

THE HOME VISITOR NEWSLETTER

July 2020

Office Hours
M-Th-8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Friday-Closed
308-532-6772

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Pastor Clint Walker

First Baptist Church
100 McDonald Rd
North Platte, NE 69101

Worship Hours
Worship-10:15 a.m.

Pressing On

“This is what the Lord Almighty, the God of Israel, says to all those I carried into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon: “Build houses and settle down; plant gardens and eat what they produce. Marry and have sons and daughters; find wives for your sons and give your daughters in marriage, so that they too may have sons and daughters” (Jeremiah 29: 4-6)

“Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.” (Philippians 3: 13-15)

We have been dealing with concerns and restrictions revolving around COVID-19 for nearly four months. As we have gone through this experience together, we have discovered that our plans are always subject to change, and we have had to live in a state of perpetual adaptation. Many of us are waiting to return to the way things used to be. For some of us that waiting means taking social distancing extra seriously and withdrawing from many activities until we feel that it is safe to come out and live life like we did before. For others of us, there is a resistance to compliance to Directed Health Measures, and a strong effort to return to “normal”. Here is what I believe: it is going to be a long time until we get back to whatever normal is, and we will be permanently changed by some of what has happened this spring and summer. As a church, it is our job to ask God what future he is leading us into, instead of holding on to our ideas of what the past was.

For example, social distancing is not going away any time soon. So, we are going to have to ask ourselves, for instance, how are we going to do Sunday School in a way that adapts to that concern? How are we going to open more space for people to worship while maintaining our current social distancing standards? How are we going to reach out to folks in the nursing

home and assisted living when visits are going to continue to experience limitations for the foreseeable future? How are we going to be less distant with persons that are under resourced and do not have the ability to transport themselves to our gatherings? This “social distancing” is just one example of many ways we need live in the present instead of hoping for a return to the past.

Instead of pining away for getting back to normal, we need to take steps to “press on toward the goal” of growing in Christ, reaching out, discipling people, ministering to folks, and sharing the love of Christ IN THE MIDST OF THE PANDEMIC, with all of its precautions and inconveniences. The past is in the past, and as a friend of mine said, “It’s a nice place to visit, but you can’t live there.”

Some of you have put your life on pause, thinking that that tomorrow or next week you will be able to get back to life as usual. I pray you will reconsider that. You can’t hide away forever—even though there is a real danger of transmission of illness in our midst. You are never going to feel “safe enough”. At some point you are going to have to come out of hiding and live life, unless your plan in to isolate for the rest of your life in order to extend your days.

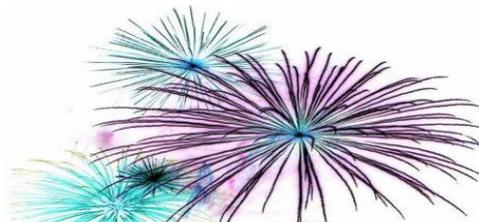
Others of you are going to have to come to an understanding that ignoring the coronavirus, and flaunting the laws/guidelines is not going to make the disease go away. It won’t. Things will continue to be weird. Stores will still tell you to wear masks. Walmart will still close for 8 hours to clean. And you will have to dedicate your energy to living and ministering positively in the new world we live in.

Think on these things.

Pastor Clint



“Blog unto others as you would have them blog unto you. Spam not, lest ye be spammed! Though I surf through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no virus...”



JULY BIRTHDAYS

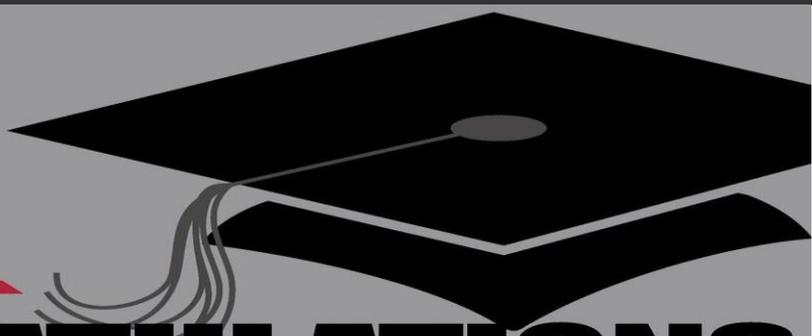
Kari Bell	7/1
Joanne Kondy	7/1
Harvey Florom	7/4
Blake Hinton	7/11
Donna Mentzer	7/11
Samantha Nutter	7/11
Ron Chada	7/12
Denny Adkisson	7/15
Larry Cohn	7/19
Emialine Lumsden	7/19
Todd Turner	7/20
Marilyn Cogley	7/24
Randy Fry	7/24



Monday July 20, 2020
7 p.m.



FBC offices will be closed on July 6th and will reopen on July 7th.



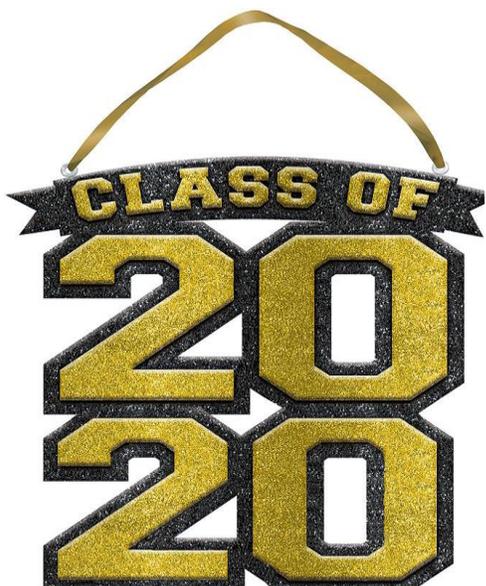
CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATE!



JESTYNNE CRANKSHAW



ANDREW LINDEMEIER



HALLEY FALKENA

July 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 9 a.m. Devo Time (Facebook)	2 9 a.m. Devo Time (Facebook) 9:30 a.m. Coffee Time w/ Clint (FB/Zoom) 6:30 p.m. Young	3 OFFICE CLOSED	4 
5 10:15 a.m. Worship (Sanctuary, parking lot, Facebook & You Tube)	6 OFFICE CLOSED DUE TO HOLIDAY	7 9 a.m. Devo Time 9 p.m. Ladies Bible Study	8 8:30 a.m. Prayer Walk 9 a.m. Devo Time (Facebook)	9 9 a.m. Devo Time (Facebook) 9:30 a.m. Coffee Time w/ Clint (FB/Zoom) 6:30 p.m. Young	10 OFFICE CLOSED	11
12 10:15 a.m. Worship (Sanctuary, parking lot, Facebook & You Tube) 6:30 p.m. Epicenter	13 8:30 a.m. Prayer Walk 9 a.m. Devo Time (Facebook)	14 9 a.m. Devo Time 9 p.m. Ladies Bible Study	15 8:30 a.m. Prayer Walk 9 a.m. Devo Time (Facebook)	16 9 a.m. Devo Time (Facebook) 9:30 a.m. Coffee Time w/ Clint (FB/Zoom) 6:30 p.m. Young Adults	17 OFFICE CLOSED	18
19 10:15 a.m. Worship (Sanctuary, parking lot, Facebook & You Tube) 6:00 p.m. Epicenter	20 8:30 a.m. Prayer Walk 9 a.m. Devo Time (Facebook) 7 p.m. Church Council	21 9 a.m. Devo Time 9 p.m. Ladies Bible Study	22 8:30 a.m. Prayer Walk 9 a.m. Devo Time (Facebook)	23 9 a.m. Devo Time (Facebook) 9:30 a.m. Coffee Time w/ Clint (FB/Zoom) 6:30 p.m. Young Adults	24 OFFICE CLOSED	25
26 10:15 a.m. Worship (Sanctuary, parking lot, Facebook & You Tube) HONORING GRADUATE 6:00 p.m. Epicenter	27 8:30 a.m. Prayer Walk 9 a.m. Devo Time (Facebook)	28 9 a.m. Devo Time 9 p.m. Ladies Bible Study	29 8:30 a.m. Prayer Walk 9 a.m. Devo Time (Facebook)	30 9 a.m. Devo Time (Facebook) 9:30 a.m. Coffee Time w/ Clint (FB/Zoom) 6:30 p.m. Young Adults	31 OFFICE CLOSED	