

The Witness

Volume XXII, Issue X

Newsletter

October 2024

Peace in the Midst of Our Chaos

Can the world get any more chaotic? We consume media like candy. We engage emotionally with every disagreement and sound bite. We make sure our every opinion gets aired. Around us, everyone criticizes and blames. Chaos. Uncertainty in politics. Dangers around the world. Everything occurs as if it were happening right now - outside our house. People promising peace – but there is no peace.

Our world seems the worst that ever was. The intensity of chaos seems unbearable. What is the solution?

Jeremiah experienced this thousands of years ago. “From the least to the greatest, their lives are ruled by greed. From prophets to priests, they are all frauds. They offer superficial treatments for my people’s mortal wound. They give assurances of peace when there is no peace.” (Jeremiah 6:13-14, NLT) The problem is always the same. A chaotic world that has no human answers – in fact the proposed solutions just do not work.

The truth is that in every age, the answer is the same: seeking peace in the One who is never in chaos, who always is in control, who is a true foundation. The need is to rewire our thinking – reorienting our place of trust. Isaiah describes it like this “You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on you, because he trusts in you.

Trust in the Lord forever, for the Lord God is an everlasting rock.” (26:3-4 ESV)

Where do we spend our time? What drives our lives? What do we think about? Isaiah would argue that peace only comes from reorienting our thoughts. From filling our minds with thoughts of Him. With driving our lives for Him. With spending time with Him. In Him is peace.

Everything is driven by where we place our mind. Fill it with politics and the hate, the deceit, and the divisiveness will fill our lives. Fill it with news of wars and international conflict and anxiety and uncertainty will fill our lives. Fill it with sin and guilt, heartbreak, and consequences will fill our lives. Fill it with empty stuff and our lives will be just as empty and hopeless.

But if we fill our minds with the Lord, peace is the result. Trust in the Lord and peace in the all-caring, all-powerful, and all-sovereign One will give peace. Rest our minds in the Rock, and we will be safe and secure.

We choose what fills our minds. The result flows out from that. Where is your mind?

Bro. Danny Parker

October Outreach – Big Events

October is always a big month. This year is no exception.

By the time you read this the Senior Rally at Lakeview might be over (Oct 3). If you have never gone, consider it next year (if you read this in time, you can still go this year at the last minute). Food. Food. All day, lots of food. And good music and good preaching. Besides it is good to just take a field trip with our friends. It is such a blessing to have Steve & Pat Couch leading these types of senior adult events.

Then, catch a quick rest from the September activities, and while you are resting, begin to pray. Two major events will conclude the month, Fall Festival and Friend & Family Day.

In preparation for these two big days, we will have another series of cottage prayer meetings during October. Try to attend all that you can. Let’s be intentional about praying that God will work in lives. That He would 1. Bring people to attend the events, 2. That people would come to Christ, 3. That Christian hearts would be revived. 4. That our church would experience renewed hearts. 5. And most of all that God will demonstrate to all that He is the great God who changes lives and does more than we could ask or think.

Fall Festival has been a great way for us to impact the community. Typically lots of local adults and kids attend. It will be Saturday, October 26, 3:00 – 5:00. Begin to bring candy now, so that we will have plenty to give away as prizes for the multitude of games. And come hungry so that you can enjoy the do-it-yourself fire pit roasted hotdogs and smores. And of course, the snow cones, popcorn, and cotton candy. Did I mention the cake walk? (Sign up to bring a cake to give away). Of course we will have some inflatables for the kids and hopefully a hay ride. It is all free, as we seek to just serve the community. Spread the word. Invite friends and family. We will need lots of workers – sign up to help. This is a great time to serve. Don't miss it.

Then when the page turns to November, we will have a one-day revival (November 3) with Larry Jordan as our speaker. This Friend and Family Day will be an opportunity to invite folks to come. We want this to be a great day. Last year, it began a wave of salvations and baptisms that continued through the Spring. Let's see what God will do this time. Remember: Pray, Invite, Participate.

Pastor Danny

Sr Adult Ministry

The Sr Adult Rally at Lakeview Baptist Camp will be Thursday October 3rd. The speaker will be Dr. Rick Webb from Providence Baptist Church and worship provided by Dale Perkins II from Woodland Hills Baptist Church.

We will all meet at the church at 7:30. Registration begins at 9:00 with the program beginning at 9:30.

FBCY had the largest Sr Adult group at the Spring Rally and looks like we will probably have the largest group again. We always have a great time!

I recently discovered that GoBus-Transit is available in Wood County which provides transportation to many East Texas counties for a low-cost fee plus free for Veterans. I am currently getting additional information, so stay tuned.

Thanks
Bro Steve

October Newsletter

Now that's it's already October, youth is in full swing for the year. We spent the month of September focused on the topic of forgiveness, either when we need to forgive or to be forgiven. We'll spend the next month looking at Old Testament stories that show placing faith in God rather than falling into fear in a series called Fearless.

We finished September with both See You and Saw You at the Pole. Both events were a big success. In the morning, students courageously led SYATP, as our church was able to assist and join in prayer with them. That evening, Saw You at the Pole brought good numbers. We had over fifty students. Every student there was presented with the Gospel and there was great responsiveness (we will be following up and unpacking the response with our students the next few weeks, so keep praying!!!). Dalton Keith gave an excellent sermon and the Gospel was clear to everyone who heard. I want to give a shout out to everyone who helped us out that night and to our regular leaders who selflessly give their time eve-

ry week to invest in our students.

Looking forward, we are going to Mission Arlington on October 12 to serve there. Additionally, be in prayer for Fall Fest on October 26th and think of ways that you can get involved with it!

Thank you,
Dennis Wagner

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At-A-Glance:

August's Gifts: \$15,947.⁶⁰
2024 Gifts : \$169,716.⁶²
2024 Budget: \$287,270.⁰⁰

Reach Texas
Offering so
Far:
\$2,440.⁰⁰