

PALMYRA BAPTIST CHURCH QUARTERLY

TAKING IN GOD'S WORD

What a glorious and joyful 2019 we have had here at Palmyra. God has been so gracious to us as we have sought faithfulness to Him. We continue to see new visitors and membership is increasing. While the growth is exciting, we continue to plod along steadily in what God has for us to be doing at Palmyra, keeping our gaze fixed on His Word, whatever our size. Everything God has given and is continuing to give us at Palmyra is a great blessing.

My drumbeat as a pastor from the get-go has been fighting shallow Christianity. Leading and teaching the body to go deeper in the Word, and examining every area of both our church life and individual lives to strive for a focus on Christ and the Gospel.

In light of this, I am offering a monthly Battle Plan beginning January 1st. It will feature daily Scripture readings from both the Old and New Testaments, Psalms, Proverbs, and a monthly verse to memorize together.

It is not an easy discipline to begin and maintain, but it is one of the most rewarding habits of the Christian life.

How encouraging and uplifting it will be to pursue this spiritual growth as a church family while keeping each other accountable and also enjoying the fruit that can come from believers walking through Scripture together.

Gospel-centered individuals and families are the main force behind a healthy church. Attached to this newsletter is a wonderful article I was granted permission to share. It gives excellent insight into what truly makes a Gospel-centered home.

Let us follow Christ together.

– Pastor Andrew

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 5th – 10am

New Sunday School Quarter
The Gospel Project – A People Restored

January 12th – 12pm

New Members Recognition Meal
and Quarterly Business Meeting

January 19th – 6:00pm

State of the Church Address
Chili Cook-off

February 2nd – 6:00pm

Bible Study @ Palmyra

February 9th – 6:00pm

Small Groups

February 8th – 4pm-8pm

Annual Pancake & Sausage Supper

February 16th

Church Fun Lunch – 12:00pm
@ Gambinos Pizza in Andover
Bible Study @ Palmyra – 6:00pm

February 23rd – 6:00pm

Small Groups

March 1st – 6:00pm

Bible Study @ Palmyra

March 8th – 6:00pm

Small Groups

March 15th – 6:00pm

Bible Study @ Palmyra

March 22nd – 6:00pm

Small Groups

March 29th – 6:00pm

2020 Palmyra Talent Show

SERVING GOD, SERVING OTHERS



Operation Christmas Child shoebox collection was a wonderful success this year. We exceeded our goal of 70 boxes with a total of 89. The Palmyra body came together with such overwhelming generosity all for the glory of God. We are blessed greatly with the opportunity to help others.



It was such a joy to see a stage full of children and youth during the Kids Christmas program this year. They did a wonderful job, all for the glory of God.

MISSIONS REPORT

Nate and Heather and their two little boys are established overseas in the mission field. Let us continue to lift them up in prayer for health and education as they study the language and adapt to the culture there.

Hadassah shared her report from her time in the World Race this last year. It was amazing to hear how powerfully God worked in and through her and her team over those months in so many countries. God's faithfulness and perfect timing was on clear display throughout her trip. Her obedience in service to God is inspiring to everyone. We look forward to supporting her as she prepares for a three-month trip to India at the end of January.

Detailed ministry updates are posted on the missions and outreach board.

Regarding our service as a body, we will be gauging interest and participation in a spring service trip and how that could work for families to serve together. Please be in prayer with us about that.

OUTREACH

The Living Nativity was blessed with unusually warm temperatures for December and that helped bring out over 2500 people. God was at work providing us with so many willing hearts ready to serve together to plant seeds of the Good News of Jesus Christ. Thank you to all who helped!



GET CONNECTED!

Men's Bible Study
Thursday Mornings 6:30am
10357 E. 101st

Prayer Group
Wednesday Mornings 10:30am

Small Groups
Be sure to contact Pastor Andrew if you would like to join.

FAMILY FELLOWSHIP: 9:30 AM
SUNDAY SCHOOL: 10:00 AM
WORSHIP SERVICE: 11:00 AM

ARTICLE

You want to establish a Christ-centered home that is focused on the gospel, right? But how do you do that? Well, it doesn't just happen. It takes time, effort, and faithfulness. And heaps of grace. But it is well worth it!

What does it mean to have a gospel-centered home?

❖ The Gospel is Spoken

In a Christ-centered home, the gospel message is known and spoken often, whether in plain language or woven into our daily conversations and lessons. What is the gospel? It is the good news that Jesus came to earth as God in the flesh, living a perfect life that we could not live and dying on the cross in our place to take the punishment we could not pay for all our sins. Then He rose again, triumphing over sin and death so that all who genuinely repent of their sins, put their faith in Jesus, and confess with their mouths that He is the Messiah will be saved!

This is good news, indeed! It not only impacts our eternity, but the gospel is something we need to be reminded of and live out every day, as the Holy Spirit transforms us ever more into the likeness of Christ. Understanding the gospel message is ESSENTIAL in the Christian home. We need to be intentional to teach our children these important truths and to live them out ourselves! But it takes practice, friends. Lots of practice, prayer, and wisdom from God.

❖ There is Worship and Devotion

A natural outflowing as we understand the gospel and grow to love Jesus more is a life full of worship and devotion to Him! This isn't something reserved just for Sundays at church. Family worship and devotion may sound big and complicated but it's really just coming together as a family at the feet of Jesus, often to read Scripture, discuss, and pray. We may also sing and/or memorize scripture together. Keep it simple and let it grow from there!

❖ God's Word is Daily Bread

The Word of God is truly the daily bread of a gospel-centered home. To have a living and active faith we must be feeding upon the living and active Word of God, teaching our children to do the same! Again... not easy, but worth every effort and never time wasted. I've also noticed that the more we take in God's Word, the more we desire it!

❖ We Point Ourselves and Each Other to Christ

A gospel-centered home is one that prayerfully and faithfully points to Christ. We instruct and correct our children in the heart of the gospel. We hold every thought captive and hold it up to the light of God's Word. We remind ourselves and each other of our identity in Christ and the work the Spirit will continue to do in us to make us more and more like Jesus. It is ALL from Him and through Him and for Him.