our commitments more like making a reservation. We intend to come or do something but there is no penalty if we don't follow through. Coach Venables went on to say he expects the same commitment from his coaching staff as he does

his players. Life is much more than sports, but sports should also be an opportunity to learn and practice valuable life lessons and build character. In a world where commitment means almost nothing it is refreshing to hear about someone of integrity which is trying to instill character. Believe it or not the younger generation is looking for people that are real. Case in point, I was talking to a young man the other day and we were talking about his encounter with a person from a professional field. The young man stated that he didn't trust the professional and would never use him again because he only half did his job. If he can't do even the basic tasks, what else is the person willing to compromise. That is a valid point.

We as a church and believers should be the standard for model integrity and commitment. Sad to say many act no different than the world. We also continually hear of pastors that have to leave their calling because they are living no different than the world. Is our commitment to Christ a commitment or is it really more like a reservation? Is it something we are just going to try out because it sounds good, and it might be beneficial to us? If so that explains why so many back out when the going, gets tough. Commitment is a two-way street. If I commit to Christ, he also makes a commitment to me and that is what reassures me and gets me through the hard times. I am also committed to the church as well. God designed it to be the help and encouragement we need in our daily lives and to be the example to the world of who our God is.

It is always good to step back every now and then and really examine what we are really committed to?

Randall



April 3: At the Cross... with the Heartbroken Mother

"Palm Sunday"

April 10: At the Cross... with the Condemned Criminal



Pray for Easter Sunday and invite at least one friend or family member to join us.