

# The Connection

30 OCTOBER 2020 NEWSLETTER

## A CHRISTIAN'S CONFIDENCE

WRITTEN BY JERRY ASCHER

For a while now, we have been inundated with news from the States concerning the upcoming election. It remains to be seen if it will be known, by this time next week, which of the candidates will be president for the next four years.

Politicians and pundits from both sides of the ideological aisle have dubbed this election the most important one in the history of America. People are quick to put their hopes in a preferred outcome of an election or in a certain candidate, whoever that may be. As believers, we often forget that our hope is in a God Who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think because of Who He is, not based on the circumstances of life which come upon us. And this is the point that Habakkuk makes at the end of his prophecy. In chapter three, Habakkuk recounts God's blessing to the nation of Israel, especially in the time directly after their bondage in Egypt. Can you imagine the relief the people experienced after being under the oppression of Pharaoh? They not only had been delivered, but then they witnessed the destruction of that wicked ruler and his entire army at the Red Sea. Sadly, Habakkuk foresaw the heartache God's people were going to endure facing yet another captivity, this time in Babylon, and his heart ached for them. But he concludes his prophecy putting all of that into perspective: "Though the fig tree may not blossom, nor fruit be on the vines; though the labor of the olive may fail, and the fields yield no food; though the flock may be cut off from the fold, and there be no herd in the stalls— yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will joy in the God of my salvation."

In his commentary, pastor and author F.B. Meyer said this about Habakkuk, "If all God's gifts failed, he would still possess the Giver. He could still triumph in God. Indeed, the divine Savior and Friend is often more apparent when the fields and the farmsteads are bare." How true! We all face times when what we had hoped would occur doesn't, when what we have set our hearts on fails to come to pass, when we lose out on something we feel is of utmost importance. But when we realize that our hope and security are found in a good and faithful God, we can have confidence that He is going to work it all out for our good and His glory.



## SUNDAY ADULT FELLOWSHIP GROUPS AVAILABLE:

### 9:30 AM

- **Church History: Forerunners of the Faith** (Room 207) Jerry Ascher
- **Ladies' Class: Matthew Presents Christ, the Son of the Living God** (Room 312) Sandi Stephens

### 11:00 AM

- **Young Couples' Fellowship Group** (Room 207) Will Breckenridge
- **The Epistles of John** (Room 312) Manuele Russo
- **Acts: The Birth of the Church** (Room 306) Bob Cook
- **College & Career Group** (Room 221) Jeff McConnell
- **Teen Fellowship Group** (Room 308) Anthony Neumann

## Sunday School Classes for Children 11 am:

- Ages 4-5 Room 209
- Grades 1-2 Room 212
- Grades 3-4 Room 211
- Grades 5-6 Room 309

Guidelines for in-person gatherings may be found on our website.

## SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP 9:30 OR 11 AM

Two in-person services take place in the auditorium. Services will simultaneously be live streamed in the gymnasium (no singing), or available to you at home.

Due to restrictions, nurseries are unavailable at this time, but classes are available for ages 2-3 for each service.

*Daylight Savings Ends*



### 01 NOVEMBER

- "JESUS SHALL REIGN"
- "ALL CREATURES OF OUR GOD AND KING"
- PRAYER
- "REJOICE, YE PURE IN HEART"
- SCRIPTURE READING: JAMES 1:16-27
- "MORE LOVE TO THEE"
- SERMON: "SEEING IS NOT BELIEVING"  
JOHN 12:34-50 PASTOR KEVIN WILLIAMS
- "HIS MERCY IS MORE"
- PRAYER

## DISCIPLESHIP TRAINING 6 PM

*Foundations: Bible Truths for Christian Growth*

*Lesson 9a The Holy Spirit: God's Presence in You"*

Workbooks are available at the information desk for \$10

## WEDNESDAY PRAYER & BIBLE STUDY/KIDS 4 TRUTH 7 PM

Children's classes for ages 4 to grade 6 are available. Adults and teens meet in the auditorium for Bible study and prayer. For our Bible study we will discuss the following questions that relate to the Sunday morning sermon:



### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR JOHN 12:34-50

1. Which three words in this passage do you think are most significant?
2. What is being said about those three important words?
3. What does this passage say about Jesus?
4. How do people in this passage respond to Jesus?
5. How does this passage challenge or encourage you?
6. What from this passage can you share to encourage a fellow Christian?
7. What from this passage can you share with an unbeliever?

O God, our help in ages past,  
Our hope for years to come,  
Our shelter from the stormy blast,  
And our eternal home!

Under the shadow of Thy throne  
Thy saints have dwelt secure;  
Sufficient is Thine arm alone,  
And our defense is sure.

### ISAAC WATTS

*Based on Psalm 90, this hymn probably surpasses in grandeur all others that Watts wrote. It was written shortly before the death of Queen Anne while the people of England were in a state of anxiety over her successor. Watts sought, in the original nine stanzas of this hymn, to calm the fears of his countrymen by pointing out to them, in verse, that the same God who had been their help in the past was their hope for the future.*

Johnson, Guye. *Treasury of Great Hymns and Their Stories*, Greenville, South Carolina: Bob Jones University Press, 1986.



### *Need to contact us?*

#### **Church Office**

780-440-1195

**Pastor Kevin Williams**

587-635-2758

**Pastor Jerry Ascher**

587-635-2751

**Pastor Mark Richmond**

587-635-2752

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#### **GIVING**

E-transfer is available. From your bank's website, select the e-transfer feature. The email address to transfer to is [donations@meadowlandsbaptist.com](mailto:donations@meadowlandsbaptist.com). Your donation will be automatically accepted and you will receive a confirmation of the transfer.



The memorial service for Nell Popowich is Monday, November 2, 10 am at Westlawn Funeral Home. [A live stream link is available for those who cannot attend.](#)

Thank you to all who contributed to the Thanksgiving offering. The results were as follows:

Mortgage/Land Purchase: \$48,815

Special Missionary Offering: \$10,665

We will be sending a \$1,000 gift to each of our missionaries this week.

