

God is love and love lives here!



600 North Houston Lake Blvd., Centerville 31028

(478) 953-3090

www.thewellatcenterville.com

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

Rev. Tommy Odum

pastortommy@thewellatcenterville.com; 478/397-9491

Sunday, May 19, 2024, Pentecost

4 Truths about Pentecost

by: [Robert Letham](#) November 23, 2019

1. The Holy Spirit inseparably continues the ministry of the Father and the Son.

He was sent in place of the physical presence of Jesus. The ministry of the apostles and the early church in the power of the Spirit continued Jesus's ministry ([Acts 1:1–2](#); [2:47](#); cf. [John 16:12–15](#)). Again, Paul reflects on the Father sending the Son in his incarnation and so also the Spirit at Pentecost; not only is the Spirit sent by the Father, but he is also called "the Spirit of [the Father's] Son" ([Gal. 4:4–6](#)). The Father also is said to send the Spirit ([John 14:26](#)), while the Son also sends him, having received him from the Father ([Acts 2:33](#)). Much in the New Testament supports the Orthodox point that the Spirit is sent by the Father and received by the Son, here and at his baptism, with the Son then pouring him out on his church.

2. Pentecost thus marks a new era in the history of redemption.

It fulfills Old Testament prophecy. The Spirit is now present in a heightened way. He was present in the Old Testament (he could hardly have been absent) but not in the foreground as in the New. How and in what ways was the Spirit active in the Old Testament? Warfield, in considering the work of the Spirit in the cosmos, the kingdom of God, and the individual, concluded that he was at work in all the ways in which he is at work in the New Testament.¹ However, there is something new: first, the miraculous endowments of the apostles, together with the churches they founded; second, the worldwide mission of the Spirit, promised in the Old Testament but only now realized; and, third and principally, the fact that the Old Testament was preparatory for the New Testament, the Spirit then preserving the people of, whereas now he produces "the fruitage and gathering of the harvest."²

The distinction is not between his presence now compared with a putative absence in the Old Testament but rather between the falling away of what was preparatory and temporary (the Old Testament) and the emergence of what is final, binding and permanent (the New). [Galatians 4:4–6](#) is again pertinent. Israel was God's son in the Old Testament, but it was so in a way little short of servant status. It was a child in its minority, under the protection of a pedagogue, a slave entrusted with its care and upbringing ([Gal. 3:24](#)). With Christ's coming and the Spirit's sending at Pentecost, God's people have been adopted as mature sons. So significant is the sending of the Spirit that Paul describes this transition in absolute terms, as elsewhere does John ([John 1:17](#); [4:24](#)). Hence, in the Old Testament the Spirit came intermittently on the prophets, whereas now he is poured out on all flesh ([Acts 2:16–21](#)). Then his presence with his people was spasmodic ([Ps. 51:11](#)); now he is given permanently ([John 14:17, 23](#)).

The Old Testament describes him as the giver of life ([Gen. 1:2](#); [Pss. 33:9](#); [104:29–30](#)), the One who empowers for various forms of service in God's kingdom ([Ex. 31:3](#); [35:31–34](#); [Num. 27:18](#); [Judg. 3:10](#); [1 Sam. 16:13](#)), as the protector of God's people ([1 Sam. 19:20, 23](#); [Isa. 63:11–12](#); [Hag. 2:5](#)), indwelling them ([Num. 27:18](#); [Deut. 34:9](#); [Ezek. 2:2](#); [3:24](#); [Dan. 4:8–9, 18](#); [5:11](#); [Mic. 3:8](#)), and above all resting on and empowering the Messiah ([Isa. 11:2–3](#); [42:1](#); [61:1](#)).

In the New Testament the Spirit is presented as the One who purifies and sanctifies ([Matt. 3:11](#); [Rom. 8:13](#); [Gal. 5:22–23](#); [1 Cor. 6:11](#); [2 Cor. 3:18](#); [1 Pet. 1:2](#)); reveals truth to the apostles and prophets, teaches and illumines all God's people ([Luke 12:12](#); [John 14:26](#); [16:13](#); [1 Cor. 12:10ff.](#); [1 Tim. 4:1](#); [1 John 2:19–27](#)); directs the apostles, evangelists, prophets, and other church leaders ([Acts 8:29](#); [10:19–20](#); [13:2](#); [15:28](#); [20:22–23](#)); and grants assurance ([Rom. 8:16](#); [1 John 3:24](#); [4:13](#)) and unity ([1 Cor. 12:7–21](#); [2 Cor. 13:14](#); [Eph. 2:18–22](#); [4:3–6](#); [Phil. 2:1–2](#)). There is continuity but also a more lavish outpouring and a wider ministry in the New Testament.

The Spirit unites people to Christ by and through his Word.

3. The church of Jesus Christ is a Pentecostal church.

The church was sent to baptize, teach, and disciple in the power of the Holy Spirit. The Bible is the Word of the Spirit and therefore the objective bearer of the Spirit's power, and thus it is the Word of Christ. The Spirit unites people to Christ by and through his Word.

The actions of Ananias and Sapphira in misleading the apostles are described as lying to the Holy Spirit, which brought upon them swift and unmistakable discipline enforced not by the human leaders but by the Spirit himself (Acts 5:1–11). The Spirit disciplines the church. Administrative and judicial discipline and the considered decisions of the Council of Jerusalem are also the decisions of the Spirit (Acts 15:28).

There is a conjunction between the calling, ordaining, and sending of the church at Antioch and the actions of the Spirit (Acts 13:1–7). The Spirit set Saul and Barnabas apart for missionary labors and made this known to the church leaders, who in turn set the two apart by prayer and the imposition of hands and so sent them away, a sending that was ultimately by the Holy Spirit. Church action and action by the Spirit were coordinate. Indeed, throughout Acts the Spirit directs Paul's missionary labors (Acts 16:6 ff.). Paul's apostolic authority is the Spirit's work. Although he has no instructions from Jesus from his earthly ministry on a matter, yet Paul's apostolic advice is of equal weight, since he has the Spirit of God to direct him as an apostle (1 Cor. 7:10–12, 40).³

4. The Holy Spirit brings about our union with Christ in our life history, doing this by grace through faith.

Our faith and all that flows from it in the Christian life is due to the Spirit, who renews us in the image of God and transforms us into Christ (2 Cor. 3:18). Eventually, when Christ returns in glory, we will be like him (1 John 3:1–2). This entire process occurs through faith. Faith is "the principal work of the Holy Spirit," as Calvin said.⁴ The Spirit unites us to Christ. As a house benefits from electricity when hooked up to the grid, so we benefit from the work of Christ when it becomes ours as the Spirit unites us to him.⁵

- Notes:
- 1. B. B. Warfield, "The Spirit of God in the Old Testament," in *Biblical and Theological Studies*, ed. Samuel G. Craig (Philadelphia: Presbyterian and Reformed, 1952), 154.
 - 2. Warfield, "Spirit of God," 155–56.
 - 3. H. B. Swete, *The Holy Spirit in the Ancient Church: A Study of Christian Teaching in the Age of the Fathers* (1912; repr., Eugene, OR: Wipf & Stock), 80, cites Tertullian, who remarks on the power of the Holy Spirit in the discipline of the church and on the newness of the New Testament.
 - 4. Calvin, *Institutes*, 3.1.4
 - 5. An image used in Anthony N. S. Lane, *Justification by Faith in Catholic-Protestant Dialogue: An Evangelical Assessment* (London: T&T Clark, 2002), 23

Robert Letham (PhD, University of Aberdeen) is professor of systematic and historical theology at Union School of Theology. A Presbyterian minister with twenty-five years of pastoral experience, he is the author of books such as *The Work of Christ*; *The Holy Trinity*; and *Union with Christ*, and a range of articles published in encyclopedias and journals.

Keep The Faith,
Pastor Tommy

Flowers on the Altar Given to the Glory of God

🌸 In memory of Mr Floyd & Momma Joyce’s 69th wedding anniversary by Sherrie and Kelly with love.

Wesley Glen

There will be a work day at Wesley Glen on Saturday, May 18 beginning at 8a. Volunteers are needed for some landscaping/planting flowers and a floor removal. If you are willing to help out, contact Stevie Bowen.



- ✓ 05-23-24 Nominations Committee 6:30p
- ✓ 05-27-24 Office Closed- Memorial Day
- ✓ 06/04-06/24 CMC General Conference, Laurel, MS
- ✓ 06-10-24 Finance Meeting 6p

Community Missions

- Beginning June 1, 2024, the Food Pantry will be open on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays from 10a-1p. Recipients may receive food once a month.
- The Food Pantry is open every Wednesday, 10a-1p, through the month of May, come on out and volunteer! You will be blessed. Our Food Pantry Team rocks!
- The Open Door Mission Closet (Clothes Closet) is now open every Wednesday from 9am until 12 noon. We would love for you to stop in for a brief visit when possible and/or become a volunteer. We work on a rotating basis so you would not be obligated to work every week. Please see Brenda if you are interested. Tuesdays will become our new Sorting/Processing day and volunteers are also needed on that day.
- May 22 volunteers- Marilyn Outz, Sherrill Pinckney, Nancy Brechin

Scripture and Sermon:

Matthew 28:16-20
“Church Growth 101”

Finance Report for May 12

Operating Budget..... \$5,871.00
Food Pantry..... 123.00
Total..... \$5,994.00

Worship Attendance

189
Sunday School
52

Bible Reading Plan

Week of May 19th:

Sunday..... 1 Cor. 7
Monday..... 1 Cor. 8
Tuesday..... 1 Cor. 9
Wednesday..... 1 Cor. 10
Thursday..... 1 Cor. 11
Friday..... 1 Cor. 12
Saturday..... 1 Cor. 13

Yard Sale

The Clothes Closet and Food Pantry are hosting a community yard sale on June 7th and 8th, 8a-1p in the Fellowship Hall. Our church family is invited to participate by bringing items to sell and/or working the sale. Set-up day is Thursday, June 6th, 830a-1230p, or contact Brenda for other arrangements. Donors may bring small items already priced and ready to sell (no furniture or clothing). All proceeds benefit our community missions.

Youth News

The Youth will continue to meet each Wednesday evening until the end of May. Beginning June 2nd, they will transition to meeting before church on Sunday mornings at 9:45a. They can start arriving early if they would like and there will be a place for them to hang out, play games, grab breakfast and socialize. If there are any issues with getting your teen to church that early, let Katie know and they will see if a ride can be coordinated. Also, the Youth are invited to sit together on Sunday mornings during worship up in the balcony. A few of our Youth serve in our media/production department and are already up there. We are creating a space for them to enjoy the service together.

Family Promise

If you are interested in helping out with Family Promise on our next rotation, contact J.O. or Lynn, this is a very blessed ministry of our church... check out their website at <https://www.familypromisehoustonco.org/>



The Young-at-Heart are a group of folks over 50 (but anyone is welcome!) who meet once a month to fellowship and enjoy a good meal. Each month they meet in the Fellowship Hall, have lunch, play Bingo or other games and just have fun. Come join us!

Women at the Well


Ladies, circle meetings are coming up... so, don't forget to attend. If you have never been to a meeting, you are welcome to attend any of the circles. We'd be so happy to have you visit!

Men at the Well

The Men meet the second Thursday of the month at 6:30pm. All men are welcome and are encouraged to attend any meeting. The men also meet every Wednesday morning at 7:30am at Steak n Shake for Men's Fellowship Breakfast. All men are welcome.

Men on a Mission

For our church members who may be widowed, a single mother, or an elderly couple: the Men at the Well offer a service called "Men on a Mission" to assist you with minor repairs and/or minor renovations to your home. You simply pay for the needed materials, and the Men ask that you donate a love offering (as you feel led) to our church to cover labor costs. Contact Stevie Bowen or our church office at 953-3090.




19
Amy Van De Water

20
Jim Bailey

21
Theo Van De Water

23
Barbara Carter
Bill Cox

25
Hilda Rozier
William Van De Water



New Concerns

Family of Ed Meehan
Julie Peacock
Dennis & Kathy Davis
Marshall Ferns
Family of Kay Darnertl
Mary Lee Carter
Robert & Debbie Herrington

Continue Prayers for:

Family of Frank Milner
Luke Westefeld
Family of Sarah Mayer
Nancy Hudson
Crystal Gray & children
Randy Dear
Doug Deal

Tom Gamble
Betty Bowen
Michael & Jennie Walston
Betty Byrd
Leon Hudson
Mary Prater
Jim & Mary Leary
Virginia Eadie
Bill Reedy
Our Country, Leaders, Military

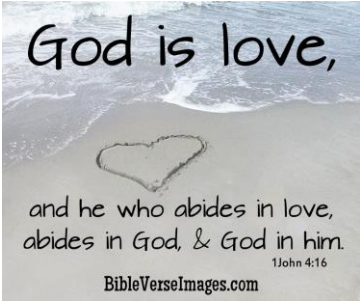


Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations

THE GREAT COMMISSION

Matthew 28:16-20, Mark 16:14-20, Luke 24:50-53

Bible Reading Plan	
Week of May 19 th :	
Sunday.....	1 Cor. 7
Monday.....	1 Cor. 8
Tuesday.....	1 Cor. 9
Wednesday.....	1 Cor. 10
Thursday.....	1 Cor. 11
Friday.....	1 Cor. 12
Saturday.....	1 Cor. 13



God is love,

and he who abides in love, abides in God, & God in him.

1John 4:16

BibleVerseImages.com

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

This Week's Schedule:

Sunday- May 19

Day of Pentecost

Ushers

10:30a J.O. Miller, Tony Rozier
Mel Smeltz, Cheri' Cox, Roy Carter
Keith Mobley, Stevie Bowen
Joy Fleming, Sherrie Shell
9:15a Sunday School
10:30a Worship

Greeters

10:30a Cheri Cox, Marie Davis

Communion Servers

Thomas & Joy Fleming
Susan Glidewell, LaWanna Porter

Finance Stewards

LaWanna Porter, Kathy Rutke, Hilda Rozier

Assisting with Children

Sunday- May 19

Nursery- Sherrie Shell, Laura, Cinderella
Children- Dawn Wilkins

Sunday- May 26

Nursery- Kelly Evans, Laura, Cinderella
Children- Amber Gamble

Monday- May 20

7:30p Narcotics Anonymous

Tuesday- May 21

9:15a Movin' n Groovin'
10:00a Partners in Prayer
10:00a Yoga
11:30a Life Group IV
7:30 p Narcotics Anonymous

Wednesday- May 22

8:00a Men's Fellowship Breakfast
9a-12p Clothes Closet
10a-1p Food Pantry
6:30p Choir Practice
7:30p Handbells
7:30p Narcotics Anonymous

Thursday- May 23

9:15a Movin' n Groovin'
10:00a Yoga
6:30p Nominations Committee
7:30p Narcotics Anonymous

Friday- May 24

12p-3p Young at Heart
7:30p Narcotics Anonymous

Saturday- May 25

7:30p . Narcotics Anonymous

Sunday School at 9:15a

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

Studies
Nehemiah
Mark
Revelation
Ephesians
Born Again

Teacher
Kathy Rutke
Joy Fleming
Nancy Hudson
Don Schall
Eric & Gloria Nelson

