

Hello everyone. Happy May!! Spring is here and it has been beautiful. We had such an amazing Easter and we hope you were able to join us for the Sunrise Service and the Choir's presentation of "Redeemed". It was glorious. As we look ahead, the choir is anticipating working on some beautiful special music for Sunday mornings, our patriotic presentation for the 4th of July, and of course begin our Christmas musical. It is the perfect time to join the choir. We hope we see you on Wednesdays after Bible Study at 7:30. ***In His Name, Nancy***

Summer is just around the corner and we all know what that means.....**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL.** Bible school will be June 7th through June 10th. Our theme this year is **Spark Studios**. We are still looking for volunteers so bring your Love of God and your special talents and come help plant those little seeds among God's children.

AWANA wraps up this month after a very successful year. Our award ceremony will be May 18th with light refreshments following in the Fellowship Hall. Please come out and cheer on these children and all of their hard work.

On May 25th, Caitlin Quigley will start the Children's Wednesday night summer program. This group will meet in the Kay Building from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. every Wednesday evening throughout the summer. Caitlin has lots of Bible stories and activities to share with the kids, so come and be a part of the fun. ***In His Love, The Children's Ministry Team.***

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering. Our church goal was \$3,500. As a church we were able to send \$4,659 to the North American Mission Fund. WMU meets the first Thursday of the month @ 10:00 AM.



May 1	Building & Grounds Committee, immediately following morning service
May 3	Precept Bible Study, 1:00 PM
May 4	Mid-week Activities Prayer Meeting, AWANA, Youth, 6:00 PM; Adult Bible Study, 6:30 PM
	Choir Practice, 7:30 PM
May 5	WMU, 10:00 AM
	Ladies Bible Study, 10:00 AM
May 7	Men's Prayer Breakfast, 8:00 AM
May 8	Mother's Day
May 9	Budget & Finance Committee, 5:00 PM
	Deacon's Meeting, 6:00 PM
May 10	Precept Bible Study, 1:00 PM
May 11	Mid-week Activities: Prayer Meeting, AWANA, Youth, 6:00 PM; Adult Bible Study, 6:30 PM
	Choir Practice, 7:30 PM
May 12	Ladies Bible Study, 10:00 AM
May 17	Precept Bible Study, 1:00 PM
May 18	Mid-week Activities: Prayer Meeting, AWANA
	Awards Ceremony, Youth, 6:00 PM;
	Adult Bible Study, 6:30 PM; Choir Practice, 7:30 PM
May 19	Ladies Bible Study, 10:00 AM
May 24	Precept Bible Study, 1:00 PM
May 25	Mid-week Activities: Prayer Meeting, Kids Summer Program, Youth, 6:00 PM
	Adult Bible Study, 6:30 PM; Choir Practice, 7:30 PM
May 26	Ladies Bible Study, 10:00 AM
May 30	Memorial Day
May 31	Precept Bible Study, 1:00 PM



**MISSION STATEMENT: WE
DESIRE TO HONOR GOD BY
LEADING PEOPLE TO BECOMING
FULLY DEVOTED**



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A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR

Maybe you saw this, or read it. The *New York Times* published an op-ed the Friday before Easter that proposed eliminating God — as one of the holiest weekends of the year was just getting started. The article was titled “*In This Time of War, I Propose We Give Up God*,” the article claimed that God is responsible for “war and violence” and for “oppression and suffering,” and suggests that people stop teaching children about Him. The “journalist” behind the article was Shalom Auslander, a disillusioned, now non practicing Jew, bemoaning his own upbringing in an uptight religious Jewish community in New York. He states, “God, it seems, paints with a wide brush. He paints with a roller. In Egypt, said our rabbi, he even killed first-born *cattle*. He killed cows. If he were mortal, the God of Jews, Christians and Muslims would be dragged to The Hague. And yet we praise him. We emulate him. We implore our children to be like him. Perhaps now, as missiles rain down and the dead are discovered in mass graves, is a good time to stop emulating this hateful God. Perhaps we can stop extolling his brutality. Perhaps now is a good time to teach our children to pass over God — to be as *unlike* him as possible. Killing gods is an idea I can get behind.” Wow! And I’ve got news for him... his idea of teaching our kids not to “emulate” Him has been going on a while now, and just where has that gotten us? And as far as killing Him, that was tried once too and He rose up from the grave and is alive today! And all because He loves you, and He loves me, and He loves the Shalom Auslander’s of the world that would dismiss and seek to destroy Him, and He desires to save you and be in a relationship with you to bless you, not to curse you. To be honest, this anti-God/anti-Christian, article didn’t surprise me or catch me off guard at all. These kinds of articles it seems get published in major newspapers and media outlets every year just before Easter. It’s like they know that if they destroy the cross and the resurrection they can undercut Christianity and the message... the good news of Jesus Christ. It is the propaganda of our very liberal and irreligious press today that likes to promote the idea of doing away with Christians and their ideas. So, it’s not surprising to be frank. But it is disturbing... very disturbing none-the-less, and leaves us wondering what kind of world we are living in. Right?

What kind of world are we living in? That is a question that we find ourselves scratching our head over often today it seems. At least to me, anyway! The truth is we are living in a “fallen” one. I know that may sound a bit erudite and maybe even a somewhat cliché, but none the less true. We are living in a Romans 1 world described in God’s Word this way, ²¹*“Although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened.”* ²²*Professing to be wise, they became fools,* ²³*and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man—and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things.* ²⁴*Therefore God also gave them up to uncleanness, in the lusts of their hearts, to dishonor their bodies among*

themselves, ²⁵*who exchanged the truth of God for the lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen.* ²⁶*For this reason God gave them up to vile passions. For even their women exchanged the natural use for what is against nature.* ²⁷*Likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust for one another, men with men committing what is shameful, and receiving in themselves the penalty of their error which was due.* ²⁸*And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a debased mind, to do those things which are not fitting;* ²⁹*being filled with all unrighteousness, sexual immorality, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, evil-mindedness; they are whisperers,* ³⁰*backbiters, haters of God, violent, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents,* ³¹*undiscerning, untrustworthy, unloving, unforgiving, unmerciful.”* (Romans 1:21-31) Now, I know that is a lengthy passage, but it is an accurate and truthful picture of the kind of world we live in today. That’s where we are, folks! Later in 2 Timothy 3:1-5 Paul would actually issue it as a warning to us... the kind of world we would find ourselves in during these “last days.” He wrote, ¹*“But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come:* ²*For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,* ³*unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good,* ⁴*traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God,* ⁵*having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away!”* (2 Timothy 3:1-5)

These things are played out daily before our eyes in the form of all sorts of sexually deviant behaviors that are mine boggling, even seeking to teach sexual orientation and gender identity curriculum to children as young as 5 years old in kindergarten. We see it in the moral decline of our country certainly, but also in the radical agenda that would stifle free speech and freedom of thought, that seeks to silence the voice Christians and the church, that stokes the flames of racial division through things like CRT being taught in our school and promoted even in our government institutions, in the military, in corporate America. We even see something as innocent as Disney seeking to promote these radical ideas and agenda. And we scratch our heads and say, “What kind of world are living in?” Another headline that recently caught my attention read like this, “California Bill AB2223 Would Allow Killing Babies in Infanticide Up to 28 Days After Birth.” You read that right, California is actually about to pass into a law a bill that would allow the killing of a baby up to 28 days after they are born. Not only do we have the killing of innocent babies still in the supposed safety of their mothers womb... according to the National Right to Life Committee 2,430 babies are killed through abortion every single day in the United States... but now up to 28 days after they are born. What kind of world are we living in that kills innocent babies in their mother’s womb and now up to 28 days after they are born? A very, very fallen one!

Can I tell you something else about “the kind of world we are living in today”? We are not only living in a fallen world. We are living in a loved world. We are living in the kind of world today that Jesus died for, that God sent His only begotten Son to die for! Huh! “*For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.*” (John 3:16) We are living in the kind of world today that needs the gospel of Jesus Christ to be shared with it! We are living in the exact kind of world that God would have us as believers and as the church be His hands and feet to, ministering the hope of Jesus Christ to their needs, to reach them with the good news, to draw them to Christ, to show them the truth of God’s love for them. Our prayer should be, “Lord, help me to be who you have called me to be in the kind of world you have placed me in!” Then let’s get busy and do it! ***God bless & I love you, Bro. Buddy***

YOUTH NEWS—REMIND+

“I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing.” – 2 Timothy 4:7-8 ESV.

We’ve arrived at May; you have made it. First full school year for many of you in 2 years, and it is coming to a close. On the horizon I see 100+ degree days, some baseball, swimsuits, and a really awesome week of camp. We have one awesome time of summer coming around the corner for us. But before we get there I want to encourage, and challenge us of the opportunity to finish strong. I absolutely love this passage of scripture by the Apostle Paul, writing what we consider his final letter that we know about, before his death. This is a passage of man reflecting on a life that has been poured out for the gospel of Jesus Christ, his Savior. An acknowledgement that as he is coming to the end he can look back with joy and grace that he is able to say he fought, he ran the race, and kept the faith. I cannot read such a passage and not be inspired to do the same.

I am unaware of what you’ve been going through; I am unaware of mistakes you’ve made. However, I do know you have a call on your life to live your life in a way that brings honor and glory to God, and to share the story of Jesus Christ with others. That call does not change, regardless of how we feel, what we’ve done, or who we are. So this is my encouragement, that before this month is over, if you’re a student, before your school year is over, tell someone about Jesus, who He is to you, and what He’s done for you. Fight the fight, finish the race, and keep the faith. ***God Bless You All, Trey***

