



God Centered Growth

First Baptist Church of Norton

June 12, 2018
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From the Pastor's Heart

I have been thinking about my mom a lot lately. I was watching this show on TV and in this show there is a young man and he is a star athlete who just discovered his desire to be in drama. His mother just so happens has ALS. She's bedridden and he is the only one that goes to see her. He develops a plan for her to come to his opening night. They get her there and toward the end of the play he has a sad scene. During this scene he makes eye contact with his mother and he loses it, he makes himself so vulnerable and weak. That moment wasn't about the play but about the love the two shared for each other.

I must admit, this scene made me cry. I remember the last time I looked in my mother's eyes, I remember how she used to look at me when she would drop me off for school. When I was in Pre-K at a place called Denbigh Christian Academy my mom was the one who dropped me off for the first few weeks. I would cry and cry and cry and hang on to her leg, just wishing she wouldn't leave me. She would leave in tears too, her makeup all messed up. It got so bad that my Dad had to start dropping me off. I cried for him too but he didn't tolerate as much as mom did.

I tell you all of this, yes, as some sort of therapy to talk about my mom, but also to tell you, that same desire I had for my mom, is the same desire we should have for God. The difference is, he doesn't leave. We can cry and hold on to him as tight as we want and he will never leave us.

Deuteronomy 31:6 "Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you."

Do you realize that being strong and courageous doesn't mean to hide your fear or pain? It's the contrary, we are to be strong and courageous and admit what is inside no matter how bad or how much it hurts. We are to step out for Christ no matter the circumstances. That is being strong, that is being courageous.

What are you carrying around on your shoulders? What are you hiding in your heart? Let it out and cry out for the Holy Spirit. Grab ahold of his leg and don't let it go.

O soul, are you weary and troubled?
No light in the darkness you see?
There's light for a look at the Savior,
And life more abundant and free!

Turn your eyes upon Jesus,
Look full in His wonderful face,
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim,
In the light of His glory and grace.

*Love,
Mark*

Prayer requests for this week:

- Rodger Greear's grandson was in the ER with a temperature of 103.8
- Kathy Osborne's brother-in-law, Bob Hobbs
- Alana Hash's friend, Linda Rogers, was recently hospitalized
- Alana's cousin, Hope Deary, has Lyme's Disease
- Charlie Osborne is recovering from foot surgery

Praises

- Pastor Mark's enthusiasm for VBS
- Kyle & Cheryl Redman's daughter is moving back to the mainland, to Illinois



to our newest member Amy Mullins! Amy comes to FBC Norton by transfer of membership. She has been faithfully attending worship service and Bible study for some time now, and we are so glad to have her.

Thanks very much to Vickie Mullins and Mary Hagy for directing VBS, and to the scores of volunteers who made it happen.

You are appreciated!



Annual
Church Picnic

August 12

Camp Bethel



Kayaking will
be available

Stay tuned for
more details!

**As you pray this week,
please remember the
following.**

David & Jewell Ball
Helen Bass
Charlene Bates
Libby Bowman
Gail Buchanan
Jim Campbell
Jim & Sherry Collie
Linda Cooke
Tim Cox
Rhonda Elliott
Family of Tyler Flanary
Rue Gembach
Wayne Harrison
Emma Harrod
Alana Hash
Mary Haynes
Sue Hobbs
Carol Howard
Rosalind Hunt
Elee Large
Maddie Lewis
Family of Lann Malesky
Jim & Wanda Manicure
Eugene Mullins
Tracy Ott
Donna Owens
Robertta Owens
Wilma Redman
Leah Riley
Margaret Riner
Bea Simmons
Tammy Sturgill
Marilyn Teasley
Joseph Thomas
Beverly Viers
Susan Gillenwater Wells
Brenda Whitaker
Little Ed Withrow
Our country's leaders
First responders, volunteers
Armed Services men and women
Missionaries
Nursing home patients



Please send prayer requests to
lindawellswalker@yahoo.com

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

June 9 ~ David & Jewell Ball
June 12 ~ Bill & Rue Gembach
June 25 ~ Shawn & Amber Burke

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

June 2 - Susie Bradley
June 5 - Brianna Stallard, Mary Jo Stallard
June 7 - Connor Walker
June 9 - Jared Pugh, Tanya Riner
June 10 - Jackie Withrow
June 11 - Diane Cornett
June 14 - Derek Mullins
June 16 - Sharon Hamblin
June 17 - Chris Hamblin
June 20 - Peyton Stallard
June 22 - Mary Hagy
June 27 - Kyle Redman
June 28 - Jewell Ball
June 30 - Barbara Collins, Penny Osborne

First Baptist Church of Norton gives anyone the chance to come together and worship with like-minded congregants as members of a strong, loving community. Whether you're looking for peace of mind, a way to give back, or simply want to be a part of a loving family — First Baptist Church of Norton welcomes you. Join our community, and start your journey to God-centered growth with us!

How to join FBC Norton

- Baptism—You desire to express faith in Christ through baptism.
- Transfer—You wish to transfer membership from another church.
- Statement of Faith—You are a baptized believer and come on statement of faith.
- Watch Care—You would like to be connected to our church family without official membership.

Deacons

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Visit us on the web at
www.fbcnorton.com or
connect with us on
Facebook.

Or better yet, come and visit
us in person!



This newsletter is published every Tuesday morning on the church's web page. Please send news, photos, and announcements to cornettdiane@gmail.com.