

**HOME
OF ★ THE
FREE
BECAUSE
OF ★ THE
BRAVE**

The Baptist Bulletin

July 2020

Digging to the Root

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Worship / Youth pastor
decision

Nation and Leaders

Turmoil and disunity in
our nation

Corvid-19

When I was young, I remember my step-dad, John, sitting in the yard for hours with a bucket and a steel weed cutter. He would start in a corner of the yard, sit down or use a foam kneeler, and then methodically, painstakingly start at the task at hand. He would remove one dandelion at a time. He would use the small steel weed cutter to dig down deep and remove the root of the weed. John would spend hour upon hour working his way across the entirety of his yard. I once asked him why he spent so much time when he could just mow and remove the top of the dandelion. After all, mowing was so much quicker and you couldn't really see the dandelion weed when you were finished. Yes, it would eventually grow back, but you didn't have to sit in the yard for hours digging to the root of the weeds. He told me that to remove just the top would not solve the issue. You had to remove the root. John told me that if you simply mow, then you are spreading the issue as well. Before a flower is seen, the dandelion has a seed head that contains hundreds of seeds ready to be more dandelions. When you take the quick route and mow the seed heads, you produce more dandelions. You have to take the time to get to the root. Otherwise the weed would always come back and invade the yard.

As I think about our nation and the hurt so many are expressing in different ways, this life lesson comes to mind. Many people are trying to figure out what is wrong with the United States. They are attempting to figure out how fix the problem at hand. Some are protesting. Some are rioting. Some are doing their best to ignore there is an issue at all. There are so many issues and major problems with our nation that it is hard to figure out even where to start. The fix is not simply cutting the weed at the top and hoping it goes away. For if the root is still buried, the issue will always rise back up. Scripture shows us what the true issue is.

The Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every inclination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. Genesis 6:5

They have all turned aside; together they have become corrupt; there is none who does good, not even one. Psalm 14:3

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. Romans 3:23

Missionaries of the Month—Doug & Stephanie Lewis

A man and his brother came to ask if I wanted to buy a monkey. Since we were speaking French, I am glad I was awake in French class the day we learned the word for monkey. The men figured that since I was a veterinarian and liked animals, that I would be a likely customer. I explained to him that I had no interest in buying a monkey, and went on to explain how monkey and human diseases are often the same. The two men then left, knowing that they would have to find their market somewhere else. Just a part of the Africa adventure!

This past week there was fighting close to Takui village with the death of a young man in a nearby village.

The threats to our staff have decreased. We continue to pray that the threats were empty threats, and that our friends and their animals will remain safe. This June marks the end of the third school year that many children have missed due to schools being closed in the conflict regions. The vet clinic in Takui remains open most days, and is providing care and medicine for animals. The church continues to meet and be a light to the community. There are no signs of this crisis ending. We often wonder if we will ever get back to Takui. Pray for peace and safety for our staff and friends.



Our daughter, Becca, finished her work in the COVID ICU in St. Louis. She is now back to her less stressful work of cardiac ICU. The COVID work was tough, and we see the need to keep health workers in prayer. COVID infection numbers are growing in Cameroon. There may be some COVID cases in our town, and the first suspected cases appeared two weeks ago.

Psalms 147:3,4 “He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds. He determines the number of the stars; He gives to all of them their names.”

Thanks for your prayers, support, and encouragement.

(Continued from page 1) Take a look at Jeremiah 17:9, Psalm 141:4, and Matthew 15:18-19 for more proof. The deep issue with our nation is not the surface level things that we are seeing: racism, economic divides, politics, and so many other real problems we have. The issue is that no man is good. We are all full of sin. The best we can give to God by our own merit and work are filthy rags (Isaiah 64:6). Sin is the root of our nation's issues.

There is only one answer to sin. Jesus Christ. Paul told the Church of Ephesus the answer to sin. The grace of God that comes through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ (Ephesian 2:8-9). As we talk with others. As we pray about what to do. Remember, that no person is good. Those who rest in the sanctifying work of Jesus are redeemed. He is good. His light will shine through us. So let us answer the hurt of our nation with the hope of Gospel. May the truth of Jesus' redemption be the loudest words we speak and clearest action we serve with. Let Jesus go straight to the root, for He alone can forgive our sin.

Birthdays ~ ~ ~

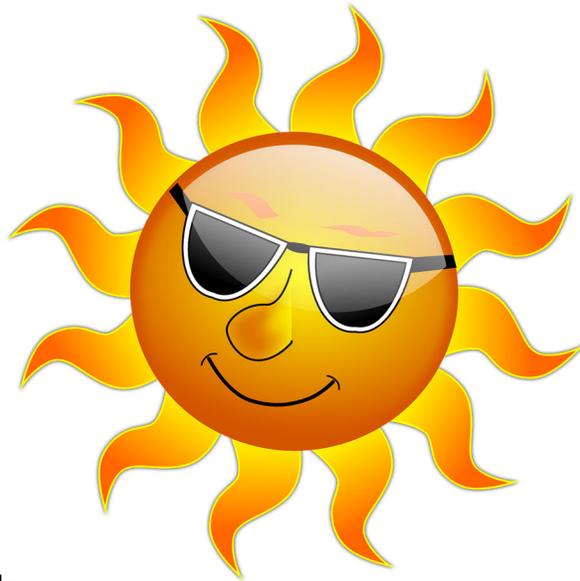
Dee Painter	July 1
Frances Linegar	July 4
Kelli Beck	July 6
Hildur Malm	July 8
Brenda Huff	July 9
Doris Nelson	July 10
Dawn Urman	July 13
Will Mercer	July 15
Phil Kuhlman	July 18
Marsha Weeks	July 31

Anniversaries ~ ~ ~

Lane & Lindsay VanNatta	July 1
Larry & Connie Schweitzer	July 17
Phil & Bertha Kuhlman	July 23
Eddie & Regie Fruit	July 28

Financial Report ~ ~ ~

Budget for the Year: \$140,102.06
 Fiscal Year ended 2/28/21
 Offerings Received for 4 months:
 \$43,800.02
 Expenditures Paid for 4 months:
 \$34,448.50



Formula for Personal Growth by Charles Stanley

[James 1:22](#)

Growing in Christ involves far more than just attending church, tithing, and listening to a sermon. In fact, many believers do these yet remain stagnant in their walk. There are two elements necessary for us to become more like Jesus: instruction and involvement.

The first of these, learning truth, is vital to a healthy walk with God. Our Savior proved the importance of instruction by devoting much of His time on earth to it. The apostle Paul is another example, as he wrote letters to educate Christians about godliness.

So how can we gain knowledge and understanding? One of the most important and effective ways is to read the Word of God. Scripture instructs us that just as newborns crave milk, we are to desire His Word so that we might grow. I pray your spiritual thirst will become insatiable.

Yet simply listening to the truth does not mean that we've acquired it. I know many people who love attending Bible studies and expanding their knowledge base, but their lives remain unchanged. Just as today's passage teaches, we have to apply the Word to our lives. Even so, actual growth requires more than merely inputting information. It requires action. [James 2:26](#) states, "For just as the body without the spirit is dead, so also faith without works is dead."

Are we careless hearers, deceived into thinking that we're growing? Or are we listening intently and abiding in the truth? If we're truly maturing, our lives will be increasingly Christlike, and our desires will align more closely with God's heart. Make sure that you are listening and responding to His truth.



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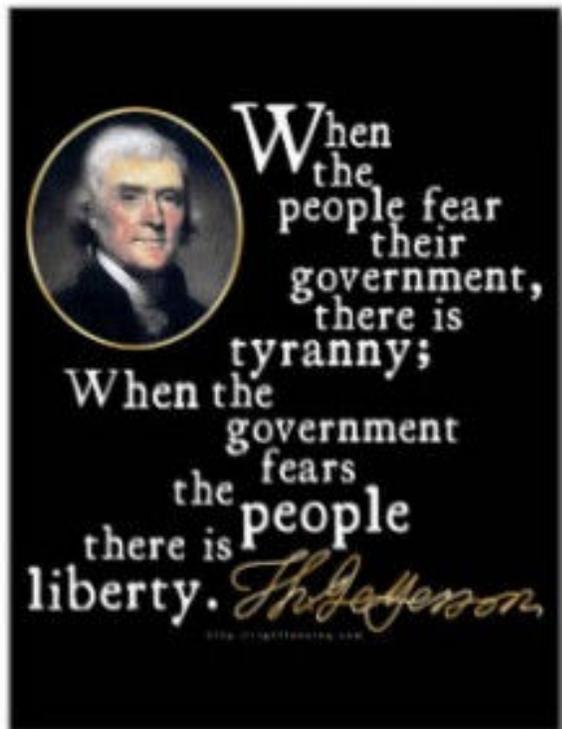


MONTHLY SCHEDULE

- July 6 Elder Board—8 pm
- July 7 Management Finance—8 pm
- July 8 Music Committee meeting—3 pm
- July 12 Business meeting—11 am
- July 12 Christian Ed meeting

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

- Sunday **Worship Service**
9:45 am
No Sunday School
- Monday **Ladies Bible Study**
6:30 pm (Revelation)



Special Business Meeting Sunday, July 12 about 11:00 a.m.

With people expressing a desire to move forward in seeking a Worship / Youth Pastor a Special meeting has been called to vote on proceeding with a search for this position. Details of the job description and a pay package will be presented for consideration as we take another step in consideration of this for FBC.