

Iotla Baptist Church
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Knowing God
Growing in
relationship to Him
Going into the world
in His name and with
his message
Showing others how
they can do the same.

Coming Events:

- ◆ All September -
Collect for NC MO
- ◆ Sept. 3
Wedding
- ◆ Sept. 18
Guest Speaker for
NCMO

IOTLA

BAPTIST CHURCH

Here to Serve

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Message from Pastor Brandon

In Matthew 6:5-14 and Luke 11:1-4 is recorded an interaction between Jesus and His disciples in which He is teaching them about prayer. It's an account sometime referred to as the "model prayer". This is an accurate title for this part of scripture because it is an accurate description of what's found there. Jesus is giving the disciples a model by which they can learn to pray in light of and in line with His kingdom. As I read it this morning, it reminded me that Jesus has modeled prayer for us in at least two ways. For one, He expresses this model with His lips. But He also exemplified prayer for us by modeling it in His life. For example, throughout the gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke and John) we see it said that "Jesus went away by Himself to pray" (Matt. 14:1-13, MK. 6:30-32, LK. 4:1-2, 14-15). Through this, we see our need for prayer. If Jesus, the very Son of God, was in need of regular communion with the Father through prayer then how much more are we?

Besides our need for prayer, we learn much about the nature of prayer from Jesus. The model prayer as it is recorded in Matt. 6 teaches us how we shouldn't pray. The model prayer as it's recorded in Lk. 11 teaches us how we should pray. These are two different recorded accounts of the same prayer which, taken together, are tremendously helpful to us as we grow in the gift of prayer. Also, Jesus gives us a number of parables which teach vitally important truths like diligence in prayer, the impact of prayer, the heart of the Father to answer prayer and so on. It's important to remember when we consider the model prayer that Jesus was not giving the disciples a legalistic formula. Rather, He was giving them loving guidance by which they could pray in line with the heart of the Father.

Prayer is an important part of our journey with Jesus, based on relationship. It is not an imposition to be endured based on rules. This is part of why, when we learn to use the Word of God as a guide for prayer, we can gain fresh, inspired, insight for prayer each new day.

The more we grow to understand the need for prayer and the nature of prayer, the more we grow to understand our need for the Pray-er. Why did the disciples ask Jesus in Luke 11:1 to "Teach us to pray"? It is because they knew He was the master Pray-er. Jesus lived His life on earth in constant communion with the Father. Now, as He is seated at the right hand of the Father in heaven, He is continually interceding for us, His followers, in prayer (Rom. 8:34). Even when we don't know how we ought to pray the Holy Spirit intercedes on our behalf, before the Father, "with groanings too deep for words." (Rom. 8:26) Christian, keep leaning on your need for prayer. Keep learning about the nature of prayer (we'll be learning about the things of God throughout eternity, and that's a good thing!) Keep looking to the master Pray-er. Even when we don't know what we ought to pray, He does, and He is interceding for us.

For His Glory: Pastor Brandon

IOTLA BAPTIST YOUTH

Teenagers have no greater—or scarier—mission field than their own schools.

Encourage your students to be a light for the gospel this school year by ramping up your efforts to train and equip them in the areas where they might be nervous to live for Jesus.

Here are three key reminders for every Christian teenager

1. You have a mission to accomplish (His mission)
2. You're not alone (He is with you.)
3. "Do your best in all you do and trust Him for the rest." (Colossians 3:23)

Whatever you do, do it from the heart, as something done for the Lord and not for people.

Colossians 3:23

Let's Celebrate !

North Carolina Missions Offering

Sew'n Sews

ANNIVERSARIES

- ◆ STAN & CARMEN PENLAND 9/03
- ◆ STEVE & VALERIE NORTON 9/07
- ◆ JIM & MARILYN FOUTS 9/25
- ◆ BRANDON & NANCY BREEDLOVE 9/29
- ◆ HUGH & NANCY KRAG 9/30

BIRTHDAYS

- ◆ SHARI BRUCE 9/02
- ◆ REVENA BREEDLOVE 9/07
- ◆ RALIEGH BUCHANAN 9/06
- ◆ GILMER BREEDLOVE 9/10
- ◆ RUTH GIBSON 9/10
- ◆ HUGH BLAINE 9/13
- ◆ BARBARA LYNCH 9/13
- ◆ CHARLES STAMEY 9/13
- ◆ BARBARA WILSON 9/14
- ◆ LISA SANGREGORY 9/15
- ◆ GABE LAMB 9/16
- ◆ VICKIE DONALDSON 9/17
- ◆ MIKE BRUCE 9/19
- ◆ MARCIE LOUDERMILK 9/19
- ◆ NANCY BREEDLOVE 9/22
- ◆ LAWSON DILLS 9/23
- ◆ GERRY CONWAY 9/25
- ◆ COLE BATES 9/26
- ◆ DARLENE DEMAS 9/26
- ◆ TONY LEDFORD 9/27
- ◆ CATHY CONNER 9/29
- ◆ LELAND HAHN 9/30

September is the NC Missions Offering.

The theme is "Relief for today...Hope for tomorrow".

No matter the cost or circumstances affecting our world we are all called to bring relief to the world through acts of kindness and generosity.

At the recent Missions Rally in Bryson Rally we heard all about the progress of all the different mission programs that are 100% supported by the NC Missions Offering. It still amazes me how God is working through Baptist on Mission to offer so many projects from Disaster Relief, Mission Camps for children and youth, partnerships across our nation and the world to bring the hope of Jesus to so many, medical and dental services and so much more!!

The one thing that really stood out to me at the Rally was that it is our job to be an advocate for the NC Missions Offering. An advocate in giving as we can, an advocate in praying for all the mission projects, and an advocate to go as called or to support those called. It is an honor to be an advocate for God's work!

You will be hearing more about all the mission programs in the coming weeks and on Sunday, September 18th, we will have a special guest speaker. Mr. Tom Beam who is on staff at NC Baptist on Mission and serves as Disaster Relief Coordinator will speak to us about the offering and the programs it supports.

The goal for the offering at lotla is: \$3000.

Mission Strategy/Community Impact Meeting

The committee met recently and discussed and planned for some upcoming projects for missions.

Operation Christmas Child

Yes. It is that time of year again! Our kick off will be on Sunday, October 2nd with information and the boxes. Please be in prayer for your part in this amazing mission opportunity!

Southern Baptist Global Hunger Relief

The Global Hunger Relief is funded entirely by Southern Baptist churches with 100% of donations going to meet hunger needs nationwide as well as around the globe.

We have participated in this for quite a few years by hosting a Poor Man's Lunch with all donations for the lunch going to this Global Hunger Fund. While we did not have the lunch the past two years due to covid, this year we are back on track and planning the lunch!!

The date will be Sunday, October 16th, following the morning worship service.

You will be hearing more information in the coming weeks about the fund and the work it does for so many people in need.

Prayer Needs

Schools- Continue to pray for all of our schools in Macon County as well as the teachers, children, additional school staff and parents.

Disaster Relief- much work continues through NC Baptist Disaster Relief in Canton, NC and in Kentucky. Pray for the volunteers continuing this work and the lives of the families they come in contact with.

Women's Conference

The ladies of First Baptist Church would like to invite our ladies to join them for a Women's Conference. on Saturday, October 1st from 9 AM to noon. The speaker will be Jennifer Toppil and the title is "What a Mighty God We Serve!". The registration fee is \$10. Let the office know if you are interested in going.

The bus was loaded and quilts were delivered to all the Macon County Schools. Another job **WELL** done!



PRAYER LIST

Church Members

- Teresa Ammons
- Mildred Asby
- Jim Fouts
- Dickie Gibson
- Susan Huggart Family
- Rose Lillard
- Margaret Willoughby
- Barbara Wilson
- Janis Wilson

Family and Friends

- Kathleen Angel
- Tommy Cabe
- Noah Carpenter
- Chuck Mallonee
- Jeni Marotta
- Norma Midado
- Lydia Millard
- Carson Rowland
- Evan Smith
- Terry Wood
- Cade and Lanie

