



# *The Messenger*

A Monthly Publication of  
First Baptist Church of Georgetown

April 2020

843-546-5187

# He Is Risen!



The Purpose of First Baptist Church Georgetown is to Glorify Jesus Christ by Impacting the World through Missions, Spirit-filled Worship and Biblical Teaching in a Loving, Caring, United Fellowship.



Many seem to be anxious these days. Some have been so overwhelmed by these ominous times that they have turned to alcohol, drugs as well as suicide to bury their fears and pain. As God's chosen we have been instructed to "cast all our cares upon the Lord for He cares for us." Paul told the Philippian believers to "Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus."

I recall a season in my own life when I found myself in troubled waters. It was in that season that the Lord taught me much about the power of prayer and showed me His faithfulness to calm my troubled soul. It was in that season I wrote a song and let me take this opportunity to share the first verse:

The night is long,  
the darkness deep  
As chilling winds blow against me  
Mighty waves crash on my soul  
And drown my faith and dash my hopes

And so I rise in the early morning  
And come before Your holy throne  
To call Your name, to seek Your face  
And rest my soul in Your warm embrace  
Your my hope in the stormy waves  
So I take my refuge in the hiding place

I recently changed the chorus to say:  
So I cry Jesus, Jesus oh only name  
That calms my fears and eases my pain  
Oh I cry Jesus, Jesus I run to seek His face  
And rest my soul in the hiding place

Listen, I know many are anxious these days. Don't bear your burdens alone. Take them to Jesus. He can calm your anxious heart and give you His peace. Begin your mornings before him. Take this season to renew your family altar and enjoy a time of spiritual retreat. If we will take this time to seek Him and His will we will experience His joy and peace in the midst of this storm and emerge stronger than when it began. I love you and miss being with you more than I can express. For now, let's meet together before His throne.



“Unprecedented” seems to be the word that best describes the pandemic called COVID-19 we now face. Biblically speaking, that is not correct. The Bible records many such events that occurred all for the purpose of glorifying God and calling people to repentance. Even quarantining, social distancing, and stay-in-place orders are not new (see Leviticus). What is new is the fact that we are not reading about this phenomenon in God’s Word, but we’re experiencing it first-hand. The question we should all be asking is, “What is the purpose?” I would like to offer three purposes for what we are experiencing in our world and give three responses we should actively seek to fulfill:

#### **PURPOSES:**

1. **TO GLORIFY GOD.** In other words, this is His world and we should recognize His work in it always.
2. **TO REPENT.** That is, to know that you have given your life to Christ and to know your eternal destination is heaven.
3. **TO PREPARE:** Be ready, as Peter teaches, to give an account for the hope in you.

#### **RESPONSES:**

1. **GLORIFY GOD.** In all things give thanks. He has gotten your attention. You are focusing on Him. Read His Word, Pray, and Listen to His still, small voice.
2. **LIVE IN HOPE:** Knowing Christ as our Savior gives us hope that no matter what happens in this world, we are assured of eternal life, the New Heaven and New Earth where there is no more death, no more crying, no more pain, no more sorrow, and Praise God, no more viruses!
3. **SHARE:** share the Good News, that Jesus Saves with everyone you know and meet! Remember, Romans 1:16, “For I am not ashamed of the GOSPEL, for it is the POWER of God for salvation to EVERYONE who believes...”

Let me encourage you to be at peace today and watch God work in His world. Pray for His will to be accomplished on earth as it is in heaven.

Your Pastor, Staff, and Deacons are all praying for you. Let us know of any needs you have during this time. We are prepared and equipped to assist as needed.

Blessings,

Keith

*“Therefore, preparing your minds for action, and being sober-minded, set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ”*

1 Peter 1:13 ESV



## Notes from Your MoM...



The Holmes Family has been laying low for the past few weeks and we are surviving. As is probably the case with most families, there are moments when we have had a little too much “family bonding time.” Christopher (HGTC) and Gabriel (Winthrop), like other college students, are finishing their semester online, which has been challenging at times. Anne has been busy preparing packets for her Kensington Kindergartners and spending much time with parents by email. I have been busy taking care of a few cleaning out and cleaning up projects (no, I haven’t gotten to my office—yet!). We try to ride bikes every day, which has been a fun activity for Anne, Gabriel, and me; Christopher likes to fish and go down to the Wedgefield boat landing when he can. However, I miss my FBC Family!! I miss worshipping with you, ministering among you, fellowshiping with you, and working with our choirs and musicians!

God is in control and His timing is perfect! While none of us likes this virus not the radical lifestyle change that has accompanied it, He has been so faithful and has worked out some wonderful blessings in my parents’ lives. As many of you know, my Dad has dementia that is gradually getting worse. He turned 85 on February 3 and we planned a trip to Charlotte on the weekend of February 14 to celebrate. Much to our surprise, we walked in late that Friday night to find that my Dad could not sit up in a chair, get up out of the chair, or walk without assistance. My mother, brother, and I had to go to their mountain house on Saturday to get it ready to sell while Anne, Christopher, and Gabriel stayed to take care of Dad (much more than they had planned to do!). When we got home that Saturday evening, things had gone from bad to worse; we ended up having to call 911 and dad was admitted to the hospital for five days. It was divine providence that God allowed us to be there, then that he was able to get into a rehab facility (where he desperately needed to be) close to their house. Then, again in God’s perfect timing, he was released to go home one day before the crackdown on facilities like the rehab hospital due to the coronavirus, which would have been a nightmare for him and my Mom. He has done very well at home and has been blessed to get continued in-home therapy three times a week, even with the stay-at-home mandates. God is so good!

The other miraculous event in which God has shown His divine providence is the selling of my parents’ mountain home. As some of you know, a year-plus of stress and time consumption ended last September with the sale of a warehouse that my parents have owned since my Dad retired in the Nineties. They bought this mountain home in 1990 and enjoyed spending the majority of the summer there for thirty years as well as weekends in the spring and fall. However, with Dad’s declining condition, my brother and I knew that it was time for them to give it up; God allowed my mother to recognize this and we began discussions in the fall. The problem is, it needed much work and it is located between I-77 and the Blue Ridge Parkway (not much to do in the area) in a development where it has been extremely difficult to sell houses. A friend of a friend of my mother’s called and said a man from Florida who was raised in the area had just bought a house in the neighborhood and was looking for a home to fix up as a guest house for family and friends to visit (yes, evidently he is very well-off!). God allowed us to sell the house without even having to put it on the market--no realtor, no inspection, no repairs—for just a little under the price we were going to ask! Once again, God’s timing was perfect, as the closing took place the week that the coronavirus began to make its way into the United States. There is no telling how long my parents would have had to hold onto this house nor how much money they would have had to sink into if it had not sold when it did and in the way it did.

My friends, in the midst of all the chaos, GOD IS IN CONTROL and GOD IS GOOD!!





*From Morgan,*

## *Ministry Support*

As the office is closed and we are working and ministering from home in this season, I've taken some time to write devotionals, which I've shared on my social media accounts each day.

To date, I've written weeklong series on Romans 8, Hebrews 4-6, Ephesians 6, and now John 1 during the Holy Week. I've humorously wondered how closely some aspects of this season in my life compare with Paul's time in Rome as he continued to write, teach and minister while under house arrest...

Of course I'm only joking, but I can say with absolute certainty that God has been incredibly gracious to me and my family, and this has been a relaxing and profitable time for me to work on writing projects like these, which many people have found helpful and encouraging.

During this unprecedented time, doing ministry has been interesting. Each week, I've kept up with many of our FBC and FCA students over Zoom videoconferences. Partnering with Jack and Ryan Marsh, we've kept consistent ministry opportunities going each week, which seem to be encouraging and helpful for our students. I know they have been encouraging to me.

In his closing remarks at the end of Ephesians, Paul tells the church he's sending Tychicus to them to encourage their hearts. Paul wrote Ephesians during his confinement in Rome, and I feel that gesture perfectly sums up Paul's heart of ministry: despite his own circumstances, his desire was to continue building and strengthening the Church.

In this season, I've tried to be useful and helpful through my gifts and abilities to continue serving the church and to encourage us to press on despite these circumstances. I'm no Paul; I'm not even a Tychicus, but I hope, by God's grace, to use my abilities to the glory of God and to the benefit of the Church.

I love you all. Take care, and I hope to see you soon!

-Morgan



*FBC students*

Hello to Everyone!

What a trying time, but a great time that we are in. I believe that this Easter will be the greatest and the saddest time ever in the hearts of man.

First the greatest: with everyone at home, with all the idols done away with, with all the businesses sat a slow down, God has made a way to focus on the one event that has changed the world.: the life, the death, and the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

The saddest moment is, as we look to the cross for Hope and we look to the empty grave for eternal life and healing, the Bible says that many still will not believe.

So, we see in Luke 19:41 Jesus wept over the city of Jerusalem. And yet the Glory of God is revealed when Jesus knowing these things still endured the cross. God Loves us so much! Let us celebrate that Jesus is alive!

If you are wondering how the students are keeping in touch here are some ways that we are communicating:

1. Facebook Student Page. Many announcements are posted there.
2. Instagram students can see what's going on.
3. Remind text. If you would like to join please contact me by cell 843-344-7669 or email [jack@FBCgeorgetown.org](mailto:jack@FBCgeorgetown.org).
4. Zoom on Wednesday nights for Worship, Word and Fellowship until we can meet again. Simply download the app, look for the code and password to be posted on the Facebook student page and join in to see everyone.
5. For D6, we have been posting small videos on the topics we are studying. We are finishing up Ethics and will be moving into Evangelism and Missions. Join in and comment on what God is speaking and teaching you.
6. The Life 360<sup>0</sup> Group is meeting Thursday nights at 6:30 by Zoom. We are studying What Every Christian Ought to Know by Adrian Rogers. Join the conversation. If you need a book, call Keith Wall at 843-543-0833.

Kim and I miss you all deeply. We love and mean it. Can't wait to see you soon!

Big Jack

## In Touch Ministry Honors...

### Audrey Shoptaw

237 Harrelson Rd.  
Georgetown, S.C.  
29440

### Dot Campbell

Commander Nursing Home  
Room 15 West  
4438 Pamplice Hwy.  
Florence, S.C. 29505

### Bobby Cribb

c/o Regina Mobley  
409 Weyanoke Dr.  
Evans, GA 30809

### Joyce Mixson

Lakes at Litchfield Apt. 215  
120 Lakes at Litchfield Dr.  
Pawleys Island, S.C. 29585

**Send an Encouragement Card Today!**

## Memorials & Honorariums

### Annie Armstrong

Earl & Connie Shelley

### In Memory

Dot Grannaman

**ANNIE  
ARMSTRONG**  
EASTER OFFERING®  
FOR NORTH AMERICAN MISSIONS

**Our Goal: \$9,900.00**

**Received: \$6,910.00**

**2 ACTS 42**  
**THEY DEVOTED  
THEMSELVES  
TO PRAYER**

## Cottage Prayer Dates & Locations

Currently meeting on Zoom  
Saturday nights at 7:00 PM.  
Contact Wilma Shelley for

## Faithful In Giving March 2019

Monthly Required  
\$122,284.31

Received  
\$85,909.09

Monthly Difference  
(\$36,375.22)

Annual Budget  
\$1,467,411.69

Budget Received To Date  
\$297,190.85

Budget Required  
\$366,860.73

YTD Difference  
(\$69,669.88)

Other Designated  
\$0

**BUILDING ON  
OUR LEGACY**

GFIF Loan Balance  
\$282,302.17

GFIF Fund Balance  
\$4,341.60

FUNDS:  
Disaster Relief  
\$1,600.29

FBC Family Benevolence  
\$2,433.69

Joe Rabon Cookie Fund  
\$1,766.31

Annie Armstrong Easter  
\$6,910.00

Other Funds:  
Daniels Scholarship

Tamsberg Scholarship

Honorariums & Memorials may be made to any of the above funds or the General Budget. Acknowledgement cards are sent to each individual.

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*"You will be blessed in every way, and you will be able to keep on being generous."*  
2 Corinthians 9:11a

Thank You!

**Pastor**

**Dr. Ted Sherrill**

ted@fbcgeorgetown.org

**Associate Pastor**

Rev. Keith Wall

keith@fbcgeorgetown.org

**Minister of Worship**

Rev. Jay Holmes

jay@fbcgeorgetown.org

**Minister to Students**

Rev. Jack Powers

jack@fbcgeorgetown.org

**Children's Ministry Leader**

Mrs. Staci Krause

staci@fbcgeorgetown.org

**Ministry Support Leader**

Mr. Morgan Kelly

morgan@fbcgeorgetown.org

**Pianist**

Mrs. Kathy Newton

**Organist**

Mrs. Ruth Reames

**Ministry Assistant**

Mrs. Terri McDaniel

terri@fbcgeorgetown.org

**Financial Secretary**

Mrs. Jan O'Clair

jan@fbcgeorgetown.org

**Food Service Coordinator**

Mr. Rob O'Neal

**Housekeeping**

Cindy Jordan

**Sunday School: 9:00 AM**

**Worship: 10:15 AM**



**www.fbcgeorgetown.org**

**info@fbcgeorgetown.org**

***Weekly Attendance***

***Averages: February***

***Worship: NR***

**iNreach**

**O**utreach

**W**itness