

# CHURCH NEWSLETTER

FAITH FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

## SOMETHING TO CONSIDER

### Who or What Has Your Attention?

Every month we get a small publication called "Turning Points" by David Jeremiah in the mail. They come in a package similar to the junk mail coupons we get – you know the ones for all of the things around the house that you can't afford to do even with the awesome coupons? I had been tossing them because I thought it was advertisements for his stuff which is great, but once you buy something from his line of literature they send you stuff constantly. I finally opened one a few weeks ago and it's a pretty awesome little mini-magazine. It has devotions for each day of the month and all the material shares a specific theme.

The cover for August caught my eye. It said "Shorten Your Attention Span" in awesome colors and had a very graphic design behind it. I was intrigued. I've always been fussed at for not having an attention span long enough! I immediately flipped to that article and began reading. The first thing that stood out was a call out box similar to the one with scripture in it to the right. It said "If our attention span is too wide, we're in danger of letting the world press us into its mold." We not only face dangers of conforming to the usual mentioned worldly temptations; we risk the danger of starting to think like the talk show hosts we listen to, the books we read, the TV shows we watch. We live in a time where information is accessible in all different forms. If we aren't careful to what we're taking in, we'll be putting the same stuff out. It's ok to have a favorite author and TV show, but don't let them have too much of an influence on how you live – especially if it doesn't match up to God's word. He already summed up how we are to behave and how we are to live. We don't need all the added opinions of man. We have to develop a mind that thinks as Christ does. This means cutting down the clutter, chatter, and turning down the volume around us and getting serious about following Jesus, studying His Word, and walking in the fullness of His Spirit. Instead of using google to find the answers and opinions of men and women, we need to be turning to the gospel to find our answers to life's questions. The only completely reliable truths are found in God's Word.

"AND HE IS BEFORE ALL THINGS, AND BY HIM ALL THINGS CONSIST."  
COLOSSIANS 1:17

## PRAYER REQUESTS

Crystal as she recovers from back surgery

Crystal and Steve Forcum/Troy and Layla Redding – pray that they get back in church

Ann's great-nephew who has cancer

David Neal – health concerns

David Handy's sister – health concerns

Preacher Vic – knee trouble

Ann – health concerns

Miss Betty and her mother

The Bouyer Family

Church renovations that will be starting soon

Pastor Vic, Associate Pastor Josh Maness, and our other teachers and leaders

(If you ever have a request that you want added to this list, email us at: [faithfreewill@gmail.com](mailto:faithfreewill@gmail.com))

\* Remember those that we mention on a weekly basis as well as the lost and those who have gone astray \*

## WEB UPDATES

### Facebook and Web Stats

Our web traffic remains steady and fairly consistent. We are still pulling in visits from foreign countries – many of them becoming regular visitors. They are downloading outlines. This morning we had someone from Florida download every single available online. They spent almost an hour just reading things on our page.

The facebook page is steady as well. I still don't like the "business" page because you can't interact with people like you could before. You can only post status updates, photos, and events. You can't see what any of your "fans" post and you can't comment, like, or respond to what they post. The lack of interaction available on our end is why we are stuck in a rut on facebook. Many of our prayer requests and messages came from friends of friends and we just don't have it anymore due to the layout change.

## RECENT AND UPCOMING EVENTS

### Special Services and Small Group Meetings

The singing service and [food delivered from] cookout that we had on the 27<sup>th</sup> of July was a success. We had a good amount of participation and the singing was great. All of the recordings are online at [www.faithfreewill.org/music.html](http://www.faithfreewill.org/music.html). I'll try to remember to bring my camera each service so I can get a wider variety and build up our music database. If anyone would prefer to record them outside of a church service, I'll be glad to meet you and do that too. I'm free most days.

The ladies Prayerbelle's met last Saturday over breakfast and from what I heard, they had a nice meeting. We will be meeting again on September 13<sup>th</sup> at the church to decorate our hats for the tea party/luncheon. If you can, bring your hat to decorate and some sort of craft item for everyone to use. If you have a glue gun, bring it. I'm sure we'll need them.

Tentatively, the Master's Men will be meeting at 5:00 on September 14<sup>th</sup> (but this is subject to change).

**We WILL be having choir practice tomorrow, August 17<sup>th</sup> at 4:30pm.** If you are a member of the choir we really need you to be present because we are learning new songs. Please listen to the following songs your CD's or look them up online before practice so you'll at least know how the melody goes. The newest ones added are:

- God Saves Old Sinners
- I Need No Mansion Here Below
- He Wrote My Name
- I Am Blessed
- I'm His, He's Mine
- The Lights of Home
- This is Just What Heaven Means to Me
- I'm Glad I Got Lost

- His Grace is Sufficient For Me
- Because He Loved Me
- I'm Feeling Fine

The Piedmont Association's annual Campmeeting will be this week. If you need locations, let me know. All services start at 7:00pm and will have two speakers. It will be at a different location each night – no campmeeting service on Wednesday night so members can attend their own churches.

Our Wednesday night lessons are going very well. The ladies are doing an in-depth study on the book of James and the men are in the book of Romans. These services start at 7:00pm and are divided up into two groups: men and women. The outlines for the ladies study are online under resources. Most of them are 6 or 7 pages simply because I'll go off track if I don't have ALL my thoughts down. I have some study guides that go with a few of the lessons, so if anyone is interested in those please let me know. I can't speak for the men's study but I know for a fact that if you are a woman who is saved, our James study can be a help to you no matter where you are in your Christian walk. It was written to people who needed to increase their spiritual maturity and improve their walk with God. We can all use improvement on ourselves. We should be striving to live a better life for Christ daily.