

The Informer

July 2021



THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD IS

upon me, for he has anointed me

TO BRING GOOD NEWS TO THE POOR.

HE HAS SENT ME TO PROCLAIM

that captives will be released, that the

BLIND WILL SEE, THAT THE OPPRESSED WILL

BE SET FREE.

LUKE 4:18 (NLT)



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A NOTE FROM PASTOR TRACY

“Make Your Recreation Re-Creation!”

As we move into the heart of summer, many of us will be enjoying some much needed vacation. Whether you are heading to the beach, the mountains or “home” to visit family, I pray that your time away will be just what you need it to be. As you take a break from your normal routine, and hopefully slow down a bit, I encourage you to enjoy some true Sabbath – time to rest in body, mind and spirit – time to allow God to rejuvenate you.

I also hope that, whether you are able to get away or not, you will join in me in prayer for the following:

First, please continue to pray for our pastor search committee. Pray that they will have discerning hearts and minds, and that God will lead the right candidate to us. Pray for our new pastor, that God will be preparing him/her to be the leader that FBC needs to move into a vibrant future.

Second, continue to pray for our church. Pray that God will prepare us to receive a new leader, pray that we will be willing to think creatively and go forth boldly as we enter a new chapter.

Finally, continue to pray for our community, our nation, and our world as we continue to emerge from the pandemic. How might God be calling you to serve – either in the church and in the world in these challenging, yet exciting days?

As always, I’m honored to be on the journey with you, Tracy

Jesus looked at them and said,
“With man this is impossible,
but not with God;
all things are possible with God.”

Mark 10:27

PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR THE PASTOR SEARCH COMMITTEE TEAM AND FOR THE PERSON THAT GOD IS CALLING TO SHEPHERD FBC. THE SEARCH TEAM IS IN THE PROCESS OF VETTING AND INTERVIEWING CANDIDATES. PLEASE PRAY FOR WISDOM, DISCERNMENT, AND THE GUIDANCE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THESE IMPORTANT AND HOLY CONVERSATIONS.

Please continue to pray for the Pastor Search Committee Team and for the person that God is calling to shepherd FBC. The search team is in the process of vetting and interviewing candidates. Please pray for wisdom, discernment, and the guidance of the Holy Spirit in these important and holy conversations.

Dear FBC Family,

Thank you so much for the beautiful flowers and your many calls, texts, cards and prayers. Your expressions of love and concern have helped carry us through these challenging days. We are grateful for each of you.

Much love, Tracy and Jay

FAMILY WALK & PICNIC AT HIGH BRIDGE TRAIL

Join us on *Sunday, June 27th, at 6:00 PM* for an evening of gathering and walking the High Bridge Trail. We will meet at Camp Paradise and walk the Trail while fellowshiping together. Pack a picnic dinner and some snacks to enjoy for your family. Please let Jane Southall or the church office know if you plan to attend.



JUNE MISSION PROJECT

We are looking forward to working with Habitat for Humanity on Saturday, June 26th. A few of our church members will be completing indoor and finishing work at the newest Habitat for Humanity home that was built in Farmville. If you would like to volunteer your time this coming Saturday please reach out to Ken Copeland at (434) 390-4603.

Remember you can also stay informed by following our Social Media Pages, and by checking the church website calendar!



www.facebook.com/farmvillebaptist.org



[@farmvillebaptist](https://www.instagram.com/farmvillebaptist)



DEACON FAMILY MINISTRIES

Tim Trent	A—Bh	Jordan Whiley	Dr—E	Joyce Davis	P—R
Jane Southall	Bi—Coo	Kathryn Copeland	F—L	Chuck Daniel	S—Tn
Jane Southall	Cop—Dq	Becky Kelly	M—O	Joyce Davis	To—Z

LIFE DEACONS

Peggy Cave, Jack Davis, Jim Davis, Joyce Davis, Gene Watson, Cecil Yeas

The following is a condensed version of an article entitled, “Three Things That Will Be True of Growing Churches in the Future,” by Carey Nieuwhof.

There’s no question everything in ministry has shifted in the last eighteen months. But the real question is how? Some things, of course, never change. The mission of the church is as critical as ever. The need for prayer, scripture, preaching, love, community, grace, forgiveness, and hope is as sharp as ever.

And yet church leaders are struggling with how to connect with a deeply changing culture and reality. Results of a recent Barna poll show that everyone did not miss the same thing when church went online in 2020-2021. Boomers missed (in order of importance) taking communion, socializing before and after church, listening to sermons, and gathering with like-minded people. Millennials missed gathering with like-minded people, live music, connecting with others (passing the peace, greeting each other etc.), and volunteering. What will it mean to connect with both of these groups (and others) in the days ahead? It’s still early days in terms of how all of this will fall out in the future, but looking at the trends, here are a few things that I (Carey) sense will be true of growing churches in the future, both online and in-person.

1. Digital Ministry Will Be About Genuine Connection

Future ministry is hybrid ministry. If digital ministry (the online side of hybrid) is going to do what’s it’s designed to do, it will become about genuine connection. Right now, many churches are using digital ministry for content distribution via YouTube and social media, but in its fullest form, digital ministry is about people. Ultimately, the goal of digital content is not consumption, it’s connection and community. The goal is NOT the number of: followers, views, minutes watched, likes, comments (as significant as they might be). Content alone doesn’t lead to engagement. Community and connection do.

2. An Experience OF God Will Replace Information ABOUT God

Attractional church has seen thousands, probably millions, of people move into an authentic relationship with Jesus. Please hear that. But sometimes what we’ve done is share information *about* Jesus or Christianity when we preach or host services. There was a day when that was really helpful, but remember, we now have the full-on internet that swallows daily life whole. We are drowning in a sea of information. When people come to your church these days, fewer are looking for information *about* God; they’re looking for an experience *with* God. People are hungry for true community, deeper experiences, and authentic transcendence. In short, people don’t just want to know what’s true, they want to know what’s *real*. And what’s real is deeper than just an idea—it’s an experience. They come looking for something bigger than themselves, and something frankly, bigger than us. They come looking for God. It’s a shame when people come to church looking for God and only find us.

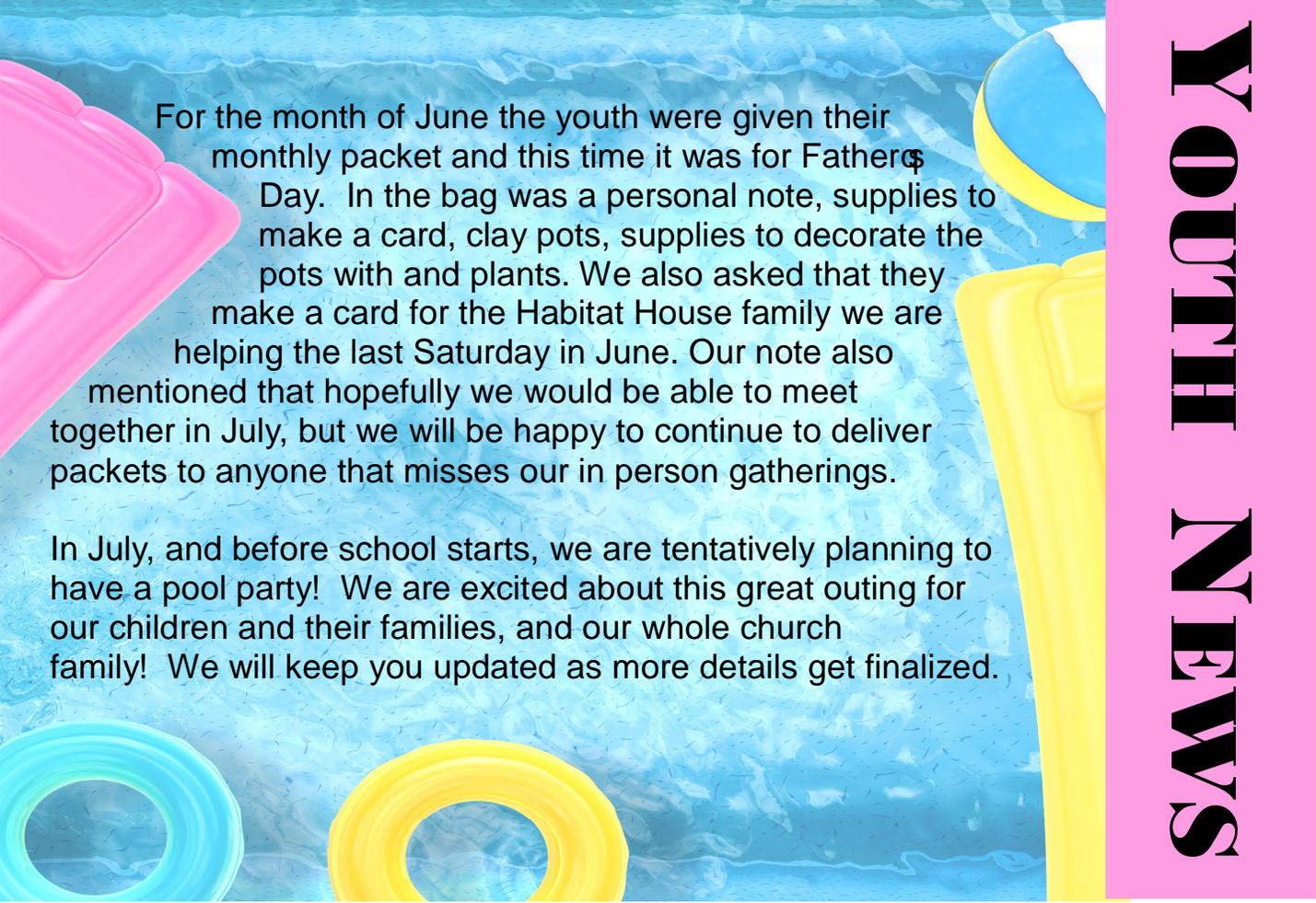
3. Future Churches Will Go To People, Rather Than Expect People To Come To Them

Historically, the church has wagered almost everything on gathering people in a building. In the future, growing churches will focus less on gathering and much more on going to where people are (companies like Door Dash and Amazon have learned the value of this). In many ways, the first-century church was a church that met wherever people were. In the future, church will be much more like that, digitally, and through in-person central gatherings and micro-gatherings.

The easiest way to think about this is the same way church leaders have thought about small groups for the last 25 years. Almost no church leader today feels threatened by the idea of people meeting in their homes to connect with other people. The church *facilitates groups* but doesn't *host* them in a centralized facility. Instead, leaders simply connect people who want to be connected and engage them in the mission.

This is where the potential for Sunday morning starts to move in a new direction. Small groups by nature tend to be closed and intimate. Gathering in people's homes and outside the building on Sunday morning (or off-Sunday) would consist of micro-churches that are outward-focused. Gathering people on Sunday mornings will be as important as ever. It just won't all happen in a building owned by the church.

Tracy asks: What do you agree with and disagree with in this article? How do Carey's views resonate with the conversations we've been having on Wednesday nights? How might his thoughts/theories inform our mission and vision going forward?



For the month of June the youth were given their monthly packet and this time it was for Father's Day. In the bag was a personal note, supplies to make a card, clay pots, supplies to decorate the pots with and plants. We also asked that they make a card for the Habitat House family we are helping the last Saturday in June. Our note also mentioned that hopefully we would be able to meet together in July, but we will be happy to continue to deliver packets to anyone that misses our in person gatherings.

In July, and before school starts, we are tentatively planning to have a pool party! We are excited about this great outing for our children and their families, and our whole church family! We will keep you updated as more details get finalized.

YOUTH NEWS

JULY 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	28	29	30	1	2	3
9:45am-Adult Bible Study 11:00am-Worship Service 6:00pm-Family Walk on High Bridge Trail	12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman	12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman 5:45pm : Bell Choir Practice 6:45pm : Choir Practice	12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman 7:00pm : Adult Bible Study Via Zoom with Ken Copeland	12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman 12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman	12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman	12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman
 4 9:45am-Adult Bible Study 11:00am-Worship Service	5 Happy Birthday Ann Swanberg 12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman	6 12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman 5:45pm : Bell Choir Practice 6:45pm : Choir Practice	7 12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman 7:00pm : Adult Bible Study Via Zoom with Ken Copeland	8 12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman	9 12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman	10 Happy Birthday Addison Southall
11 9:45am-Adult Bible Study 11:00am-Worship Service	12 12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman	13 12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman 5:45pm : Bell Choir Practice	14 12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman 7:00pm : Adult Bible Study Via Zoom with Ken Copeland	15 Happy Birthday Jane Southall 12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman	16 Happy Birthday Phyllis Druen 12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman	17 Happy Birthday Hannah-Gray Schmidt
18 9:45am-Quarterly Business Meeting 11:00am-Worship Service	19 12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman	20 12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman 5:45pm : Bell Choir Practice	21 Happy Birthday Shirley Rickman 12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman 7:00pm : Adult Bible Study Via Zoom with Ken Copeland	22 Happy Birthday Mark Cave 12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman	23 12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman	24
25 9:45am-Adult Bible Study 11:00am-Worship Service	26 12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman	27 Happy Birthday Virginia Rosser 12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman 5:45pm : Bell Choir Practice	28 Happy Birthday Lindsey Davis 12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman 7:00pm : Adult Bible Study Via Zoom with Ken Copeland	29 12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman	30 Happy Birthday Ebony Arauz 12:15pm : Daily Devotional Via Zoom with Tracy Hartman	31

Notes:

U N I T A R I A N D E V O T I O N R E P O R T

June 26	8:30 AM	Interior Work at Habitat For Humanity House
June 27	9:45 AM	In-Person Adult Bible Study in the Church Parlor
June 27	11:00 AM	In-Person & Virtual Sunday Worship Service in Church Sanctuary and via Zoom with Meeting ID : 626 833 551 and Passcode 592659
June 27	6:00 PM	Family Walk on the High Bridge Trail ~ Meet at Camp Paradise
June 30	7:00 PM	Virtual Bible Study via Zoom Meeting ID : 271 659 616 and Passcode 688863
July 4	9:45 AM	In-Person Adult Bible Study in the Church Parlor
July 4	11:00 AM	In-Person & Virtual Sunday Worship Service in Church Sanctuary and via Zoom with Meeting ID : 626 833 551 and Passcode 592659
July 7	7:00 PM	Virtual Bible Study via Zoom Meeting ID : 271 659 616 and Passcode 688863
July 11	9:45 AM	In-Person Adult Bible Study in the Church Parlor
July 11	11:00 AM	In-Person & Virtual Sunday Worship Service with The Lord's Supper in Church Sanctuary and via Zoom with Meeting ID : 626 833 551 and Passcode 592659
July 14	7:00 PM	Virtual Bible Study via Zoom Meeting ID : 271 659 616 and Passcode 688863
July 18	9:45 AM	Third Quarter Business Meeting in the Sanctuary
July 18	11:00 AM	In-Person & Virtual Sunday Worship Service in Church Sanctuary and via Zoom with Meeting ID : 626 833 551 and Passcode 592659
July 21	7:00 PM	Virtual Bible Study via Zoom Meeting ID : 271 659 616 and Passcode 688863
July 25	9:45 AM	In-Person Adult Bible Study in the Church Parlor
July 25	11:00 AM	In-Person & Virtual Sunday Worship Service in Church Sanctuary and via Zoom with Meeting ID : 626 833 551 and Passcode 592659
July 28	7:00 PM	Virtual Bible Study via Zoom Meeting ID : 271 659 616 and Passcode 688863
August 1	9:45 AM	In-Person Adult Bible Study in the Church Parlor
August 1	11:00 AM	In-Person & Virtual Sunday Worship Service in Church Sanctuary and via Zoom with Meeting ID : 626 833 551 and Passcode 592659

Financial Report Through June 24, 2021	June Receipts	\$9,507.00
	YTD Receipts	\$38,466.14
	June Expenditures	\$7,686.18
	YTD Expenditures	\$62,532.25

In *His* name
 the *nations*
 will put
 their *hope*.
 Matthew 12:21