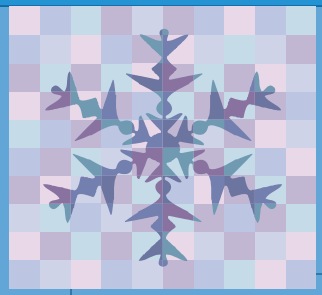


New Growth

Volume 7, Number 1

Jan-Feb 2011



DAVID MAHFOOD, PASTOR

Tyland Baptist Church

Although it may seem long overdue, finally the weather has started to show signs of winter, with chilly temperatures and gray skies. When winter comes around, it becomes challenging for us to entertain images of growth. Green grass, spring harvests, warm temperatures...these are all things which must wait for another day. In the meantime, we pull out the extra blanket, retrieve our coat from the back of the closet, and wait for the season to run its course. Today, however, I want to caution you in one regard. Don't be too hasty to dismiss images of springtime. Because, my friends, there is growth all around us!

In case you haven't noticed, thanks be to God, there is a beautiful new church building sprouting at 2818 Silver Creek! How exciting it has been to see all the progress that has taken place, and how blessed we have been to have a hard-working Rebuild Committee and a spirit of unity within our congregation. Soon, we'll be back home in our new facility, and when that day comes around it will be the warmest and most beautiful of days – regardless of the weather! But brothers and sisters...if that is the only growth you see, you're only seeing half the picture!

It has been my personal honor and privilege to weather this storm with a church family like Tyland. It has been awesome to witness God at work in every single one of you, growing us like green plants into maturity. By the time you read this, we will be at or very close to the one year anniversary of the devastating fire. A church less devoted to the leading of the Holy Spirit, I believe, would have withered in that time. Not only has Tyland not faltered, by the grace and hand of God, we have thrived! I truly believe that each one of us – myself included – will come away with a new definition of the word “church.” What I said to you the night of January 16, 2010 still holds true today. The building may have burned, but Tyland Baptist Church remains very much intact.

But, again...there is more to this story than simply personal and corporate growth. What we have been blessed to have experienced over the last year is nothing less than the gospel itself – because what God has done with our church is the perfect illustration of what Christ can do for every man. Amidst the ashes and destruction of our sin-ravaged lives, Jesus stands ready to clear away the rubble and rebuild something which will glorify Him. Whatever He builds is far, far greater than what might have previously stood. *Is the transition always easy?* No, it's not. *Is it worth it?* Always. Because as Paul wrote to the Corinthian church, “*If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new*” (2 Corinthians 5:17, NKJV). The same that is true for individuals is also true for the church.

So even though it's cold outside, Tyland, I urge you to keep thinking of growth. You've lived the gospel. As spring approaches, think and pray about how God will have us show it. —Brother David

Thanks a million to those of Tyland who sat with my daughter, Patti, while the surgeons played with the strings of my heart—and added a few. Thanks for all the prayers, visits, food, plants, cards, calls and birthday party. I appreciate them all.

Love in Christ,
Kathy Rogers

Deepest sympathy to the Preston Jones family in the loss of his brother, Truman.

Congratulations!

-Mindy Reed, on being named Lindale Jr High December Teacher of the Month.

-Patrick Davis, on being a member of the Chapel Hill High School coaching staff that took the Bulldogs to the state playoffs.

-Sheila Dawson, on the birth of her great granddaughter, Melody Grace.



God's Great Gifts

“Thanks be to God for His gift that is too wonderful for words.”
2 Cor 9:15

Why did He do it? A shack would have sufficed, but He gave us a mansion. Did He have to give the birds a song and the mountains a peak? Was He required to put stripes on the zebra and the hump on the camel? Why wrap creation in such splendor? Why go to such trouble to give such gifts?

Why do you? You do the same thing. I've seen you searching for a gift. I've seen you stalking the malls and walking the aisles. I'm not talking about the obligatory gifts...I'm talking about that extra-special person and that extra-special gift. Why do you do it? You do it so the heart will stop. You do it so the jaw will drop. You do it to hear those words of disbelief, “You did this for me?”

That's why you do it. And that is why God did it. Next time a sunrise steals your breath or a meadow of flowers leaves you speechless, remain that way. Say nothing and listen as heaven whispers, “Do you like it? I did it just for you.” From *The Great House of God*

Back Page Notes

*You are loved...
at Tyland Baptist Church.*

We're on the web!
www.tylandbaptist.com

Sunday: 8:30 am Prayer Time
8:40 am Sunday School
9:40 am Worship
4:45 pm Choir Practice
6:00 pm Evening Worship

Wednesday: 6:00 pm Prayer Meeting

Phone: 903/592-6364

Pastor's e-mail: david@tylandbaptist.com
Secretary's email: nancy@tylandbaptist.com



Ladies, Feminar Feb 25-26 in Longview! Guest speaker will once again be Lysa TerKeurst, Proverbs 31 Ministries. Phillips, Craig & Dean will be musical guests. Friday night 6-10 pm, Saturday 8:30 am-12:30 pm. Tickets are \$30. Lodging covered by Women's Ministry. Let the church office know **ASAP** if you'd like to attend. Don't miss this!

Deacons

James Reed	903/570-4019
Joe Mekalip	903/593-2735
John Reed	903/283-2172
Nick Wiggins	903/520-1265
Charlie Stovall	903/539-8526
Stephen Lange	903/520-0557
Buford Welmaker	903/592-2486

2nd Wednesday of month, 6 pm: Monthly Business Meeting

2nd Wednesday of month, 11 am: PrimeTimers Fellowship/Lunch at Willowbrook

4th Tuesday of month, 2:30 pm: Birthday Party at Greenbrier Nursing Home

Sunday, Jan 30, 6 pm: 5th Sunday Singing followed by fellowship (bring finger foods).

Sunday, Feb 6, 4:30 pm: Missions Meeting

COLLECTING CANNED SOUP FOR PATH THRU JANUARY.

Sunday—January 23:
Sanctity of Life Sunday



CHASE THE LION: BIBLE STUDY

Our current Christian culture doesn't usually encourage sensible people to chase after risky opportunities and dreams. We want to believe that if it's a good decision, it will always be and feel safe because that's the way God wants life to be. But what if you discovered that the fulfilling life God wants for you is hiding behind a present problem, a past failure, or a lifelong fear?

This six-session Bible study is inspired by a fearless warrior named Benaiah (2Sam 23:20) who changed the course of his future by winning a battle with a real lion. We'll examine biblical and modern-day examples of people who were willing to put everything on the line—and be challenged to take risks, seize opportunities, face fears, reframe problems, embrace uncertainty, and look foolish when it comes to chasing after God-given opportunities.

Who: 20-something and younger

Where: Pastor's Living Room Cost: \$10

When: Jan 21, Feb 4 & 18, Mar 4 & 18, Apr 1 (every other Friday)

RSVP: Peggye 903/521-8493—Invite a friend!