

MUSIC NOTES

Happy August everyone - and for a school teacher you know this is not the happiest month of the year. Yep...summer is over and it's back to the grind. Remember, the AC is always on at FBC Buda. Come join the church choir. We meet on Wednesday's after Bible Study. It won't be long until we start Christmas music....that's right - I said Christmas music. So Ho Ho Ho to all of you! *In His Name, Nancy*

WMU

WMU didn't meet in July but we will meet on August 4th at 10 a.m. We will be planning our Bible Stick offering and plan for our Week of Prayer for State Missions.

We are grateful to the ladies who are making dresses for the Women's Centers in San Marcos and Austin. Andree and the ladies that help with the mission have helped three centers. Thank you for the work.

CHILDREN'S CORNER

The children are finishing up their Summer Bible Studies in Sunday School. In July we are learning about "Talking with God". We spoke in whispers to each other, across the room, so the kids would realize even a whisper will be heard by God. He always hears our prayers, no matter how small or huge or painful they may be. And God always answers our prayers; "Yes, No, Later, or Maybe". The kids get along very well together, and love to play the word games with the Bible verse of the day. I have truly been Blessed to see the progress the kids have made in the last few years. It's always fun and inspiring to me to see how much they have learned and grown in their faith. God is at work in each of our church children, and it encourages me to see their growth. Praise the Lord for faithful parents bringing their kids to Sunday school every week! *Margaret Hughston, Children's Ministry Team.*



UPCOMING EVENTS

- August 2 Precept Bible Study, 1:00 PM
August 3 Mid-Week Services: Prayer Meeting, Youth, Kids Summer Club, 6:00 PM
Adult Bible Study, 6:30 PM
Choir Practice, 7:30 AM
August 4 Ladies Bible Study, 10:00 AM
WMU, 10:00 AM
August 6 Men's Prayer Breakfast, 8:00 AM
August 8 Budget & Finance Committee, 5:00 PM
Deacon's Meeting, 6:00 PM
Precept Bible Study, 1:00 PM
August 9 Mid-Week Services: Prayer Meeting, Youth, Kids Summer Club, 6:00 PM
August 10 Adult Bible Study, 6:30 PM
Choir Practice, 7:30 AM
August 11 Ladies Bible Study, 10:00 AM
August 14 Building & Grounds Committee Meeting, 12N
Youth Back to School Bash, 5:00 PM
August 16 Precept Bible Study, 1:00 PM
First Day of School, HCISD
August 17 Mid-Week Services: Prayer Meeting, Youth, Kids Summer Club, 6:00 PM
Adult Bible Study, 6:30 PM
Choir Practice, 7:30 AM
August 18 Ladies Bible Study, 10:00 AM
August 23 Precept Bible Study, 1:00 PM
August 24 Church Business Meeting to review new Constitution & By-laws and Church Policies
Choir Practice, 7:30 AM
August 25 Ladies Bible Study, 10:00 AM
August 30 Precept Bible Study, 1:00 PM
August 31 Mid-Week Services: Prayer Meeting, Youth, Kids Summer Club, 6:00 PM
Adult Bible Study, 6:30 PM
Choir Practice, 7:30 AM



CHRISTIAN CALLER

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MISSION STATEMENT:
WE DESIRE TO HONOR GOD BY
LEADING PEOPLE TO BECOMING
FULLY DEVOTED FOLLOWERS
OF JESUS CHRIST.



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A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR

Boy, it's hot! Isn't it? And that is a gross understatement. By the end of this week's 7 day forecast, which is predicting triple digit temperatures all week, we will have had 46 triple digit days. The most on record. It's hot! And truthfully, it's not as if that is a surprise in this part of the world in which we call home, but the triple digit temps are a bit more unbearable than even we are used to. You will have to go all the way back into May to find any semblance of milder temps. KVUE is reporting that the month of July will end as the hottest July in history for this area, but both June and May also broke their records for the hottest in history. I even saw a special piece with a guy showing you how to cook breakfast, complete with scrambled eggs and bacon inside of the car right now... just from the heat built up in the car. That's pretty hot, when your car is as hot, or hotter, than your stove and can scramble an egg and fry the bacon. It's so hot right now that I can't hardly even remember when it wasn't hot... maybe it's my brain that is getting scrambled in the heat.

But the hot Texas temperature is not the only thing that seems really heated these days. The political climate is extremely heated right now with temperatures rising on all sides. Racial tensions have been heated up lately and have stayed at triple digit reading... really like we haven't seen since the Civil Rights days of the 60's. Things are heated up with protest in the streets over Supreme Court rulings (which by the way were the right ruling and will save literally millions of lives) and protests over things like Climate Change, and Women's rights, and LGBTQIA+ rights, and you name it. Things are also hot again on the pandemic front even calling some places in the country "hot spots" again for outbreaks of new variants of COVID. And now we have a new one with "Monkeypox" hot spots. Things are heated on the world front with Russia at war with Ukraine, and China threatening Taiwan, England in a heated debacle again with the exiting of Boris Johnson and not really knowing who will be in charge of arguably Europe's most powerful country. Of course there is always the world's hot spots that are Iran, Iraq and Afghanistan who seem to be at constant war with unpredictable terrorist organizations. Our world is a "hot-box." It just seems the climate of our world is extremely heated right now. Elvis Presley would be singing, "Lord Almighty, I feel the temperature rising! Higher, higher, it's burning through to my soul..." Rising to the point of about to combust it seems!

Why does it surprise us when the temperature rises around us? Why does the heated climate of our world and the world situation catch us so off guard? Just as one living in central Texas knows it's going to get "hot" in the summer, ought we not to know that living in this fallen world things are going to get "hotter" still. Peter said in 1 Peter 4:12, "*Beloved, do not think it strange concerning the fiery trial (hot ones) which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened to you.*" Don't we, as believers, know things are going to get hot? And even more than that, what are we, as believers, to do with and in the midst of all this "heat"?

Can I tell you? I think we are to keep our heads and hold to the promises of God and His Word that become a cooling respite in this hot box world we live in. The Apostle Paul says to believers in Ephesians 5:15-16, "*See then that you walk circumspectly (cautiously), not as fools but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil.*" And Paul repeatedly calls Christians to live "soberly" or "sober-minded" in this heat-dizzying world (1 Thes. 5:6,8; 1 Tim. 3:2; Titus 1:8, 2:2, 2:6, 2:12). In other words, Christian, don't get a "heat-stroke" in this heated up world in which we live. Fix your eyes on Jesus, who is still on His throne, who is still very much in control, who is not caught off-guard by the "nauseating heat" of this world. I love that! When the rest of the world is sweltering in the heat of our day, we as believers can rest in the cooling shade of the sheltering arms of our Savior and His promises, like a giant sprawling Oak. That's good! Here is how God says it through the Prophet Isaiah in Isaiah 49:10 in speaking of His people, us, "*They (believers) shall neither hunger nor thirst, neither heat nor sun shall strike them; for He who has mercy on them will lead them, even by the springs of water He will guide them.*" And listen to the Prophet Jeremiah in Jeremiah 17:8, "*For he (the believer, child of God) shall be like a tree planted by the waters, which spreads out its roots by the river, and will not fear when heat comes; but its leaf will be green, and will not be anxious in the year of drought, nor will cease from yielding fruit.*" In this heat filled world that's just pretty "cool"! Try to let "cooler" hearts and heads prevail as you focus your eyes on Jesus in this heat.

God bless you, Bro. Buddy

YOUTH REMIND +

"Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen." – Ephesians 3:20-21 ESV.

Goodness me that was quick, summer is already concluding. It feels like only yesterday we were celebrating our graduating senior and setting up for VBS, and now this very month our students will be returning to the mission field and continue in their journey through school. To my students who will be returning to school we have already been discussing and preparing what all God is going to do with you this year. This article is for the rest the church to be aware of the purpose and mission our students are entering this school year with and how to support them in prayer.

Jr. high and high school is of course a difficult time as I am sure you all can imagine, yet for this generation of Christ followers even more so. Our students are given the same call that is placed on the lives of all believers to know God and make Him known. Yet the environment they are charged with ministering to is one that is seeking to spiritually destroy them. Under administration and authority that has little recourse to even acknowledge God, philosophy and morality that stands in complete opposition to God's Word, and other students that see someone attempting to walk with Jesus as a challenge to break them. Our students more than ever need the prayers and provisions of their church. I say all this not to scare our students or lament the current state of the world, that is just not who I am. I say these things that the church may be aware these aren't just teenagers learning the ways of the world, these are your students entrusted to you by God as your spiritual children. The task that they are charged with is one that is impossible in their own power but with Christ all things are possible. As this school year comes, an ensuing revival is brewing in our schools I can feel it and our students will play a big part of it, but without the church's prayers and embrace it will not happen. Praise be to God for all the things He is going to do this year with our students. Amen. **Trey Johnson**