

**Let's Hold Strong!**  
**COVID-19 Guidelines for FBC Sedan**  
**Beginning Sunday, July 5, 2020**

Choir .....	No
Congregational Singing .....	Yes
Hand Sanitizer .....	Yes
Masks .....	Optional
Social Distancing .....	Yes
Sunday School .....	No
Sunday Night .....	No

Luke 4:18 – *The Spirit of the Lord is upon me ... to set at liberty those who are oppressed. (JBP)*



Dear Friends in Christ,

The fourth of July is a federal holiday that commemorates Congress's approval of the final draft of the Declaration of Independence of the United States, July 4, 1776. It was then that the Continental Congress declared that the thirteen American colonies would no longer be subject to England's king, King George III. And thus, freedom began for our nation.

Freedom is a word that describes many situations, liberties, and emotions. The freedom that we have in Jesus is one of the greatest gifts God gives us. Jesus came to proclaim good news to all of us, for without Him we are captives of sin. Unfortunately, the chains of guilt are one of the heaviest burdens that humans carry.

As we looked at Jesus' words and promises that are recorded in Luke chapter 4 we find good news. Jesus came to heal the brokenhearted, and to set us free. When we come to know Jesus as Savior, our burdens are lifted, and joy comes into our lives for we know that Jesus has freed us and has given us a peace that passes understanding. This promise gives us an appreciation of the peace that only our Lord can give.

We have a wonderfully compassionate and loving God who reaches out to us to make sure we know that not only are our sins forgiven, but our guilt has been removed. What a privilege we have to lead other people who are imprisoned by guilt to hear the voice of Jesus. What a miracle that we have been freed by Him! Our God, the One we must stand before in judgment, says, "FREE!" The same Jesus that lived among us saw the oppression that sin and guilt brings. He wants us to live free!

Pastor Mark Davis



**General:** Rob Darnall; Bertha Dean; Dale Fadely; Donna Glover; John Floyd; Mitchell Foster; Patty Hart; Lezlee Jones; Charity Kossin; George and Carmaleta Lorenz; John and Kathy McMillan; Michele Menke; Maci Miller; Jason Pelkey; John Powers; John and Barbara Taylor; James Tolbert; Earl Tresner; Usry Family; Gordon Willhite

**Cancer Patients:** Naida Carpenter; Lee Coate; Steve Cummings; Larry Fueeler; Clayalee Glover; Marsha Hale; Randy Hewitt; Lou Kennedy; Belinda Landeros; Ruth Ann Lovelady; Jeanie McGinnis; Jan Mills; Opal Smith; George Thomas; Kenny Tyler; Judy Tolbert

**Our Senior Saints:** Marlene Bailey; Naida Carpenter; Betty Ditmore, Bob Emery, Dale Fadely; Sue House; Diane Watts

**Ministries & Missionaries:** FBC-spiritual and numerical growth; our missionaries; lost to be saved; persecuted Christians around the world; the Nation of Israel; Pastor and family

**Others:** President Trump and Vice President Pence; world, national, state, local government leaders; law enforcement officers; emergency responders; military servicemen and servicewomen; students/teachers, school board/school administrators

**Missionary:** Ariel Tatum – [lionofgod2003@gmail.com](mailto:lionofgod2003@gmail.com)

**Happy Birthday**

- 07/03 ..... Carol Williams
- 07/08 ..... Jared Usry
- 07/20 ..... Charity Kossin
- 07/21 ..... Keaton Dickens
- 07/28 ..... Kathy Miller
- 07/30 ..... Adam Usry

**Happy Anniversary**

- 07/01 ..... Pastor Mark and Ralene



**July 23-25, 2020**

**Profits from the 2020 Church Fair Booth will be donated to the Scholarship Fund**

## Saturday Morning Prayer Coffee

Here is a reminder that the women's Saturday morning prayer coffee has resumed. In fact, the next hour-long coffee will be held on July 4, at 7:30 AM, at the church parsonage.

You may have been asked by someone why prayer is especially important to you. The answer is easy, for prayer gives us an opportunity to spend time with God. To really understand the heart of God, we need to pray. In John 15:15, Jesus says He no longer calls us his servants, but He calls us His friends. Talking with God continually develops a friendship and a deep relationship with Him.

Prayer is so important because it makes us more like Jesus. It might even be considered to be a spiritual powerhouse, simply because it recharges us when we lay our heart's desires before the Lord.

We often think of ourselves as ordinary people, and that it takes someone who is a "professional" to really pray. But that is not true! Prayer is a gift that has been given to all of us – and it is an activity that is expected of us. The Bible says, *when you pray, not if you pray* because prayer is considered to be a completely normal activity for the Lord's people.

Here are three of the best reasons for us to pray: 1) it makes us more like Jesus, 2) it shows us the heart of the Lord, and 3) it reveals the wisdom of God to us. When we come to the throne of God with our needs, there is no reason to pretend because He sees all and knows all. Prayer is quite humbling because as we spend time with Him, we find out how powerful and able and good God is. We need Him, and God accepts us just as we are.

Even though the 4<sup>th</sup> of July holiday falls on the first Saturday of July this year, we will still meet for prayer. Plan to set aside an hour that morning as we come together and pray!



## Special Prayer Request

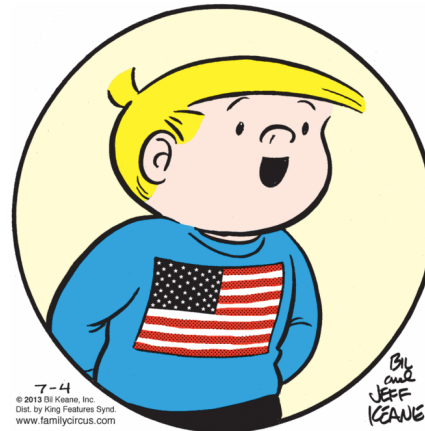
Red and Tawna Anthony have asked us to pray for their great-niece and great-nephew, Kaylyn and Bubba Maguire. Last Saturday night there was a horrible accident involving Kaylyn and Red and Tawna's German Shepherd.

They had just picked the children up from their home, with plans to go camping. Kaylyn, age 12, wanted to sit next to the dog. Tawna, Kaylyn, and the dog were all in the back seat of the pickup. Everything was going well, and Kaylyn and the dog had been loving on each other. He had even lain in her lap. Tawna and Kaylyn were talking together when he suddenly attacked Kaylyn's face.

Tawna has asked the church to send cards of love and words of encouragement to the two kids. Also, be sure to add the family to your prayer list. This accident is incredibly stressful for the entire family, and it could have been so much worse. Praise God that our bodies heal.

Here is the address where cards can be sent:

Kaylyn and Bubba Maguire  
742 Road 3061 #6  
Orange Grove, TX 78372



7-4  
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"This is my favorite shirt 'cause it has our country's logo on it."

## Updates – by Ruth Ann Lovelady

Last week I was ever so excited. I was going to the doctor and just knew I would see an improvement in my cancer count. I was all prayed up and covered by prayer, from coast-to-coast. I had my friend take my picture so I could text my success of healing from terminal cancer of my lungs and liver to every praying friend. Well, guess what? Have you ever watched Antique Road Show? You know the great price that really goes down in three years. That's exactly how I felt. First I had to wait a week for lab results. Then when I finally got them, they had gone up 1,000. My cancer count is 9,000 and normal is 5. I crashed. How could it be? I feel good, no pain, and I still drive. What is going on, Lord?

Have you ever prayed for something and you are so sure God was answering, "Positive." You just know it - only to be disappointed. It makes you think God always says – mostly, no. Then I say 'no' – God does answer our prayers – by our faith. I love Hebrews, Chapter 11 that lists great examples of faith. It was by faith the people of Israel went right through the Red Sea as though they were on dry ground. But when the Egyptians tried to follow, they were all drowned. My Uncle Ray who today would be 120 years old, would have walked right across because he loved to go barefoot as a boy, but couldn't stand mud between his toes. If you had been there, would you have walked across with the sea raging on either side, just because God said, "I will protect you"? I walk by faith and not by sight. When was the last time you walked by faith? When was the last time you prayed with faith? I got so excited Sunday when Amy said she was almost well and would soon be good as new. I know I had really prayed for her, "Lord a beautiful young lady like Amy should not be crippled. Please make her new." And He has, I'm sure you prayed, too.

So, I am asking you to pray for me and that awful cancer 5 minutes a day, just believing for God's will. Maybe you don't know me – I am rather new – but I sit on the right-hand side and usually wear a sparkling cap. Please pray for me – why because I believe.

Love you, RuthAnn Lovelady

My Scripture for today: "So, RuthAnn take a new grip with your tired hands and strengthen your weak knees. Make out a straight path for my feet so that those who are weak, and lame will not fall but become strong. Hebrews 12:12. Please pray for my strength and energy.