

THE SAME
POWER THAT
RAISED
CHRIST
FROM THE DEAD
IS LIVING IN YOU

ROMANS 8:11

August 2018
First Word



God has no big Pastors and no small churches! One dynamic benefit of being a church in a small community is that we excel at building close-knit community.

What a wonderful thing! Large churches struggle at the very thing that comes easily for us. Perhaps it is that everyone knows everyone. Or that people are a little friendlier in small communities, or maybe we just try harder. Regardless, one of our great assets is community. Community provides a friendly, easy atmosphere. Community provides a sense of togetherness, unity, a let's get it done attitude. Community provides a magnetism or attractiveness to people searching for exactly that. Community provides a sense of belonging... and we know that everyone needs to belong! In worship a few days ago we had a Japanese family worship with us. They were traveling, just passing through. What a blessing to see them! But they felt as if they fit right in for those few minutes! I encourage you to make the most of the very thing which we sometimes feel is a disadvantage... our size. Let's do all that we can to invite, welcome, and embrace our guest, friends, and community to belong.

WHAT BAPTIST BELIEVE ABOUT THE SCRIPTURES

The Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired and is God's revelation of Himself to man. It is a perfect treasure of divine instruction. It has God for its author, salvation for its end, and truth, without any mixture of error, for its matter. Therefore, all Scripture is totally true and trustworthy. It reveals the principles by which God judges us, and therefore is, and will remain to the end of the world the true center of Christian union, and the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds, and religious opinions should be tried. All Scripture is a testimony to Christ, who is Himself the focus of divine revelation.



KEITH'S NOTES

It is an exciting time in the Music ministry at First Baptist Church! We just concluded our 3rd annual *Christmas in July*, Christmas musical kick-off weekend. 31 individuals - some new participants, and some returning, from both within the body and the community came together to participate in a weekend of food, fellowship and singing. What a great weekend it was; and, what a blessing to minister with such a wonderful, talented and dedicated group of people. I am excited about this year's choir and program and look forward to the coming weeks of rehearsal. However, more than that, I am so looking forward to the time when we present this year's musical and Christmas message in *Come and See, Go and Tell* - the story of the Baby born in Bethlehem - Prophecy fulfilled, God Incarnate, Light shattering the darkness, and Love on display, to you our church family and community. It is not too soon to be making plans to attend the presentation, which will be on December 16th. So, Come and See, and bring someone with you.

If you were unable to attend our kick-off weekend, be not dismayed; it is not too late. You may join us for rehearsal each Wednesday at 7:10. So, Come and See how God will personally bless you, and how you will be a blessing.

I am also excited about the kick-off of our instrumental ensemble and our 1st rehearsal. After several years of prayer and talking, there were 5 of us who got together; each having varying skills and abilities, and some not having played their instrument for years. Even so, we had a great time, and are looking forward to the next rehearsal and to developing this ensemble for use in His Service. So, instrumentalist, Come and See! Join us as we work together to develop another opportunity to use our musical abilities and talents to minister and worship Him in a new and exciting way. We are meeting Monday evenings at 6:30 in the Sanctuary. Look forward to seeing you there.

June giving was
85%
of budget need

First Baptist Church

His Kingdom His community His mission

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