

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
OF OLYMPIA

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August 2021 Preaching Schedule First Baptist Church

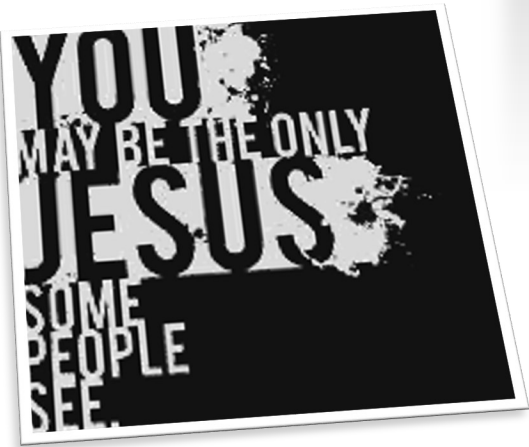
August 1st  
Rev. Mark Rambo  
*Growing Up & Into Christlikeness*  
Ephesians 4:1—16

August 8th  
Rev. Mark Rambo  
*Wonder Bread*  
John 6:35, 41—51

August 15th  
Pastor Mark on Vacation  
Pastor Dave Roberts,  
Guest Preacer...

August 22nd  
Rev. Mark Rambo  
*Faith Choices*  
John 6:56—69

August 29th  
Rev. Mark Rambo  
*Catch and Release*  
James 1:17—27



AUGUST

WINDOWS

2021

First Baptist Church Olympia

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The Thin Place  
Where the Sacred & Ordinary Collide!

In November, we will celebrate our 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary as a faith community, the Olympia First Baptist Church. It is a long, cherished and distinguished history. As the current Pastor, in a long-line of Pastors, the twist, or challenge, for me, is that as we look back at our history in this present moment, we stand at a crossroads where the future is in sight but the details are yet to be determined. We wrestle with questions around who we want to be, what are our essential values as well as what we wish those who come to our church, experience when they are here?

I’ve spent a lot of time during the pandemic, praying, listening and pondering what the future might hold for us as well as what it might look like. I am working with the Deacons to provide some time together where we can pray for one another as well as discussing/answering some of those questions above. For instance, I am meeting with Pat DeNeui’s deacon group, on Sunday afternoon, August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2:00 at Pat’s house. As we move forward into this unseen, unknown, we call the future, we realize that there will be changes along the way. Not necessarily big changes, but perhaps smaller and still impactful as we discern God’s Spirit and direction. I look forward to hearing from you as we find opportunities for prayer and dialogue.

The other avenue I want us to explore as we move into our unknown future is to talk a bit about culture, specifically, the culture of our church community. 150 years is a long time to develop a “this is the way we do things,” attitude, that is often unspoken. Our mission and vision determine the *what* and the *why* of what we do. Our culture reflects how we as an organization *feels* and *behaves*. And for better or worse, culture can trump one’s mission and vision. The challenge isn’t necessarily what you believe, as an organization/church, it’s how you behave. Again, it doesn’t mean sweeping change(s) but it does require taking an honest look at how we are structured, our decision-making processes, etc., that leads us to the ultimate question: does our actions – how we do things – line up with our beliefs, our mission, our vision and purpose for being the church of Jesus Christ on the corner of Washington and 9<sup>th</sup>?

The good news is that I don’t think there is a huge gap between our actions and our beliefs. It’s more about being aware of those differences, then being flexible and adaptable, when we can recognize, name and then hopefully, change those discrepancies/differences.

Like I have said, there is much to talk about, to share and ponder. It doesn’t require 100% agreement, or an official “vote.” It’s about, for me, taking designated moments to stop, look, listen and then make whatever adjustments we need to make as we continue to move forward into God’s future for us as a congregation.

Looking forward to the conversations!  
Blessings and Joy!  
Pastor Mark  
(Rev)

## Re-Opening News!

We are slowly re-opening up the church to its previous, every-day activities before the Covid-19 Pandemic. As of August 1<sup>st</sup>, the church will be open during regular office hours:

**Tuesday—Friday, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**

Outside Church groups who were pre-approved and using our facility before the Pandemic, are meeting once again during their scheduled times. This includes the Lion's Club on Tuesdays, at Noontime, the TOPS group on Friday mornings at 10:00 a.m. and the Woodturners, who will be meeting once a month. If you have any questions, please talk with Pastor Mark.

Additionally, it is no longer necessary to sign-up or contact the church office if you are going to attend worship in-person. We are open. **We are encouraging people to get vaccinated if they are not already.** Masks are not required, but be open to putting one on if someone around you is uncomfortable. We still have some folks who are autoimmune-challenged even though they have had the vaccine. Or, if you are asked to move to a different pew, because of the need of someone who needs to be masked, to be open to that possibility as well. We are trying to be flexible, adaptable, open, kind and sensitive while still being safe for all folks who come to worship with us. Again, if you have any questions, please talk with Pastor Mark.



## Looking Ahead to September

### & Save-the-Dates

**Saturday, September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2:00 p.m.**

Installation Service of Rev. Mark Rambo • Reception to follow

**Sunday, September 19<sup>th</sup>, 8:30 a.m.** – Return of In-Person Sunday School

**Sunday, September 19<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 a.m.** Worship Service – Fall Kick-Off

**Sunday, September 19<sup>th</sup>, 11:30 a.m.** @ Tumwater Historical Park,  
All-Church Picnic

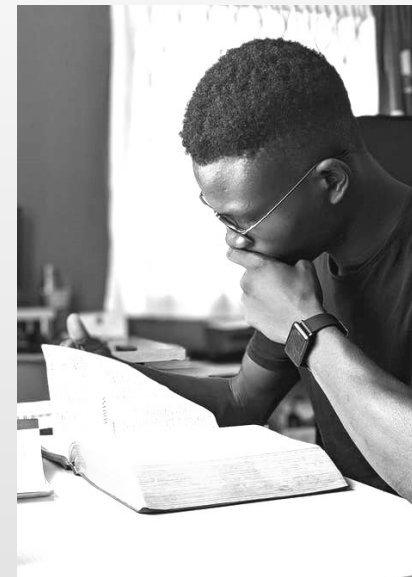
Good Food – Great Fellowship – Corn Hole Tournament – More Game Options

*\*There will be more details in the September Edition of the Windows – Stay Tuned!*

## BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION Chair, Sandy

Join us on the Facebook Group page: **“Heart and Thoughts”**  
for the continuing One-year Chronological Bible Study.

### Here is a list of readings for August:



### AUGUST

- August 1  
2 Kings 23:1-20  
2 Chronicles 34:29-33  
2 Kings 23:21-28  
2 Chronicles 35:1-19  
Nahum 1:1-3:19
- August 2  
Habakkuk 1:1-3:19  
Zephaniah 1:1-2:7
- August 3  
Zephaniah 2:8-3:20  
2 Chronicles 35:20-27  
2 Kings 23:29-30  
Jeremiah 47:1-48:47
- August 4  
2 Chronicles 36:1-4  
2 Kings 23:31-37  
2 Chronicles 36:5  
Jeremiah 22:1-23  
Jeremiah 26:1-24  
2 Kings 24:1-4  
Jeremiah 25:1-14
- August 5  
Jeremiah 25:15-38  
Jeremiah 36:1-32  
Jeremiah 45:1-46:28
- August 6  
Jeremiah 19:1-20:18  
Daniel 1:1-21
- August 7  
Daniel 2:1-3:30  
Jeremiah 7:1-8:3
- August 8  
Jeremiah 8:4-11:23
- August 9  
Jeremiah 12:1-15:21
- August 10  
Jeremiah 16:1-18:23  
Jeremiah 35:1-19

- August 11  
Jeremiah 49:1-33  
2 Kings 24:5-7  
2 Chronicles 36:6-8  
2 Kings 24:8-9  
2 Chronicles 36:9  
Jeremiah 22:24-23:32
- August 12  
Jeremiah 23:33-24:10  
Jeremiah 29:1-31:14
- August 13  
Jeremiah 31:15-40  
Jeremiah 49:34-51:14
- August 14  
Jeremiah 51:15-58  
2 Kings 24:10-17  
2 Chronicles 36:10  
1 Chronicles 3:10-16  
2 Chronicles 36:11-14  
Jeremiah 52:1-3a  
2 Kings 24:18-20a  
Jeremiah 37:1-10
- August 15  
Jeremiah 37:11-38:28  
Ezekiel 1:1-3:15
- August 16  
Ezekiel 3:16-4:17  
Jeremiah 27:1-28:17  
Jeremiah 51:59-64
- August 17  
Ezekiel 5:1-9:11
- August 18  
Ezekiel 10:1-13:23
- August 19  
Ezekiel 14:1-16:63
- August 20  
Ezekiel 17:1-19:14
- August 21  
Ezekiel 20:1-22:16
- August 22  
Ezekiel 22:17-23:49  
2 Kings 24:20b-25:2  
Jeremiah 52:3b-5  
Jeremiah 39:1  
Ezekiel 24:1-14
- August 23  
Ezekiel 24:15-25:17  
Jeremiah 34:1-22  
Jeremiah 21:1-14  
Ezekiel 29:1-16  
Ezekiel 30:20-31:18
- August 24  
Jeremiah 32:1-33:26  
Ezekiel 26:1-14
- August 25  
Ezekiel 26:15-28:26  
2 Kings 25:3-7  
Jeremiah 52:6-11  
Jeremiah 39:2-10
- August 26  
Jeremiah 39:11-18  
Jeremiah 40:1-6  
2 Kings 25:8-21  
Jeremiah 52:12-27  
2 Chronicles 36:15-21  
Lamentations 1:1-22
- August 27  
Lamentations 2:1-4:22
- August 28  
Lamentations 5:1-22  
Obadiah 1:1-21  
2 Kings 25:22-26  
Jeremiah 40:7-41:18
- August 29  
Jeremiah 42:1-44:30  
Ezekiel 33:21-33
- August 30  
Ezekiel 34:1-36:38
- August 31  
Ezekiel 37:1-39:29  
Ezekiel 32:1-16

**FAMILY CAMP • CAMP BETHEL • LABOR DAY WEEKEND  
MINI-RETREAT  
SEPTEMBER 3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup>  
*Caution: God at Play!***

Family Camp at Camp Bethel is back after a prolonged absence. What better time to restart & re-purpose this intergenerational blast from the past than now, as we begin to emerge from our Covid-19 world. Our theme, Caution: God at Play! will focus on incorporating laughter, humor and play in our spiritual lives! Join Mark and Kathleen Rambo from Olympia First Baptist Church and Dave and Merletta Roberts for a weekend that is designed to give you multiple choices to fit your busy schedules as you learn how to play.

***The Core of the Family Camp Weekend is from  
10:00 a.m., Saturday, September 4<sup>th</sup> to 2:00 p.m., Sunday, September 5<sup>th</sup>!***

If you want to settle in early, you can come Friday night, after dinner...

If you want to stay until Monday morning, you can, but you're on your own for food options.

Cost: \$85 per person, \$275 Family Limit, Children under 5 are free!

This is not just an Olympia First Baptist retreat but will be an open event for all within the Camp Bethel family/church network.

Register on [www.campbethel.net](http://www.campbethel.net)

**Stewardship**

Our giving continues to be an up and down endeavor. Our overall giving is going up slightly every month but still well short of our monthly giving targets. The good news is that our spending has been limited as well and we are taking in more than we are sending out! And while we have money in the bank, we are also looking at some building improvements that will stretch us. But then, when isn't life a challenge?

Currently, as of July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021 we have received \$133,288.41, in income.

We have spent \$128,716, our expenditures, year-to-date.

**Year-To-Date**, we are \$4573.26, income over expenses.

Yeah Team First Baptist!

Overall—Total Church Funds, we are at \$219,916, in the Bank!

August also begins our Spending Plan/Budget Building Process. Under the guidance and leadership of the Board of Trustees, our Boards and Committees will begin the prayerful discernment of what they will need to carry out the different aspects of the mission and ministry of Olympia First Baptist that they are responsible for. It is a process that requires prayer, patience, listening, discernment, a bit of risk and a whole lot of faith. Trying to discern what people may or may not give in tithes and offerings is challenging. But try we must as we attempt to build a budget that is grounded in reality but with enough built-in challenges to remind us that faith is part of the process as well.

This is I know: God is Faithful...All the Time! We, as the people of God, do our best to be faithful to God, in return. We do our best to be Faithful, Consistent, and Joyful in our giving! I hope you will be in prayer for those involved in our budget-building process. I hope you will be prayerful and begin to discern what God would have you give in the form of tithes and offerings, in 2022, toward the mission and ministry of Olympia First Baptist.

**Spiritual Formation & Discipleship**

One of my main emphasis as Pastor surrounds our formation as the people of God. Our spiritual development doesn't end after we stop going to Sunday school. Discipleship is an ongoing, never stopping process that lasts as long as we do. The past month, during my sermons, I've emphasized two different spiritual exercises that I'd like for you to consider. The first is:

The Gospel According to\_\_\_\_\_!

Choose 5 Jesus stories from the Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, & John) that exemplify for you, what it means to be a follower of Christ and guides your life where it needs to be. This is an exercise I learned from one of my mentor's, Dr. William Herzog II, who was my New Testament Professor in Seminary. It's harder than you might think. One of the benefits is that it helps you clarify what are your essential values, and/or faith practices, etc., as a follower of Christ.

As an example, here is my "Gospel According to Pastor Mark":

Jesus Heals a Paralytic – Mark 2:1–12

Love for Enemies – Matthew 5:43–48

The Rejection of Jesus at Nazareth – Luke 4:16–30

A New Commandment – John 13:31–35

The Walk to Emmaus – Luke 24:13–35

I have had a handful of people who have shared their "gospels" with me. I'd love to hear from more of you.

The second exercise centers around the simple, but profound question of:

***What is God Like?***

Rachel Held Evans wrote about faith, doubt and life in the Bible Belt. She called eastern Tennessee, home. Rachel died suddenly and unexpectedly in 2019. She was near the completion of a children's storybook when she became ill and died. Family friend Matthew Paul Turner finished her project along with illustrator, Ying Hui Tan.

The book is:

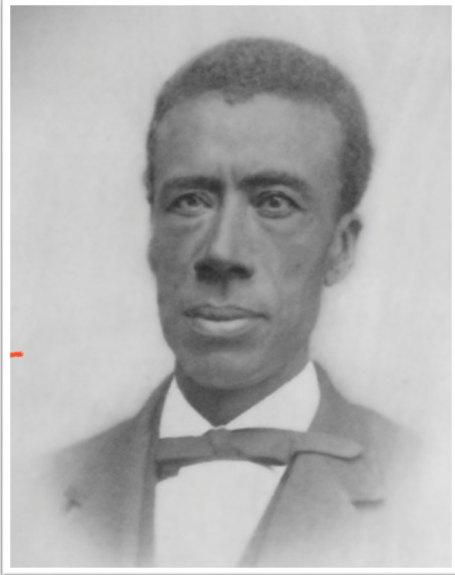
***What is God Like?***

Even though this is a "children's" book, this is a wonderful question for all followers and lovers of God to ponder and answer. The cool thing, for me, is that some of you, have already started sharing some of your responses. If you feel brave, I'd encourage you to send me your responses. I won't reveal your name, but I will find a way to collate them and use them in worship and other settings in the future.

What is God Like, for you?



## A Brief History of Festus Campbell (1822-1910)



Vernon Blair and I have been participating in the Evergreen Anti-racism Network twice a month for over a year. One of the assignments we had was to look at the history of our church and its relationship to communities of color. Vern looked over and compiled the relevant history for the assignment and when he was doing that, he came across this paragraph:

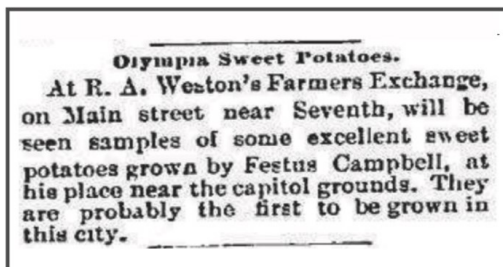
“Festus Campbell was a member of the church. He had been a slave but somehow been able to get schooling and when he became a member of First Baptist he was a well-educated man. In 1879 he became a pastor for one month.”

In Vern’s summary of our history he noted, “There’s a story in there that I would like to know.”

So I did a little digging, and found out the following about Festus Campbell.

Festus Campbell was born a slave in Louisiana in 1822. In 1849 he escaped to Pittsfield, Massachusetts where he became servant to Dr. Robert Campbell where he assumed Dr. Campbell’s last name. Throughout his life Festus Campbell travelled across Europe, and the Holy Land as a valet to a judge, and other prominent men. In 1906 he donated ancient relics he gathered on his travels to the Berkshire Museum. He mastered French, Spanish and Italian. He opened multiple restaurants, invested in real estate in Pittsfield, MA, operated a successful greenhouse and became an ordained Baptist minister.

In the 1860’s Festus Campbell hired a woman named Mary Quincy to manage one of his restaurants. The two became close friends, and when Festus’s businesses began to decline in Massachusetts, Mary was hired to work at the Pacific House Hotel and so they relocated to Olympia, Washington. Festus and Mary lived together in Olympia platonically the rest of their lives. Mary worked as a cook and Festus applied his extensive knowledge of horticulture to grow flowers,



Morning Olympian, 29 October 1893

Pacific House Hotel and so they relocated to Olympia, Washington. Festus and Mary lived together in Olympia platonically the rest of their lives. Mary worked as a cook and Festus applied his extensive knowledge of horticulture to grow flowers,



## Camp Bethel – Summer Camping Schedule

Camp Bethel is following the guidelines that have been put into place by the American Camp Association, that follow the recommendations of the Center for Disease Control.

**Family Camp**, Directed by Rev. Mark and Kathleen Rambo

**September 3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup>** – This is a Friday night to Monday morning timeframe.

Cost – To Be Determined.

We are resurrecting Family Camp at Bethel over the Labor Day Weekend.

This will be an intergenerational gathering of Jesus followers for folks who are from any of the local churches that support Camp Bethel, whether that be Olympia, Hoquiam, Raymond, Montesano, Chehalis, etc.

Learning will be done intergenerationally, not by traditional age groupings.

## SOFTBALL IS ALMOST OVER!

**Gary Baits**

*Come and cheer on the Ragamuffin Team!*

*The last game is fast approaching!*

*Don't let it...*



*pass you by!*

## ICL 2021 Softball Scheduled

DATE	TIME	FIELD	HOME	VISITOR
5-Aug	6:00	2	A	F
	7:15	2	B	E
	8:30	2	C	D

TEAMS				
	CHURCHES	TEAM CAPTAN	PHONE	E-MAIL
A	Transformation Life Center	Luis Dela Cruz	808-779-0883	<a href="mailto:ltcdelacruz@gmail.com">ltcdelacruz@gmail.com</a>
B	Crossroads Covenant Church # 2	Rick Armstrong	253-651-2849	<a href="mailto:irish_nation_82@icloud.com">irish_nation_82@icloud.com</a>
C	Faith Lutheran	Justin Bevers	360-292-0353	<a href="mailto:jbevers02@gmail.com">jbevers02@gmail.com</a>
D	Crossroads Covenant Church # 3	Rick Armstrong	253-651-2849	<a href="mailto:irish_nation_82@icloud.com">irish_nation_82@icloud.com</a>
E	New Bridge Community	Erick Anderson	360-791-9220	<a href="mailto:erick18@rocketmail.com">erick18@rocketmail.com</a>
F	Emmans House	Gary Baits	360-775-5810	<a href="mailto:garybaits@gmail.com">garybaits@gmail.com</a>



**Olympia First Baptist Church Presents:  
Repurposing Youth Ministry in conjunction  
with Emmaus House**

As some of you may know, we are repurposing the Youth Ministry approach here at Olympia First Baptist. The last few years we have had a down-tick in the numbers and availability of youth and their schedules to have a traditional youth ministry program. We have focused on more one-on-one mentoring relationships. And then there was Covid-19.

However, Covid did allow us to do some praying, planning and putting a team together that were committed to ministry with young people here at Oly First and Emmaus House. Currently we have 14 youth who are in Middle School and High School.

Our Youth Ministry team is comprised of Gary Baits, Pat DeNeui, Jodi Honeysett, Ricky and Carrie Bowman. In addition, we have one 20-something adult who is discerning their role with this team.

We started the kick-off of our new approach to Youth Ministry for the Summer in June.  
Now we continue with the schedule in August etc.

Below is what the schedule looks like, with a few, brief, explanations:

**August 7<sup>th</sup> – Emmaus House – 6:00 p.m. – No youth Group Gathering**

**August 14<sup>th</sup> – Emmaus House and Youth Group Gathering – 5:30 p.m. – Food**

**August 21<sup>st</sup> – No Emmaus House – No youth Group Gathering  
Clambake at the Honeysett's – More details to come!**

**August 28<sup>th</sup> – Emmaus House and Youth Group Gathering – 5:30 p.m. – Food**

**September 4<sup>th</sup> – No Emmaus House or Youth Group Gathering**

**September 3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> – Family Camp @ Camp Bethel**

I hope you will be in prayer for this restart to an important ministry.

We hope that if you have any questions that you can talk to Pastor Mark, Gary, Jodi, Pat, etc.

This is a ministry in process. It will take patience, prayer and holding our plans lightly  
as we build trust with the youth and their families.

Your prays, support, patience and love will go a long way in steps we take forward  
as well as those times where we might take a step back.

We are in this together...this is a community effort, a community ministry.

We're excited...we hope you are as well!

*Festus Campbell continued...*

fruits and vegetables for sale and to help others with their gardens. He won a medal for his produce at the Seattle Alaska Yukon Pacific Exposition World Fair in 1909. During his time in Olympia, Festus also became an interim pastor at the Olympia First Baptist Church in 1879. Festus Campbell and Mary Quincy are buried in the Masonic Memorial Park Cemetery in Tumwater.

While these are just a list of events and interests that make up one man's life, it is more than enough to spark my imagination and wonder what sermons Festus Campbell might preach today. What was his message 142 years ago? I wonder how he was received when he stepped into his role, and I wonder how we would receive someone with a similar background today. Just one month of our church's history that has captured my imagination!

Jodi Honeysett

**Moderator's Moments**

**Jean Heidal**

It's summer time but many things are happening at church!

See the painting of the choir room! More rooms will be painted this month. Want to help? Contact Sarah Waterhouse, Project Coordinator.

The banners are hung outside the building announcing our 150th anniversary! Inside, be sure and check the changing historical displays in the large glass case located in the fellowship area.

**Pastor Mark's installation is set for September** - Bob Holcomb has those details

**The Evergreen Association annual meeting is here in October 8-9.**

And through it all Pastor Mark is asking us to discover where we see God and what impact does that have on our lives? We are being challenged both physically and spiritually in what is typically a "down time" in the church year. Are we up for the challenge? I believe we are!



## Young Unique Traveling Servant-Leaders Gary Baits

### A YOUTH MINISTRY UPRISING, MY COUSIN VINNY, AND WHAT WOULD YOU DO WITH \$20?

There are young people among us! While it has been hard to notice during the pandemic, Oly FBC and Emmaus House are blessed with the presence of more and more young people (middle schoolers and high schoolers).

*This is a glorious uprising!* I, (Gary Baits), along with supportive youth parents like Jodi Honeysett and Amanda Mackison, as well as other caring adults like Pat DeNeui, Carrie and Ricky Bowman, Mylinda Baits, and of course, Pastor Mark, have teamed up with the young people themselves to create an ongoing youth ministry, with the following values:  
Middle Schoolers and High Schoolers coming together,

Welcomed and welcoming  
Building community, exploring faith,  
Sharing the journey with Jesus  
To be servant leaders in a hurting world.



We've offered youth activities on a regular basis since March. The focus of these events has been getting to know one another, conversing about the life of faith and discipleship, and sharing our hopes and dreams for what such a group could be and do.

We talked around the swimming pool about Jesus' feeding of the 5,000, focusing on his challenge to his disciples, "you give them something to eat." We talked about favorite snacks or beverages, and how many of them we could get with \$20. Then we watched one of the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering videos about water projects. Then I asked, "Who wants \$20?" They were surprised. But these teens are also smart enough to know that there was a catch. The catch was, "here is 20 dollars, do something this summer to make a difference in the world." Or, as the Jesus story challenges us, "what are you going to do with your five loaves and two fish?"

In the coming weeks, you will be hearing some stories about what these young people did with their \$20. (By the way, have you thought of what you might do with an unexpected twenty dollars?) As jazzed as I am about what these youths have done or will do with twenty dollars, I'm more excited to see how they employ their multiple gifts and passion as followers of Jesus to be servant leaders.

By the way, this group has a name. They are YUTS. No, that's not a typo. Here is the backstory. From time to time, Pastor Mark and others have lovingly referred to young people as *Yutes*.

### *YUTS continued ...*

It's a reference from the 1992 movie, *My Cousin Vinny* (worth watching, by the way). In the movie, two young men are falsely accused of a murder, and are defended in court by their cousin Vinny, a brash New Yorker with a strong accent. That accent means that his reference to "these two youth," comes across as "these two yutes." So, out of YUTES, I created the following ACROSTIC:

Young –Unique-Travelers-Exploring-Servant-Leadership

They mostly liked it, but decided to tweak it, deciding they wanted to do more than explore servant-leadership. So, we dropped the "E," wound up with YUTS (Young Unique Traveling Servant-Leaders), pronounced YUTZ, rhymes with nuts. I think the name, like the young people themselves, are going to grow on us.



Thanks to those of you who wrote postcards to our campers and prayed for their camp experience. I hope you get a chance to ask them how their week went. In my experience, camp is a place where seeds of spiritual growth are sown, and often bear fruit that we couldn't have dreamed of.

As we move into the fall, and look to meet more regularly to learn and serve, you will be hearing more about, and from the YUTS. In the meantime, I invite you to ponder your own teen years, and the hopes, dreams, doubts, self-consciousness, mood swings, heartbreaks, fun, and mountaintop experiences that came with being a teenager.

*Thanks for your prayers for and support  
of youth ministry at Oly First Baptist.*

**GO YUTS!**

**Blessings**

**Gary**

