



49th Homecoming ❖ November 12, 2017

Ferguson Avenue Baptist Church

10050 Ferguson Avenue ❖ Savannah, Georgia 31406

Where Christ Is Exalted and the Fellowship Is Exciting

Bob Dimmitt
Pastor
912-398-4363
bob@fabchurch.com

Tim Wade
Assoc. Pastor/
Youth
912-231-7199
tim@fabchurch.com

Church Phone:
912-355-0949
Church Fax:
912-355-4869
www.fabchurch.com

If you have any questions concerning the message from today, or are interested in obtaining information about church membership, please see the Pastor after the service, drop a note in the offering plate indicating your desire to talk with the Pastor, or call the church office.

Announcements

New Directories

These are available after church, in the gym.

Ministry Opportunity

Pat Beatty is working to finish up the rest of the fleece blankets being made for A Touch of Hope Ministry for the displaced kids in the school system. She will be in the Fellowship Hall on **Thursday, November 16**, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. and on Saturday, **November 18**, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Come join her! If you have any questions, please call Pat at 596-6922. She is so thankful for the help she has received thus far!

Deacons' Meeting

Tuesday, **November 14**, 7:00 p.m.

Continued on p. 5

This Week at FABC

Today

Coffee Fellowship 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday

Dinner: Barbecue 5:45 p.m.
Youth and Awana 6:30 p.m.
Prayer & Bible Study 7:00 p.m.



Welcome to Our 49th Annual Homecoming!



Sunday, November 12, 2017

Coffee Fellowship
9:45 a.m.

Morning Worship
10:30 a.m.

Special Speaker:
Tony Gould

Dinner together afterwards

**No Sunday School
No Evening Worship**

This is always a blessed time to get together and catch up.

Thanks for coming!

FABC Deacons

Shawn Champion	433-0098
Bobby Deloach (CH)	667-8867
Mickey Fell	920-4557
Ron Fowler	901-409-8628
Jimmy Kicklighter	355-5616
Jack Moore	547-5000
Billy Morris, Sr.	398-1038
Joe Morris	398-0125
Steve Posner	704-5617
Kelly Stanford	441-2151
Michael Walker	655-2497
Ric Zittrouer	210-0344

49th Homecoming ❖ November 12, 2017

10:30 a.m.

Notes

Welcome and Announcements

* Opening Chorus & Greeting

“Thou Art Worthy”

Words are on the back of the bulletin

International Day of Prayer

For the Persecuted Church

Aaron Waite

* Hymn, bulletin p. 4

“The Suffering Song”

Scripture Reading

Acts 5:29-42

Justin Pinckney

Special Music

“More Like My Jesus”

Receiving of Tithes And

Offerings

* Hymn #496

“Victory in Jesus”

Special Music

“Wonderful Grace of Jesus”

Message

Tony Gould

* Hymn, below, to right

“Doxology”

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings
flow.

Praise Him, all creatures here below.

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host,

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Amen

* All those who are able, please stand.

Continued from p. 1

Wednesday on Tuesday!

The week of Thanksgiving, Prayer Meeting and Bible Study are moved to Tuesday, November 21. There is no meal, and there is no Awana. The buses will not run.

Office Closed

The church office is closed Thursday, **November 23**, and Friday, **November 24**, for Thanksgiving.

Young Adult Bible Study

Thursday, **November 30**, 7:00 p.m., at the Sheffields'.

Sacred Harp Singing

The Savannah Sacred Harp Singers will meet on Saturday, **December 9**, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. Talk to Dawn Stanford if you have any questions.

Church Wide Christmas Banquet

Our annual Christmas Banquet is Wednesday, **December 13**. Sign up in the hall!

Weekly Catechism Question

Question #26:

How did Christ, being the Son of God, become man?

Answer:

Christ, the Son of God became man by taking to himself a true body and a reasonable soul. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit in the womb of the Virgin Mary, and was born of her, yet without sin.

Scripture:

Hebrews 2:14; 4:14; 7:26;
Matthew 26:38; Luke 2:52;
John 1:14; 12:27; Luke 1:31, 35; 2:52;
Colossians 2:9.

Comment: I am typing this on a Personal Computer. I have virtually no idea how it works. That it works I am certain: I have typed hundreds of sermons on it. So it is with the "incarnation"—the "how" is (as the old theologians used to say) "ineffable". We believe it because the Scriptures teach it and because it "works" to make sense out of God's whole redemptive plan.

Ferguson's Family Fun Fall Festival

Saturday

Nov 18, 3-5pm

No charge, in our church parking lot

**Toddlers - 6th graders will have inflatables & games
Cake walk, face painting, Bible land (aka Trunk or Treat)**

Popcorn, Cotton Candy, Snow cones for all

Please help us get the word out - and bring some kids!

Music

The Suffering Song

Tune: Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken

1. Father, lead our meditation
as we worship at Your throne,
and we think of Jesus' courage
in His sufferings all alone.
He could well have chosen affluence
and a life of royal ease,
for He was Your royal offspring—
could have anything He pleased.
2. But He chose a humble stable
to be born on this His earth;
and He chose to spend His labours
serving folk of lowly birth.
We admire His deep commitment
to obey You unto death,
drinking all the cup You gave Him,
suffering till His final breath.
3. How we praise You for the vict'ry
and the glory He was given
in that mighty resurrection
and ascension into heaven!
Through His suffering came the glory
—could not come another way—
for the dark, dark night must come be-
fore the glorious dawn of day.
4. Father, give us Jesus' courage
which His own apostles knew
after Jesus' Holy Spirit
filled their lives with courage too.
So, rejoicing, counted worthy,
they endured such suffering;
for there is no other channel
that revival glory brings.
5. Father, please repeat the hist'ry
of Your Church in other lands,
where the blessing has come painf'ly
as Your sovereign will has planned.
May we too endure the suffering,
sacrificing our desires,
ready too to enter glory
through the persecution fires.

Words: Hugh G Wetmore (c) 1993
based on 1 Peter 1:11 and Romans 8:17
Metre: 87867D Tune: Austria.

Question: Everyone—the religious person, atheist, scientist, skeptic—believes his/her beliefs are true. It is odd though that some are faulted for thinking their views are correct, they're labeled intolerant or bigoted. But what is the alternative? The person objecting thinks his own views correct as well, which is why he's objecting. Both parties think they are right & the other wrong. Why then is only the religious person (usually) branded a bigot for doing so?

Through the disciplined lifestyle of prayer, Jesus admitted the weakness of his—and thus our—humanity. If the Son of God needed to pray, how much more do we need to wait upon God.

Dr. Paul Tautges

Articles

5 Earth-Shattering Events Linked to the Bible

A new book called “99 Earth-Shattering Events Linked to the Bible” (which is part of a larger series of books being released this fall as part of the opening of the Museum of the Bible in Washington D.C.) is about the Bible’s influence on key historical events, and it’s fascinating!

The authors show how the Bible played a core role in scientific discoveries, ancient voyages, the founding of universities, and more. Here are five:

1. The Puritans found Harvard. On September 8, 1636, Puritans founded the first institution of higher learning in the American colonies, Harvard University. The purpose was to train pastors to serve their newly founded churches. According to the founders, “One of the next things we longed for and looked after was to advance learning and perpetuate it to posterity; dreading to leave an illiterate ministry to the churches, when our present ministers shall lie in the dust.”
2. A Christian monk helps abolish gladiatorial games. In the 5th century A.D., a Christian monk named Telemachus traveled to Rome and attended the gladiatorial games. He was horrified and deeply disturbed at the bloodshed and lack of value for human life, contradicting the biblical command not to murder. He rushed into the arena, appealing for the games to stop, but in an uproar at the disturbance, the crowd stoned him to death. Because of his bold stance, the Roman emperor Honorius abolished the games three days later.
3. The Magna Carta inspires universal human rights. In the early 1200s, King John signed the Magna Carta in England, which declared for the first time that kings would be subject to the law, and not above it. Although it was not initially successfully, “...it was revised in later years and eventually set a standard, based on the Bible, that laid the foundation for the English system of common law. Today, our modern democratic society continues to reap the benefits.”
4. Copernicus reveals order in the universe. Copernicus was convinced the natural world designed by a creator. He said, “The universe has been wrought for us by a supremely good and orderly Creator.” With the release of his book *On the Revolutions*, Copernicus challenged the belief that sun revolves around the earth. He did this not to undermine the church or the university, but to proclaim the truth he had discovered through his scientific work. Copernicus is considered by many to be the founder of modern astronomy.
5. Johann Sebastian Bach composes breathtaking music. Bach is one of the most influential composers in world history. His *St. Matthew Passion* is considered one of the greatest achievements of western civilization. Bach was both dedicated and inspired by the Bible. In the margins of his Bible, next to 1 Chronicles 25, he wrote, “This chapter is the true foundation of all God-pleasing music.”

These five are only a smidgeon of the influence the Bible has had on world history. It also shaped the development of the Red Cross, motivated the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation, inspired the civil rights movement, and much more.

These examples don't show that the Bible is true, of course. But they do show that the book has shaped more lives and cultures than any book in world history. If you haven't read the Bible, don't you think it's time to personally see why this book has been so influential?

And not only have you read it, but have you considered the evidence that the Bible is actually true? The impact of the Bible is surprising to people who are not aware of its impact. Similarly, if you are not familiar with the evidence, I think you will be pleasantly surprised as well.

The Ideological Roots of the Present Political Upheaval

P. Andrew Sandlin

Over the last 300 years, three chief political ideologies have dominated Western societies. While they can coexist and have coexisted, they do not coexist peacefully, and each seeks dominance.

First, there is old-line, caste conservatism, including (sometimes) racial slavery. This version of conservatism is often, though not always, associated with monarchies: British, Spanish and French, for example. In the modern world, there are few old-line monarchies, but the ideology persists in strongmen political leaders; annoyance at negotiated politics; and tribal, identitarian social cohesiveness (for example, White Supremacy). It's an attractive ideology to people weary (and wary) of rampant cosmopolitanism and the gradual erasure of national borders. It is a slander to consider most of these people racists, but they are much more committed to and interested in people who look and act like them than people who don't.

Second, and more recently, radically individualistic progressivism, epitomized by Robespierre and Marx. This ideology is committed to social revolution and always (no exceptions) led by a politicized elite. It likes to play one economic class or one race or one sex off against another in order to create antagonism leading to perpetual social revolution. This assures that the elite will always be there to solve the social problem that they helped instigate. This view is rampant in the highest reaches of most Western universities, national governments, think tanks and, increasingly, big business. Unlike the other two ideologies, it tends almost always to be accompanied by an air of moral superiority: "You are venal and self-centered, but we are selfless and disinterested and know best how to run modern society."

Finally, there's the classical liberalism of many 16th-18th century Englishmen and the American founding. It began principally in England with Magna Carta and later flourished with Oliver Cromwell and the jurisdictional battles between parliament and the monarchy. It came to the fore at the founding of the United States. It was also heavily shaped by Protestantism, which stressed individual liberty within

the rule of law. It strongly supports property rights, free-market economics, not only because this arrangement most fully eradicates poverty, but also because it protects human liberty and is a great check on political power. Classical liberalism has a distinct universalist streak. It is interested in God-given rights (like life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness) and responsibilities to everybody, not just people in our country or people who look and act like we do.

Classical liberalism sets itself apart from both the top-down political authority of caste conservatism as well as the radical egalitarianism championed by a politicized elite. It stresses trust in the triune God and, secondarily, in the character of the population to preserve liberty and, more formally, in constitutions and bills of rights and separation of powers.

The preeminent weaknesses of classical liberalism are **(1)** that it depends on self-government, the character of the population, which is not naturally self-perpetuating, and **(2)** that it is vulnerable in the face of passionate, rousing, high-sounding appeals to social unity based on blood and soil (caste conservatism) as well as urges to radical social change (individualistic progressivism). Classical liberalism is a calm, reasoned ideology. When the other ideologies get the populace in a lather, the classical liberals are at a distinct disadvantage.

Unfortunately, the first two ideologies are working overtime to lather up our nation at this moment.

This is the main underlying source of the present social upheaval.

15 Theses Against The Prosperity Church

“Thus be confident of entering into heaven through many tribulations rather than through the false security of peace.” - Written by Samuel Sey

500 years ago today, Martin Luther hammered the Catholic Church when he nailed The 95 Theses to the door of the Castle Church in Germany—igniting the Reformation. The 95 Theses was Martin Luther’s pastoral reaction to the Catholic Church’s indulgence preachers, who sold certificates promising buyers or their loved ones reduced suffering in purgatory. In other words, they were the prosperity preachers of that time.

In The 95 Theses, Martin Luther said, “[*the indulgence preachers*] preach only human doctrines who say that as soon as the money clinks into the money chest, the soul flies out of purgatory.” Doesn’t that sound familiar?

I read The 95 Theses for the first time several years ago when I was beginning to challenge some of the doctrines of my church at that time. Luther’s challenges to the Catholic Church helped me embrace my own opposition to my church selling the gospel. Luther’s courageous words about the Pope gave me courage to disagree with my pastor. Most of all, The 95 Theses helped me grasp that the prosperity gospel is a deviation from the Protestant Reformation.

So in honor of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, I have written 15 Theses Against The Prosperity Church:

1. Indulgence preachers promised that financial gifts to their ministries would save

people from suffering in death. In the same way, prosperity preachers promise that financial gifts to their ministries will save people from suffering in life. Neither are true. God is not cheap; we cannot buy his favor. We cannot afford it. We are redeemed by the precious blood of Christ, not money.

2. When prosperity preachers like Joel Osteen, Steven Furtick, T.D. Jakes, Joyce Meyer, Benny Hinn, and the aptly named, Creflo Dollar, teach that they can eliminate our suffering in this world, they echo their master's words to Jesus, when the devil tempted Jesus by promising to eliminate his sufferings. (Luke 4:1-13)

3. Just as it was necessary for Christ to suffer for us, it's necessary for us to suffer for him. The apostle Paul said, "*For it has been granted to you that for the sake of Christ you should not only believe in him but also suffer for his sake.*" (Philippians 1:29)

4. This suffering includes temptation, persecution, and maybe poverty and sickness. Some of the godliest people in the world are either very poor or very sick, or both.

5. Financial gifts to the devil's favorite preachers cannot remove poverty or sickness from us. Financial gifts to prosperity preachers cannot replace prayer. God might remove poverty and sickness from us through prayer. However, our offerings are meant to bless others, not ourselves. It's designed to advance the good news, especially through our local church. Our offerings are not investments.

6. Prosperity preachers are like the false preachers whom the apostle Paul described as "*depraved in mind and deprived of the truth, imagining that godliness is a means of gain.*" (1 Timothy 6:5)

7. They make themselves rich by preying on the poor. Prosperity preachers are everywhere in the world, but they are most popular in Africa, Asia, and South America, where they manipulate poor and sick people into buying wealth and healing with their last coins. They never deliver on their promise, nor can they. The money they receive fund their mansions, private airplanes, and expensive suits. They are not preachers of the gospel, they are religious pyramid schemers.

8. The prosperity gospel is just another name for covetousness. It's religious greed. It differs from the gospel of Jesus Christ. It teaches that you can serve two masters. It teaches that you can serve both God and money. The prosperity gospel therefore promotes sin and deceives people into hell. Covetous people will be condemned to hell. (Ephesians 5:5-6)

9. God does not promise to heal us from all our diseases. If God has promised healing for all believers, why do we die?

10. Sometimes God heals us, sometimes he doesn't. Always, however, his grace is sufficient for us. 2 Corinthians 12:7-10

11. The prosperity gospel suggests that people are at fault for their diseases. It blames people's lack of faith for why they are not experiencing healing.
12. Prosperity preachers are today's version of Job's friends. They further afflict the afflicted. But their eternal affliction awaits them.
13. Faith should not be confused with self-centered, religious wishes. Faith is defined by our trust in the promises of God, in health or sickness, in wealth or in poverty.
14. Our sufferings in this world conform us into the image of Christ. They remind us that our citizenship and wealth and health is in heaven. They produce our eager anticipation of the second coming of Jesus Christ.
15. Therefore, we should remember the last words of Luther's 95 Theses: "*thus be confident of entering into heaven through many tribulations rather than through the false security of peace.*" (Acts 14:22)

Perspective: The fact that God ordained our days for us give meaning to every day, not just the special or exciting days of our lives. Every day is important for us because it is a day ordained by God. If we are bored with life there is something wrong with our concept of God and His involvement in our daily lives. Even the most dull and tedious days of our lives are ordained by God and ought to be used by us to glorify Him.

This realization, that God has planned our days for us, should not lead us to a fatalistic acceptance of the status quo. If we have opportunity to improve our situation in a way that will honor God, we should do so. There is a delicate balance between godly efforts to improve our situation and godly acceptance of those situations that cannot be changed by us. For most there are many adverse details of our lives that will not be changed regardless of our efforts or our prayers. They are simply part of God's plan for us. Take comfort in Jeremiah 29:11, "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

J.I Packer/Jerry Bridges (edited)

The Bible teaches that, in a general sense, **all suffering is rooted in cosmic rebellion against a God who tried to tell us what to do.** Due to this rebellion the good and perfect world God created descended in a downward spiral. **Because we all, not only corporately but also individually, are part of this rebellion, we approach the question of God and His role in human suffering with the notion that we are undeserving of this evil world.**

Yet the Bible sees things in view of the cosmic rebellion and insists that God graciously gives good things to the world despite our evil. From this perspective perhaps it would be more appropriate to speak of the "problem of good": in view of all our individual and corporate evil, how is it that God, in His love, gives us so many of the good things we enjoy in this world?

Missionary of the Week

Bill & Pam Maxey
Seamen for Christ - Savannah



Bill and Pam Maxey are missionaries to the many sailors who come through the ports in Savannah. Bill has distributed Bibles and literature to the men in their native language as well as had an opportunity to share the gospel with a great number of people. Please pray that the Lord will use Bill and the distribution of the New Testament to bring many men to Christ through the conviction of His Word.

From one of their prayer letters, “We want to thank the Lord for His faithful provision for this ministry to the seamen in the Port of Savannah for thirty-four years. God’s Word has been sown around the world and we know that it will always accomplish all that He desires for it to. May He be glorified with a large harvest of souls.”

If you would like to contact Bill, you can email him at: sfcmainsav@msn.com.

Please pray for:

1. Safety in the ports.
2. Plenty of literature to be available for the different languages these sailors speak.
3. Fruit from the Bible studies and the friendship ministries.
4. Safety as sailors are transported throughout the city, being helped with errands and whatnot.
5. The witness of sailors on board who are Christians. Pray they would be encouraged by Bill and Pam to be good ambassadors for Christ to their crew-mates.

Many question the justice of an eternal sentence meted out for the sins committed in a single lifetime. Surely the sins of 70 years doesn’t deserve punishment that goes on forever. But the theological reason is that sin is not punished according to its breadth but its depth. It is not what sins you commit or how many you commit or for how long you commit them, but against whom you commit them. A single sin against an infinitely holy God earns an infinite punishment.

Source unknown

Sunday School Classes & Descriptions

3rd Grade to Adult

“Church Membership Conference”
Sanctuary: Various Teachers

Young Children

Babies - Room 3: Kay Stanford & Sandra Bridges

1s & 2s - Room 24: Michael & Ruth Kleinpeter/Danny & Kamee Roberson

3s & 4s - Room 25: Emily Wise, Susan Su, Donna Martin

Kindergarten, 1st & 2nd Grade - Room 200: Jimmy & Angie Creech

Save the Date Reminder!



Our Women of Light Retreat at Epworth by the Sea is scheduled for Friday and Saturday, January 26 & 27, 2018. Linda Brucato is our speaker. Make a note of it!

Self-pity is the response of pride to suffering. Self-pity does not look like pride because it appears so needy. However, the desire of those who pity themselves is not for others to see them as helpless, but as heroes. The need self-pity feels does not come from a sense of unworthiness, but from a sense of unrecognized worthiness. This is called the response of unapplauded pride.

John Piper (edited)

Bible Reading Schedule

November 2017

	1	Proverbs 8 & Ps. 31-32
	2	Proverbs 9 & Ps. 33-35
	3	Proverbs 10 & Ps. 36-37
	4	Proverbs 11 & Ps. 38-40
	5	Proverbs 12 & Ps. 41-44
	6	Proverbs 13 & Ps. 45-48
	7	Proverbs 14 & Ps. 49-50
	8	Proverbs 15 & Ps. 51-54
	9	Proverbs 16 & Ps. 55-57
	10	Proverbs 17 & Ps. 58-61
	11	Proverbs 18 & Ps. 62-66
	12	Proverbs 19 & Ps. 67-68
	13	Proverbs 20 & Ps. 69-70
	14	Proverbs 21 & Ps. 71-72
	15	Proverbs 22 & Ps. 73-74
	16	Proverbs 23 & Ps. 75-77
	17	Proverbs 24 & Ps. 78
	18	Proverbs 25 & Ps. 79-81
	19	Proverbs 26 & Ps. 82-85
	20	Proverbs 27 & Ps. 86-88
	21	Proverbs 28 & Ps. 89
	22	Proverbs 29 & Ps. 90-92
	23	Proverbs 30 & Ps. 93-96
	24	Proverbs 31 & Ps. 97-101
	25	Psalms 102-104
	26	Psalms 105-106
	27	Psalms 107-109
	28	Psalms 110-116
	29	Psalms 117-119:56
	30	Psalms 119:57-176

Thou Art Worthy

Thou art worthy, Thou art worthy,
Thou art worthy, O Lord—
To receive glory, glory and honor,
Glory and honor and pow'r.
For Thou hast created,
Hast all things created,
For Thou hast created all things,
And for Thy pleasure they are
created,
Thou art worthy O Lord.

If you take away God and the Bible the best one can hope for is expressed by neuroscientist V.S Ramachandran: "...it never ceases to amaze me that all the richness of our mental life—all our feelings, our emotions, our thoughts, our ambitions, our love lives, our religious sentiments and even what each of us regards as his or her own intimate private self-is simply the activity of these little specks of jelly in our heads, in our brains. There is nothing else." Believing and thinking like this will put one in the deepest, darkest pit in which there is no escape and no hope-this is true emptiness, I thank God I have been spared this view of life.

Bob Dimmitt

Video and audio recordings of the messages are available for listening or downloading from
www.fabchurch.com/sermons

For Hearing Impaired

If you have difficulties hearing, we have listening aid devices available. Ask any of the ushers, or the technician in the sound booth, if you are in need of one of these devices.

Nursery November 12

10:30 A.M.

Babies:

Donna Martin, Kirsten Jones

Toddlers - 4 year olds:

Karrie & Lindsey Walker/

Steve & Linnea Posner

6:00 P.M.

No Evening Service

Nursery November 19

10:30 A.M.

Babies:

Mary Fowler, Kay Stanford

Toddlers - 4 year olds:

Jimmy & Tammy Kicklighter/

Mike & Elinor Morris

6:00 P.M.

Janice Donaldson, Ceci Sheffield/
Sharon Boanen, Kathlyne Creech

Ushers November 12

10:30 A.M.

Jimmy Kicklighter, Bucky Lanier,

Jack Moore, Mike Morris

6:00 P.M.

No Evening Service

Ushers November 19

10:30 A.M.

Danny Roberson, John Sumner,

Michael Walker, Billy Waters

6:00 P.M.

John Sumner, Jimmy Donaldson

Sunday Greeters - November 12

Jeanie Groover, Janice Donaldson

November Lock-Up Deacons

Mickey Fell, Ron Fowler