

NURSERY MINISTRY WORKERS FOR THIS WEEK

10:50 a.m. Service ----- Cradle Roll 1: Bertha Segebarrt
 Cradle Roll 2: Volunteer Needed!
 6:30 p.m. Service ----- Cradle Roll 1: Volunteer Needed!
 Cradle Roll 2: Volunteer Needed!
 Wed. Evening Service ----- Cradle Roll 1: Shirley White
 Cradle Roll 2: Volunteer Needed!

AND THE PEOPLE CAME...

Week of November 25, 2018

Sunday School ----- 17
 Sunday Morning Service ----- 28
 Sunday Evening Service ----- 19
 Wed. Eve. Service, 11/28/18 ----- 12

AND THE PEOPLE GAVE...

- Week of November 25, 2018 -

Undesignated Tithes & Offerings ----- \$ 622.00
Total Received for Week of 11/25/18: \$ 622.00

- Week of November 18, 2018 -

Undesignated Tithes & Offerings ----- \$ 2,015.26
Total Received for Week of 11/18/18: \$ 2,015.26

- Week of November 11, 2018 -

Undesignated Tithes & Offerings ----- \$ 1,171.68
Total Received for Week of 11/11/18: \$ 1,171.68

- Week of November 4, 2018 -

Undesignated Tithes & Offerings ----- \$ 1,567.14
Total Received for Week of 11/04/18: \$ 1,567.14

- Week of October 28, 2018 -

Undesignated Tithes & Offerings ----- \$ 1,142.25
 Gospel Tract Expense ----- \$ 5.00
 Building Fund: Water Damage ----- \$ 5.00
Total Received for Week of 10/28/18: \$ 1,152.25

- Week of October 21, 2018 -

Undesignated Tithes & Offerings ----- \$ 187.66
Total Received for Week of 10/21/18: \$ 187.66

Average amount of Undesignated Offerings needed to operate the church EACH WEEK, as a minimum = \$ 1,400.00

WHAT IT MEANS TO BE SAVED

1. *Admit that you are a sinner.*
2. *Admit that God says all sins must be paid for.*
3. *Accept the fact that Christ took upon Himself the suffering necessary to pay for all your sins.*
4. *You must change your mind about sin and sinning (God calls this repentance).*
5. *By an act of your will, accept by faith the Lord Jesus Christ, who can save you from the penalty of sin. Then, tell God about this in a simple prayer. Believe that God keeps His promise to save you, and thank Him for His salvation.*



Please Remember To Be Faithful to Give!

As with everything else, the costs of keeping a church going never go down - they always go **up**. Bills wait for no one, and churches are no exception to this. An extra, sacrificial gift today by everyone present would go a long way...

We encourage all of our membership to practice obedience to God by being faithful every payday to give back to Him His tithe (10%). *If every family in our church would practice this one simple discipline, we would never have weeks where we have to put off paying some bills until the following week!*

Everything is expensive, especially for a small church like ours, but ours is a BIG God, and He LOVES to bless His children when they are obedient to Him!

If you are already a tither, we thank you, and encourage you to also give offerings as well. If you're currently not tithing, won't you please start **today - OK?** Thank you.

Church Directory

Todd W. White ----- Pastor
 Mickie Shatwell ----- Pianist
 Lois Mae Floyd ----- Pianist/ Organist
Volunteer Needed! ----- Greeter
 Shayne Hooper, Larry Byars ----- S.S. Teachers
 Larry & Mary Byars ----- Outreach
 Bertha Segebarrt ----- Custodian
 Flowers ----- Shirley White, Charity Crawford

REMINDER



15 Reasons We Should Still Be Using Hymnals

by Jonathan Aigner

Unfortunately, many churches have thrown out their hymnals, but I think they are important symbols for worshiping congregations. Here are some of the reasons why.

1. HYMNALS ACTUALLY TEACH MUSIC. We're making less music than ever before. Oh, to be sure, there's lots of music going on around us, but very few people are actually *making it*. We're just consuming it, or at the very most, singing along with music someone else made first. But even an untrained musician can look at the words and music in the hymnal and learn to follow melodic direction and rhythmic value.

2. HYMNALS SET A PERFORMANCE STANDARD. Contemporary worship music is based on recording instead of notation. This is endlessly confusing, and it opens each song up to individual interpretation. Without notation, it is exceedingly hard to sing well as a congregation. Hymnals fix that. Everybody has the same notation, so we all know how the song is supposed to go.

3. HYMNALS INTEGRATE THE MUSIC AND TEXT. Words on a screen give no musical information. Hymnals fix that. Singers aren't dependent upon learning the song by rote.

4. HYMNALS ALLOW YOU TO SING ANYWHERE. When you depend on projection to display hymn texts, you're bound to do your music making in a space outfitted with sufficient media.

5. HYMNALS ALLOW PEOPLE TO TAKE POSSESSION OF THE MUSIC. I know congregants in churches that publish what they will be singing ahead of time that love to find out the next Sunday's hymns during the previous week, so they can open up their hymnal, refresh the words, and work on their part so they're prepared to lend their voices. Preparation like that is one of the ways music making becomes a worshipful activity. Hymnals make it possible for people to have easy access to the best songs.

6. HYMNALS DON'T "GLITCH." Unless some kid has ripped the page out of your hymnal, you know the hymn you're looking for is going to be there. Technology lets us down all the time, and if it happens in the middle of a song or hymn, you're sunk.

7. HYMNALS ARE AS HELPFUL AS THE SINGER NEEDS THEM TO BE. It's hard to ignore a screen, no matter how well I know the song being sung. Its mere presence sends most people into a trance. There are times I must pay close attention to the hymnal. I recently sang the hymn "Ye watchers and ye holy ones" in a service. I know of the hymn, and I know LASST UNS ERFREUEN, but I didn't grow up singing it. I had to follow the entire time. I needed the hymnal. Last Saturday, I sang in the choir for a funeral. It was a beautiful service; a reflection on a life well-lived in service of the kingdom. When it came time for the final hymn, "Blessed Assurance," I rose, opened the hymnal, and held it out, but didn't look at it once. I long ago internalized every note and word of this hymn. I was free to look out into the congregation, making eye contact, sharing the ethos of the experience with others.

8. HYMNALS ARE A THEOLOGICAL TEXTBOOK. There is no perfect hymnal, but well-crafted hymnals are reliable sources of theological information.

9. HYMNALS INVOLVE TACTILE ACTION. Hymnals make the people work. Picking up the hymnal, finding the right page, and holding it up to sing grounds you in time and space. Feeling the weight in your hand **engages** you in the activity more than staring at a screen ever could.

10. HYMNALS ARE NOT PARTICULARLY DISTRACTING. Screens are actually very difficult to follow. Whenever I'm forced to read a projected text, I am so easily lost in the colors, backgrounds, and movements. I find myself anticipating when the next slide will

(continued inside)



be advanced. When I'm using a hymnal, none of that comes into play. I have the words and music, and I don't even have to worry about turning the page.

II. HYMNALS PRESERVE THE AESTHETICS OF THE SANCTUARY. There is rarely a good place to hang a screen. Even worse, when installed into older spaces, the result can be a visual nightmare. Don't be mistaken. It may be a secondary issue, but it's also a theological one.

Here is a particularly painful before and after example from the First Baptist Church in Dallas, Texas -



First Baptist Dallas' 1891 Sanctuary, before



First Baptist Dallas' 1891 Sanctuary, after

12. HYMNALS CONFRONT US WITH "NEW" SONGS. We tend to go back to our favorite songs too often. It's easy to fall into a rut. I recently looked back at a year's worth of bulletins, and was a little embarrassed at how much we had sung several hymns. Not that there was anything wrong with the hymns, but the congregation needs to be stretched to learn unfamiliar songs. When I was a kid, I enjoyed learning to play my favorite hymns on the piano from my mom's 1975 Baptist Hymnal. Along the way, I would run into hymns that weren't my favorites. After a while, while flipping through the book, I would run into these hymns again and again. Finally, I would stop and take a look.

Often, these "new" hymns turned out to be great sources of encouragement to me, even though they were once unfamiliar and foreign.

13. HYMNALS GIVE VALIDITY TO NEW HYMNS. New hymns are often defined by the company they keep. When new hymnals are published, if they're done well, they will introduce us to newer songs to be added to the ranks of hymnody. The fact that these songs are now sandwiched in between hymns like "Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty" and "Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken," adds to their validity.

14. HYMNALS MAKE SONGS LESS DISPOSABLE. Okay, obviously you can throw a hymnal away if you want, but text on a screen is there one second and gone the next. There's no visible permanence. *Hymnals are symbols of consistency.* They give life and breath to the great songs. They demonstrate that what we sing is worth keeping around.

15. HYMNALS GIVE CONGREGATIONAL SINGING BACK TO THE PEOPLE. Congregations watching screens are at the mercy of whoever is sitting behind the computer. Holding hymnals symbolizes the fact that the voice of the congregation is the primary instrument in corporate worship.

NEWS OF INTEREST TO CHRISTIANS

' CHINA: FIRSTFRUITS OF AN ANTICHRIST SURVEILLANCE GOVERNMENT - The following is excerpted from "China Mandates Surveillance as Religious Persecution Rises," an interview with Bob Fu, The Stream, Nov. 14, 2018:

"President Xi Jinping considers Christians one of the greatest threats to his power. Underground churches are listed as one of the 'new black five' national security threats in China. It's new under this president for churches to be classified as a national security threat. The government-sanctioned churches that are allowed to exist right now have unique restrictions. Each church has to install a facial-recognition camera in front of the pulpit.

The purpose is to identify certain people in the congregation. Many classes of people are banned from entering into any church. These include young people under 18 years old, college students, doctors or medical professionals, civil servants, military members and educators. If they're found, immediately their boss or a government official will be speaking with them.

These are huge ramifications right now. It really began after President Xi Jinping took office in 2012. He is now nicknamed 'Emperor Xi' since he successfully removed his term limits in March of this year. When he took power, the mass forced demolition of crosses started in Zhejiang province. That area is called the Jerusalem of China. ... These are government-sanctioned churches. The house churches do not have buildings or a cross.

On February 1 of this year, a new law called 'Regulations on the Administration of Religious Affairs' took effect. Things have become dramatically even worse. Bible-burning campaigns are

happening across China. ... China is perhaps the world's most sophisticated surveillance police state. It's beyond anything the U.S. does. Some of these efforts are aided by greedy American companies.

Apple decided to remove all virtual private networks from Apple Stores across China. They have a segregated Chinese version of the Apple iCloud. Supposedly this China iCloud is still part of Apple, offering iTunes content. But it's totally controlled by the Chinese government. Cisco and Google are similar. China has the most cameras in the whole world, on every street corner. These facial recognition cameras are part of their dynamic monitoring system. They can follow you anywhere. If you drive a car, they can quickly track your license plate. If you buy a train or bus ticket, as soon as you swipe your card, you are classified. I noted how China has five categories of dangerous people. Now China is also building the world's largest so-called 'social credit' system. If you get a traffic ticket, then one point of morality is deducted. If you are found in the underground church, your social score is essentially zero. You lose your right to buy airplane tickets. Last week, I was in South Korea attending a house church leadership conference. But 240 out of 300 church leaders were blocked in Chinese airports, even including Hong Kong, and declared as national security threats. They were not allowed to board the flight when they checked in to Customs."

' BEIJING DEBUTS PLAN TO MONITOR BEHAVIOR OF EVERY RESIDENT - The following is excerpted from "Beijing Debuts," Breitbart.com, Nov. 23, 2018:

"Beijing plans to reward and punish its residents based on data that will be collected from various departments monitoring citizens' social behavior, according to a detailed 'action plan' posted on Monday to the city's municipal website. By the beginning of 2020, the announcement declares, China's capital city will have all residents officially locked into the permanent surveillance program, part of a broader effort to have every Chinese citizen rated on a 'social credit system' decreeing what public services a person can use based on their obedience to laws and loyalty to the communist regime. The government will use the data collected to assess citizens' behavior to decide if an individual is law-abiding and 'trustworthy' to the Communist Party.

Residents who behave properly in the eyes of the Chinese government will receive high credit scores, while residents who misbehave will receive low scores, causing them to lead more difficult lives. 'Efforts will be made to build a market supervision mechanism with corporate credit as the core,' states Beijing's municipal website, adding that it will explore the implementation of what it calls 'the personal integrity project,' which will utilize residents' credit scores for 'market access, public services, tourism,' and 'fields such as entrepreneurship and job hunting.' Higher scores can also open the 'green channel,' which will expedite residents' applications for higher quality 'education and medical resources.' 'Those who violate the law and lose trust will pay a heavy price,' adds the government website, stating that it

will 'improve the blacklist system' and that residents will find themselves 'limited everywhere, and difficult to move' if they are deemed untrustworthy by the Communists in control."

' MAN FILES SUIT TO CHANGE AGE FROM 69 TO 49 - The following is excerpted from "Dutch man, 69, starts legal fight," The Guardian, Nov. 8, 2018:

"A 69-year-old Dutch 'positivity guru' who says he does not feel his age has started a battle to make himself legally 20 years younger on the grounds that he is being discriminated against on a dating app. Emile Ratelband told a court in Arnhem in the Netherlands that he did not feel 'comfortable' with his date of birth, and compared his wish to alter it to people who identified as transgender. Ratelband said that due to having an official age that did not reflect his emotional state he was struggling to find both work and love. He has asked for his date of birth to be changed from 11 March 1949 to 11 March 1969.

"When I'm 69, I am limited. If I'm 49, then I can buy a new house, drive a different car,' he said. 'I can take up more work. When I'm on Tinder and it says I'm 69, I don't get an answer. When I'm 49, with the face I have, I will be in a luxurious position.' Doctors had told him his body was that of a 45-year-old man, Ratelband argued. He described himself as a 'young god.'"

Comment: This man is merely going through the "door" opened by those who "self identify" as something they are not, such as those who claim to be a woman, though genetically male. The Bible says, "The wages of sin is death" (Romans 6:23), and, "it is appointed unto men once to die, but a after this the judgment" (Hebrews 9:27). ÷

