

SOUTH HEIGHTS BAPTIST'S WEEKLY REMINDER

Volume XXVI

March 22, 2020

Number 12

NURSERY MINISTRY WORKERS FOR THIS WEEK

10:50 a.m. Service ----- Cradle Roll 1: Volunteer Needed!
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 March 15, 2020

Sunday School ----- 10
Sunday Morning Service ----- 34
Sunday Evening Service ----- 10
Wed. Evening Service, 03/18/20 ----- 9

AND THE PEOPLE GAVE...

- Week of March 15, 2020 -

Undesignated Tithes & Offerings ----- \$ 856.38
Insurance Fund ----- \$ 20.00
TOTAL RECEIVED FOR WEEK OF 03/15/20: \$ 876.38

- Week of March 8, 2020 -

Undesignated Tithes & Offerings ----- \$ 757.15
Insurance Fund ----- \$ 145.00
TOTAL RECEIVED FOR WEEK OF 03/08/20: \$ 902.15

- Week of March 1, 2020 -

Undesignated Tithes & Offerings ----- \$ 853.29
Insurance Fund ----- \$ 5.00
TOTAL RECEIVED FOR WEEK OF 03/01/20: \$ 858.29

- Week of February 23, 2020 -

Undesignated Tithes & Offerings ----- \$ 892.00
Insurance Fund ----- \$ 35.00
TOTAL RECEIVED FOR WEEK OF 02/23/20: \$ 927.00

- Week of February 16, 2020 -

Undesignated Tithes & Offerings ----- \$ 697.61
Insurance Fund ----- \$ 25.00
TOTAL RECEIVED FOR WEEK OF 02/16/20: \$ 722.61

**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...

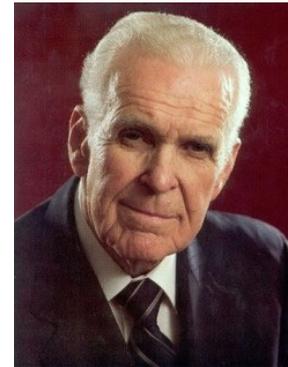
We encourage all of our membership to practice obedience to God by being faithful every payday to give back to Him His tithe (10%). *If every family in our church would practice this one simple discipline, we would never have weeks where we have to put off paying some bills until the following week!*

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
Don Diehl ----- Greeter
Larry Byars ----- S.S. Teacher
Larry & Mary Byars, Don & Janelle Diehl, Susan Strain ----- Outreach
Bertha Segebart ----- Custodian
Flowers ----- Shirley White



Dr. Lee Roberson
1909-2007

The Detours of Life

by Dr. Lee Roberson, Pastor
Hyland Park Baptist Church
Chattanooga, Tennessee
1942 - 1983

“And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.” - Romans 8:28

There are many spiritual lessons which we can all get from this business of traveling; for example, arriving at crossroads reminds us of the daily necessity of making decisions. Again, we have the lesson of following a road map which reminds us of the Christian's guide book, the Bible. But, I believe that the strongest lesson we can learn from traveling on the highways of our great nation is this: The highway of life can't always be straight and smooth. There must be hills, there must be rough spots, and there must be occasional detours. We have all had the experience of traveling along a beautiful highway and suddenly being confronted with a large sign saying, "Highway Closed. Follow Detour Signs." And by following the detour signs, we are brought again to the smooth highway. Life is very much like that. Perhaps for months or years we go along and encounter very little trouble, but suddenly we are confronted with a detour. It may be one of sorrow, of loneliness, of illness and affliction, or of grave disappointments. May we notice some lessons about detours:

I. DETOURS APPEAR SUDDENLY AND WITHOUT WARNING

We are not always prepared with information to fortify us against the coming detour. In the long run, it may be better for us if we do not know all of the difficulties that lie ahead, for if we did know, every part of the trip would be spoiled by the anticipation of trouble. In life, how suddenly appear the detours! One day you are perfectly well, but the next day you are lying in a hospital. One day your home is intact, and the next day death has taken a loved one from you. Certainly we all know that trouble and sorrow are coming to us, but we do not know the moment or the day they will appear.

II. SELDOM DO WE KNOW THE LENGTH OF THE DETOUR

When the highway sign points out a detour, you take it without knowing how long it is going to be. When life's detours appear, we do not now how long we will have to suffer, but we are hopeful at any moment to come back to the main highway.

III. MOST DETOURS ARE ROUGH AND WINDING

I don't believe I have ever seen a good detour road. They always take you out of your way, delay your arrival at your destination, and must always be traveled slowly and carefully. Likewise are the detours of life. They require great patience for their traversing,

IV. A DETOUR MAY HAVE ITS GOOD POINTS

I have found in my experience as a traveler that sometimes the most beautiful scenery is found on the detour road. Over hills and through valleys we see the beauties of nature unmolested by billboards, telling us to eat at a certain wayside restaurant or to drink a certain brand of beer, and so it is that the bypath which you are now traveling may bring you the greatest spiritual blessings of your life.

(continued inside)



CHURCH INSURANCE FUND

Monthly Premium, Due 05/05/20 ----- \$ 506.00
Amount Received To Date ----- \$ 20.00

TOTAL STILL NEEDED BY 05/05/20 ----- \$ 486.00

Thank You For Your Faithful Help With This Need!

V. A DETOUR ALWAYS LEADS TO AN APPRECIATION OF THE GOOD HIGHWAY

- Can you remember even now your great relief when you bounced over the last few yards of a rough and rugged detour road and came once more back to the smooth highway? Getting back on the main road you said, “This is more like it. That surely was a tough detour.” In the realm of living, the dark days lead to an appreciation of the bright ones. If every day were filled with sunshine, we would soon lose our appreciation of it. The folks who live in Miami and St. Petersburg, Florida, do not appreciate sunshine nearly as much as we in Chattanooga. During the winter season we have many dark and dreary days, and when the sunshine bursts through the clouds, we all rejoice. Trouble, sorrow, or affliction are never enjoyed, but they do help us to take full advantage of the good days which the Lord gives us.

VI. ON A DETOUR YOU DRIVE MORE OR LESS BY FAITH - The detour road is one that you have not traveled before, therefore, you must follow the signs which promise to bring you back on the regular highway, and here is the place for us to quote again **Romans 8:28: “And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.”** We have this promise of God in the time of trouble that He is going to work out everything for our good; not for our pleasure or prosperity or popularity, but for our good.

And now let us see what attitude we shall take toward the detours of life -

A. YOU CAN TURN AROUND AND GO BACK - Some weak, cowardly people take this way out of difficulty. In the Chattanooga paper of January 5, we find an illustration of this. In Reading, Pennsylvania, a woman and her husband and two sisters committed suicide because of ill health. Quoting from the article, “All gas jets in the kitchen range were found open. The bodies all fully clad, lay in a perfect row, heads resting on cushions.” Dr. Stark said a note left by one person indicated that the deaths were a quadruple suicide pact. Surely here is an illustration of those who turn coward and take the cowardly way out of their troubles.

B. YOU CAN TAKE THE DETOUR AND GRUMBLE AND COMPLAIN ABOUT IT ALL THE TIME - There are many folks who do this. They press on through their troubles, but they are always growling and complaining. Such are the folks who are forever telling about their operations and about the constant pain which they suffer, and about the failure of others to understand their plight. As a result of this complaining attitude their condition is made worse. Their own troubles are intensified and they lose the friendship and sympathy of others.

C. YOU CAN ACCEPT THE DETOURS OF LIFE IN GOOD CHEER AND IN THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD JESUS - The apostle Paul adopted such an attitude. Personally, I believe that Paul suffered severe bodily pain. I believe that all of his missionary endeavors were done in spite of an ailing body, and yet the great apostle

wrote the major portion of the New Testament and did not one time tell us of his trouble. Thank God, for cheerful sufferers who say, “I do not understand it all, but I love God and trust Him completely.” Pause a while, Christian friend, and let God speak to you. Perhaps now you are traveling on the detour of sorrow. Maybe death has entered your home and taken away a loved one.

The tears come easily to your eyes and you feel the sun has gone down for you. Listen to Jesus, the Man of Sorrows . . .

“Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father’s house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.”

Sorrow will last for the night, but morning cometh when you will meet both your loved ones and the Lord Jesus. Are you traveling on the detour of loneliness? Sometimes we do find ourselves completely left alone. We do not have close friends and our loved ones are far away from us. And again, sometimes friends and loved ones are nearby, but they do not understand our needs and desires.

The Christian who has definite convictions must often stand alone. The battle-scarred apostle Paul said, “No man stood with me, but all men forsook me” (II Timothy 4:16). Let me help you if your life is following a lonely path. It is human to stand alone. It is man-like to follow the people, to drift with the people, to follow the tide; it is God-like to follow a principle, to stem the tide. Remember this—truth has been out of fashion since man changed his robe of fadeless light for a garment of faded leaves. Yes, you may feel yourself one of the earth’s loneliest creatures, but if you are a child of God, then you have the promise of the presence of Jesus. This is His promise to obedient followers: **“...lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.”**

Someone asked David Livingston, the great missionary explorer, which verse in the Bible meant most to him, and without hesitation he said, **“ lo, I am with you always. . . ”** Pause for just a moment and recognize the presence of Him who stands by you. - Detours of illness and affliction, are they yours? The mystery of human suffering is always before us. Hardly a day goes by that I do not hear some person say, “I wonder why I suffer so much.” I wish, my friend, I could give you a definite and personal answer, but I cannot. I can only suggest that you remember that this world is one of sin and sorrow, sickness and death, and as long as the devil is abroad in the world, we are going to have illness and affliction. But for you, suffering one, there is also a blessed promise. It was given to Paul, and it is for your comfort: **“And he said unto me My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness...” (II Corinthians 12:9).**

In the last place, there are detours of disappointment. No one in life is free from this detour. We are disappointed in others. We

are disappointed in the failure of our plans. We are disappointed in ourselves. There must be a constant battle against this foe, or we will find ourselves growing bitter and cynical. In the face of disappointment, we must smile, keep sweet, and trust God. My life is not all I would have it to be. I am oftentimes disappointed regarding circumstances and people, but in it all, I am keenly aware of God’s love and grace. Even disappointment has a redeeming feature, for when I am disappointed in myself and in others, I lean more heavily upon God, for our God is One who never fails or disappoints His children. And now in full faith let us repeat together:

“And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose.”

- Dr. Lee Roberson was the Pastor of the Highland Park Baptist Church in Chattanooga, Tennessee from 1942 - 1983

NEWS OF INTEREST TO CHRISTIANS

‘ WHEN CHURCHES SHUT DOWN BUT PLANNED PARENTHOOD STAYS OPEN - State and local governments around the country are asking churches to close their doors for “public health.” Religious darlings in the hip-pocket of statists tell us it’s our Christian duty to comply. This is how, they tell us, we are supposed to “love our neighbor.” It’s one thing for the government to warn us that churches don’t provide “essential services.” It’s another thing for churches to eagerly agree with them.

Even though many state, county, and municipal governments are demanding churches cancel services because of the coronavirus outbreak, not a single government anywhere in the United States has ordered abortion clinics to close. Planned Parenthood is still open in every one of their locations, and any staff shortage they have is because of self-quarantines and not because of government edicts.

And yet, the government has very good reason to shut the doors of abortion clinics. They provide a non-essential service and are utilizing (and in some cases, stockpiling) needed medical resources like gloves, masks, gowns, and sanitation products that would be better used by hospitals and clinics treating the coronavirus. Abortion clinics do not test or treat coronavirus, and thus have zero impact in mitigating the damage done by the virus. In short, it’s using supplies needed most by clinics and hospitals that are actually treating victims of coronavirus.

One thing seems clear; Planned Parenthood believes the services they provide are needed by the public. To them, abortion is an “essential service.” They would not close even if the government ordered it. Abortionists are the most tenacious, focused, dedicated people on the planet.

Wouldn’t it be nice if churches believed in their services as much as Planned Parenthood believes in their services? Wouldn’t it be nice if churches were as tenacious as abortionists?

As churches around the country are closed on Sunday,

abortion clinics will be preparing to re-open on Monday. Only one of these organizations truly believe in the importance of the work they do, and it’s not the church.

‘ BAPTIST MINISTER SAYS “ABORTION IS A BLESSING,” VOLUNTEERS AT KILL-CENTER - In December and January, *Yes Magazine* covered what it described as “harassment” by pro-lifers against escorts and abortion-minded mothers entering A Woman’s Choice in Greensboro. The facility offers abortions up to 20 weeks gestation (5 months).

Among those interviewed was Michael Usey, who leads College Park Baptist Church, NC, which identifies itself as “progressive, diverse, ecumenical.”

“Our LGBTQ-friendly church has many LGBTQ members, in addition to gay/lesbian ministers, deacons and staff members,” its website states. “We perform same-sex weddings, and welcome many that have been beaten up by the Bible at other churches!”

Usey told the outlet that while he had only recently begun volunteering as an escort at A Woman’s Choice, he has been involved with Planned Parenthood for some time. An escort is an individual who guides those arriving to the abortion facility into the building.

“I’ve been doing this for about three months,” he stated, being interviewed in November. “But I’ve been involved in reproductive justice and access issues since I was in seminary in the early ‘80s.”

In 2016, Usey delivered a message in which he outlined his views on abortion, stating that while he “grieve[s] deeply at the proliferation of abortions” as they demonstrate “that reproductive and abortion decisions are not taken with enough moral seriousness,” and opposes abortion as a form of birth control, he also believes a woman should have a right to choose according to her conscience.

“...I strongly support Roe v. Wade: it gives an individual the ability to make the choice before her God,” Usey stated. “Surely the dignity of women requires this ability to choose. Many of us might not choose abortion as a personal decision, yet the dignity of women demands this ability to choose.”

He advised that he urges women to consider other options, especially adoption, but “[s]ince there is no moral consensus or biblical mandate, we should accord women the legal, moral, and religious freedom to choose.”

“And, since abortion is a serious moral crisis, we should be around to guide her beforehand and to support and love her through whatever decision she, under God, makes,” Usey concluded. “In short, we should reduce the need but protect the right. It’s possible to be pro-life and pro-choice.”

The American Baptist Church says that there are diverse opinions on abortion within its denomination, stating in a resolution that, “... we acknowledge the freedom of each individual to advocate for a public policy on abortion that reflects his or her beliefs.” ÷