



The Baptist Bulletin

April 2020

Looking to the Future

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Gothenburg First Baptist Church

Web site:
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Gothenburg Baptist

Prayer Requests:

Health and Welfare of all during this time.

Opportunities to be a testimony to all we encounter daily.

Our government officials as they make difficult decisions daily.

The title of this seems a little difficult to wrap our heads around, doesn't it? The future seems so uncertain and so far in the distance as we live out the COVID-19 pandemic. Let me promise one thing for sure. Jesus has not changed. The author of Hebrews stated that Jesus is the same yesterday and today and forever (Hebrews 13:8). What our nation is going through is not a surprise to God. He is omniscient. He lacks nothing. We need to return to this truth often. For fear will creep in whenever we think we can handle what is going on or have to handle what is going on. We must return to the truth of the Gospel. That Jesus lived for us, to die for us, to redeem us. The hope of eternity with God. Let's share that with ourselves, our families, and everyone one we encounter. Let' be the Church.

So, what does the future look like? We will not be meeting during the month of April. I wish this was a ridiculous April's Fool joke, but it sadly is not. We are coming up to the pinnacle celebration of the Christian faith: Easter. And we will celebrate Easter. Here is what celebrating Easter will look like:

April 5th: Palm Sunday

This weekend we prepare for Easter by studying Matthew 21:1-11, the triumphant entry of Jesus which has become known as Palm Sunday. We will record the service and post it to YouTube. Let's plan on gathering in our homes at 10:00 AM to watch the service together and then end the time together by participating in Communion. If you were unable to pick up a pre-packaged Communion Cup from the church building this week, give Pastor Dan a call and we will make sure you have what you need for Communion. If you have grape juice and bread at home, feel free to use that. For those that have CDs of the message delivered to them on Sunday Mornings, Pastor Dan will bring the Communion Cups for you at that time.

April 10th: Good Friday

We will not be able to come together on Good Friday like we had hoped, but Cornerstone Bible Church (Formerly EV Free Church), Trinity Lutheran Church, Victory Assembly, and us (First Baptist Church) will still be having a service together. This will be a videoed service that will be posted to YouTube. I am very excited about this service. Please plan on watching this together on April 10th at 7:00 PM.

April 12th: Easter

For Easter we are trying to do something that can bring us near one another. We are attempting to be able to provide a “Drive-in” service for Easter. We have the equipment ordered and on the way. As of this moment, we are planning on having the service on the north side of the church facilities starting at 9:45 AM. The plan is to broadcast the service to your vehicle’s radio through a FM station. Parking will be directed as vehicles will be kept at a proper social distancing distance. We ask that you stay in your vehicle at all times. We are doing our best to make this happen so we can at least be in the same parking lot looking at one another. A video and audio recording of the message will be posted to our YouTube page and website as well.

April 19th-May 3rd

Depending on how the “Drive-in” service works out, we may attempt to do this each week. We will still post a video recording of the message to YouTube and an audio recording to our website.

May 10th: Mother’s Day

We hope and plan to meet in our church facilities for Mother’s Day.

Tithes & Offerings

The question of how do we give our tithes and offerings has been asked. There are two ways to do give your tithes. You can drop it off at the church facility either through the mail slot or in the entry there is a bucket. The other option is to mail it in to 1002 Ave C, Gothenburg, NE 69138. Thank you for continuing to support the body here. If you have any questions, please ask Pastor Dan or Janie.

Thank You

This has been a difficult, unique, humbling, and awe-inspiring time to serve in ministry. Thank you for your support. Thank you for praying for us. I feel honored and privileged to serve as your pastor and to have each of you as my family. We are the Church.

We hope that you have become more comfortable with doing church together through the use of technology. If you have not, here is a review of how you can stay connected.

Go to our web site www.gothenburgbaptist.org. As you scroll to the bottom of the web site you will find audio links to past messages. Clicking the Facebook tab at the top will take you to the [Gothenburg First Baptist Church Facebook page](#) even if you are not a Facebook user. On the Facebook page you can see the daily prayer videos Pastor Dan is sharing, birthday greetings and other announcements along with the video message that is linked to YouTube.

If you just want the weekly message, go to www.youtube.com and search for [Gothenburg Baptist](#). Currently there are messages there from March 22 and 29 with April 5 to be added this weekend. Please call for help if you have questions or trouble—we want to be connected as much as possible during this time of physical separation.

Trouble is one of God's great servants because it reminds us how much we continually need the Lord.

Jim Cymbala



Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and not be afraid: for the Lord Jehovah is my strength and my song; he also is become my salvation.

Isaiah 12:2



True spirituality manifests itself in certain dominant desires.

1. First is the desire to be holy rather than happy.
2. A man may be considered spiritual when he wants to see the honor of God advanced through his life even if it means that he himself must suffer temporary dishonor or loss.
3. The spiritual man wants to carry his cross.
4. Again, a Christian is spiritual when he sees everything from God's viewpoint.
5. Another desire of the spiritual man is to die right rather than to live wrong.
6. The desire to see others advance at his expense.
7. The spiritual man habitually makes eternity-judgements instead of time-judgments.

A. W. Tozer



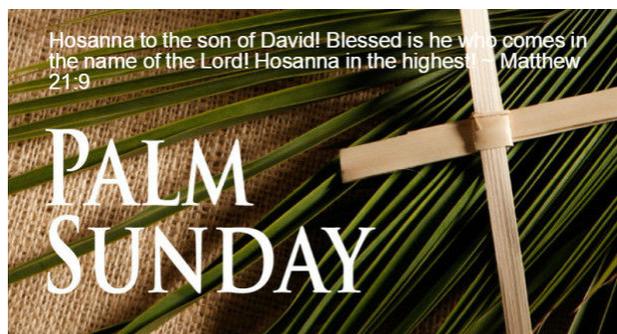
For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and spirit, of joints and marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

Hebrews 4:12





1002 Ave C
Gothenburg, NE 69138



AWANA Sparks

We are following the same schedule as Gothenburg Public Schools in regards to having our AWANA meetings. We will not be meeting until school is back in session. This does not mean that the AWANA leaders are not busy at work. Aaron and Sara Coleman have been sending out awesome post cards to the clubbers to encourage them. If you go to the **Awana Sparks Gothenburg** Facebook page, you will see the recent video for the clubbers and receive updates. The leaders are also contacting clubbers to encourage them and to listen to verses.

MOPS

MOPS meetings have also been suspended for the year, but they continue to support and encourage one another. To stay in touch and be involved with the group go to their Facebook page, **Gothenburg MOPS**. This is a closed group so you will need to request inclusion if you are not already.

Birthdays ~ ~ ~

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| Velma Schriver | April 22 |
| Larry Schweitzer | April 26 |

Anniversaries ~ ~ ~

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| Gene & Velma Schriver | April 10 |
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Financial Report ~ ~ ~

Budget for the Year: \$140,102.06
Fiscal Year ended 2/28/21

Offerings Received for 1 months:
\$7,510.00

Expenditures Paid for 1 months:
\$11,220.65

Special Business Meeting
Sunday, May 17
12:10 p.m.

The Special Business meeting that was to occur Sunday, April 5th to discuss the possibility of hiring a Youth & Worship Pastor will now take place on May 17th. Please continue to pray about this possibility and we encourage all questions, concerns, and thoughts to be openly expressed at the meeting.