



Founded 1838

the Baptist **Caller**

*Our Mission:
Glorify God and
Make Disciples*

Volume 61, Number 32

August 11, 2020

Weekly Newsletter of Tabor City Baptist Church



A LOOK
at the
BUDGET

Budget Discussion

Sunday, August 23rd

6:00pm

Sanctuary

Copies of the budget are available
at the church office.



Budget & Nominating Committee Report Vote

Sunday, August 30th

After Morning Worship

Nominating Committee report will be available at budget discussion
on August 23rd or the following week at the church office.



In his book, *Autopsy of a Deceased Church* (Broadman & Holman, 2014), then LifeWay President, Thom Rainer described his findings after doing years of research on fourteen churches that had been in decline and had since closed or “died.” Hence why Rainer chose to title his findings on each church as “autopsies.”

The findings are not meant to be discouraging or hurtful, though it certainly seems that way. These findings are meant to function as warning signs, guardrails that will hopefully cause other churches to change course, alter their direction, and ultimately stay alive.

Rainer says that some 100,000 churches in America are showing signs of decline toward death (7). Rainer notes that this decline is always slow. Rarely ever does a single church conflict or even a split kill that church. This happens over time. He calls it a “slow erosion” (11). He then goes on to discuss the nine primary factors he saw in each case he researched.

- 1. The Past Is the Hero-** The highest priority was “the way we’ve always done it” (17).
- 2. The Church Refused to Look Like the Community-** The church was only concerned only with self-preservation. They were closed to the community and the community knew it (25).
- 3. The Budget Moved Inwardly-** Funds were used to keep the “machinery” of the church going while funding the Great Commission and the Great Commandment became an afterthought (31).
- 4. The Great Commission Became the Great Omission-** They had forgotten the mission. They stopped going, making disciples, baptizing, and teaching (39).
- 5. The Preference-Driven Church-** Affiliation with a church focused more on their desires and needs while arguments over these desires grew in intensity (47).
- 6. Pastoral Tenure Decreases-** Pastoral tenure reduced gradually in the final years. Pastors came and went at a pace of every two to three years, especially in the two decades leading to the death of that church (55).
- 7. The Church Rarely Prayed Together-** Churches failed to pray for and with each other. They failed to pray for and with their pastors. Prayer meeting attendance was sparse and often ignored (63).
- 8. The Church Had No Clear Purpose-** Routines, traditions, and rituals replaced the Great Commission as the purpose of the church (71).
- 9. The Church Obsessed Over the Facilities-** Church rooms, furniture, and memorials became the focus of controversy. These were fights over ownership and style. Fights that split churches and divided people... over a piece of furniture (77).

But Rainer’s work is not *merely* one of doom and gloom. It also offers hope. All is not lost. There is still time to heal, to be restored, and to see life once again. He suggests these four steps:

- 1. The church must admit and confess its dire need**
- 2. The church must pray for wisdom and strength to do whatever is necessary.**
- 3. The church must be willing to change radically.**
- 4. That change must lead to action and an outward focus.**

In all of this, the church must plead for God to pour out his mercy and grace by the power and presence of his Holy Spirit. Only God’s power God’s Spirit can bring life where there is death. Like Ezekiel in the valley of dry bones, God’s Spirit can breathe once again, bringing life and vitality to a seemingly hopeless situation.

What are here for? What are *you* here for? “To glorify God and make disciples”?

Is that what we’re doing?

May God grant mercy.

Love,
Pastor Matt



Altar
Flowers

ALTAR FLOWERS

The altar flowers for Sunday, August 16th, will be given in memory of Rev. Howard Fowler & Mary Katherine Fowler by Bill & Karen Fowler.

Columbus Baptist Association Food/Supply Roundup for Baptist Children's Homes of NC



The Columbus Baptist Association will be collecting food, gift cards and monetary donations through September 23.

You may drop your donations in the collection box in the vestibule or bring them by the TCBC church office and the Missions Team will make sure they get to the CBA office. A complete list of needed items is available at the church office, in the vestibule, or at www.bchfoodroundup.org.



Items needed for Living Hope Pregnancy Services

Gently used spring/summer clothing
Sizes Premie-2T

(Especially need 12 month girl and 2T Boy clothing)

Gently used maternity tops in Large and Extra Large

There is a container located in the vestibule for donations or you can bring them by the church office.

Deacons Meeting



Sunday, August 16th
5:00 pm

Fellowship Hall

Current and new deacons should be in attendance at this special meeting.



Tabor City Baptist Church,

Thank you for the beautiful plant that you sent during Jeanene's passing. She loved her church family! Keep us in your prayers!

Nelson & Family

Dear TCBC Scholarship Committee,

I am writing to thank you all for selecting me as the recipient of the Beth R. Woody Scholarship. Your generosity will help me to fund my education and achieve my dreams of becoming an English teacher. I am so blessed to have TCBC as my home church. I look forward to school breaks because I get to see my immediate and church family.

With Thanks,
Mattie Jean

Dear TCBC and Scholarship Committee,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you so very much for awarding me the Billy Dorman Scholarship. Mr. Billy meant a lot to my grandfather and to my family, and I could not be more honored. I will continue to uphold this honor throughout my time at Wake Forest.

Love,
Ireland Lewis

SUNDAY'S RECORD—August 9, 2020

Morning Worship57
Amount Needed/Weekly Budget..... 7,711.29
Budget Offering2,752.00
Mission Activity Fund 225.00
Total2,977.00
Year to Date Budget Needs.....385,564.50
Year to Date Budget Receipts275,745.42
Year to Date Total Receipts.....313,615.44

THOSE WHO SERVE— August 16, 2020

Sound Techs
John Mark Harris, Gabe Johnson

REOPENING PLAN

STEP 1 Extended Through August

Sunday Morning Worship Only—10:45am

No Other On-Campus Activities

STEP 2 Begins in September

Sunday School, Sunday Night Discipleship,
and Sunday Childcare resume

All Wednesday Activities
are Postponed until Further Notice

Prayer List

Ronnie Jones
Bernon Prince
Barbara Harrelson
Rocky Norris
Theresa Johnson
Willaree Fowler
Katherine Coleman
Miona Fonvielle
Eddie Prince
Melva Dean Bruton
Bernice & Barbara Gerald
Frank Brewer
Vivian Grainger Brewer
Don Prince
Lilly Howard (leukemia)
Miles Buffkin
Dylan Adams (Hartsville, SC—teammate of
Richard & Margaret Ann Dameron's grandson)



August 11—Jennifer Cox
Gina Mitchell
August 12—Grace Darrow
August 13—Judy Caines
August 14—Cathy Coleman
August 17—Allene Dorman
Ferrell Jones, Sr.
August 20—Misty Jarman



Tonya will be out of the office Wednesday
afternoon, Thursday and Friday (August 12-14).

Church Office Information

Hours: M-TH 8:30 am-5:00 pm
(Closed 12-1pm for Lunch)
F-8:30 am-1:00 pm
Phone: (910)653-2029
Fax: (910)653-5812
www.tcbaptist.net

E-mail Addresses:

pastormatt@tcbaptist.net
tonya@tcbaptist.net

Matt's Cell: (704) 616-5416
Tonya's Cell: (910) 840-4818

Church Staff

Senior Pastor—Matthew Price
Interim Pianist—Pam Harrelson
Ministry Assistant—Tonya Stevens
Custodian—Coley Greene

Sunday Schedule

Men's Prayer Time—7:30 am
Sunday School—9:30 am
Sunday Morning Worship—10:45 am
Discipleship Groups—6:00 pm

LISTEN OR WATCH LIVE

SUNDAYS at 10:45am
WEDNESDAYS at 6:00pm

LISTEN LIVE

Sundays at 1370 AM or
visit tcbaptist.net
and click "Listen Online"

WATCH LIVE

Wednesdays by
visiting tcbaptist.net
and clicking "Watch Live"



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