



ST. PAUL'S
United Methodist Church

APRIL 16, 2019

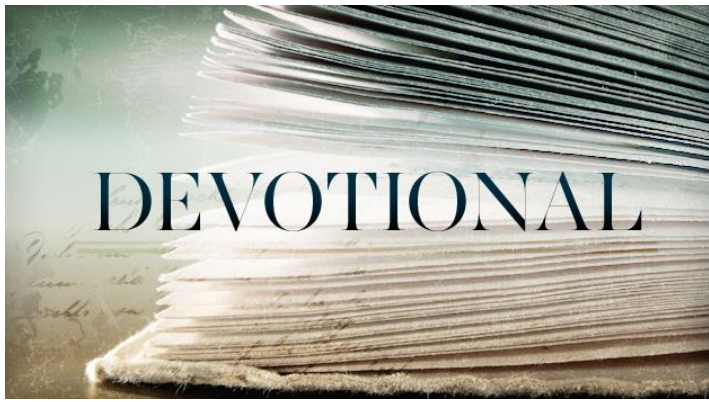
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HOLY WEEK



WORSHIP SCHEDULE





Pastor David Gardner

Jesus is my Lord and Savior. I am grateful. Sometimes, I like to remember that Jesus was also a healer. I especially like to learn about Jesus being the greatest teacher ever. Why would I think about a thing like that? Because I know I'm supposed to follow Jesus and sometimes, I need to learn new things from Jesus to follow more closely. (Come, Holy Spirit, come!)

R C Sproul was an American theologian, author, and founder of Ligonier Ministries. This ministry has the following mission statement: "To proclaim, teach, and defend the holiness of God in all its fullness to as many people as possible." I especially like they are very good at citing the Scriptures.

"The four Gospels reveal that Jesus amazed people during His earthly ministry in two main ways. First, the signs and wonders He performed were unlike anything they had ever seen (Mark 4:35–41; John 11:38–45). Second, people were awestruck by our Lord's teaching, both by the insight of His interpretation of the Old Testament (Matt. 22:23–33) and by His evident authority.

Mark tells us that people were astonished at the authority of Jesus when He taught at the synagogue in Capernaum (Mark 1:21–22). With respect to authority, the Jews paid heed to the teaching of the scribes, experts in the Old Testament law. One had to be a scribe to sit on the Sanhedrin, the ruling body of Jews, and the scribes also served as civil lawyers.

Christ, on the other hand, taught 'as one that knew the mind of God, and was commissioned to declare it.' He taught with the authority of God Himself. The Greek word *exousia*, translated 'authority' in Mark 1:22, is typically used in the Bible for God's own authority. Jesus did not rely on the expertise of others. He spoke the very words of our Creator (see John 12:49–50)."

So, what might be something that we need to learn as a congregation? We are doing somethings new - like the Lenten lunches, and we are being blessed. We are trying to establish a youth program, and we are being blessed. We are going to the Greens complex, and hopefully, we will be blessed. Why is it hard for some congregations to do new things?

Karl Vaters writes for Christianity Today:

"Not all change is good.

The church exists to worship the God who never changes, as seen in a book whose newest pages are 2,000 years old. That's some serious long-term consistency.

But the way that permanent message is delivered always changes. Traditions that we think of as longstanding or unchanging were new and radical at some point – and that point was almost always far more recent than we realize.

Even though we call it a comfort zone, people don't cling to what's familiar out of comfort as much as they avoid what's new out of fear.

Change is scary. And change in a place where people go for stability (the church) can be terrifying.

They're trying to avoid fear. Wise and loving pastors don't attack people's affection for the past, they ease their fears about the future.

How? By holding two truths in constant tension. 1) The permanence of God and his Word, and 2) the fact that the message of the unchanging Word from an unchanging God is life transformation – in other words, change.

The more the church changes our external methods, the stronger we must reinforce the internal and eternal truths. This will not just ease people's fears; it will remind all of us why we're changing what we're changing and keeping what we're keeping. And help us to never confuse the two."

Unchanging and unhurried God, Your character is eternal love. We want more people to be in that future, by sharing Your love. Help us to reach new folks through the One who teaches us 'with authority,' for it is in the name of Jesus that we pray. Amen



The Leadership Table will meet this Tuesday April 16th at 6:30 am.

The last Lenten Lunch will be this Wednesday at Noon.

Duncan High School Student Lunch will be this Wednesday April 17th at 11:15 am.

UMW will meet April 25th at 6 pm.

The Fellowship Meal will be April 28th at Noon.

Prayers
go up,
Blessings
come down.

Noel's Mass was Benign

Karen Masco Ordination

Marlow Drama State Champions

JC fixed the Coffee Maker in the Fellowship Hall

Pipkins got to see Ross

Lots of Kids at Church

A
P
R
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L


HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- 1 - Dwight Freese
- 1 - Sue Pray
- 12 - Terri Gibson
- 15 - Denise Tinney-Clark
- 16 - Mary Jo Randolph
- 20 - Donna Frye
- 24 - Michelle Rue
- 27 - Tierney Rue Hodges
- 28 - Lauren Frye Merritt

Happy Anniversary!

- 2 - David and Jana Gardner

In Our Thoughts & Prayers



Ann Starrett – Dementia and broken Hip. In Memory Care.
Trish Lister – Stress Fracture in her Foot
James Crow – Cancer
Kay Martin – Dementia and Fell and Broke a Bone
Family of Peggy Harper
Sara Riggs – for strength and patience going to court June 3rd
Pipkin Family
Thomas Bradburry – Healing from Cancer
Carla Johnson – Fracture in her Shoulder
Jo Ann Pierce – Recovering from Knee Surgery
Pat Weber – Recovering from Foot Surgery
Marian Chessmore's sister with Heart issues
Della Henry – Heart Surgery
Kathy Allred – Continued prayers for healing and to be healthy
Allred's – Travel Mercies
Marcia Haskins – On going foot sores
Rebecca (Victor Morton's girlfriend)– Broken Wrist
John Stuever – Recovering from Shoulder Surgery
Drew Cole - Cancer
Junior Brown - Cancer
Connie Green – Cancer
Courtney – Continued prayers for the Allred's 11 yr. old grandchild with neurological issues.
Stacy Mettler – Cancer
Ann Johnson – Continued prayers for healing on her hip
Addie McMurrin
Jason Poorman – (Edith Suiters nephew) Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma
Karen Gibson – Cancer
Gary Gibson – Cancer
Jan Smith – Cancer
Iva Johnson – Hospice
Rebecca's cousin has eating disorder, liver failure and on transplant list
Kathy Bridges – Cancer
Joe Perry – Kidney cancer
Margaret Averre – Throat cancer
Daniel Whittney – Cancer
Jennifer Allred – Spinal pain and fibromyalgia
Melinda Douglas – Lung Cancer