



The Grapevine



Gatlin Creek Baptist Church

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From The Pastor's Pen Dr. Don Prevatt

Volume 1, Issue 27

June 2010

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Birthdays & Anniversaries*

<u>June 3</u> Maggie Wilson	<u>June 15</u> John Courtney
<u>June 4</u> Megan Clay Colby Marsh	<u>June 17</u> Glen Hopkins
<u>June 5</u> Heather Juras	<u>June 18</u> Geraldine Bevins
<u>June 6</u> Connie Brogdon Emma Smith	<u>June 22</u> Rhett Smith
<u>June 8</u> Alana Vaughn	<u>June 23</u> Tommy Gibbs
<u>June 11</u> Aiden Broadway	<u>June 24</u> Jill Grim Carol Taylor
<u>June 14</u> Peggy Chandler	



**Please notify the church office
of any changes or additions.
225-1154**

An optimist and a pessimist were horse playing on the roof of a ten story building. In their exuberance they came to close to the edge and fell over the parapet wall. As they passed the sixth floor, the pessimist cried out: "This is it. The end is near." True to his nature, the optimist was heard saying this as he passed the fifth floor: "So far so good."

Optimism seems to be in short supply in our world today. Often it seems the harder we try, the worse things get. The earthquake in Haiti was followed by tornadoes in the Midwest, which in turn was followed by an explosion and subsequent oil spill in the Gulf. The bad news seems to keep on coming. Surely, these are times that test men's souls.

What's a Christian to do? Where do we turn for help—real help. We, as Christians have for years, turn to the Lord Jesus Christ. He has experienced all we have yet without the sin of doubt, the loss of direction or zeal, and, always in direct communication with the God of heaven. Somehow in the presence of God our fears melt away. His effervescent love renews our weak and failing faith. The promise from His word propels us on to new heights of service, because we know that all things work together for

good—even our recent setbacks and heartbreaks. Where are you today? Half full of faith or half empty? The writer of Hebrews reminds us that we are to come boldly before God's throne of grace that we might receive the help we so desperately need for times such as these. Often in my Christian pilgrimage I have lacked the faith and the will to press on. My hope had seemed to vanish. It was then that God showed Himself mighty in my behalf. Sometimes it was through an old friend who called or an unexpected note in the mail. Most often encouragement came through our church family in the form of a simple statement: I'm praying for you. What comfort, what strength, what hope are found in those five compressed words. We will never know the effects of our prayers until we reach heaven. But I'm of the opinion that nothing much happens in the Kingdom of God that is not preceded, undergirded and sustained by prevailing prayer. I know you have been praying for me and for your church. I can feel it. I know that the Lord is at work among us. Please continue as we enter the summer season and the "new schedule."

Change is always a challenge. We don't like it because it moves us out of our comfort zone. But to where—to the unknown or

into the arms of God? I've chosen the latter. In God's arms I find excitement coupled with security, familiarity linked to freshness, despair swallowed up by hope—hope in what God can do when we stop doing our thing and open our eyes to the possibilities that God's grace alone affords.

I'm thoroughly convinced that we will be a better church by the end of summer. The new schedule calls us to live intentionally, to seek deepen relationships with one another, to trust God for things we have not yet thought of. The thrill of walking with God is the privilege of watching Him work in your life and in the lives of those you love. By God's grace, this will be a great summer—a time that will be remembered as The Turning Point in our church. 'Til He comes, I choose to remain expectant of the supernatural work of God called revival. Pray with me to that end.

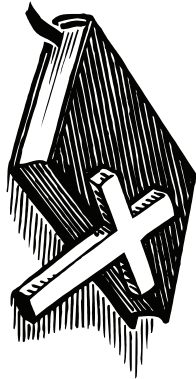


Our Purpose.....

Our sole purpose as a church is to glorify God by effectively fulfilling the **Great Commission** and actively living the **Great Commandment**.

Our Mission...

HIS COMMISSION:
Matthew 28:18-20
Go . . . make disciples of all nations.
HIS COMMANDMENT:
Matthew 22: 37-40
...love the Lord your God with all your heart...
love your neighbor as yourself.



June 2010

Gatlin Creek Baptist Church
2031 Gatlin Creek Road
Thomasville, Georgia

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
World Changers Youth Summer Misson Trip/Camp- Little Rock, Arkansas						
Deacons' Meeting 7:30 A.M.		Visitation 6:30 p.m.				
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
		Visitation 6:30 p.m.			Youth Bowling Night	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Father's Day (No Salt Shakers)	Camp Windshape			Men's Fellowship 7:00 p.m.		Forshree Family Reunion "Bob Gray"
27	28	29	30			
Planning Cmte. 4:00 p.m.		Visitation 6:30 p.m.				

Worship Update

Dr. Richard Hughes

As I had feared, there has been some major stumbling out of the gates as interim worship leader. It is a huge transition to change worship leader, schedule, style, etc. all at once. There *is* a lot of change going on at one time, along with some confusion, stares, questions, inhibitions. **But.....**

As we go into the summer, I am more excited and convinced that God will accomplish a wonderful work in our worship services, if we will not grow weary. There are 40 worship team members who are committed to making worship a meaningful experience for all who attend. I thought it might be a helpful step to express some of the basic beliefs/convictions I have about worship. This may help you better understand there is (some) method behind (a lot of) the madness. I have listed below five things I belief about worship and how I try to act them out in worship leading.

Worship is ultimately about relationships: Great Worship occurs when a gathering of believers intentionally join hands and hearts in an interactive effort to touch God as one.

Application: Encourage the congregation and worship leaders to be comfortable and interactive with each other, so that there is a unified effort to interact with God. Work on interacting with those I am leading, both during and outside of worship activities.

Worship Leading is not about finding favor with the congregation; it is about pulling the congregation into a joint venture to find favor with God. Great worship will reinforce the concept that God is always the audience, the congregation is the performers, and worship leading is not about entertaining and inspiring, it's about pointing and prodding upwards.

Application: Treat **ALL** music as “specials”, so that when the congregation determines to join in, they will have a sense of ownership in something that was beautiful and pleasurable to God. I.e., all should leave feeling “That was worship- and I helped!”

What makes great relationships is what also makes great worship: and a key element of great relations is balance: routine and surprise, expressing and listening, reverence and casual enjoyment, comforting and challenging, mourning and joy

Application: Guard against **any** activity, mood or personality becoming too predominant- Too much of anything/ anyone will limit the scope of worship. Keep a service routine enough to prevent chaos, but not so routine to result in complacency

If you are leading worship, and no one is following, you are not leading worship: Worshipping and worship leading are two different activities. Good worship leaders will move beyond what is worship to them and find common ground with those they have been called to lead, lest a service become a small minority worshipping and a large group tolerantly watching.

Application: Pay attention! Encourage activity, maintain eye contact, provide direction, change course if something is not working, extend songs that are motivating, shorten songs that have “missed the mark”. Seek/welcome all feedback in between services.

Worship that doesn't inspire service is narcissism, not real worship: A key purpose of corporate worship is to “spur one another on to good works”. While emotional release is healthy, if the end point isn't the worthiness of God, than we have been more self-indulging than worshipping. Appreciative obedience is a natural and essential final step to true worship.

Application: Guard against settling for being a spiritual cheerleader. Look for words to encourage meaningful steps of obedience for those who are seeking God.

See You Sunday!!!!

JOIN US FOR SUNDAY
WORSHIP AND BIBLE STUDY

Sunday School9:45 A.M.
Late Morning Worship10:30 A.M.

The Record Speaks	
May Offerings	\$ 30,545.58
May Budget	\$ 34,997.97
May Deficit	\$ -4,452.39
YTD Offerings	\$ 233,222.13
YTD Budget	\$ 274,984.05
Budget Deficit	\$ -41,761.92