

AND THE PEOPLE CAME...

- Week of March 13, 2022 -

Sunday Morning Service -----	32
Sunday Evening Service -----	25
Wed. Evening Service, 03/16/22 -----	12

AND THE PEOPLE GAVE...

- Week of March 13, 2022 -

<u>Undesignated</u> Tithes & Offerings -----	\$ 1,271.00
Love Offering -----	\$ 50.00
Church Gas Line Repair Fund -----	\$ 1,170.00
TOTAL RECEIVED FOR WEEK OF 03/13/22:	\$ 2,491.00

- Week of March 6, 2022 -

<u>Undesignated</u> Tithes & Offerings -----	\$ 2,461.22
Church Gas Line Repair Fund -----	\$ 5,150.00
TOTAL RECEIVED FOR WEEK OF 03/06/22:	\$ 7,611.22

- Week of February 27, 2022 -

<u>Undesignated</u> Tithes & Offerings -----	\$ 691.00
Love Offering -----	\$ 50.00
TOTAL RECEIVED FOR WEEK OF 02/27/22:	\$ 741.00

- Week of February 20, 2022 -

<u>Undesignated</u> Tithes & Offerings -----	\$ 1,086.00
Love Offering -----	\$ 50.00
TOTAL RECEIVED FOR WEEK OF 02/20/22:	\$ 1,136.00

- Week of February 13, 2022 -

<u>Undesignated</u> Tithes & Offerings -----	\$ 1,269.00
Love Offering -----	\$ 50.00
TOTAL RECEIVED FOR WEEK OF 02/13/22:	\$ 1,319.00

- Week of February 6, 2022 -

<u>Undesignated</u> Tithes & Offerings -----	\$ 2,674.97
Love Offering -----	\$ 200.00
TOTAL RECEIVED FOR WEEK OF 02/06/22:	\$ 2,874.97

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

- CHURCH NATURAL GAS LINE REPAIR FUND -

Total Cost Of Repairs -----	\$10,365.78
Amount Received Thusfar -----	\$ 6,374.00
Amount Still Needed:	\$ 3,991.78

Thank You For Your Help With This Need!

*Read Your Bible
Every Day...*



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.**



THANK YOU For Your Continued Faithfulness In Giving!

During the early part this pandemic, we were unable to meet in the church-house. But - that did not mean that the expenses of having a church-house were suspended. We still had bills to pay - electricity, gas, water, trash pickup, phone, internet, facility insurance, copier lease, office supplies, etc., and, praise the Lord, His people kept praying, watching online, & supporting their church with their giving.

Sadly, some people only give when they are in attendance at church - sort of like paying for "services rendered" - but the truth is that they are robbing **THEMSELVES** of God's blessings when they withhold their tithes and offerings and only give when they are here (see Malachi 3:10). Thankfully, most of our people have remained faithful, in so many ways, during this crisis, including financially.

WE HAVE 3 WAYS YOU CAN GIVE:

1. **By mail** - 23 East Wells Blvd., Sapulpa, OK 74066
2. **Drop it off** - call the Church Office to arrange it. 224-1924
3. **Online** - Go to the link below and give electronically:

<https://tithe.ly/give?c=433047>

**WE ARE GLAD WE CAN NOW GATHER TOGETHER TO PRAISE GOD & STUDY HIS WORD TOGETHER IN THE CHURCH-HOUSE!
YOUR FAITHFUL AND GENEROUS GIFTS WILL HELP US KEEP UP WITH THE BILLS AND CONTINUE OUR RENEWED OUTREACH EFFORTS!**

Church Directory

Todd W. White -----	Pastor
Lois Mae Floyd -----	Pianist/ Organist
Mickie Shatwell -----	Evening Pianist
Derek Quinnelly -----	Greeter
Larry & Mary Byars -----	Outreach
Bertha Segebart -----	Custodian
GinaMarie Shufelt -----	Flowers
Seth White -----	Sound/Video

REMINDER



SENSUALITY IN TODAY'S CHRISTIAN MUSIC

by Dr. Fred DeRuvo

I started playing drums in the 5th grade, while I was also playing the cornet, the piano, and singing in school and church choruses. I've always enjoyed music and during my growing up years, we enjoyed Bubble Gum favorites like "Sugar, Sugar" (The Archies), "Cherry Hill Park" (Billy Joe Royal), "Dizzy" (Tommy Roe), and a host of other tunes that were upbeat (and you could dance to them).

It was during those same days in church that the music there was completely separate. People sang hymns which were filled with theological truth with a musical accompaniment that matched the majesty of the lyrics. **The world's music remained securely in the world and the hymns remained a staple of worship.**

But then the 1960s hit with a fervor and secular music changed big time. Gone was the Bubble Gum, in exchange for the harder edges of the Beatles' music, which had once sounded so innocuous ("I wanna hold your hand!"). In fact, with the British Invasion, secular music took on a more hardcore flavor and pursuit. It became more provocative and even sensual to a degree, with songs like "Sympathy for the Devil" (Rolling Stones) and many others.

The proliferation of drugs into the mainstream culture of the world's (especially America's) youth seemed to open the door even further with songs that tried to express or explain what a drug-induced high was like. Songs like "White Rabbit" by Jefferson Airplane. Supposedly, this particular song was designed by Grace Slick to be a smack against parents who would encourage their children to read "Alice in Wonderland" but then wonder why they got involved in drugs.

Music at this point took a decidedly psychedelic turn and that pretty much invaded the musical culture. From that point onward, music got very hardcore and seemed to go off in numerous directions, with the onslaught of "metal," "power rock," and other genres. Religious music also seemed to change at this time with groups like the Resurrection Band producing what they called Christian music that could have easily been mistaken for something the most popular secular bands produced at the time. These Christian bands were allegedly trying to reach the unchurched young people within the psychedelic movement. There is no way to know how successful they were, but they may have had at least some impact.

This was all happening **outside** the church, but eventually, the music **inside** the church also began to change, somewhat mirroring the milder forms of secular music. Goodness, even the music that we all used to hear in stores and on elevators (called "Muzak") was being replaced with music that had lyrics. It was still called "easy listening" at the time, but eventually also became more hardcore. Go into just about any store today and you'll likely hear hip-hop style music coming from the loudspeakers. What makes things worse is the fact that it is usually loud enough to make holding a conversation with someone right next to you difficult.

Eventually though, the music inside churches **really** began to change until we have what we have today. In many ways, the so-called worship songs sung in today's churches are very upbeat, with lots of instrumentation, vocals, **and volume**. These songs are designed to prompt what is purported to be a "worshipful" response to God. Of course, it goes without saying that the worship leaders who use this style of music probably wouldn't mind if people started dancing in the aisles...as long as the dancing is directed

(continued inside)

to God at least.

But there is a huge problem with most of today's so-called Christian music. It is simply a few years behind secular music and in many cases, it may not even be a few years behind it. ***If you take away the lyrics from many of the songs, there is really no difference between the styles of music heard on secular radio today and what is often played in churches as “worship.”***

In fact, I believe the overt sensuality that has become part and parcel in secular music has also made its way into the church service under the guise of “worship” because the two styles – secular and worship – are no longer that far apart, if at all. They both have beats that you can dance to and it is normal to find women swaying to the worship music in so-called worship services.

That, in a nutshell, is the problem (aside from the terribly uninspired lyrics for the most part). Much of the music that passes off as “worship” is anything but, unless a person is simply worshipping the music itself. I’ve been to too many services where the music is so upbeat it promotes swaying, clapping, and moving to the “groove.” As a drummer and musician, I certainly understand how music can move people. Watch any video of a live concert by any music group. They’ll play a song that was a hit and the crowd goes wild with clapping, gyrating (yep, a term from the 60s) and even dancing.

In my opinion, this is what our church services are becoming and people see nothing wrong with that because of the fact that their emotions are involved in the worship experience ***and they fully believe that they feel the way they do as a response to the truth of God’s Word or His Presence in that service*** [they have equated a FEELING with the filling of the Holy Spirit - TWW]. In reality, it is the music itself (not necessarily even the lyrics) that promotes the type of swaying and/or dancing that so many churches excel at these days. **Unfortunately, when people start swaying to the music, it promotes a sensuality that should not be part of the worship experience.**

Let me give you an example. There is one Christian musician that I really enjoy. You’d know his name as soon as you read it, but I don’t want to sound like I’m attacking him, so I won’t print it. He used to work in the secular world of entertainment and segued over to the Christian side of things. He’s a very talented musician and has produced quite a few secular CDs with some very uplifting music. Some of his releases have included Christian style music.

He has, of course, given numerous live performances and they are all very well done. One of them was designed as an outdoor worship festival. Some of the musicians he used for the event were not Christians (he stated he did not necessarily just seek out Christians who were also musicians to work with). Aside from the orchestra he had and individual musicians (drummer, keys, guitarist, bass, etc.), there was also a small group of vocalists and two women who backed him up and also had solos at various times throughout the event.

As would be natural, during the music, these women (as well as those in the small group of vocalists) would sway to the music to keep the beat. Without meaning to be, ***it became sensual***, especially during the slower tunes. In my opinion, rather than sway to the music, these two women should have simply tapped their toes to keep time. Instead, their bodies kept time and it could easily have been very distracting for any of the men in the audience.

Oh, by the way, I still play drums, but not in church. I don’t put my feet up on the furniture in church either like I do at home. *When I go to church, I am there to worship God and learn more about Him from His Word by a pastor who knows how to rightly divide it - I’m not there for a concert or to get my emotions all worked up so that I can convince myself I am truly worshipping God.*

Churches need to kick the world out. If the music of any song is causing a distraction and prompting dancing, swaying, or what have you, then it needs to go. Give me the old-time hymns any day for worship. They speak volumes. They are majestic. They are based solidly on Scripture, not some ethereal experience. They point to God, not people and certainly not women swaying in the pews.

- Dr. Fred DeRuvo is an independent Baptist preacher, Sunday School teacher, and Bible teacher. He is a member of the Bible Baptist Church in Hampton, Georgia

NEWS OF INTEREST TO CHRISTIANS

☐ ***HILLSONG FOUNDER AND CEO NOW CAUGHT IN HIS OWN SEX SCANDAL AFTER FIRING LENTZ*** - Hillsong megachurch corporation has been plagued with sex scandal after sex scandal over the last several years. In 2020, the pastor of Hillsong’s NYC branch, Carl Lentz, was fired by CEO Brian Houston after it was revealed that he had been involved in multiple affairs with a Muslim woman. After that scandal, Houston expressed remorse for not dealing with that situation in a timely manner and doing something about it sooner.

In an email to church members, Houston laments the leadership failure of the organization as a whole. The issue wasn’t just that Lentz, a biblically unqualified pastor, had committed moral treason against his church. The problem was much greater than that and Lentz should have never been elevated to that kind of position to begin with.

At the time, Lentz, who was fired last year amid “moral failures” — which were not mentioned in the original letter sent by Brian Houston, founder and CEO of Hillsong, to Hillsong NYC staff — admitted to being unfaithful in his marriage, but did not go into detail. Later in 2021, another Hillsong pastor, Darnell Barrett of New Jersey, also resigned amid his own sex scandal.

Houston, who is also caught up in a child abuse cover-up scandal involving his late father, Frank Houston, who helped him found Hillsong, appears to be very good and running at business but very bad at being a Christian leader. Now, Houston himself is caught up in his own sex scandal.

Whether it be their sleazy rendition of Silent Night during Christmas, their posing of a nearly naked man on stage at a women’s conference, its cover-ups of pedophile pastors, having openly homosexual worship leaders, defending abortion, complaining about the death penalty, or the fact that celebrities love them because they “don’t teach that book with Moses and stuff,” one thing is for sure, Hillsong has been an outright dangerous threat to churches around the world. And now, Houston now has to answer for his own sex scandals after disciplining others in his organization for the same thing.

☐ ***MARVEL COMICS JOINS THE RANKS OF CHILD GROOMERS, OPPOSES FLORIDA’S CHILD SAFETY LEGISLATION*** - It has been reported that 35 percent of the nation now supports state-sponsored child grooming in public schools—an unprecedented number up from nearly zero just a few years ago. A growing percentage of the population now opposes the Florida Bill HB 1557, which simply gives parents greater control over their children’s education and mandates that school officials contact parents immediately if there is any change in the mental, social, or emotional state of a child enrolled in the school.

With that, Corporate America has launched its own campaign against the child safety bill with Disney being among one of the top opponents to the legislation.

The bill, which leftists have dubbed the “Don’t Say Gay” bill, is now one of the hot topics in the political realm as Florida governor, Ron DeSantis puts his support behind the movement. The latest in the corporate world to join the ranks of the child groomers who wish to have unfettered access to children without the knowledge or consent of parents is Marvel Comics.

In a recent post on social media, Marvel announced their opposition to their straw man argument against the legislation:

“We strongly denounce any and ALL legislation that infringes on the basic human rights of the LGBTQIA+ community. Marvel Studios stands for hope, inclusivity, and strength; and we proudly stand with the community. Today, we pledge to continue our strong commitment as allies who promote the values of equality, acceptance, and respect.”

Of course, the legislation does absolutely ***nothing*** to infringe on the “basic human rights of the LGBTQIA+ community”—adults indoctrinating and grooming children is NOT a basic human right.

☐ ***A NEW HERESY INVADING THE CHURCH: CHILD LIBERATION THEOLOGY*** - You’ve heard of Black Liberation Theology. Liberation theology can be traced back to Latin America in the early 60s. Latin America has always been a hotbed of oppressive working conditions for those who tried to make ends meet and Liberation Theology was invented as a supposed Christian response to this oppression. It should be noted that the rise of Liberation theology coincides with the Roman Catholic Second Vatican Council in the 60s.

It was this Liberation Theology that gave rise to various other

liberation theologies around the world including Black Liberation Theology in America. Popularized by James Cone, Black Liberation Theology essentially teaches that the God of the oppressive White man is not the same God as the God of the oppressed Black man. In the view of Black Liberation Theology, God dwells with and identifies with the oppressed—Black people are the oppressed.

Similarly, over the years, this theology has adapted itself and evolved into many different forms, but the underlying theme remains the same. From this has sprung women’s or feminist liberation theologies, queer theologies—practically anyone who claims to be oppressed in society can have a liberation theology named after them. Additionally, these liberation theologies will incorporate the progressive social justice ideas of the Walter Rauschenbusch social gospel heresy of the 1800s.

The underlying theme is, essentially, that Christ did not come to die for the sins of His elect, rather he came to identify with the oppressed and liberate them from that oppression. The oppressor—which is defined in Marxist terms—is not fit for the Kingdom of the liberated oppressed.

Enter the newest heresy making inroads into the Church: ***Child Liberation Theology***. Child Liberation Theology is primarily advanced by a man named R.L. Stollar. Stollar, according to his website, defines Liberation Theology as finding “find[ing] Jesus on the underside of history: among those abused and cast aside by the powers-that-be.”

He writes, “Black liberation theology declares God is Black. Mujerista theology says God is a Latina woman. Queer theology identifies God as queer. In similar fashion, child liberation theology makes clear: God is child, too!” As with the other liberation theologies, Stollar separates the oppressed from the oppressor and attaches the liberator figure, Jesus, to those said to be oppressed.

In the view of Child Liberation Theology, children are said to be oppressed by parents who hold “authoritarian control” over their children rather than allowing them the freedom to explore, learn, act, and feel however they choose. Stollar argues that children are oppressed because children are excluded from having too much power over their own lives.

The entire idea behind Child Liberation Theology is to remove the aspect of discipline from children. To allow them to choose express themselves according to their own judgment rather than teach them the objective difference between good and evil. To the liberation theologian, the only evil is oppression and the only good is liberation. This is the kind of thinking that one would expect from the secular Marxist world, but keep in mind, liberation theology is designed to masquerade as a form of Christian theology. Yet, it is ***not*** actually drawn from Christian, especially biblical, principles. To the child liberation theologian, parental control over children is “oppressive” and enforcement of parental ideals, especially spanking, is “child abuse.”

- excerpted