



the Connection

MEADOWLANDS BAPTIST CHURCH
17 SEPTEMBER 2021 NEWSLETTER

MOVING TOWARD MATURITY

by Kevin Williams

In the middle of our Bible study last Wednesday night, we were interrupted by an emergency alert on our cell phones. The government of Alberta declared a state of emergency accompanied by new public health restrictions. Providentially, we were studying James 1 which reminds us to “count it all joy when you fall into various trials” (James 1:2).

Have the last 18 months been a trial for you? Are you weary of the effects of this virus and the mandated restrictions? Has the daily barrage of Covid news worn you down? Well, as a disciple of Christ, you can eagerly anticipate the results of this trial. James says you can rejoice because trials will make you “perfect and complete, lacking nothing” (James 1:4). God has a plan to use difficulty to move you toward greater maturity. Because of this, James concludes, “Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial” (James 1:12). If the latest announcement is a trial for you, rejoice that you are blessed, and that God is making you spiritually mature. Let’s not lose sight of what God is doing or miss the harvest of fruit He intends to produce.

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MOVING TOWARD MATURITY

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The provincial government's latest order has three basic guidelines for churches: masks, physical distance, and one-third capacity. These rules will not change our schedule at all. We will continue both morning services in the auditorium with livestream available in the gym. Nursery and Sunday school classes for all ages will continue, but a class or two may change locations. The membership class, connect groups, and Wednesday activities will continue as planned. Thankfully, we can simultaneously obey God's commands for His church and submit to the governing authorities He has ordained. I encourage you to obey all your authorities with a joyful heart.

I also urge you to pray for our province. I have talked to several front-line healthcare workers in our church family this week. They need our prayers and support. The hospitals in our city are full, and the medical professionals are weary. Will you pray for them? Also, the current crisis has caused some of our church members to have medical procedures postponed. They need our prayers too. And we should regularly pray for our government leaders as they make important decisions that affect us all.

If you are finding it difficult to "count it all joy," then ask God for help (James 1:5). Responding to trials with joy requires divine enablement. And that God-given joy can overflow as a gracious gift to others. In the midst of your trial, don't forget God's purpose—to move His people toward greater maturity.



SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES: SEPT 19 9:30 AM OR 11:00 AM

In-person services take place in the auditorium. Services are simultaneously livestreamed in the gym or available to you at home.

- "Come, Christians, Join to Sing"
- "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"
- "The Doxology"
- Prayer
- Scripture Reading: 1 John 1:1-2:2
- "His Robes for Mine"
- "A Debtor to Mercy Alone"
- "Soldiers of Christ, Arise"
- Message: "The Deception of Temptation"
James 1:13-18 Pastor Kevin Williams
- "Amazing Grace"

ADULT FELLOWSHIP GROUPS

9:30

Forerunners of the Faith (Church History)
Pastor Jerry | Room 207

11:00

College & Career

Jeff McConnell | Room 221

Young Couples: 20s & 30s

Will Breckenridge | Room 207

Epistle to the Philippians

Manuele Russo | **Gym Foyer**

Foundations: Bible Truths for Christian Growth

Bob Cook | Room 306

Note:
Room Change



CHILDREN'S/TEEN MINISTRIES

9:30

Nursery (0-1)

Nursery (2-3)

11:00

Nursery (0-1)

Nursery (2-3)

Ages 4-5 Room 209

Grades 1-2 Room 212

Grades 3-4 Room 211

Grades 5-6 Room 309

Teens Room 308

MBC MISSIONARY UPDATE: BUD & DEBBIE TALBERT



Foundation Baptist College

Several students who are seeking the Lord about full-time ministry attended the block course Bud taught in July on the Pastoral Epistles. They were enthusiastic, engaged, and grateful to be able to better understand and apply these Scriptures to their own understanding of the qualifications and duties of pastors.

The fall semester begins in late August. We have at least one new student and several returning students who are increasing their class load this coming semester. Please continue to pray that God would burden and direct a qualified man with missionary support to join Bud in the work of the college.

Lighthouse Baptist Church

Our congregation returned to our rented location on July 4th. Please continue to pray that God would provide and direct for a new permanent church location. We continue to rent out our own small facility to two other small church congregations. Please pray for those in our "Freedom that Lasts" addictions ministry. Many of these dear ones have struggled more during all the COVID-19 pressures, and some have chosen to return to their old addictions. Pray for the women Debbie mentors regularly and particularly for Samantha, an unsaved lady who is seeking God and has agreed to work through a discipleship book with Debbie.

WEDNESDAY PRAYER & BIBLE STUDY: 7 PM

- Nursery available (0-3)
- Kids 4 Truth Classes (Age 4 to grade 6)
- Youth Group (Teens)
- Parenting Class: *Intentional Parenting* with Pastor Mark Richmond (Room 207)
- Adult Prayer and Bible Study in Auditorium

CONNECT GROUPS

Groups have been formed and scheduled for next Sunday's fellowship (September 26). If you would like to be included when the same groups meet October 24, you may sign up on our website and we will see about plugging you in.



DEACON NOMINATIONS

Nomination forms are available in the church foyer for MBC members to submit names for deacon recommendations for 2022.

CONTACT US:

Church Office

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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. Your donation will be automatically accepted, and you will receive a confirmation of the transfer.