



Tyland Baptist Church

Strong Hands

In retrospect, Nehemiah may have had it easy. He didn't have to deal with insurance companies, or zoning commissions, or contractors, or even committees (just kidding about that last one!) But he did have to deal with a character named Sanballat. Sanballat was a Moabite and was the leading opponent of the Jews at the time when Nehemiah undertook to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem. Sanballat dealt Nehemiah all sorts of grief, threatening him, mocking him, attacking him – prompting Nehemiah to rebuke him, saying: *“The God of heaven Himself will prosper us; therefore we His servants will arise and build...(2:20)”*

Now, my ego is not such that I remotely compare myself to Nehemiah. I do, however, view each and every one of us as one of the “servants” about which Nehemiah spoke – which brings me to the point of this message. After Sanballat and his crew had been leaning especially hard on Nehemiah and the Jews, Nehemiah summed up the intentions of his adversaries by saying this: *“For they were all trying to make us afraid, saying, ‘Their hands will be weakened in the work and it will not be done’ (6:9a).”* Then Nehemiah utters this simple, yet utterly heartfelt prayer: *“Now therefore, O God, strengthen my hands.”*

Friends, you may never swing a hammer, work a spade, or pick up a paintbrush during this rebuilding effort, but that doesn't mean you won't need strong hands. Here are three things you might use your hands to do:

- Lifting up a brother or sister in Christ – Ecclesiastes 4:10 says that two are more effective than one, *“For if they fall, one will lift up his companion; but woe to him who is alone when he falls, for he has no one to help him up.”* You won't be able to lift up your brother or sister if your hands aren't strong!
- Holding your Bible – Psalm 1:2 says, regarding the blessed man, that *“his delight is in the law of the Lord, and in His law he meditates day and night.”* If God is to direct this rebuilding, then we must listen to His word. Weak hands never held the Scriptures – at least not for very long.
- Raising your hands in prayer – In the Old Testament, God's people prayed with their palms facing Heaven, hence the cry of the psalmist in 63:4, *“Thus I will bless You while I live; I will lift up my hands in Your name.”* Hands in the air might not be your prayer posture of choice, but pray you must, and in earnest. We have no hope otherwise.

God has a wonderful plan for our church, but each of us must do our part according to our God-given gifts. I challenge you this summer to echo the prayer of Nehemiah and ask God to strengthen your hands for the days ahead. He has us all in His hands. The very least we can do is offer Him ours.

May God bless you all and preserve His church,
Brother David

**For Sunday, July 4 ONLY: Evening
worship time will be 7-8 pm.**

**Our prayers and deepest
sympathy to these in their recent
losses:**

**Karen Christie, in the loss of her
sister.**

**Morris Mewbourn, in the loss of
his brother.**

**Gayle Mekalip in the loss of her
sister.**

Fourth of July Celebration

Sunday, July 4, 8 pm

Hosted by Willowbrook Baptist

-Food, Fun, Fellowship, Fireworks!

-Bring lawn chairs and bug spray.

-See food sign-up sheet at church.

Re-Building Committee Update:

The trees are gone, the slab is clean, and our contractor has given us a very aggressive construction schedule. The Re-Building Committee is excited at what God is doing here at Tyland. The Design Plans for the new building are proceeding on schedule. Structural analysis of the existing foundation and dimensional verification will take place this week with any revisions to the Floor Plan being made as necessary. The Elevation drawings are to be presented for your review at a special called business meeting on July 11. The Committee members are hard at work researching various phases of the construction process: floor coverings, wall finishes, lighting fixtures, Sanctuary furnishings, etc. Please keep each member of this committee in your prayers as we will seek God's will and direction in all decisions to be made.

-Lee Richards

TYLAND BAPTIST CHURCH
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TYLER TX 75701

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

VBS Needs:

- Prayer!
- Shoe boxes or rectangle oatmeal boxes
- Coffee filters—pkg of 100
- 12 x 12 cardboard
- Wax paper
- Glue
- Water-based markers
- Pointed children's scissors
- Yellow & orange food coloring



Jul 4, 8 pm: 4th of July Celebration
 Jul 8, 9 am: Ladies Prayer Breakfast @ Tyland site
 Jul 18, 4:30 pm: Missions Meeting
 Jul 20, 6 pm: Ladies Too Hot Tuesday
 Jul 21, 11 am: PrimeTimers Lunch
 Jul 23: DQ Fundraiser, Movie @ Willowbrook at 7 pm
 Jul 27, 2:30 pm: BD Party Greenbriar NH.
 Jul 29: Neglected Men Fellowship
 Jul 30-31: Student Evangelism Conference
 Aug 2-6: RA Camp
 Aug 1, 4:30 pm: Missions Meeting
 Aug 17, 6 pm: Ladies Too Hot Tuesday
 Aug 21: Baby Shower for Walsh grandbaby
 Aug 24, 2:30 pm: BD Party Greenbriar NH
 Aug 27: DQ Fundraiser, Movie @ Willowbrook at 7 pm

MISSIONS: Where Will You Serve?
 -Orr Elementary is looking for volunteers to help them unpack, hang pictures and help decorate their new school. Can you help?
 -Do you like the outdoors and would be willing to do a little yard work for Mrs. Thomas? See a member of the Missions Team if you'd be interested in helping with this one-day job.
 -Coats for Kids: We will soon start collecting coats, gloves, hats and scarves for Orr students. If you knit, now would be the time to get started to help with this project!
 -The Missions Team will be collecting school supplies for Orr for the next two months. Look for collection box in the Ladies III classroom.
 -Psalms 119:11 Club: Wednesdays 6-7 pm
 -Box Tops for Education: Keep those coming in.
 -Calvin Todd's trip to Mexico July 8. Mark contribution envelope "Mexico Mission".
 -The Missions Team collected three box fans and enough money for eighteen more for PATH! God bless all who helped with this project.
