



Fairfield Good News

"KNOWING CHRIST AND MAKING HIM KNOWN"

September 2016

Sept. 5



Sept. 13

Prayer Meeting 7 PM

Sept. 18

Maranatha til 11:30

FRC Noon

Adult Class/Fellowship

1:00 PM Worship

Sept. 19

Eveready Meeting 7 PM

Sept. 20

Prayer Meeting 7 PM

Sept. 25

Maranatha til 11:30

FRC Noon

Adult Class/Fellowship

1:00 PM Worship

Sept. 27

Prayer Meeting 7 PM

From the desk of Pastor Scott:

O my crucified but never wholly mortified sinfulness!

O my life-long damage and daily shame!

O my indwelling and besetting sins!

O the tormenting slavery of a sinful heart!

*Destroy, O God, the dark guest within
whose hidden presence makes my life a hell.*

Yet thou hast not left me here without grace;

*The cross still stands and meets my needs
in the deepest straits of the soul.*

These words are some of many underlined in my leather bound edition of The Valley of Vision published by The Banner of Truth. I have two more well worn paperback copies on my shelf. I consider this collection of Puritan prayers modernized by Arthur Bennet to be one of the best devotionals that a person can own. I discovered it many years ago when Scott Petersen and I attended our first Banner Conference at Messiah College; it has been my constant companion ever since.

In its over three hundred prayers, The Valley of Vision touches upon the whole of the Christian experience, from heights of praise to depths of despair. The whole of reformed theology and the needs of our daily walk with the Lord are covered masterfully within its pages. Although written hundreds of years ago, the words ring true for today. Each one exposes the condition of my hearts and applies the glorious grace of God, so I never leave its pages unmoved.

Consider a few more excerpts:

"Great God,

In public and private, in sanctuary and home,

may my life be steeped in prayer,

filled with the spirit of grace and supplication,

each prayer perfumed with the incense of atoning blood."

Cont'd from pg 1

*I am pained by my graceless heart,
my prayerless days,
my poverty of love,
my sloth in the heavenly race,
my sullied conscience,
my wasted hours,
my unspent opportunities."*

This is one of my favorite lines in all the prayers:

*"Quarry me deep, dear Lord
and then fill me to overflowing
with living water."*

I fear that so many of our prayers today are too self-centered and self-serving. This little book can serve as a wonderful correction for that. I highly recommend that you grab a copy for yourself and let it guide you into what true prayer can really be. For those who do; see me and I will provide you with a wonderful guide to help you work through the prayers in 13 weeks.

Praying with you,

Pastor Scott



FALL SCHEDULE:

Starting Tuesday, Sept. 13th
Prayer Meeting - 7:00 to 8:00 PM

Starting Sunday, Sept. 18th
Adult Class and Fellowship - noon
Worship - 1:00 PM

Watch for October news coming soon:

Community Health Fair at FRC
October 15

Chili/Baked Potato Dinner
October 28

September 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 Fellowship noon Worship 1 PM	5 Labor Day	6	7	8	9	10
11 Fellowship noon Worship 1 PM	12	13 7-8 Prayer Meeting	14	15	16	17
18 8:30-11:30 Maranatha FRC Adult Class & Fellowship- noon Worship 1 PM	19 Eveready Meeting	20 7-8 Prayer Meeting	21	22	23	24
25 8:30-11:30 Maranatha FRC Adult Class & Fellowship- noon Worship 1 PM	26	27 7-8 Prayer Meeting	28	29	30	 <p>God Answers Knee-mail</p>

It's Official ...

Maranatha Fellowship led by Rev. Paul Anderson, a church that has been meeting in a local hotel, will be renting our facilities (sanctuary and fellowship hall) starting Sept. 18th. They will use the buildings 8:30 to 11:30 A.M. on Sundays.

Our fellowship/adult class and worship times will not change.

If you see one of Maranatha's parishioners, welcome them—we are all striving to serve the Lord in this community.



September

BIRTHDAYS
of the Month

- 20 – Allen Lentz
28 – Doris Hyatt
30 – Robert Nichols (14 yrs.)



The following prayer was in the newsletter last Sept. It still seems appropriate due to the terrorism in our world today.

A PRAYER FOR UNCERTAIN TIMES

An hour before the 9/11 terrorist attacks, pastor and author Stan Purdum was reading Psalm 66, which includes the words, "We went through fire and through water; yet you have brought us out to a spacious place" (v. 12, NRSV). After watching the destruction, Purdum composed a prayer that remains relevant today, as terrorism and threats often make peace seem more "specious" than "spacious":

O God of heaven and earth, who's bigger than nations and factions, be with us as we live through times of terror, despair and danger. Be the strength of people who've been touched personally by disaster. Come with healing to those who are injured. Be the eternal rest of those who've died. Be the energy, compassion and fortitude of those who must pick through the wreckage. Grant our leaders courage and a double portion of your wisdom. The day of universal brotherhood seems farther off than ever, O God, but help us not despair of trying to accomplish it. Strengthen our faith. In Jesus' name. Amen.

A young boy had just gotten his driving permit. He asked his father, who was a minister, if they could discuss the use of the car. His father took him to his study and said to him, "I'll make a deal with you. You bring your grades up, study your bible a little and get your hair cut and we'll talk about it."

After about a month the boy came back and again asked his father if they could discuss use of the car. They again went to the father's study where his father said, "Son, I've been real proud of you. You have brought your grades up, you've studied your bible diligently, but you didn't get your hair cut!"

The young man waited a moment and replied, "You know Dad, I've been thinking about that. You know, Samson had long hair, Moses had long hair, Noah had long hair, and even Jesus had long hair...."

To which his father replied...."Yes, and they WALKED everywhere they went!"

What five letter word gets shorter by adding two letters to it?

What ancient invention allows people to see through walls?

Four men were fishing on a boat in the lake. The boat turned over and all four men fell into the lake.

Not one single man got wet. How can this be?

Operation Christmas Child

To meet our goal of 30 shoeboxes
this year we still need:

School Supplies

22 pencil boxes
20 ball point pens
12 children's scissors
17 pencil sharpeners
12 erasers
20 rulers
8 coloring books for
young children

Hygiene Products

25 tubes toothpaste
3 combs/brushes



Fun Stuff



In the past years we have included items such as: balls (we have 10), small Slinky's, sunglasses, jump ropes, girls' headbands, jewelry, pocketbooks or small bags, pinwheels, cars/trucks, etc.

WE HAVE more than
ENOUGH stuffed animals

REMEMBER— NO LIQUIDS OF ANY
KIND (i.e., no Elmers Glue)

We are filling ten shoeboxes for each of the 3 age groups:

5 girls' 2-4 yrs. old; 5 boys' 2-4 yrs.
5 girls' 5-9 yrs. old; 5 boys' 5-9 yrs.
5 girls' 10-14 yrs. old; 5 boys' 10-14 yrs.

It costs \$7.00/box shipping so any donations to cover that cost are appreciated.

Any extra items collected will be used to make Christmas stockings for homeless children at Eva's Village.

We would welcome Christmas stockings you may have at home and don't need.

We have packaged items that need to be separated, pencils sharpened, soaps & washcloths tied together. We welcome anyone interested in helping do these chores while enjoying your coffee at fellowship time on Sundays.

Now is a good time to shop for our needed items since there are Back to School sales. We have until the end of October to gather our items and pack them in the shoeboxes. We then deliver the boxes to our local distribution site in Parsippany to be checked and shipped by Samaritan's Purse to children around the world who are in need of these items and the gospel message through The Greatest Journey, the follow-up discipleship program.



SAMARITAN'S PURSE LOGO CIRCA 1998

U.S. DISASTER RELIEF

UPDATED 9-2-2016

Samaritan's Purse mobilizes staff and equipment and enlists thousands of volunteers to provide emergency aid to victims of tornadoes, hurricanes, wildfires, floods, and other natural disasters in the United States.

FOR INSTANCE...

Samaritan's Purse U.S. Disaster Relief volunteers provide flood survivors help and comfort throughout rain-drenched Louisiana

More than 22 inches of rain recently left south Louisiana communities looking like a house - strewn lake. The latest reports estimate 102,000 homes have been affected across 20 parishes.

Bruce and Pamela Simmons are among the first families we assisted. They had already had a very trying summer before the canal near their home overflowed and flooded their East Baton Rouge home. Bruce was able to get their fifth-wheel camper onto the high ground of their road, a challenge to do with only one functional arm. Bruce, a sergeant with the East Baton Rouge Sheriff's department, was shot in the arm during a July 17 ambush by a sniper who took the lives of three comrades.

After last week's rains, the Simmons family was left to deal with a flooded home even as they recovered from the still-fresh aftermath of the tragic shooting. Samaritan's Purse volunteers—a steady stream of orange shirts coming down their driveway—were a welcome sight of hope to the couple holed up in the camper beside their house.

In just two days, the Simmons's despair was relieved after volunteers cleared sopping walls and flooring from their home—a job that would cost thousands of dollars if done commercially. The remains of the cleanup are piled high at their curb, and now the home is ready for restoration—just as Bruce and Pamela are ready for a new start.

"We're all in this together," Bruce said. "And I believe God's going to use this for His glory." Bruce says the selfless work of Samaritan's Purse volunteers has made him think about future volunteer opportunities for him and Pamela. "Maybe that's what my calling will be one day and I can actually do this as well," he said.

More than 1,000 volunteers have already put in nearly 20,000 hours of work to clear debris and salvage valuables from 151 homes in Louisiana. Billy Graham Rapid Response Team chaplains have reported more than 28 salvations at our three bases (East Baton Rouge, Lafayette, and Gonzalez.

Go to www.samaritanspurse.org for much more info.

Fairfield Reformed Church does not financially support Samaritan's Purse but we do support them in weekly prayer and Operation Christmas Child and occasional other special projects.

Another Bible book search

I once made a remark about the hidden books of the Bible. It was a lulu, kept people looking so hard for facts...and for others it was a revelation. Some were in a jam, especially since the names of the books were not capitalized. The truth finally struck home to numbers of readers. To others it was a real job. We want it to be a most fascinating few moments for you. Yes, there will be some really easy ones to spot. Others will require judges to help them. I will quickly admit, it usually takes a minister to find one of them, and there will be loud lamentations when it is found. A little lady says she brews a cup of tea so she can concentrate better. See how well you can compete. Relax now for there really are sixteen names of books of the Bible in this paragraph. If I chose another sentence or two, maybe you could post them at the water cooler.

There are actually 18 Bible book names in this puzzle.

Riddle Solutions

1. Short
2. Window
3. The four men were married.



Bruce and Pamela Simmons talk with a Billy Graham Rapid Response chaplain (blue shirt) and a Samaritan's Purse volunteer (orange shirt)