

Shell Point

BAPTIST CHURCH

sharing Jesus, one person at a time!

February 2021

Fallow or Fruitful?



*Sow with a view to righteousness,
Reap in accordance with kindness;
Break up your fallow ground,
For it is time to seek the LORD
Until He comes to rain righteousness on you.
~ Hosea 10:12 ~*

Greetings Shell Point Baptist Church,

During this great pandemic that has left so many in isolation, people have reported to me one of two spiritual realities: either they have grown greatly in their walk and relationship with the Lord, or they have become idle and fruitless. To be sure, some, who had begun the painful work of spiritual plowing in their lives, neglected to labor and sow righteousness within themselves so that when the growing season came, there was nothing but dry and fallow ground to offer.

Still others, were so content with the fruit of the past that they smugly sat back and basked at their slow-rotting fruit thinking it would hold them over for a season or two, only to be disappointed come harvest time. Then there are those who bear fruit and are seeing a great harvest in their lives – despite the trials associated with the Coronavirus pandemic.

God's word tells us to, "*Seek the Lord while He may be found; call upon Him while He is near*" (Isa. 55:6). When we seek the Lord through prayer and fasting, Bible meditation, Christian fellowship, service to God's people, etc.... we find that we are breaking up that fallow ground and sowing with a view to righteousness. We plant seeds with a view to righteousness every time we seek to grow closer to the Lord in faith and obedience. When this happens, we are sure to reap in accordance with God's "*kindness*" (Hos. 10:12).

In Hosea 10:12, the prophet uses the Hebrew word *hesed*. This word is the Old Testament equivalent of the New Testament idea of "grace!" It is often translated as "loyalty" or "lovingkindness." Thus, when we sow seeds of righteousness, we can be assured to reap in accordance with God's amazing grace! Don't ever give up on sowing those seeds of righteousness, because God has promised to rain righteousness upon those who do, and they can be sure to harvest all the fruit they could ever hope for. If you find your ground to be fallow today, then get to work with the plow of God's word! Offer your entire "field" to the Lord to do with it as He pleases! He is a God who overflows with an abundance of lovingkindness!

In His Infallible and Inerrant Word,

Pastor Darren A. Jones

WMU Newsletter

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

I hope this finds everyone well. Here we are in the month of love, February, Valentine's Day. This year's Valentine's Day is a little different than last year. The COVID seems to keep moving and stopping most of us from enjoying some of the most basic enjoyments we may have. One, I can think of is seeing all of your smiling faces at church. I miss seeing people smile. I miss the hugs and the kiss on the cheek. I do remember one important thing, there is no greater love than the love of God. He gave His only Son to die for me because of His love for me.

Let me ask you a question, how many of you grew up calling your daily Bible reading, "quiet time?" This "quiet time" was a time we took to read the scripture and speak to God. It was a very important time in our day. Many of us still have "quiet time." This time is good for my soul and helps start or finish my day similar to how taking a bath or brushing my teeth benefits my health. There are days when I devoured the Word like a hungry lion eating its prey and then there are other days where I receive my portion. I like to ponder Scripture, read it and then just think about it. I want the Word of God to seep into my heart and become a part of me. Often, people just study scripture reading it academically, but it never finds its way into their heart. I see the Bible as a love letter to me, from Genesis to Revelation He discloses His love for me and you. The way we view God's Word is important because it affects how we know Him and how we grow to be more like Him. If you are currently having quiet time continue to grow in His Word and if you are not maybe start one verse at a time, one prayer at a time. His love is so great and he is just waiting for you to read of His love for you.

The Annie Armstrong Easter Mission Offering starts next month. Our church goal is \$800.00. March's WMU Newsletter article will be on this special offering. Also upcoming in May, 2021 a Women's Retreat, the retreat is called M and M, with two guest speakers named Mary. We might even throw in some M&M candies just to go along with the sweet testimonies of these two special women. Please be watching for more information on this event.

Please my family, keep praying for God to heal our people and our country. He is in total control; His will be done. In Christ's love Jenny Durham



February 7—14, 2021



Without Your Touch

Without Your Touch who could feel the blowing winds of change, or ride the tides of higher waves to heights no words can explain.

Demanding an answer is not the answer that will stem a desert drought. Rest under the fountain of His grace and learn who He's all about.

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Anthony C. Settles —

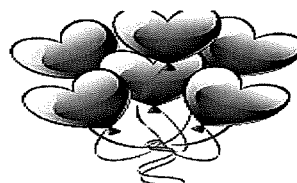


02/02	Peggy Saunders
02/03	Alice Reaves
03/08	Setsuko Waldhauer
02/16	Pam Baker
02/21	Eunice Wynn
02/22	Jackie Pender
02/24	Sandy Cooler

UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday, Feb. 2 . . . Church Council/Deacons Meeting
Monday, Feb. 15 . . . Church Office Closed (holiday)

The Southern Baptist Convention is Tuesday and Wednesday, June 15 and June 16. Our church needs volunteers to go as our messengers. If you would like to attend, please let Pastor Darren know so he can make reservations.



Happy Valentine's Day
Sunday, February 14