

The Witness

Volume XIX, Issue X

Newsletter

October 2022

Navigating the Rapids

Janice doesn't do whitewater anymore. After numerous trips down various rollercoaster rapids, she has had enough of that type of turmoil and strife. And that's okay. The decision to avoid artificial adrenaline producers is neither good nor bad. However, life's whitewater of chaos and uncertainty cannot be avoided. And the way we handle that will determine how successfully we reach the destination.

I could tell story after story of the adventures that we have had as a family. Some, like the rapids, were self-induced. I love excitement. Freezing water drenching my face, fear of falling out of the boat as it rocks and rolls through the waves, paddling like mad to avoid being swept away, frustration in not being able to go where you want to go because of outside forces, working together for the safety of the group, reaching the final destination alive.

But the chaos of life is not always so fun. Sudden change. Loss of stability. Uncertainty. Loss of hope. Division from differing opinions on critical issues. These types of events create the type of emotions that we would rather avoid. Yet life (really the Lord), brings them. He does it with purpose. And the results are life changing. The question is how we navigate the waters. This is true whether it occurs in our individual lives or in the church.

As a church we face some rapids ahead. Many holes in ministry now exist with the departure of the Ferrells. We are faced with decisions that will impact the lifeblood of the

ministry. How we respond will shape our future.

More important than the decisions themselves, will be the attitudes that guide us during this time. The process of decision-making involves interpersonal relationships. It is critical the manner in which we interact with one another. May the Lord give us grace toward one another – everyone is trying to do the best they can. May it be a time to encourage one another – everyone is dealing with stuff inside. May it be a time to be involved – many will need to step up if current ministry is to continue. May it be a time of support – what can I do to help others? May it be a time to share ideas – synergy created by positive input creates a fuller solution. Ultimately it is about the process more than the result. Good decisions come from Christ-centered behavior.

May we humbly engage. May we allow this to be a time of spiritual transformation within us. May we allow the Lord to demonstrate Himself to be the mighty God that He is. May this be a time that sparks revival in our lives and in our church. Let's make life's whitewater an adventure.

As we appropriately navigate the waters ahead, the Lord will carry us into a future that we could only imagine.

Danny

From Our Hearts

By the time you receive this month's newsletter, you will have already heard that we are leaving our position at FBC Yantis. We just wanted to say one more time how much we have enjoyed serving with you over the past 5 years. You are a special church family. We love each and every one of you. We know that God has big plans for FBC Yantis and we will be excited to see them unfold. We just wanted to leave you with a word of encouragement.

Each day is a gift that God has given you. We are not promised tomorrow. We are not even promised our next breath. However, while we are still on this earth let all that we do honor Christ. As a part of the family of FBC Yantis, you are planted here to grow and help others to grow. Don't give up when discouragement comes. It will. Jesus tells us in John that in this world we WILL have trouble. However, He also tells us that He has overcome the world and that means we can become overcomers as well. Many of you have served Christ for a lot of years. Don't stop. Don't let age or anything stop you from serving in joy and in the Spirit of the Lord. He has a place for you. He created you with giftings to serve and help grow the Kingdom of God. When He brings people (of all ages) your way, don't take it lightly. Encourage, disciple and love them with your whole hearts as a way to honor Christ.

We appreciate the love, encouragement and support you have given us for the last 5 years. We are still only a text or phone call away. Please don't hesitate to reach out if you need anything. We will continue to pray for you all to walk in the Spirit and Joy of the Lord.

Love you all!

In Christ,

Bro. Chad & Melaina Ferrell

The Plan / The Prayer

Just what is the plan now that the Ferrells have departed?

I. Temporarily fill ministry gaps through the end of the year

- Sunday Worship leader—Steve Couch
- Piano—seek outside pianist
- Youth Sunday School—Wayne Miles
- Wednesday Night Youth— Wayne Miles with Danny Parker to teach and recruit other volunteers

II. Seek church approval of the temporary plan via special business meeting

III. Take a month of prayer to seek the Lord's guidance re: the open positions.

IV. Gather insight from the church re: the open positions in an open forum.

V. Decide what positions need to be filled and institute a process to fill them.

- Establish procedure.
- Construct a search team.
- Complete the search.

Danny Parker

Outreach for October

Here's a reminder of the many upcoming opportunities for ministry. Each is a time to be personally blessed, to do ministry, and to invite others to visit.

Sunday mornings in October will be special!

What a great time we will have honoring Kent Pate! What a blessing he has been to our ministry and to our individual lives! He will preach on the morning of October 2, and we will have a potluck dinner with him afterwards.

Then on October 9, southern gospel singer Richard Townsen will be given the entire Sunday AM service. He will sing and present the gospel. It will be a unique experience.

On October 16, we are seeking to get a report from the Mexican pastor that we provided some funds to help build his church. This could turn into a combined service with Prince of Peace. More information is to come about this.

There will be a few other special events in October!

The ladies will have a potluck on October 8.

Finally on October 29 we will host our Fall Festival. Last year, we saw many from the community stop by to enjoy the festival.

At A Glance	
August's Gifts:	\$17,037. ⁶¹
2022 Gifts So Far:	\$180,873. ³⁷
2022 Budget:	\$262,763. ⁰⁰

<i>Your Church Staff...</i>	
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.	
Jesus Kids, Wednesdays from 3:30-5:30pm	
Youth Service, Wednesday from 3:30-6:30pm	



Fall Festival! October 29th 3-5pm!