## SICK:

- Mark Blair- Brain Cancer (nephew of MD and Teri Gentry)
- Daniel Nottingham- Having quadruple by-pass in a Midland, TX hosp. (Friend of Bill Looney)
- Phil Brooks- He will have his foot amputated on 4/19 (nephew of Phyllis Scott)
- Marilyn- On a ventilator (Grandmother of Haley Hollenbeck)
- Madeline Miller- Baby not ready to be born yet will have fetal surgery in utero (Granddaughter in law of Preston Noel)
- Aprill Thompson- Now home recuperating - lives in Minnesota (sister of Brittany Hylton)
- Cindy Biggins- Had brain tumor surgery 3/31 (neighbor & friend of Bill Looney)
- Joycelyn Musgrove- Recovering from a stroke (sister of Sally Davis)
- Pastor Don Barnes- Lead pastor of First Assembly of God

- Ethan Jernigan- Brain tumor, his next surgery is 5/11 (Grandson of Jacque Talley)
- Kandi Nichols Covid (cousin of Preston Noel) was taken off the ventilator, will be starting rehab
- Harold Gaches- Colon Cancer (Pastor of First Baptist West)
- Duane Hunt- Cancer (Brother-in-law of Jenice Landers)
- Kirsten Eary- Health issues (16 yr old great niece of Wanda Cavel)
- Sally Davis's friends 14 year old daughter, Gracie Shannon has been diagnosed with Leukemia, a match has been found for her. Had her transplant and waiting on results
- Tammy Little- Cancer (Niece of Mavis Strand)

### **ONGOING:**

- Cindy Morris- Cancer (Niece of Mavis Strand)
- Phyllis Scott
- Marcia & Charles Elkins

- Tommy Morgan- Eye Macular Degeneration
- Jonathan Stone- Health issues
- Margaret Branstetter- Recuperating at home
- Mary Buchwald- Stage 4 Lung Cancer
- Mr. & Mrs. Bill Looney
- Awanda Glover- Health issues
- Gavyn Garza- Health issues (Daughter of Kari & Mike Garza)
- Vivian Thurman
- Mike Finley- Has MS has back & pain issues
- Randy Newman- Health issues
- Kali Grigg- Will be starting Stem Cell Transplant in May (Daughter-inlaw of Jay & Stephanie Grigg, wife of James)
- Karen Fulps- Cancer (Niece of Linda & Mike Finley)
- Donna Campbell- Health issues (Daughter of Denise Campbell)
- Dr. Dan Horton- still in lots of pain
- Charles Horton- Continued prayers





## Suffering

Twenty-three years ago. Oklahoma experienced a devastating tragedy, the May 3rd tornadoes. I remember it being a warm spring day. I was at doctor's appointment in Anadarko when the sky went black. I can remember driving home and not. I remember watching the news, as storm chasers and helicopters videoed the damage.

As a youngster at the time, I couldn't begin to grasp the severity of what happened. In total, 74 tornadoes tore through the country killing 46 people and causing more than a billion dollars in damage. Even as a child, I wondered why such tragedy was even possible. It seemed evil. My elevenyear-old self was right, this type of evil is called "natural evil".

tornadoes, hurricanes, earthquakes, tsunamis, landslides, and volcanoes. These events are not caused directly by a non-divine moral agent. They are unique from things like murder and genocide that are "moral evils". Typically, humans can do nothing about natural disasters occurring.

THE WEEKLY WORDS BRANDON THOMPSON

One of the most common questions I am asked is about natural evil. I think bad people do bad

wondering if the storm was over. It was things causing harm. However, it is more natural evil. When humanity fell from difficult for us to comprehend why a tor- grace, so did all of Creation. Indirectly, nado touched down on one house killing all the pain and suffering we experience everyone inside and missed the house next door. It seems senseless, random, and cruel.

Luckily, as Christians we know that pain, suffering, and hurt are not senseless. In John 9:1-3, Jesus addresses the problem of pain with a man born blind. The disciples were pointing toward moral evil as the cause when Iesus showed them that pain and suffering was much more complex than that. My Natural evil includes things like favorite words in the passage are the words, "so that".

In those short two words Jesus demonstrates that we are not suffering in vain. God has a plan and often that plan is not understood by us. I am not sure why a tornado hits one house and not another, I am not sure why the man in the passage was born blind, but God

is sure. In the midst of tragedy, it is hard to remember that God knows. cares, and plans to make something good from something totally awful.

It is also important to realize people can grasp that that God is not causing evil to happen. God's original plan did not involve is because of sin in general, not sin in particular. It is not God's fault that we are sinful, but it is by God's grace that He plans to make it right. He has a plan to redeem all of Creation and we see that plan unfold in the biblical text.

Twenty-three years later, I still struggle with the question of natural evil. It's hard to wrap my head around the suffering, but I also know that in the midst of the greatest suffering, good can come. It happened 2,000 years ago on a hill outside of Jerusalem, when the only innocent person to live suffered a terrible death. It is understanding the cross that allows us to face suffering with a somber understanding that it is not in vain.

## **SYMPATHY:**

- To Norman and Vickie Cantrell, and Karen and Ken Krause families on the passing of their father, Rev. Kenneth Cantrell, Thursday, April 21, 2022. His funeral service was Wednesday, April 27, 2022, First Baptist Worship Center.
- To Ronnie and Betty Vaughan and family on the passing of his brother, Donnie Vaughan, Friday, April 15, 2022.

# **OKLAHOMA BAPTISTS PRAYER REQUESTS:**

Matt Stewart, Baptist Collegiate Ministries Director at Oklahoma City University

- Pray that their students will have wisdom and boldness as they represent Christ each day.
- Pray that they will continue to develop leaders who will have influence not only in this ministry, but in their churches
- Pray for the Gospel to go forward, for there are many students who have never had an opportunity to respond to the Gospel.

# NORTH AMERICAN MISSION BOARD PRAYER REQUESTS:

Wesley (Wes) and Alexia (Lexi) Winebarger, Church Planter, Travelers Church, Pittsburg, PA

• Pray sojourners will find a home within their church family, witness the transformative presence of Jesus, and lead the way into the harvest.















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Help us fill our crib with baby needs for moms and babies in need

> DROP OFF BY MAY 8, 2022 IN THE WELCOME CENTER

Any new baby Items welcome Gift ideas at tinyurl.com/mdshower2022







#### ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK

| Sunday School        | 304 |
|----------------------|-----|
| Morning Worship      | 474 |
| Evening Worship      | N/A |
| Wednesday Ministries | N/A |

| BUDGET REPORT                       |                  |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|
| Weekly Required                     | \$<br>29,927.75  |
| Weekly Received                     | \$<br>30,035.39  |
| YTD Required                        | \$<br>149,368.75 |
| YTD Received                        | \$<br>151,362.21 |
| YTD Percentage                      | 101.15%          |
| Vision 2020 Commitments             | \$<br>749,054.00 |
| Vision 2020 Received                | \$<br>616,715.42 |
| Lottie Moon                         | \$<br>42,320.00  |
| Current Balance on Vision 2020 loan | \$<br>227,804.98 |
| Annie Armstrong                     | \$<br>13,681.94  |
|                                     |                  |

# **UPCOMING EVENTS**

#### **Discipleship University**

We will not be having DU Sunday, May 8, 2022. We will resume classes Sunday, May 15, 2022.

Sundays at 5pm. Classes are as follows:

Better Love - Mike Keahbone - located in the Parlor

Eternity 101 - Tony Christie - RM 209

The Ruthless Elimination of Hurry - Mike Neff - RM 208

The Art of Neighboring - Aaron Myers - located in 210

Kids P.O.D. - Haley Hollenbeck - 1st-5th/K4C RM - Pre-school/ Kindergarten/Orange RM

Come join a class as the Holy Spirit works through the teachings of our leadership!

#### **Kids-4-Christ Upcoming Dates**

Children 1st - 5th Grade will attend the service in the sanctuary for Mother's Day on May 8th. K4C will resume on May 15th.

Silver Saints Luncheon will be held on Monday, May 9, 2022, at 11:00am. Special Guest speaker will be Jean Ray.

### Men's Golf Days

Golf Days will be May 14, 2022, at Burkburnett; cost will be \$45 and June 4, 2022, in Ft. Cobb; cost will be \$40. We will be leaving the church at 7:15am. Please contact Jack Newell to register at 580-585-1582.

### M28 Bridge Ministry "Missions in your own backyard"

Our next day to serve at the M28 Bridge House is Saturday, May 21, 2022. Please call or text Aileen Sadler at 580-512-2533 if you are able to help serve on this Saturday.

## Senior Adult Sponsored Ark Trip

The Senior Adult Sponsored Ark Trip dates will now be June 13-17, 2022. For more information contact Tony Christie at 580-353-1770.

#### Help Wanted

We are looking for additional volunteers to help on Sunday mornings as Sunday School Clerk. If interested please contact Jay Grigg for more information.

#### **Worship Center Flowers**

The Worship Center flowers are given today in loving memory of Tom and Sylvia Morgan, parents of Sharon Powers. With our love, Jack and Sharon Powers

#### Live Stream

We will be live streaming a Sunday School lesson at 9:45am and worship service at 10:50am on Sunday mornings from our website at fbclawton.org/livestream, Facebook Live, YouTube and BoxCast. We will be broadcasting our morning worship service on KSWO.



## **WEEKLY PRAYER LIST**

"Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving." Colossians 4:2

## fbclawton.org/connected/pray

## **MINISTERS:**

Pray for Tony, Lesha, Joy and Adam as they gladly serve the Lord Jesus Christ at FBC Lawton/Ft. Sill.

Pray for Joy's brothers, Joseph Christie and family, as he serves as a worship leader at True North Church in North Augusta, SC and Jared Christie as he serves as keyboardist at New Spring Church, Columbia,

SC campus.

• Please continue to pray that God would utilize the gifts that He has given Tony, Lesha, Joy and Adam as they desire to be a part of great things God is doing at FBC. Please pray that God would be honored in their lives and Jesus Christ would be magnified in all they say and do.

MEMBERS IN ASSISTED LIVING:

### MCMAHON-TOMLINSON

Beth Mercer #A-7 Rosita Pamplin #A-82-B

# MEMBERS STATIONED ABROAD:

- Evashawn Poemoceah
- Katherine Brickle
- Robert Wallace

# **MISSIONS:**

Phil Aday~May 1-15~ Istanbul, Turkey EXTENDED SESSION:

Sandi Glenn, Terri Tugmon, Lynn Baldwin, Adrian Jenkins, Adam & Joy Scott, Alece Newell, Stephanie McDonald, Allen Ward, Paige Lewis, Betty Vaughan, Jayme Stringfellow. No K4C

MEMBER NOTICES

Wednesday Fellowship Meal
Please come join us May 11, 2022, at 4:45pm for our weekly fellowship
meal. Enchiladas, rice, beans, chips & cheese dip, salad and dessert. Adults
\$5.00, Kids (5-12) \$3.00, (under 5 free) \$20.00 Family Max (5 or more

people)
Kenneth Myers turns 98 years young on June 9, 2022. If members would like to send him birthday cards the address is as follows: #6 Littlemill San Antonio, TX



Statement of Faith Martin & Melissa Butcher Statement of Faith Trinity Hoffman

Baptism Matthew Farley Rededication Axel Colby

78259

# SUNDAY, MAY 8

Sunday School Morning Worship Personnel Committee Mtg 9:30am 10:50am 4:00pm

### No Evening Services

MONDAY, MAY 9 Office Hours - 5:00pm Silver Saints Luncheon 8:30am 11:00am

## TUESDAY, MAY 10

Office Hours - 5:00pm Rooted Ladies Bible Study 8:30am 9:30am

WEDNESDAY, MAY 11 8:30am Office Hours - 5:00pm 9:30am Friendship International

4:15pm 4:45pm 6:00pm Bible Study

Fellowship Meal Student Bible Study

Kids Midweek Worship Choir Rehearsal

The Gathering

Women's Connection

Young Professionals Divorce Care

# **THURSDAY, MAY 12**

Office Hours - 5:00pm Women @ Viridian 8:30am 7:00pm

FRIDAY, MAY 13 9:00am Office Hours - 12:00pm 9:00am

SATURDAY, MAY 14 8:00am Golf Days at Burkburnett

# **SUNDAY, MAY 15**

10:50am 2:00pm 2:30pm 3:00pm 3:45pm 4:00pm

Sunday School
Morning Worship
Deacon's Mtg
Budget/Finance Committee Mtg
VBS Worker Training Mtg
VBS Volunteer Training Mtg

Heavens Kids Kids Choir

Discipleship University-last night College Bible Study

5:00pm 8:00pm