

## MEADOWBROOK BAPTIST CHURCH

Worship This Sunday

June 6, 2021 ~ 9:00 AM

In our Sanctuary (masks are optional)

or

Outside Parking Area

Services on YouTube

Meadowbrookbaptist.cc

May 30, 2021

Worship Attendance 40      World Hunger \$21.08

Budget Offering \$3,892.65

Weekly Needs to Date \$58,300.00

Weekly Offerings to Date \$62,462.35

### GOD AND HAVING FUN

“You cause the grass to grow, for the cattle to eat. (Thank God for steaks!); plants for man to cultivate (Thank God for chocolate!) so he can bring forth food from the earth; and wine\*\* to gladden the heart of man, and oil to make his face shine. . .”  
(Psalm 104:15)

When publisher, Norman Cousins, was told he had only a few months to live; he stopped working and said he was going to die laughing. He bought joke books and watched old comedies on film every night and his wife would hear him laughing out loud. He got well, and today, hospitals all over the world, are having “Laughter Therapy Clinics”.

The Bible taught this one thousand years before Christ. The “Readers’ Digest” section - “Laughter Is the Best Medicine” comes from Proverbs 17:22, “**A merry heart doeth good, like a medicine but a downcast spirit dries up the bones.**”

Jesus went to parties (John 2; Mark 2:15) and when He told the Pharisees they would take a gnat out of their soup and swallow the camel in it; I think Peter shook all over, laughing (Matthew 23:24).

It’s all right to enjoy life; to dance, to want to make 79 in golf or 200 in bowling. It’s all right to enjoy knowledge and fly to the moon. It’s all

right to enjoy sex in marriage. The author of the Song of Solomon did. Chuck Swindoll said when God brought Eve to Adam, Adam said, “Wow!” Adrian Rogers said when she ate them out of house and home, he said, “Ouch!”

Too many Christians are like the Puritan who said, “*Eating ice cream must be a sin because it tastes so good.*” But sad faced Christians talking and singing about getting out of this weary world are poor advertisements for our faith.

And for the Christian, **troubles should not be allowed to take away our joy.** Paul, in pain and in prison, said in Philippians 1:23 that he wanted to go to heaven more than he wanted to go on living; but the book of Philippians is the most joy filled book in the Bible.

Life itself is one of God’s greatest gifts. That’s why God puts it in our heart to fight for it. A young man in my church suffered horribly from cancer. Once, as I left his hospital room and thought of his pain and all his tubes, I said to myself, “God, why do you let him keep on living?”

I got my answer instantly. That young man could ***pull those tubes away*** and walk out of that hospital into the frigid air and die ANY TIME HE CHOSE. But he did not so choose. He chose life, no matter how unpleasant. No matter what we are going through, let us choose life and enjoy life and thank God for life. Let us say every day,

**“This is the day the Lord has made. I will rejoice and be glad in it.” (Psalm 118:24)**

\*\* For our safety (Proverbs 23:29-32) and our influence as Christians (Romans 14:21); as a new Christian, I believed God wanted me to substitute things like Coca Cola and Iced Tea (Thank you, Lord!) for alcohol. When people asked me why I didn’t drink, I quoted Thomas Edison, “I won’t put anything in my mouth that destroys my brain”.