

Ponderings From the Pastor *Ten Years at OGBC*

By Brad Taylor

Hard to believe, but the last Sunday of June marks my 10th anniversary as pastor of Oak Grove Baptist Church. I am grateful to God for calling me to be your pastor. There have been many lessons learned and things to be thankful for during this decade of ministry. Let me share a few with you.

- I am very thankful for a church that holds me and my family up in prayer, along with other friends and family members that do the same. Ministry is spiritual warfare and without prayer the minister is headed for trouble.
- The Word of God is absolutely central to our growth in Christian maturity (Matthew 4:4, 1 Peter 1:22–2:3). I see pastors all the time relying on gimmicks and programs and more gimmicks – things that promise to make disciples and fulfill the Great Commission, but in the end, only disappoint. Shepherds must ensure the flock is well fed so they can grow and flourish in the Lord. It is only through faithful and consistent Bible teaching that this can happen. There is simply no substitute!
- The farmer plants his crop in the spring but has to wait several months until the fall to harvest it. If people grow through the Word of God (as we have just established) then it will require patience over the long haul. Pastors must commit

themselves to diligently and faithfully teaching the Word of God year after year after year. In due time, there will be an abundant harvest, but it takes patience and perseverance. No doubt, there will be times of trial, disappointment, setbacks, and who knows what else, but we must persevere in the strength that only Christ can provide. The words of Paul are especially helpful: “And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up (Galatians 6:9).

- The love within our church family. But one indispensable quality of a healthy church is love among the brethren (John 13:34-35). Plain and simple, within a healthy church, people care for one another, serve one another, love one another, etc. This love that marks every true church is present because Christ first loved us (1 John 4:19). When we begin to understand the love of God in Christ in our own lives, we can’t help but love one another. We have a beautiful building to worship in, but the building is not the church. The wonderful, beautiful and loving people make up the church.
- What a valuable asset my wife is. Mindy is my most trusted friend and has been an immense

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OGBC Youth News

Submitted by Matt Shepard

Falls Creek is just around the corner. Please be in prayer for our students and sponsors/cooks as we get closer to Falls Creek.

Falls Creek info: Our first Falls Creek meeting is 5 p.m. May 29 and the second one will be 5 p.m. June 5. A PARENT/GUARDIAN, ALONG WITH THE CAMP-

ER(S), will have to attend only ONE of the meetings. Cost for Falls Creek is \$100 if paid by June 1 and \$125 if after. If you have someone interested, please get them in contact with me!

If you have any other questions or concerns, please email me at: ogbc.mshepard@gmail.com

June Daily Bible Reading Plan To Read The Bible Through In 2022

The book-at-a-time Bible reading plan provides two readings for each day. The first reading alternates between Old and New Testament books, giving you three or four chapters a day. The Gospels are spread throughout the year. The second reading takes you through a chapter or so of the wisdom literature and Isaiah. Combined, these readings will take you through the entire Bible in one year. To prevent the frustration of falling behind and to provide some reflection time, each month consists of only 25 readings. You'll have several days each month to meditate more deeply on something that was significant to you in the past week, to catch up on missed readings, or to revisit favorite passages.

1 Samuel	Proverbs		June 22	☐ 1-3	☐ 78:1-39		
June 1	☐ 25:1-14	2 Samuel	June 23	☐ 4-6	☐ 78:40-72		
June 2	☐ 25:15-28	June 13	☐ 1-3	☐ 30	June 24	☐ 7-9	☐ 79
June 3	☐ 26:1-16	June 14	☐ 4-7	☐ 31	June 25	☐ 10-12	☐ 80
June 4	☐ 26:17-28			Psalms	June 26	----- Reflection -----	
June 5	----- Reflection -----	June 15	☐ 8-10	☐ 72	27	☐ 13-15	☐ 81
June 6	☐ 27:1-14	June 16	☐ 11-13	☐ 73	28	☐ 16-19	☐ 82
June 7	☐ 27:15-27	June 17	☐ 14-17	☐ 74	29	☐ 20-22	☐ 83
June 8	☐ 28:1-14	June 18	☐ 18-20	☐ 75	30	☐ Jonah	☐ 84
June 9	☐ 28:15-28	June 19	----- Reflection -----				
June 10	☐ 29:1-14	June 20	☐ 21-24	☐ 76			
June 11	☐ Philippians ☐ 29:15-27	June 21	☐ Colossians	☐ 77			
June 12	----- Reflection -----	1 Kings					



June 2022

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

			1	2	3 Adult Game Day 11am-1pm	4 David Prince bday
5 VBS meeting following morning service	6	7	8 Cindy Tittle bday	9 Chad Day bday; Crafty Christians 10am-1pm	10	11
12 Larry Bergen bday; Business meeting following morning service	13	14 Andrew Holloway & Denice Jackson bdays	15	16 John Tittle bday	17	18
FALLS CREEK YOUTH CAMP JUNE 13-18						
19 Sherrie Gerhard bday; Father's Day	20 Pat White & Corbin Zugelder bdays	21	22	23 Barbara Bond bday; Crafty Christians 10am-1pm	24	25
26 Makayla Edmonds bday	27 Donna Foster & Richard Munson bdays	28	29	30		
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL JUNE 26-30						

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- help to me in ministry. She has a passion for music and enjoys leading people in worshipping the Lord of Lords and King of Kings.
- Our family has grown. When Mindy and I moved to Catoosa we were alone. Our kids remained in Ardmore. Soon thereafter Samantha

moved with our first granddaughter Maci, and our son Josh decided to commute to college in Dallas while living with us here. Ten years later, Samantha has given birth to our first grandson Mason. Josh also was married to Kayla at Oak Grove and since that time Kayla has given birth to Noa, Kezi, Ellie and Kieran. As a bonus we now have Mindy's parents living

with us so we can help them at this stage in their lives.

What a joy it has been to serve the Lord as a pastor for these 10 years. No doubt I could share more lessons, but this is already a little lengthy so I won't keep you any longer. God has been faithful (as always) and I praise Him for His grace to me and my family.

June Sermon Calendar

June 5 — The People of Promise

June 19 — Falls Creek Report

June 12 — God Prepares Moses for Ministry

June 26 — The Privilege of Prayer

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