



My First Winter in Misery, I Mean Missouri

Before our move to our new hometown, I had several people warn me, "Just remember, it gets a little bit colder here in Missouri than it does in Texas." Man, oh man, they weren't kidding! The past few weeks have been a bit of an adjustment for my family considering we've always lived in a place where anytime it dipped below fifty degrees it was treated as "heavy coat weather." But don't get worried - the Robinson family will survive the frigid temps and snowy days as we continue to settle in and enjoy life here in Farmington.

I've also had said to me on multiple occasions, "If you don't like the weather here in Missouri, just wait a few hours - it'll change." While that idiom is also proving true, (By the way, we had that same saying back in Texas.) it reminds me of an even greater truth - one constant in this life is that things never stay the same. You can count on the fact you will encounter changes in this life, and not all of them will be pleasant or easy. Scarier yet is that some of those changes you'll never see coming.

Whenever I think of how to handle change, my mind turns to the great Biblical example of the life of Job. Talk about someone who endured more unexpected changes than anyone would ever hope to see!! In the blink of an eye, he lost everything except for his life. While the Bible records the most drastic and painful changes of Job's life, it goes with saying that he endured many more changes during his days, some good and some bad, than we'll ever know. However, in the midst of the worst changes of his life, Scripture records Job's words of trust and praise.

And he said, "Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked shall I return. The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord." (Job 1:21, ESV)

I'm sure that Job would have preferred never to live through that day in which he spoke these famous words. However, he did face that day. He didn't see it coming, and he couldn't have controlled it even if had known what would happen. Job's only choice on that terrible day was his response. He chose praise.

As I look back over the past six months of my life, I can see many changes. Thankfully, almost all of those changes, with the exception of the weather, have been good changes. For me, it has been easy to say, "Blessed be the name of the Lord," for I have been enjoying all that God has been giving me. However, what will my attitude be on the day when I experience God's "taking away?" Will I still be able to praise God with the same words during tough and unexpected changes as I do during the pleasant and welcomed ones?

My point is this: today, praise God no matter the circumstances you are encountering or the changes you are facing. Praise Him if things are going great, but also praise Him if you're struggling through life's unexpected twists and turns. When we refuse to lose a heart of praise, we will never find ourselves very miserable. Instead, we will rejoice as experience the peace of God's majesty.

Blessings!
Pastor Greg

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Regular Schedule:	
Sunday	Wednesday
8:00 A.M. Worship	7:30-9:30 A.M. Walking Track
9:15 A.M. Bible Study	6:00-6:45 P.M. Session 1
10:30 A.M. Worship	Ignite; Children's Choirs, Small Group Study
Lighthouse Harbor	6:45-7:30 P.M. Session 2
Torchbearers	Ignite; Adult Choir; Missions; Prayer Meeting
5:00 P.M. Orchestra Rehearsal	
6:00 P.M. Worship	
Activities for February 7 through February 20	
Thursday	February 7
7:30-9:30 A.M. Walking Track	
8:30 A.M. Life PLUS Planning Meeting	
10:00 A.M. Life PLUS Bible Study	
6:30 P.M. GLOW Ministry Valentine Card Making	
7:00-9:00 P.M. Church/Community Recreation (gym)	
Friday	February 8
7:30-9:30 A.M. Walking Track	
1:00 P.M. Life PLUS to The Baptist Home	
6:00 P.M. GA Lock-in (grades 5-6)	
Saturday	February 9
Sunday	February 10
Regular A.M. Schedule	
Noon Adult 9 Potluck	
4:30 P.M. Greeters Meeting	
7:00 P.M. Deacon's Meeting	
Monday	February 11
7:30-9:30 A.M. Walking Track	
1:30 P.M. CARE "A" Team	
7:00 P.M. FUEL Bible Study (boys meet in student center; girls at 362 Moss Ln)	

Tuesday	February 12
7:30-9:30 A.M. Walking Track	
7:00 P.M. Bible Study Fellowship	
Wednesday	February 13
Regular Schedule	
Thursday	February 14
7:30-9:30 A.M. Walking Track	
8:00 A.M. Garden Club (conference center)	
10:00 A.M. Life PLUS Bible Study	
2:00 P.M. Partners in Prayer (Library)	
7:00-9:00 P.M. Church/Community Recreation (gym)	
Friday	February 15
7:30-9:30 A.M. Walking Track	
Saturday	February 16
6:30 P.M. GLOW Ministry – Bunco Night (conference center)	
Sunday	February 17
Regular Schedule	
4:45 P.M. Church Council (college/career)	
Monday	February 18
7:30-9:30 A.M. Walking Track	
1:30 P.M. CARE "R" Team	
7:00 P.M. FUEL Bible Study (boys meet in student center; girls at 362 Moss Ln)	
Tuesday	February 19
7:30-9:30 A.M. Walking Track	
7:00 P.M. Bible Study Fellowship	
Wednesday	February 20
Regular Schedule	

Baptist Home Valentine Social

LIFE Plus will head to the Baptist Home in Ironton to provide a Valentine Social on Friday, February 8. We will leave the church at 1:00 P.M. and present a program at 1:30 P.M. that includes a sing-a-long of love songs and follow the program with cookies and fellowship with the residents. Please sign up on the LIFE Plus bulletin board.

Teen/Adult Recreation Thursdays

Teens and adults, come join us on Thursdays evenings from 7-9 PM for an informal time of recreation with other Farmington churches. If you would like to help by overseeing the gym during this time two Thursdays a month, please contact Pastor Jason.

Parent/Teen Day

Parents and teens, make plans to join us for a fun day on Saturday, February 23. More details to come soon!



Ladies! Join us for a night of friends, food, and fun playing bunco! We will have a quick review of rules and a lesson for first timers. Bring a friend and a snack to share ~ Saturday, February 16 at 6:30 P.M. in the Conference Center.



First Baptist is forming another GriefShare group beginning Sunday, February 24 at 4 P.M. in the conference center and is open to the community. Griefshare has been an important ministry at our church as we reach out to persons who are struggling in the grieving process due to the death of a loved one. If you or someone you know is grieving it may be hard to feel optimistic about the future right now. You've probably found there are not many people who understand the deep hurt you feel. This can be a confusing time when you feel isolated and have many questions about things you've never faced before. GriefShare will meet weekly to help you face these challenges and move toward rebuilding your life. Each GriefShare session has three distinct elements:

- **Video seminar with experts**
Each week your GriefShare group will watch a video seminar featuring top experts on grief and recovery subjects. These videos are produced in an interesting television magazine format featuring expert interviews, real-life case studies, dramatic reenactments, and on-location video.
- **Support group discussion with focus**
After viewing the video, you and the other group members will spend time as a support group, discussing what was presented in that week's video seminar and what is going on in your lives.
- **Personal study and reflection**
During the week you will have the opportunity to use your workbook for further personal study of the grieving process and to help sort out your emotions through journaling. Your group will spend time discussing questions and comments from the workbook study.

You can register for the upcoming Griefshare session by going to the registration link on the church webpage or by signing up on the registration sheet by the office. Linda Fitzgerald will facilitate.

LIFE Plus to the Baptist Home

Join us, Friday, February 8 at 1:00 P.M. as we travel to the Baptist Home for a Valentine social. We will present a program at 1:30 P.M. that includes a sing-a-long of love songs and will finish with a fellowship of cookies with the residents. Please sign up on the LIFE Plus bulletin board outside the church office.

Greeter Ministry

One of the features of growing churches is an active greeter program. Greeters (and ushers) are often the first persons a guest will meet and a positive or negative impression is often made. Greeters are people who not only "shake hands" and say "welcome" but provide critical assistance to guests such as locating the sanctuary, bathrooms, nursery, balcony seating, gym, student center and Sunday school classrooms. This may seem simple for members but for guests our buildings can be difficult to navigate. Our adult Sunday school departments have a rotation for greeters in the Welcome Center and the "A" Street entrance. We need greeters to cover the 10:30 A.M. service in the Welcome Center and sanctuary foyer from 10:00-10:40 A.M. I have scheduled a brief greeter meeting, Sunday, February 10 at 4:30 P.M. in the Conference Center. Please consider becoming a greeter as we strive to be a welcoming church.

Gordon Epps

Revelation Study

Starting this week is a study by Max Lucado of the book of Revelation. This twelve-week study, led by Jinny LeDuc, will meet at two separate times ~ Tuesdays beginning February 5 from 11:00 A.M.-Noon and Thursdays beginning February 7, 6:30-7:30 P.M. in the Lighthouse Harbor. You may sign up in the Welcome Center or online at www.farmingtonfbc.org. Please be sure to sign up on the appropriate day.

Wednesday Evening Adult Schedule

There are two ongoing small groups meeting on Wednesday evenings you may join at any time.

Meeting from 6:00-6:45 P.M.

- "More Than Enough" led by pastor Greg meets in room 401
- "Be a Godly Man" led by Gordon Epps meets in room 132.

Meeting from 6:45-7:30 P.M.

- Join us in a time of prayer and meditation. This group is being led by Frank Fain and focuses on prayer and praises for our church family, our community, and our world.

Meeting from 6:45-7:30 P.M.

- Our Adult choir continues to meet each week to prepare for Sunday services.



Prayer List:

Ollie Faircloth, Chuck Henson, Amanda Gross (daughter of Danny Copeland)

Christian Sympathy:

To Dr. Gary Grix and family in the death of his Mother, Loraine Grix.

Sunday, January 27, 2019

Our Church Studying: 244

Our Church Growing:

Rhonda Robbs by statement

Larry Jones by Letter

Financial Statistics for:

January 27, 2019

Budget Requirements (wkly)	\$ 18,591.00
Budget Receipts (1-27-19)	28,169.12
Requirement (wk 17)	316,047.00
Receipts (wk 17)	310,729.36
STB-BTS (from Oct)	23,011.00