

# IN GOD WE (NEARLY) TRUST

From *Come Thirsty* by Max Lucado

A few days before our wedding, Denalyn and I enjoyed and endured a sailing voyage. Milt, a Miami church friend, had invited Denalyn, her mom and me to join him and a few others on a leisurely cruise along the Florida coast. Initially, it was just that. Leisure. We stretched out on cushions, hung our feet over the side, caught some zzz's and rays. Nice. But then the storm came. The sky darkened, the rain started, and the flat ocean humped like a dragon's neck. Sudden waves of water tilted the vessel up until we saw nothing but the sky and then downward until we saw nothing but blue. I learned this about sailing; there is nothing swell about a swell. Tanning stopped. Napping ceased. Eyes turned first to the thunderclouds, then to the captain. We looked to Milt. He was deliberate and decisive. He told some people where to sit, others what to do, and all of us to hang on. And we did what he said. Why? We knew he knew best. No one else knew the difference between starboard and stern. Only Milt did. We trusted him. We knew he knew. And we knew we didn't. Prior to the winds, we might have boasted about Boy Scout merit badges in sailing or bass-boat excursions. But once the storm hit, we shut up. We had no choice but to trust Milt. He knew what we didn't - and he cared. The vessel was captained, not by a hireling or a stranger, but by a pal. Our safety mattered to him. So we trusted him. Oh, that the choice were that easy in life. Need I remind you about your westerly winds? With the speed of lightning and the force of a thunderclap, williwaws anger tranquil waters. Victims of sudden storms populate unemployment lines and ICU wards. You know the winds. You've felt the waves. Good-bye, smooth sailing. Hello, rough waters. Such typhoons test our trust in the Captain. Does God know what He is doing? Can He get us out? Why did He allow the storm? Can you say about God what I said about Milt?

***I know God knows what's best.***

***I know I don't.***

***I know He cares.***

Such words come easily when the water is calm. But when you're looking at a wrecked car or a suspicious looking mole, when war breaks out or thieves break in, do you trust Him? To embrace God's sovereignty is to drink from the well of His Lordship and make a sailboat-in-the storm decision. Not in regard to Milt and the sea, but in regard to God and life. **You look toward the Captain and resolve: He knows what's best.**

# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH BELEN

***Pastor David Guerrero . Pastor Ernest Sanchez***

**January 10, 2021**



## **Welcome to Church!**

If you are a first time visitor, please fill out a "Connect Card" and visit our Connection Desk. We would love an opportunity to get to know you better and encourage you in your spiritual walk, as well as answer any questions! Contact Information for our Pastoral and Office Staff is provided on our website at [www.fbcbelen.net](http://www.fbcbelen.net), or you may call us at 864-8621.

## Activities for the Week

**Sunday - January 10<sup>th</sup>**

Spanish Bible Study - 9:00 a.m.

Worship Service - 10:30 a.m.

Young Adults @ the Sanchez'  
home - 7:00 p.m.

**Monday - January 11<sup>th</sup>**

**Tuesday - January 12<sup>th</sup>**

Ladies Bible Study - 9:15 a.m.

**Wednesday - January 13<sup>th</sup>**

Deaf Fellowship - 5:30 p.m.

Adult Bible Study

Children's Ministry

Choir Practice

Rooted Youth

6:00 p.m.

**Thursday - January 14<sup>th</sup>**

**Friday - January 15<sup>th</sup>**

**Saturday - January 16<sup>th</sup>**

**Deacons of the Week:**

LeRoy Vallejos

Jorge Acosta

**Safety Team - January 17<sup>th</sup>:**

Phil Gregory

Phil Smith

Jim Hurlburt

## Church BUSINESS Meeting

**Postponed**

Date to be announced  
when rescheduled



## Ladies Bible Study RESUMES

Tuesday, January 12<sup>th</sup>

9:15 a.m.

with *Joseph - The Journey  
to Forgiveness*

Offering Boxes are located  
in the back  
of the Sanctuary for your  
**Tithes**  
**Offerings**  
**Prayer Requests**

Job never saw  
why he  
suffered,  
but **he saw**  
**GOD**  
and that was  
**enough.**

-Tim Keller -

## Church Office Hours

Monday: 1:00 - 4:30 p.m. . Tuesday - Thursday: 8:30 am - 4:30 pm . Friday: Closed

## Giving is Worship

"Then the people rejoiced because they had  
offered so willingly, for they made their  
offering to the Lord with a whole heart..."

- 1 Chronicles 29:9 -



Contribution Statements will be available  
in the foyer  
**Sunday, January 24<sup>th</sup>**



**God's Word is Alive! Join Us!**

Wednesday Evenings  
6:00 p.m. in the Kids Zone

**Business Meeting: Postponed** - date to be announced when  
rescheduled.

**Baby Church:** The P - 5 classroom is open to all parents/grandparents  
with babies.

**Young Adults:** Join Pastor Ernest & Rebecca - Sundays - 7:00 p.m.

**Ladies Bible Study:** Tuesday, January 12<sup>th</sup> - 9:15 a.m. - Faith Building

**Wednesday Night Activities:** Come Join Us! Adult Bible Study - Youth -  
Deaf Fellowship - Bible Study - Children's Ministry

**Sermon Notes and Children's Bulletins are available at the Connection  
Center Desk.**

If you would like to receive Church information/news/updates,  
please contact the Church Office (864-8621)  
to submit your email address and phone number.