

# The Witness

Volume XIX, Issue VII

Newsletter

July 2022

## Hot and Dry! But Prospering!

Summer in Texas! It's a killer!

Spoiled by the last couple of moderate years, this summer seems to be heading back to a 'normal' Texas summer. It's hot! It's dry! The grass and hay is turning brown. You can hear it crack when you walk on it. The burn bans are just around the corner. All of life seems to be withering. And it's only the first of July. It can easily (and likely will) get worse.

Life needs water. Continually. Without it, living things suffer quickly and will ultimately die.

Further west the seasonal change into deep summer is even more pronounced. Everything for miles becomes brown during extensive summer drought. But an interesting phenomenon will appear. In the midst of the desolation, twisting strings of green continue to appear. Upon closer examination one discovers the sanding beds what appears to be dry streams. And along these seemly dry, twisty threads of sand stand large trees, green and flourishing. Huh!

You see, underneath the hot sand, water flows. And the trees along these banks reach deep into the soil. There they find life giving water. The sun is hot. The landscape is dry and barren, but the trees flourish. Fed from below, the circumstances have little impact. External times of prosperity or lack, they prosper and grow.

So it is with the life that embraces the Lord. Psalm 1 says "Blessed is the man ... his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night. He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers." (ESV)

The life of the Christian is not like the natural life. It is not dependent on the external circumstances. Life might be hard. It might be dry. It might seek to deprive one of what is necessary for life. But the Christian is planted by waters that run deep. From this water he can find nurture and life. And, in fact, he can prosper as he drinks deeply – even in the face of external trouble. His life will bear fruit regardless of what goes on around him. He will not wither or sink into despondency when faced with the dire world around him. He will prosper.

But it is a choice. We can delight in the Lord and His Word. There he will find life. There he will be transformed. He will prosper regardless of the circumstances.

May our church (and we individually) keep focused on Him. Finding strength, encouragement, help, --- Life in Him. Then we will prosper, even in the Texas summers of life.

Danny

## From the Heart

We have had a very busy June! We kicked off the month taking the Youth to camp in Lone Star at Lakeview Encampment. We had 15 youth go with 5 leaders. We just want to thank you all for donating, making desserts and praying on behalf of the youth and youth camp 2022.

Next, we had VBS 2022 led by Director Kathy Freeman. We want to thank all the teachers, leaders, decorators, and other volunteers. We pray that the seeds that were planted in VBS will bring forth a lot of fruit!

JESUS Kids and Wednesday night Youth will resume in September. Thank you all for continually pouring into the youth and children ministries of FBC Yantis. Bro. Chad

## July Youth Happenings:

**July 9th-Skating**

**July 13th-Mini Golf**

**July 20th-10 am Paintball Trip**

**July 24th-Bowling after Church**

**July 30th-Churchwide Game Night**

**More info to come**



### Worship Matters

Do you remember when you became a Christian? Do you remember the load that lifted off you when you received Jesus in your heart as Lord and Savior? Some of us have been Christians for many years. Sometimes we can lose sight of just how much God saved us from. When my boys were little, I often would sing to them at nap time. One of my favorite songs to sing was "He touched me" by Bill Gaither.

#### He Touched Me

*Shackled by a heavy burden,  
'Neath a load of guilt and shame.  
Then the hand of Jesus touched me,  
And now I am no longer the same.  
He touched me, Oh He touched me,  
And oh the joy that floods my soul!  
Something happened and now I know,  
He touched me and made me whole.  
Since I met this blessed Savior,  
Since He cleansed and made me whole,  
I will never cease to praise Him,  
I'll shout it while eternity rolls.*

Let's never forget how shackled we were before God touched us and made us whole! Do you know of anyone personally that could use the good news of Jesus?

In Christ,  
Melaina

Church  
fellowships  
this month!  
**Potluck**  
July 17th  
**Game/Movie**  
**Night**  
July 30th

Old Time  
Singing  
August 7th  
6:00pm  
Join us for an  
evening of music  
and fellowship.  
Invite your friends  
and neighbors!

Men's Breakfast  
takes place  
quarterly.  
Next breakfast:  
August 6th at  
8:00am

### At A Glance

May's Gifts: \$26,054.<sup>00</sup>  
2022 Gifts So Far: \$111,120.<sup>96</sup>  
2022 Budget: \$262,763.<sup>00</sup>

### Your Church Staff...

Pastor: **Bro. Danny Parker**  
Cell: 620-397-1753  
Email: fbcyantispastor@peoplescom.net

Youth Minister: **Bro. Chad Ferrell**  
Cell: 903-243-7103  
Email: brochadferrell@gmail.com

Music Minister: **Bro. Chad Ferrell**  
Cell: 903-243-7103  
Email: brochadferrell@gmail.com

Secretary: **Mrs. Elizabeth Smith**  
In the office Mon. - Thurs., 8:30am - 2:30pm

Church Phone: 903-383-2393  
Church Fax: 903-383-2384  
Church Website: www.fbcyantist.com

### Give online!

Go to:  
<https://onrealm.org/fbcyantist/give/now>

**Don't miss mid-week activities at FBC Yantis!**

**Prayer Meeting on Tuesday mornings, 7am.**

**Ladies' Bible Study on Tuesday mornings, 9:30 am.**

**Men's Bible Study on Tuesday evenings, 6:30pm.**

### Thank You...

I'd like to express my gratitude to all my sweet friends for praying and holding me up in prayer. My ongoing battle with whatever I have has subsided and I got a good night's sleep. Prayers are answered! To my church family...

In God's Hands,  
Sonja Baker

I would like to say what a wonderful church family we have here at FBC Yantis. I'm thankful for all your prayers and encouragement. They were "felt" and gave me more reason to praise our God.

—Keith Teague

I appreciate all that my church family has done for me during the loss of my son. Thank you all!

—Jackie Stokes