

Church Contact Info

Lucas Clabough
Senior Pastor
lucas@firstbaptistjackson.tv

Daniel Maasen
Worship & Media Pastor
lionsden27@gmail.com

Corey Durbin
Student & Missions Pastor
corey@firstbaptistjackson.tv

Jean Schweain
Senior Adult Ministry Director
jean@firstbaptistjackson.tv

Loretta Durbin
Office Manager
Financial Secretary
office@firstbaptistjackson.tv

Randy Riley
Children's Pastor
randy@firstbaptistjackson.tv

Church Office: (573) 242-8415
Church Fax: (573) 243-2730
Website: FirstBaptistJackson.tv

Palm Sunday

This Palm Sunday is going to be something exciting. Join us at 11:00 as we combine worship services. Following worship will be food, games, and an Easter Egg Hunt for the kids! Bring a friend and a dessert to share as we kick off the Easter Season.



the Evangel

Monthly Newsletter of First Baptist Jackson
March 2016

What is the proof validating the Christian Faith?

This month will mark the celebration of Easter or a time to remember Jesus' resurrection. The definitive proof validating the Christian faith is the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Belief in Jesus' resurrection means after Jesus was crucified, He was buried in a tomb but three days later physically, literally, was resurrected from the dead. Blood began to circulate in the dead body of Jesus and life reentered His body.

Skeptics often object "it is naturally impossible for a dead body to live again." Christians, however, presupposes a supernatural explanation. Objections are founded on an anti-supernatural bias and prior philosophical rejection to belief in God.

Jesus' rejection is not only historically based but the overwhelmingly best explanation for how events unfolded in the first century forming the Christian faith. Scholars, who deny the resurrection will generally explain biblical events by saying the disciples hallucinated, stole Jesus' body, or Jesus only swooned on the Cross to later walk out of the tomb.

The hallucination theory is inconsistent with the evidence considering hallucinations are typically individually based and unrepeatable on a massive scale, if massive hallucinations ever occur. After being resurrected by God, Jesus was seen by 500 witnesses at once (1 Corinthians 15).

The idea disciples stole the body was apparently concocted by first-century leaders attempting to subvert the faith (Matthew 28:11-15). If the disciples stole Jesus' body, they ultimately sacrificed their lives and were brutally murdered for a lie. Paul little once said, "Men will die for what they believe to be true, they do not die for what they know is a lie."

The idea Jesus swooned on the Cross was popular in the 18th century but now serves as the laughing stock of modern scholarship. Theologian John Stott wrote, "Are we to believe that after the pains of trial, mockery, flogging, and crucifixion Jesus could survive thirty-six hours in a tomb with neither warmth, food, nor medical care? Then perform the superhuman act of shifting the tomb's boulder? Then weak, and sickly and hungry, He could appear to the disciples in such a way as to go on to claim that He had died and risen? Such nonsense is more incredible than Thomas' unbelief."

When opposing explanations are considered the only plausible solution for the formation of the Christian faith is Jesus Christ's resurrection. 2,000 years ago Jesus Christ was resurrected and 40 days later ascended to the Father where he rules and reigns. Christian faith is not a magical myth or the opium of the delusional masses. Christian faith is firmly grounded on actual events which literally took place.

The resurrection means God has justified and forgiven guilty humans by approving the sacrifice of Christ as a substitute for sinners (Romans 1:1-8, 5:1-10). The resurrection means Jesus Christ will physically return at some unspecified future time to resurrect the dead, judge all humans, and recreate the world (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18). The resurrection means that at Jesus' name every knee will bow and every tongue will confess he is Lord (Philippians 2:5-11). Whether you like it or not, Christ the Lord is risen, Hallelujah!

-Lucas Clabough

Mark Your Calendar

3.3
Senior Adult Fellowship

3.9
Senior Adult Breakfast

3.20
Combined Services

Palm Sunday
After-Service Events

3.27
Easter

Romans 12:6

“Since we have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, each of us is to exercise them accordingly...”

1 Thessalonians 2:8

“So, being affectionately desirous of you, we were ready to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you had become very dear to us.”

Worship Ministry

Talented people often look at worship bands and think, “Wow, sure I play,” (or sing or whatever) “but not like THAT and they certainly don’t need me. They already have someone who plays my instrument.” People see a well functioning worship team and often disqualify the gifts that God has given them. Over the next several months, we will be looking to broaden the pool of talent that we draw from for Sunday Morning Services.

Why?

Because God has gifted you so you could serve Him and edify His church. We want to give everyone possible that opportunity, even if it means having several of the same instrument on rotation.

If you would like to get involved, please see Daniel Maasen or text him at 636-248-6083. We would love to have you and we’re excited to see what God is going to do in the coming months!

~Daniel Maasen

Youth Ministry

This is my first Evangel article as the official Minister of Youth and Missions. I have now been privileged to serve our students and church body for about 10 months and am humbled by the opportunity to continue serving in this role. It has been both a humbling and joyous experience, getting to know and invest in our students as well as many of you. I echo this sentiment in 1 Thessalonians 2:8 (LEFT), and as I look forward to the future I look forward to continuously sharing the gospel and my own life as well.

I would like to thank everyone who helped during the DNOW weekend. Also, thanks to all who attended and helped out at the Chili Cook Off. We raised enough money to send one kid to camp! Your involvement with the youth has a tremendous impact on their lives and even their futures.

~Corey Durbin

2 Corinthians 9:15

“Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!”

TINLEY RETIREMENT

Dear Church Family,
The Tinley's have faithfully served in International Mission service since 1986. Most of those years were in Venezuela. They had hoped and planned to serve another seven plus years at least. As many of you know, the International Mission Board, due to financial shortfalls, decided to cut 15% of personnel serving on the field and in the home office. The Tinleys were in the groups that were asked to consider the Voluntary Retirement Incentive. PLEASE prayerfully read Paul's own words about their decision.

“This has been a heart-wrenching time for us as we have prayed, fasted, and sought God's direction. After a short but intense period of deep grief, we realized the Lord was directing us to accept the early retirement. We have cried more over this decision than any other decision in our life. We do know that the Lord who took us to the mission field in 1986 is the same Lord who is bringing us back to the United States. We trust Him for direction and provision.”

Currently Paul and Robin are living in a missionary house in Oklahoma but will need to move before May. So far, Paul has been volunteering a lot but no offers for ministry employment have come. PLEASE PRAY for the Tinleys. To add to the heartbreak and difficulties, in the country of Venezuela for all missionaries, the Tinleys had to leave there in the fall with only 7 suitcases and the IMB sent them to Peru, while in the USA the Tinleys learned of this cutback with the IMB.

PLEASE PRAY about what your financial LOVE gift might be to surprise and assist this couple.

To join us in helping with this Retirement gift place your check to First Baptist Church (or cash) in a regular offering envelope and designate on the front *TINLEY RETIREMENT OFFERING*. (This will be noted on your financial giving statement as a Missions Offering) We as a church family will then send one check as a gift to the Tinleys. *PLEASE GIVE THIS SPECIAL OFFERING BETWEEN FEB.27 AND MARCH 13th*. “The Lord loves a cheerful giver.” 2nd Corinthians 9:7

Many of you have met the Tinleys, they have visited in our church over the years and even lived in our missionary apartment and were in our services and spoke during this six-month time, 2011-2012. They were here this past September and also spoke. At our November International Missions Banquet their daughter, Megan Tinley Brewster and her husband, Joe and their three children currently IMB missionaries to Peru, made a wonderful presentation about their missionary work. Our church has voted to form a Missions Partnership with the Brewsters. Megan grew up on the mission field with her parents, Paul and Robin so this gift will also bless her and her family.

THANK YOU for your PRAYERS and the offering you will share!
The Brewster/Tinley Women on Mission Group
The Missions Committee