



God is love and love lives here!

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Office Hours: Mon-Thur 8:30a-12:30p

Rev. Tommy Odum

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Sunday, July 2, 2023

Means of Grace: Baptism

As Christians, we believe that God's grace is freely given and available to all who seek it. This grace is not dependent on our own merits or actions but is a gift from God that we receive through faith. While there are many ways in which we can experience God's grace, one of the most significant is through the sacrament of baptism.

John Wesley believed that baptism was one of the primary means by which we receive God's grace. In his sermon "The New Birth," Wesley wrote that baptism was "a means whereby we receive the grace of God." He went on to explain that through baptism, we are "born again of water and the Spirit," as Jesus taught in John 3:5.

Wesley's understanding of baptism as a means of grace was rooted in his belief that God uses physical elements and actions to convey spiritual realities. In baptism, water is used to symbolize the cleansing and regeneration that takes place in our souls when we turn to Christ in faith. As we are baptized, the Holy Spirit works in us to bring about a new birth and a new life in Christ.

But Wesley also emphasized that baptism is not a magical formula that automatically guarantees salvation. Instead, he saw it as a sign of our commitment to follow Christ and a way of publicly identifying with the community of believers. In his sermon "The Means of Grace," Wesley wrote that baptism "is a means of grace...inasmuch as it is a condition of our receiving other means of grace."

In other words, baptism opens the door to a life of ongoing growth and transformation in Christ. As we continue to participate in the life of the church and engage in practices such as prayer, Scripture reading, and the Lord's Supper, we are strengthened and empowered by God's grace to live as faithful disciples of Jesus.

So, whether you were baptized as an infant or came to faith later in life and chose to be baptized, remember that baptism is not just a one-time event, but a lifelong journey of growth in God's grace. As Wesley wrote, "The grace of baptism then continues with us, not only through the Christian course, but in everlasting life."

Keep The Faith,
Pastor Tommy

Scripture & Sermon:

2 Timothy 3:14-17

"Means of Grace:
Searching the Scriptures"



New Concerns

Betty Byrd
Laticia Coney
Will Cox
Carol Graham
Betty Wall
Lisa Lynd

Continue Prayers for:

Sharron Schall
Cheri Cox and family
Warren McDow
Mary & Robbie Robinson
Chris Cline
Vicky Moore
Ann Stafford
Gary Rutke
Haley Holden Allen
Robert Herrington

Mary Prater
Jim & Mary Leary
Virginia Eadie
Hailey Holder Allen
Bill Reedy
Sarah Mayer
Cary Martin
Mac McNeal
James McNeal
Our Country, Leaders, Military

Finance Report for

June 25

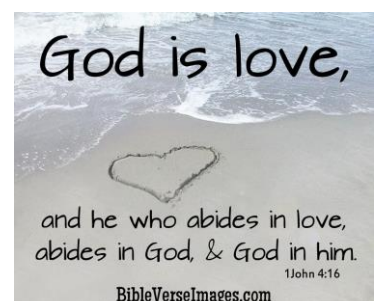
Operating Budget..... \$5,981
Local Mission..... 150
Total..... \$6,131

Worship Attendance:

120

Sunday School

51



Member/Visitor Orientation

New Here? Curious about our ministries or maybe even where things are located around the facility? Join us on the 1st Sunday of each month for our visitor and new member orientation immediately following 10:30 worship. There will be a Q & A session with Pastor Tommy and tour of our facility. All are welcome and everyone is invited; just come to the front of the sanctuary following worship. See you at The Well!

Picture of the Original Church

Some folks have about the framed prints of the church that were presented to the founding members on Sunday and if they could order/purchase one... yes, you can... if you'd like one just call or email the office, they are \$20 for the picture only and \$40 framed. Please have your order in by June 29.

Mark Your Calendars...

- ◆ VBS July 9-12, 6-8p
- ◆ Red Cross Blood Drive, Friday, July 14, 1p-6p
- ◆ We will not have Finance or Admin Council meeting for July. We will resume with our meetings on August 14 at 6p and 630p.
- ◆ We will have 5th Sunday covered-dish lunches in the Fellowship Hall July, October and December... the church will provide the meat and the congregation can provide side dishes... so mark your calendars for some food, fun and fellowship!
- ◆ Our next rotation for Family Promise is August 6, 7, 8... check out their website at <https://www.familypromisehoustonco.org/>

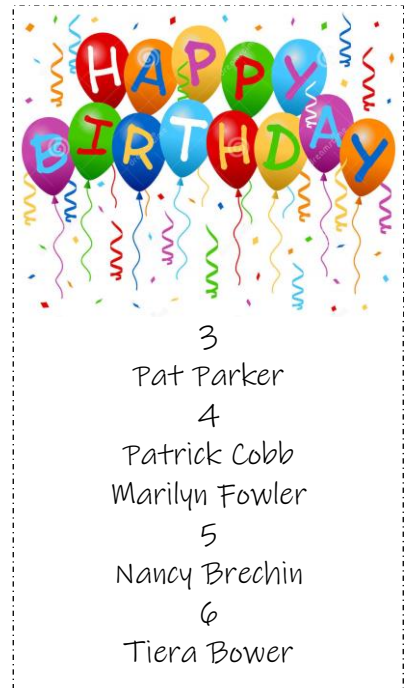
New Time Capsule... we are going to fill a new time capsule as The Well at Centerville. So, Sunday School classes, Life Groups, Partners in Prayer, Movin' n Groovin', Yoga, Quilters, church historian, Library... anyone and everyone that would like to put something in the time capsule get it together and we'll do it at our October 5th Sunday lunch after worship. It's going to be fun and exciting!

Community Missions

- The next Food Pantry July 12, 11a... come on out and volunteer! You will be blessed. Our Food Pantry Team rocks!
- Clothes Closet Volunteers for July 11- Sabrina Williams, Cynthia Boutwell, Marilyn Outz
- The Clothes Closet served 232 people for the month of June. That's awesome!
- Our Open Door Clothes Closet is open every Tuesday 9a-noon. **We really need Size 1 (newborn) diapers; travel size- shampoo/conditioner, soap, lotion, toothpaste/mouthwash, sanitizer, sanitary pads/liners and plastic totes/lids.**

Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School is July 9-12, 6p-8p... SS classes will provide the meals. If you'd like to volunteer or register a child email Katie at kaodum@gmail.com or call the office at 478-953-3090. The theme this year is "The Well". We're excited! Come join us!



Bible Reading Plan

Week of July 2th:

Sunday.....	Joshua 3
Monday.....	Joshua 5
Tuesday.....	Joshua 6
Wednesday.....	Joshua 24
Thursday.....	Judges 1
Friday.....	1 Samuel 1
Saturday.....	1 Samuel 3



Are you Looking for a place to serve? To get involved? We have it!

This Week's Schedule:

Sunday- July 2

Ushers

10:30a J.O. Miller, Tony Rozier
Mel Smeltz, Cheri' Cox, Roy Carter
Keith Mobley, Stevie Bowen
W.C. Hester, Michael Walston
9:15a Sunday School
10:30a Worship



Greeters

10:30a Joy Fleming, Susan Glidewell

Communion Servers

Eric & Gloria Nelson
TBD



Finance Stewards

J.O. Miller, Gary Rutke, Mel Smeltz

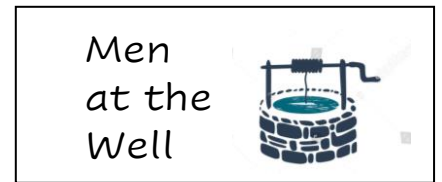
Assisting with Children

Sunday- July 2

Nursery- Joy Fleming, Laura McKenzie
Children- Lynn Miller, Katie Odum

Sunday- July 9

Nursery- TBD, Laura McKenzie
Children- Sherry Armour, Katie Odum



Monday- July 3

Happy Independence Day!!

Office Closed

10:00a Quilters
7:30p Narcotics Anonymous



Tuesday- July 4

Office Closed

7:30 p Narcotics Anonymous



Wednesday- July 5

Office Closed

8:00a Men's Fellowship Breakfast
7:30p Narcotics Anonymous



Thursday- July 6

Office Closed

7:30p Narcotics Anonymous



Friday- July 7

7:30p Narcotics Anonymous



Saturday- July 8

7:30p . . Narcotics Anonymous

Sunday School

Are you looking to get involved in Sunday School? We have a great line up of classes to explore! Maybe you've been attending Sunday School regularly but see a topic you're interested in – it's okay to move around and try different classes – let's learn and grow together!

Sunday School Class

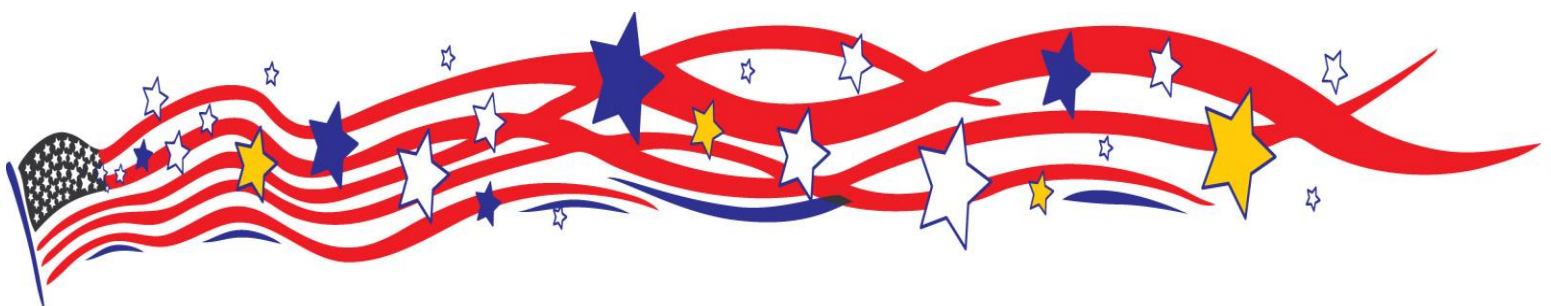
Seekers
Issues & Answers
New Beginnings
Christian Fellowship
Youth
Pilgrims

Studies

The Jesus You May Not Know
Matthew
Psalm 91
Romans
Genesis 1:1 vs The Big Bang
Angels

Teacher

Kathy Rutke
Katie Odum
Nancy Hudson
Don Schall
Eric & Gloria Nelson
Kathy Blanchard



4TH
OF
JULY

