
TIMBER RIDGE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

NEWSLETTER

May 2019

BIBLE STUDY

The Bible Study group continues to meet on Monday mornings, from 10 am to 11:30 am. in the Parish building.

MOTHERS DAY SERVICE

As part of our Mother's Day celebration on May 12th, we will be having our annual Mother's Day Breakfast beginning at 8:30 am. The men who will be preparing the meal will need to be there by 7 am. For the worship service, we will continue our tradition of placing flowers in the sanctuary in memory or honor of our mothers. If you wish to participate in this tribute to our mothers, please contact Alan or Ginger, at church, by email or by phone as listed below by May 10th so that we may include it in the bulletin for that Sunday.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MAY 2 -	DWAYNE SELDON'S BIRTHDAY
MAY 5 -	SUNDAY SCHOOL 10 AM
	WORSHIP SERVICE 11 AM
MAY 7 -	GRADY BRADFIELD'S BIRTHDAY
MAY 12 -	MOTHERS DAY BREAKFAST 8:30 AM
	(SEE ARTICLE)
	SUNDAY SCHOOL 10 AM
	WORSHIP SERVICE 11 AM
MAY 13 -	JUNIOR SELDON'S BIRTHDAY
MAY 15 -	BACKPACK MINISTRY PREPARATIONS
MAY 19 -	SUNDAY SCHOOL 10 AM
	WORSHIP SERVICE 11 AM
MAY 22 -	BACKPACK MINISTRY PREPARATIONS
	PASTOR MIKE AND LORRI'S WEDDING
	ANNIVERSARY
MAY 26 -	SUNDAY SCHOOL 10 AM
	WORSHIP SERVICE 11 AM
	HOME MISSION OFFERING
MAY 28 -	BRIAN SPAID'S BIRTHDAY
MAY 27 -	MEMORIAL DAY
MAY 29 -	BACKPACK MINISTRY PREPARATIONS

MEMORIAL SUNDAY

Our annual Memorial service will be on Sunday, June 16th. Our plan is to have Sunday School beginning at 10 am with the Memorial service at 11 am, a covered dish lunch and an afternoon service from 2 – 3 pm, featuring music by *Higher Power*. They are a southern gospel trio spreading God's good news through song. Plan to join us for a special day of fellowship and worship.

We welcome any articles, comments or suggestions.
Alan & Ginger Brill, abrill@frontiernet.net or
timberidgechristianchurch@gmail.com
(304) 856-3635

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PASTOR'S PEN

A Christian Response in an Era of Rage Attacks against Churches

Sadly, I believe this could be the first of a series of articles on how to respond to various troubles in society today. From road rage to political rage, societal rage to religious rage, a reasoned response to events around us is essential for every person who calls themselves Christian. So, how do we respond when the church is under attack?

First, we must mourn over those who are lost. This response to violence is not new. It is a biblical response that is grounded in scripture and often called a lament. We see Laments at various points in scripture. David lamented over the loss of Saul and Jonathan (2 Samuel 1). In Jeremiah, we read that all of Judah and Jerusalem lamented over the death of Josiah (2 Chronicles 35). All of the Jews lamented over the proclamation of impending death in the book of Esther. Whether Death has already come or there is an expectation of imminent death, scripture's example is one of lament. It is an opportunity to lay our concern before the Lord and ask Him to protect us from our enemies.

We should call upon God to move mightily in the hearts of people across the globe. One way for God to protect us from our enemies is to make them our brothers and sisters in Christ. The Apostle Paul is an excellent example of this. Paul was initially an enemy of Christians. As he was ravaging the church, as wicked men stoned Stephen, devout men raised a 'great lamentation over him" (Acts 8). God's response was to confront Paul on the road to Damascus, changing Paul from an enemy to a devoted follower of Jesus. We need to call upon God to move mightily in the hearts of our enemies.

We must ask God to instill in us a gracious and gentle response. It is hard to watch our brothers and sisters face martyrdom. We do not have to call evil good or sit on our hands and do nothing. But, our response must be gracious, gentle, biblical, and it must look for God to glorify Himself at every point. Pray for both the families that are affected by evil and those who are responsible for evil. It says in Romans 12:12-14 "Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. 13 Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality. 14 Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them." It is a high calling to be gracious and gentle in the face of evil.

Finally, we must patiently wait on the Lord to answer our prayer. While we are waiting, we should be watching for God to give us what we asked for by looking for changed hearts. We must be ready to engage in the issues of our day so that we can respond with reason in place of our rage. These issues are complex and require understanding. While we seek to understand all that is taking place we must not rush to judgment. Instead, we can allow Judgment to come in God's own time. When it does occur, God will bring everyone to account, and we will see those we prayed for receive what God has determined as just. When you feel outraged by attacks on God's people, know that God takes the death of His saints seriously. You can trust Him to deal with nations and individuals who rage against Him and His church.

~ Pastor Mike