

# The Witness

Volume XXI, Issue VII

Newsletter

July 2023

## Hot, Chaotic, and Life Changing

Intense. Heat. Sweat. Smell. Exhaustion. Sleeplessness. Kids everywhere. Always someplace to be, someone to correct, and dozens to corral. Running at 100 miles an hour from the moment you load vans till you fall exhausted on the couch at its end. That's camp!

But there are moments where it seems that God shows up. Truth becomes real. Loud music turns into worship. Sin comes to the surface for some, is seen in its ugliness, and is rejected. And the grace of God overflows and overwhelms. Tears of joy. A change in countenance. The local groups of kids share and become intimate. Lives change for a night – some forever. For at least a moment, one tastes the presence of the kingdom of God on earth. That's camp!

Leaders and kids always come away from camp different. I can recall countless names of people who were radically changed at camp. People saved. People later baptized. Families of kids that would ultimately be reached. That's why we embrace camp events. That's why we give financially to support these events. That's why we pray earnestly for all that attend.

Pray for the youth and children's camps that will occur in July. Pray

for the kids that go, that they will encounter and respond to the Lord. Pray for the leaders, that they will have physical/emotional stamina, have wisdom/empowerment to be part of what God desires to do in the lives of kids, and that the Lord might do something significant within them as well.

Summer is well underway. Let us make the most of it for the Lord and for His kingdom.

Pastor Danny

## From the Youth Pastor

It's been a busy summer, and July is only going to be busier (and much hotter)!

First, thank y'all for supporting us through our fundraisers so far. We have been able to raise a good amount of the necessary funds for camp. We do have a little bit to go, so we are planning on doing a final fundraiser on July 8. We'll be selling hotdogs, chips, and drinks, in hopes of finishing up our budget.

Second, with July here, we'll soon be on our way to camp. Camp this year is called "Launch Week" and will be at East Texas Baptist Encampment in Newton. Our theme this year is "seek" and is found in Mat-

thew 6:33. Please continue to pray for our group, especially that those who have not placed their trust in Christ can come to do so that week and that those who have done so can have their faith deepened. Also, be praying for us leaders, that God will give us wisdom and guidance as we lead these students to camp.

Thank y'all,  
Dennis Wagner

## Summer Outreach

The Outreach Team has met and has taken a first attempt to fill in ministry events through the end of the year. Stop by the church office and look at the current plan, and mark your calendars for upcoming events that will occur the rest of the year.

We have plans for more fellowships, more singing, more ice cream, more dinners, another Fall Festival, and a Christmas Eve service. We are also looking at having a multiday revival in the fall. These are a few of the things on the calendar.

If you have other ideas or feedback let David Freeman know.

Pastor Danny

## Children's News

CHILDREN'S CAMP IS COMING!

JULY 15-18. See Kathy Freeman for more information.

Thank you to all of the volunteers who made VBS 2023 such a success!

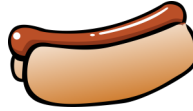


Back to school is coming sooner than you think! Wednesday Night Kick-off and Health Fair will be Saturday August 19th.

## NEWS FOR YOUTHS

Youth Camp will be July 10th thru 14th.

The final fundraiser for Camp will be July 8th. The youth will be selling hot dogs. Please come out and support the cause!



### At-A-Glance

May's Gifts: \$16,330.<sup>00</sup>  
2023 Gifts So Far: \$94,007.<sup>68</sup>  
2023 Budget: \$279,287.<sup>00</sup>

Thank you to FBC Yantis for your generosity and patience while I was out on maternity leave. Huge thanks to Janice Parker for doing such a great job filling in for me while I was gone!  
With Love,  
Elizabeth Smith

## Your Church Staff...

Pastor: **Bro. Danny Parker**  
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Music and Senior Adult Pastor:  
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Secretary: **Mrs. Elizabeth Smith**  
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### July 2023 Senior Adult Ministry

We had our first FBCY Cooking Video on June 15<sup>th</sup>. JoAnn Bevill joined Pat Couch in the FBCY Kitchen to present her awesome "Crockpot Enchilada" recipe. If you have not seen the video, you can pull it up on the church Facebook page or Pat Couch's Facebook page. It was a great time, and we even had a "Studio Audience" on hand. The recipe was not only fun to watch but was served up for lunch. It was delicious!! The video has already reached over 1300 views and is continuing to grow. THANK YOU JoAnn Bevill for your delicious recipe and video!

The next FBCY Cooking video will be on July 20<sup>th</sup> in the Fellowship Hall. Come be a part of this fun time. Marty Smith and Pat Couch will be demonstrating recipes.

Our plans to go to the Mineola Cross County Line Singing was cancelled at the last minute on June 17<sup>th</sup> due to the potential severe weather that was approaching that evening. We were blessed that no bad weather showed up, but we wanted to be cautious with the possibility of bad weather.

We are planning another Mineola Cross County Line Singing on July 15<sup>th</sup>. The church bus will leave the church at 4:30 that afternoon with a stop at the Mineola What-A-Burger before arriving at the singing. I will have another "Sign up" sheet by my office.

We are also planning a Community Health Fair on August 19<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM to coincide with the Back to School Events. We already have numerous organizations that have committed to be here including Carter Blood Center, Trinity Mother Francis, East Texas Council on Aging, The Wood County Sheriff's Office, and many others. So, mark your calendars and tell your friends and neighbors. The event is for everyone in our community.

Thanks,  
Bro Steve