

## BACK TO SCHOOL KICK OFF

The youth will have a **BACK TO SCHOOL KICK OFF** this Friday, August 24, with Neal's Creek Baptist. The event starts at 4:30 p.m. in the youth building with inflatable bounce houses and tail gating games followed by dinner, then worship and a guest speaker. Come and bring other students to start the new school year with fun, fellowship and worship!! The evening concludes at 9:00 p.m.



GROUP FITNESS

## GROUP FITNESS FALL SEMESTER

Our group fitness classes will resume on Tuesday, September 3. Classes will take place on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:30 – 6:15 a.m. The workouts consist of a variety of cardio and strength training exercises, and all fitness levels are welcome. If you have a set of light to medium hand weights, please bring them with you. Otherwise, all equipment can be found at the church. There will be a \$20 fee for the semester in order to offset some equipment costs. If you have any questions or need more information, please contact Amy Wurst at 940-4605. We are looking forward to another fun semester!

## BE OUR GUEST

**Nearly two-thirds of Protestant churchgoers say they've invited at least one person to visit their church in the past six months.**

"It's a fairly easy thing for churchgoers to do," said Scott McConnell, executive director of LifeWay Research. "In any six-month stretch, there are major Christian holidays and often other special events that are perfect occasions for churchgoers to invite friends and acquaintances."

During the past six months, how many times did you invite an individual or family to attend a worship service with you at your church? *Among American churchgoers the stats are:*

Zero invitations	29%
1 invitation	17%
2 invitations	21%
3 or more invitations	25%
I do not know	9%

~ Facts & Trends Magazine

## FINANCIAL NEWS

Sunday Receipts (8-18-19)	\$ 6,309.35
Year to Date Requirements	\$ 475,335.96
Year to Date Receipts	\$ 504,189.29

## FEAR

We are sometimes afraid of someone or something, but being afraid of dying adds an extra dimension of anxiety. When we are faced with the fact that we will no longer be with family and friends and going to a place we don't really know, we become fearful. We don't want to go there, especially alone.

I, like many others, have personally experienced the death of a loved one that appeared to die peacefully. I can only conclude that they were not alone when they walked through the veil of the unknown.

The life of Job and Jesus come to mind. Job had God's protective hedge around him. When it was removed, awful things happened to him. Job questioned God about that but he never failed in his trust of God's divine presence. Because of his faith in God he submitted himself to God and repented. God rewarded Job with twice as much as he once had.

Jesus was God incarnate. He came to earth and experienced everything carnal man would experience, and became the way through which mankind could be rewarded. Jesus, like Job, experienced what life would be without God. He cried out on the cross, "Father, why have you forsaken me?" The only difference was that Jesus died and went to hell and took it so mankind would not have to experience the fear of separation from God. He made the way so that mankind could experience God's presence in their life now and for all eternity.

God told Israel, "I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee." Jesus told his disciples, "I will not leave you comfortless; I will come to you." That is why those that believe and trust in God and Jesus his Son will never have to fear being separated from God. We will never be alone, even when we die. The family members we leave behind will not be alone. God will comfort and continue to be there for them. Like Job, our faithfulness to follow Christ will be rewarded with something greater than we had before. What greater reward can we receive than the assurance everything is going to be ok; in this earthly life and in the eternal life.

~ Randy Fagg

## THE WEEK AHEAD

### Sunday, August 25

10:00 a.m.

Sunday School

10:55 a.m.

Worship Service

### Monday, August 26

6:30 p.m.

Men's Bible Study/Youth Building

### Tuesday, August 27

6:00 p.m.

Deacons Meeting

7:00 p.m.

AMC Meeting

### Wednesday, August 28

6:30 p.m.

Youth Bible Study & dinner/Youth Building

### Friday, August 30

3:30 p.m. The Missions Committee hosts "Feed the Bears"/BHP

## TOP 5 REASONS WHY AMERICANS GO TO CHURCH

81%

To become closer to God

69%

So children will have a moral foundation

68%

To make a better person

66%

For comfort in times of trouble/sorrow

59%

The sermons are valuable

~ Facts & Trends Magazine

**AUGUST 25, 2019**

**Worship Service**

**Living in God's Amazing Grace Sermon Series**

*Grace to Grow*  
Ephesians 4:17-24

T. Dale Lynch

**Offertory Prayer**

**Counting Committee**

**Usher & Safety Team**

Elizabeth Stone  
Norman Phillips & Bill Pitts  
Brent Thomas, Travis Thomas  
Hal McDowell & Jeb Fisher  
Jimmy Ouzts & Tommy Norris

**Audio Visual**

**Deacon Greeters for August 25, 2019**

Brent Thomas Patrick O'Dell Randy Fagg  
Polly Gilreath Jay Blake

**Deacon Offertory Team for August 25, 2019**

Elizabeth Stone Greg Tysl  
Randy Fagg Scott Jones

**Extended Session for Sunday, August 25, 2019**

Nursery: Jeremy & Elizabeth Stone  
2's & 3's: Randy & Tracy Hedrick  
4's & 5's: Michael & Mary Ann Clinkscales  
Ext. Session Coordinator: Carrie Branyon (940-3418)

**Children's Sermon:**

Michelle McCollum

**MEN'S ROUNDTABLE BIBLE STUDY**

The last Men's Round Table will be Monday, August 26, at 6:30 p.m. in the youth building. We will be studying ideas from the book *Defying Normal*. Dinner will be provided.



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**A CHURCH GARDEN**

First, plant five rows of peas:

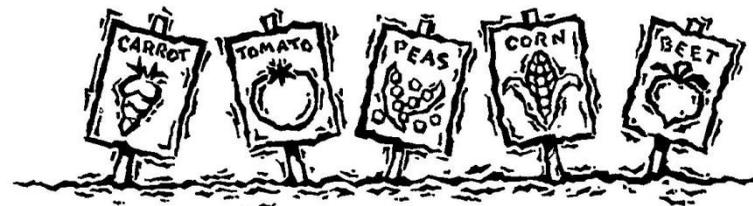
Presence  
Promptness  
Preparation  
Purity  
Preserverance.

Next to these, plant three rows of squash:

Squash gossip.  
Squash criticism.  
Squash indifference.

No garden is complete without turnips:

Turn up for meetings.  
Turn up with a smile.  
Turn up with new ideas.  
Turn up with determination to make everything count for something good and worthwhile.



First Baptist Church of Belton

**BELL TOWER**  
SEEKING GOD. SERVING OTHERS. SHARING FAITH.

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