

The Witness

Volume XXI, Issue VI

Newsletter

May 2023

A Little More of a Mother's Spirit

Of course, our society needs more male presence in our homes. But as we recognize that, let us not forget that we also need more (a lot more) of a mother's spirit as well.

Paul describes how he came to the folks in Thessalonica with images of a mother. "We were gentle among you, like a nursing mother taking care of her own children. 8 So, being affectionately desirous of you, we were ready to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you had become very dear to us." His impact was the result of this mother-like spirit that he had. We desperately need more of this in society and in the church.

Gentleness. Tender care. Fond affection. Sharing ourselves. Doesn't this describe what a mother should be! I hope others can remember their own mothers with these words. I can. And what an impact it had on me. I seldom deserved it, but that did not change my mom's attitude toward me. I was special, not because of anything in me, but because she chose to love me as if I was special.

I thank God for our mothers. They reflect the heart of God (perhaps especially in the person of the Holy Spirit). Unconditional love. Gently wooing. Encouraging. Helping with gracious compassion. Causing children to want to be the best they can be. Maybe

mothers who gave birth to these children. Maybe 'mothers' who love these children as if they were their own. In every case having a radical impact on young lives.

Mother's Day is special because of those being honored. Mothers deserve honor. These who invested their lives in us – even when we didn't appreciate it / didn't deserve it. Loving without condition. I want to say thank you for all that you are and all that you have been. May the Lord reproduce your spirit in all of us.

Pastor Danny

From the Youth Pastor

As the school year is coming to a close, exciting things are happening in the youth ministry. We are looking forward to and planning for the summer. The plan is to have events every other week and to continue to have weekly meetings.

While we have not had any decisions, there have been a number of breakthroughs and victories. I'm working hard to build strong relationships with the students and earn their trust, while sharing Jesus with them every step of the way.

We are planning a few fundraisers coming up. We'll be having a fundraiser dinner and dessert auction soon, as well as a car wash. I am passionate about and believe

summer camp will be an excellent opportunity for these students to deepen or begin their faith journey, so we appreciate your support and prayers.

Please continue to pray that there can be a breakthrough with and among the students and that the Gospel will take root in their lives.

In Him,
Dennis Wagner

Outreach

Summer is a time for different things. Join in and support all that is going on. Keep watch for the various fundraisers for camp including car washes, dinners and dessert auctions. The Senior Adult ministry will have a number of opportunities to do things and/or just hang out.

Already scheduled May events include Bobbie Broughton gospel singer (May 7, 6:00 PM), Lord's Supper (May 7), Senior Rally (May 11 at Lakeview), Mother's Day (May 14), Plus One Ladies event (May 20, 11:30 AM) and High School graduation (May 27)/ baccalaureate (May 21, 6:00 – place to be determined).

Be faithful this summer and bring local friends and/or visitors that might come to visit.

Pastor Danny

May 2023 Music Newsletter

Psalm 98 O sing unto the LORD a new song; for he hath done marvelous things: his right hand, and his holy arm, hath gotten him the victory.

2. The LORD hath made known his salvation: his righteousness hath he openly shewed in the sight of the heathen. 3. He hath remembered his mercy and his truth toward the house of Israel: all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. 4. Make a joyful noise unto the LORD, all the earth: make a loud noise, and rejoice, and sing praise, 5. Sing unto the LORD with the harp; with the harp, and the voice of a psalm. 6. With trumpets and the sound of cornet make a joyful noise before the LORD, the King.

Our Praise Team may not have trumpets and harps, but we have some awesome singing and playing! I am very proud of each and every person in our Praise Team. They come in early each Sunday to rehearse and are very forgiving of my lack of music leading abilities. We all have a joyous time praising the Lord!!

Sunday 07 May we have music evangelist Bobby Broughton coming to sing a special during the morning service. Then at 6:00 PM that same evening he will be giving a concert. Bobby has a beautiful voice and testimony. Please come expecting a blessing!!

Please continue to pray for us as we give the Lord praise and glory.

God Bless You All
Bro Steve

Remember if you RSVP'd:
Norma Newman's 90th Birthday Party at the Yantis Community Center on May 6th.

Bobby Broughton Concert May 7th at 6pm. Please join us for an evening of uplifting gospel music.

VBS Coming Soon! June 19th thru 23rd! More details and registration information to come shortly. Please consider how you may get involved in this ministry!

Youth Camp will be July 10th thru 14th.

Children's camp will be July 15th thru 18th.

There will be a meal and dessert auction fundraiser on Sunday, May 21st as well as a car wash on June 3rd for summer camp. Please pray about how you will contribute!

At A Glance

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| March's Gifts: | \$17,789. ⁵⁰ |
| 2023 Gifts So Far: | \$37,161. ⁰⁰ |
| 2023 Budget: | \$279,287. ⁰⁰ |

Your Church Staff...

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

Youth Pastor: **Bro. Dennis Wagner**
Cell: 757-235-3766
Email: fbcy.youth@peoplescom.net

Worship Leader: **Bro. Steve Couch**
Cell: 903-456-4220
Email: stevecouchmusic@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 Email: fbcyantist@peoplescom.net
Church Website: www.fbcyantist.com

Thank you...

For the cards, the food, and, most importantly, the prayers I received while recovering through rehab, thank you from the bottom of my heart!
—Diane Nickerson

Plus One Ladies' Luncheon

Saturday, May 20th at 11:30 am in the FLC

The theme will be John 15:5. "I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing."

May 2023 Senior Adult Ministry

Our First Meeting was on Thursday 6 April 2023. We had a good group and everyone brought some very good ideas. Also mark your calendars for 11 May 2023 for a Senior Adult Rally at Lakeview Camp. The speaker will be Randall Babin from FBC Hallsville with music from Adam Perkins of FBC Hughes Springs. The sign-up sheet is on the table outside my office. I need a headcount and registration fee no later than 08 May 2023. Pat and I pray everyone is as excited as we are about this new ministry!

God Bless
Bro Steve and Pat Couch