

Pastor's Lines

Dear Church Family,

This is an excerpt of a blog from Christianity Today by Nicole Cliffe entitled, "How God Messed Up My Happy Atheist Life". As an atheist since college, I had already mellowed a bit over the previous two or three years, in the course of running a popular feminist website that publishes thoughtful pieces about religion....

There are two different starting points to my conversion, and sometimes I omit the first one, because I think it gives people an answer I don't want them to have. It is a simple story: I was going through a hard time. I was worried about my child. One time I said "Be with me" to an empty room. It was embarrassing. I didn't know why I said it, or to whom. I brushed it off, I moved on, the situation resolved itself, I didn't think about it again. I know how people hear that story: *Oh, of course, Nicole was struggling and needed a larger framework for her life!* That's part of the truth, but it's not the whole truth....

The second starting point is usually what I lead with. I was surfing the Internet and came across [John Ortberg's CT obituary for philosopher Dallas Willard](#). John's daughters are dear friends, and I have always had a wonderful relationship with their parents, who struck me as sweetly deluded in their evangelical faith, so I clicked on the article.

Somebody once asked Dallas if he believed in total depravity. "I believe in sufficient depravity," he responded immediately. What's that? "I believe that every human being is sufficiently depraved that when we get to heaven, no one will be able to say, 'I merited this.'"

A few minutes into reading the piece, I burst into tears. Later that day, I burst into tears again. And the next day. While brushing my teeth, while falling asleep, while in the shower, while feeding my kids, I would burst into tears.

At this point, I reached a crossroads. I sat myself down and said: *Okay, Nicole, you have two choices. Option One: you can stop reading books about Jesus. Option Two: you could think with greater intention about why you are overwhelmed by your emotions.* It occurred to me that if Option Two proved fruitless, I could always return to Option One. So I emailed a friend who is a Christian, and I asked if we could talk about Jesus.

Now we reach the part of the story that gets a bit hand-wavy. About an hour before our call, I knew: I believed in God. Worse, I was a Christian. It was the opposite of being punk rock.

I instantly regretted sending that email and if humanly possible would have clawed it back through the Internet. Technology having failed me, my message reached its recipient. She said she would be very happy to talk to me about Jesus. You probably already know this, but Christians love talking about Jesus. I have been asked if deciding to become a Christian ended my exciting new crying-multiple-times-a-day hobby. The truth is that I continue to cry a lot more than I did before either Be-With-Me-Gate or the Dallas Willard Incident. I am more undone by love, or kindness, or friendship than I would have thought possible. In short, I "Got Faith"

I hope you "Get Faith" always, and especially today. Thank you kids for sharing your faith, Blessings, Dr. j

Church News

BE THE CHURCH ACTS 2:42-47 Summer Sunday Nights

- June 4** Potluck directly after morning church service
- June 11** Prayer Walk
- June 18** VBS Work Day
- June 25** D-Now, John David to lead worship
Breakaway DT Groups
- July 2** Celebrate 4th of July - Backyard BBQ, Waterslide
- July 9** Worship in I-10- Park
- July 16** off
- July 23** Game Night Fellowship
- July 30** Worship Southside of town

FOOD DISTRIBUTION MINISTRY

Food Distribution will resume on **Monday, May 22 from 3-5pm**. Individuals whose last name falls between (Q-Z) will be served. If you are interested in being involved, you are welcome to participate. Thank you for your prayers and service.

Congratulations to our College Graduates of 2017



Cristina Klumpp
Daughter of Mike & Lynn Klumpp
Graduated from
University of Louisiana at Lafayette
in Business Management

Peyton Phelps
Son of Rusty & Martha Phelps
Graduated from
McNeese State University
in Sports Management

Church News



Our nursery is growing and is in need of additional volunteers on Sunday morning during the worship service. A total of 26 volunteers is the goal. If we have that many each volunteer would only be scheduled for two Sundays a year. Please contact Nancy Walters in the church office if you can fulfill this need.



The nursery is looking for an additional worker. If you would be interested in the position or would like more information please contact Nancy Walters in the church office.



VBS Meeting today, Sunday, May 21st at 3:30pm in the Family Life Center.

Adult Helpers and Youth Helpers needed in most classes.

Old CD's are also needed. You can bring these to the church office or give to Ruth Cardoza.

the Deadline is... Any articles or postings for the Sunday Bulletin need to be in the office by Wednesday.

Articles for the Newsletter need to be in the office by the 20th of each month.

Church News

Student Ministry students.fbcjennings.com

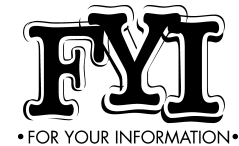
There will be no youth Wednesday, May 24. We will kick off our summer schedule Wednesday, May 31, 530-7:30.

Summer Events:

- Car wash - June 3
- Mission Camp - June 12-16
- VBS - June 19-23
- Bowling- June 27

Children's Calendar

July 31-August 2 - Tall Timbers Camp for 2nd - 6th graders



The GA's, RA's, CA's, and Mission Friends will have their last meeting on Wednesday, May 24th. Watch your bulletin and newsletter for information on when they will resume.

Window/Door Offering

March 19 - April 30	\$20,900 received
May 7	\$ 5,000
May 14	\$ 2,058

Total \$27,958 Received

Offerings and pledges will continue to be received throughout the construction period.

Sunday, May 21 - Saturday, May 27

Sunday, May 21:

9:15 a.m. Sunday School
 10:30 a.m. Morning Worship
 3:30 p.m. VBS Meeting
 5:00 p.m. Evening Worship
 5:00 p.m. Kidz Konnection

Monday, May 22:

4:30 a.m. FLC Open Exercise/Walking
 3-5 p.m. Food Distribution (Q-Z)
 6:00 p.m. First Place 4 Health

Tuesday, May 23

4:30 a.m. FLC Open Exercise/Walking

Wednesday, May 24:

4:30 a.m. FLC Open Exercise/Walking
 6:00 p.m. Refuge
 6:00 p.m. Midweek Prayer Service
 6:00 p.m. GA's, RA's, CA's and Mission Friends
 6:00 p.m. Choir Practice

Thursday, May 25:

4:30 a.m. FLC Open Exercise/Walking

Friday, May 26:

4:30 a.m. FLC Open Exercise/Walking

Saturday, May 27:



Welcome to the worship services of First Baptist Church

Sunday, May 21, 2017

Now faith is the substance of things hoped for...
 Hebrews 11:1

Morning Worship

"I'll Fly Away"

Welcome

"Sing to the King"

"Lord I Need You"

Scripture & Offering

Kids Konnection - *"Game Changers"*

Sermon Dr. Jeff Cook

Invitation

"Only Trust Him"

Sermon Notes

You Get Faith Hebrews 11:1-3

1. You get faith by...
 - a. Test and
 - b. Trial
2. You get faith by trying...
3. You get faith by testimony...
 - a. Of others in your life
 - b. And by the word of God
4. Ultimately, you get faith...
 - a. Bungee jumping
 - b. Driving your car
 - c. Trusting Jesus

Evening Activities

Evening Worship - 5pm

Kidz Konnection - 5pm

Dr. Jeff Cook Pastor	Brian Wells Minister of Education & Sr. Adults	Sean Bean Minister of Music
Derrick Laughlin Youth Leader	Eric Sonnier CC Leader	

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Nursery workers for extended session:



May 21 Tina Goebel
 May 28 Martha Phelps

CHURCH FINANCES

Monthly Budget Requirements: \$39,993.17
 May 2017 Receipts to Date: \$24,445.65