#### **Community Resources**

During this time, people may struggle with many different needs. Here are some helpful resources provided by our community.

#### **Food Assistance:**

- Breakfast and lunch for Pattonville School District kids Monday-Friday.
- Ritenour School District Co-Care Food Pantry Food pickup Monday-
- St. Louis County Library Drive-Thru Meals for kids Monday, Wednesday, and
- Hunger Hotline (314) 726-5355

#### **Rent Assistance:**

- United Way: (800) 427-4626
- Urban League: (314) 615-3640
- Salvation Army: (314) 646-3000

#### **Utility Assistance:**

- Heat Up STL: (314) 241-0001
- Urban League: (314) 615-3640
- Salvation Army: (314) 646-3000
- Community Action Agency: (314) 863-0015

#### **Emergency Diapers**

St. Louis County Library Drive-Thru - Emergency Diapers every Friday (starting April 3).

#### Continued from front...

Church, we know that we aren't promised tomorrow. However, our God is a good God who is with us! This pandemic did not take Him by surprise. He redeems all He allows. Could it be that He is using this virus to remind us of our mortality...and of our need for Him?

It is my prayer that we will stand firm on the Rock of Ages during this time. That we will find peace and hope in Him. And now, with Easter quickly approaching, let us take this opportunity to share God's truth with others.

Invite your friends, relatives, and neighbors to watch our services online. Let them know you are praying for them. We have the amazing privilege of celebrating Christ's love for us and how He defeated the grave! Even if we have to do it virtually, we will still worship Him in Spirit and in Truth!



# Sympathy

Our love through Christian sympathy is extended to

- ... Sue Bambenek on the passing of her mother, Donna McGrew, on March 21.
- ... Sharon (Larry) Land on the passing of her aunt, Ruth Carlyle, on March 29.

#### **FR Online Edition**

Save paper and subscribe to the new mobile-friendly online edition of the Forerunner. Get the website link to the Forerunner sent to your email before the print copy even hits mailboxes. Stay up-to-date and never miss out on Fee Fee news! Contact tara@feefeebc.org to be Pastor Zach | added to the email list.

#### **OUR MISSION:**

Fee Fee Baptist Church exists to make disciples who **build** their lives on Jesus and **pursue** the good of our community for the glory of God.

### Ministry **Opportunities**

#### Sunday, April 12 - EASTER SUNDAY

8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Live Stream on our website or Facebook page

11:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship Live Stream on website or Facebook

#### Monday, April 13

7:00 p.m. Daily Prayer Live on our

#### Tuesday, April 14

7:00 a.m. Meals on Wheels 7:00 p.m. Daily Prayer Live on our

#### Wednesday, April 15

7:00 p.m. Daily Prayer Live on our

# Thursday, April 16

7:00 p.m. Daily Prayer Live on our

#### Friday, April 17

7:00 p.m. Daily Prayer Live on our

#### Saturday, April 18

#### Sunday, April 19

8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Live Stream on our website or Facebook page

11:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship Live Stream on website or Facebook

#### Monday, April 20

7:00 p.m. Daily Prayer Live on our

#### Tuesday, April 21

7:00 a.m. Meals on Wheels 4:00 p.m. Loaves & Fishes Ministry 7:00 p.m. Daily Prayer Live on our Facebook page

#### Wednesday, April 22

7:00 p.m. Daily Prayer Live on our

#### Thursday, April 23

7:00 p.m. Daily Prayer Live on our

#### Friday, April 24

7:00 p.m. Daily Prayer Live on our

#### Saturday, April 25

Due to COVID-19, the church building will be closed to all events and services until further

To stay up-to-date on all calendar updates, please check our website. Download our new app on Google Play Store or Apple App Store for more news; just search for "Fee Fee Baptist

#### **Church Office** Staff

#### Rev. Zach Crook, SENIOR PASTOR

Rev. Andrew Yakel, Associate Pastor

Ms. Gloria Fox, DIRECTOR OF SENIOR ADULTS

& BIBLE STUDY

Mrs. Kathy Scott, DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN

& FAMILY MINISTRIES

Mrs. Ronna Paden, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Mr. Kyle Baldwin, INTERIM YOUTH DIRECTOR

Mr. Steve Middendorf, FINANCIAL OFFICER

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#### **FEE FEE BAPTIST CHURCH**

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#### **April 6, 2020**

# THE FORERUNNER

# FEE FEE BAPTIST CHURCH

BUILD & PURSUE

#### A Word From Pastor Zach

there is still uncertainty about how long this coronavirus will last, we all understand that COVID-19 is a deadly serious global pandemic. We know that all necessary precautions should be taken. With that being said, how are we to live right now in light of this pandemic? We might gain some wisdom from C.S. Lewis, one of the greatest writers of the twentieth century. Over 70 years ago, he wrote the following words that are very applicable to today. If you simply replace "atomic bomb" with "COVID-19," I think you will find his words challenging and relevant to us. In "Living in an Atomic Age," Lewis wrote:

"In one way we think a great deal too much of the atomic bomb. "How are we to live in an atomic age?" I am tempted to reply: "Why, as you would have lived in the sixteenth century when the plaque visited London almost every year, or as you would have lived in a Viking age when raiders from Scandinavia might land and cut your throat any night; or indeed, as you are already living in an age of cancer, an age of syphilis, an age of paralysis, an age of air raids, an age of railway accidents, an age of motor accidents."

In other words, do not let us begin by exaggerating the novelty of our situation. Believe me, dear sir or madam, you and all whom you love were already sentenced to death before the atomic bomb was invented: and quite a high percentage of us were going to die in unpleasant ways. We had, indeed, one very great advantage over our ancestors—anesthetics; but we have that still. It is perfectly ridiculous to go about whimpering and drawing long

faces because the scientists have added one more chance of painful and premature death to a world which already bristled with such chances and in which death itself was not a chance at all, but a certainty.

This is the first point to be made: and the first action to be taken is to pull ourselves together. If we are all going to be destroyed by an atomic bomb, let that bomb when it comes find us doing sensible and human things—praying, working, teaching, reading, listening to music, bathing the children, playing tennis, chatting to our friends over a pint and a game of darts—not huddled together like frightened sheep and thinking about bombs. They may break our bodies (a microbe can do that) but they need not dominate our minds."

— "On Living in an Atomic Age" (1948) in Present Concerns: Journalistic Essays.

I love that last sentence...about how it doesn't need to dominate our minds. Church family, rather than letting thoughts of the virus dominate our minds, I pray that we fix our eyes on Jesus. Easter is right around the corner! My prayer for you is that every time thoughts of this virus creep up in vour minds, vou will remember that our Savior defeated death. He conquered the grave! We have a living Hope!

Continued on inside page...

#### **Prime Time**

Gloria Fox, Director of Senior Adults & Bible Study

Having trouble figuring out what day of the week it is? Me too. I used to mark time by church on Sunday, office hours on Tuesday and Thursday, and Bible Study on Wednesday night. I did not have trouble remembering what day of the week it was. Not true anymore!

It's hard to imagine that we have just been social distancing, followed by sheltering in place, for merely a few weeks. Life as we knew it has changed radically and I believe, when this is over, it will never be the same.

But the good news is, even in these uncertain times, God is actively working in our lives, refining our character, and making us more like Jesus. He is helping to clarify what is really important to us and what is of true value. I hope you are allowing God to lead you into an even more intimate relationship as you learn to trust Him in all circumstances. Life has no surprises for the Father. He knew you would be living on this day and in this unclear time.

After all, we were made for God's pleasure and to give Him glory before we were even born! The psalmist wrote in Psalm 139:13-16 (ESV), "For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well. My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth. Your eyes saw my unformed substance; in your book were written, every one of them, the days that were formed for me, when as yet there was none of them."

Let's praise Him that He knows us and loves us unconditionally. Let's thank Him for what He is teaching us as we have extended time with Him. Let's serve Him by loving and serving others and listening as the Spirit leads us in how we can show this love.

I am praying for you all. If you need anything, or just need to talk, you can reach me at (314) 604-6071 or <a href="mailto:gloria@feefeebc.org">gloria@feefeebc.org</a>.

Don't forget to be thankful in all things, rejoice evermore and pray without ceasing. If we trust Him, He will give us His perfect peace. Be a peace maker by sharing Jesus today. The world needs our hope!

# **Bible Study Corner**

If you have a computer, smartphone, or tablet and are not involved in Bible Study, contact <u>Gloria</u> and she will find a place to connect you! Bible Studies and Small Groups are still meeting...just virtually!

In the meantime, make sure you connect with God's love letter to you at least 4 times a week so He can change you. Ask Him to show you something in His word every day, and He will. Allow His Holy Spirit to get that Word deep into your heart so you can be transformed.

# Chi Alpha News

Kyle Baldwin, Interim Youth Director

Youth Online Bible Study – During this time that we are apart from each other, let's be sure to be diligent to connect the best that we can. Each Sunday and Wednesday, we will still be having Bible Study together. I will be recording a lesson from a RightNow Media series and posting it to our Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube pages. You can find us on all those platforms at Fee Fee Youth. Additionally, I will be posting Daily Devotionals on Facebook and Instagram to give you some encouragement throughout the week. Please reach out to me if you need anything, kyle@feefeebc.org. I am praying for each of you!

# **Music Musings**

Ronna Paden, Director of Music

**Hold Me Jesus** – Christian songwriter Rich Mullins is certainly best known for writing the praise songs *Awesome God* and *Step By Step*. However, I would like to share the lyrics of a song he wrote in 1993 called *Hold Me Jesus*. Some of you may remember this song was recorded more recently (2008), by Big Daddy Weave.

It seems to me this song would be very appropriate during this time of fear and anxiety:

Well, sometimes my life just don't make sense at all When the mountains look so big And my faith just seems so small

So hold me Jesus, 'cause I'm shaking like a leaf You have been King of my glory Won't You be my Prince of Peace

And I wake up in the night and feel the dark It's so hot inside my soul I swear there must be blisters on my heart

So hold me Jesus, 'cause I'm shaking like a leaf You have been King of my glory Won't you be my Prince of Peace

Surrender don't come natural to me I'd rather fight You for something I don't really want Then to take what You give that I need And I've beat my head against so many walls Now I'm falling down, I'm falling on my knees

And this Salvation Army band is playing this hymn And Your grace rings out so deep It makes my resistance seem so thin

I'm singing hold me Jesus, 'cause I'm shaking like a leaf You have been King of my glory Won't you be my Prince of Peace

What an insight into the human condition! Bending our will to the will of the Father is an issue for all of us. The Good News is that since Christ did just that on our behalf, we can be transformed from children of wrath to obedient sons and daughters who cry, "Abba Father." If you are feeling weak and unsure of everything right now, simply cry out "Hold me, Jesus," and He will do just that.

# **Family Front**

Kathy Scott, Director of Children & Family Ministries e in quarantine land? I miss getting together with

So how is everyone out there in quarantine land? I miss getting together with the kids and seeing families at church! Blackaby's "Experiencing God Day by Day" devotional spoke to me today: "God's purpose in creating a nation for Himself was to demonstrate His wisdom to the world through the obedience of His people...God gives you the same opportunity to base your life on His wisdom...You as a Christian have access to God's wisdom...God's Holy Spirit is within you to guide you...and will open your eyes to the truth of scripture...As you allow God to direct your life, those around you will see true wisdom...your family will be blessed because you make wise decisions." Isn't it great to be called His child and know that we can rely on His truths to guide us to live for Him? Lead your family today to do just that by spending time with Him.

Free Family Resources – If you need additional resources, you can find many of them through Right Now Media. Just give us permission to put your email into our account and you can access Right Now Media for FREE! It is a great resource for kids' videos and Bible Studies covering all topics and ages. I especially enjoy "What's in the Bible" series by Phil Vischer. What an opportunity you have right now to lead your kids to know Jesus better!

Another wonderful resource is through Lifeway. It's free and all you have to do is sign up! Simply go to <u>lifeway.com/coronavirus</u>, and follow the instructions on their site. This includes a free digital pass to Lifeway Kids at Home. They also offer a 7-Day Coronavirus Prayer Guide.

**Daily Prayer** – We invite you to involve your kids during our Daily Prayer on Facebook Live every weekday at 7:00 p.m., by having them share prayer requests. What a precious time this will be!

**Easter** – I have sent families a 10-day 10-minute Easter devotional which you can use to lead your family as you prepare for Easter. Enjoy them as you worship together. If others would like those just let me know.

**Summer Fun Week** is coming and will be here before we know it! Vacation Bible School and Sports Crusaders Basketball Camp will be June 22-26. "Wilderness Escape" is our theme for VBS this year, and will be from 9:00 a.m. to noon; Basketball Camp will be from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. If you would like to serve, now is the time to sign up! Contact Kathy Scott about how you can get connected, kathy@feefeebc.org.

# **Community Connection**

Andrew Yakel, Associate Pastor

**Easter is coming!** Easter is coming next week, April 12! While you may not be able to invite people to join you for worship in person, we still want you to invite people to church online! There are a few ways you could do this:

If you are not on Facebook, ask your friends and family to watch the service live on the church website (www.feefeebc.org) along with you. Then afterwards, call them or text them and have a conversation. Ask questions like: Did you enjoy the service? Which point of Pastor Zach's stood out the most to you? Which song was your favorite and why?

If you are watching on Facebook and want to invite specific friends or family members, you can host a watch party. While you are watching the video, hit "Share" and at the bottom of that list is "Start a Watch Party." Then you can have a private conversation just with your friends and family members that join you to watch.

If you don't want to host a watch party, you can also hit "Share" and at the top of that list select "Share Now (Public)." Then any of your friends who watch can join the conversation with everyone else on Facebook that is watching.

However you do it, invite people to join you for worship this Easter. Even though you can't meet in person, the Gospel message can still be shared! Most importantly, be praying for the lost this Easter season. As this virus causes more fear in our world, people desperately need the hope that comes through salvation through faith in Jesus.

