



Southwest *Church of the Nazarene*

CHURCH NEWSLETTER
JANUARY 13, 2021 – VOLUME 43

CALM IN THE STORM

What a stormy week! Tuesday was the Georgia Senate runoff elections to determine party control in DC; the results were barely covered because Wednesday happened. Thursday had the fall out from Wednesday. And to end it, Friday we saw the last episode of Jeopardy hosted by one of the most admired and respected men of TV history, Alex Trebek. I'm glad that week is over!

While they may not be on the evening news, we face different storms daily. For example, my co-worker Mary lost her dad Friday. Many of us know from experience, Mary's life will never be the same; death changes us like nothing else. Next week will mark 4 years since I lost my mother; life hasn't been the same for me, my brother, and especially my dad who was married to her for 45+ years.

Like natural weather, fierce storms sometimes rage like they did last week while at other times they are less intense. The storm might be related to paying bills, e-learning/working at home, or our relationships. Still others may have personal storms they hold to themselves - like loneliness, depression, anxiety, fear.

Pastor Scott spoke Sunday on how the Good Shepherd leads us to still waters so we can relax in Him. Similar lessons are found throughout Scripture by Jesus and others. One such moment is found in Mark 4:35-41. After Jesus wrapped up a sermon to a big crowd near the Sea of Galilee, He wanted to cross over to the other side. What happened next reminds me of an old TV show theme song about a "three-hour tour."

The trip started out calm. Then, out of nowhere, the waters started to churn, and the wind began to howl. Waves started breaking over the sides of the boat. Because the Sea of Galilee is positioned below sea level and between mountains and hills, sudden and violent storms were normal. This storm, however, was so violent that even the seasoned fishermen were fearful for their lives. Jesus, however, "was in the stern, sleeping on a cushion."

In the midst of hurricane strength winds and typhoon size waves, Jesus was resting because He knew who was in control. The disciples exclaimed, "Teacher, don't you care if we drown?" At this, Jesus got up and rebuked the winds. At His word, "the winds died down and it was completely calm."

How often we are like the disciples! We see nothing but the raging sea around us and we question if Jesus even cares that we are drowning in the storm. Rest assured, Jesus does care! As Peter later wrote, you can 'cast all your anxiety on Him because He cares for you."

Throughout life, we will go through numerous storms, but we don't have to go through them alone. We can rest in the peace of Christ in our souls. We can know He will see us through to the other side. And we can always know He is in control.

Rest in Jesus. He is the calm in the storm.

Resting in Jesus,

Stephen Bechdol

"Till the Storm Passes By"

(Written by Mosie Lister)

In the dark of the midnight have I oft hid my face,
While the storm howls above me, and there's no hiding place.
'Mid the crash of the thunder, Precious Lord, hear my cry,
Keep me safe till the storm passes by.

Many times Satan whispered, "There is no need to try,
For there's no end of sorrow, there's no hope by and by"
But I know Thou art with me, and tomorrow I'll rise
Where the storms never darken the skies.

When the long night has ended and the storms come no more,
Let me stand in Thy presence on the bright peaceful shore;
In that land where the tempest, never comes, Lord, may I
Dwell with Thee when the storm passes by.

Chorus

Till the storm passes over, till the thunder sounds no more,
Till the clouds roll forever from the sky;
Hold me fast, let me stand in the hollow of Thy hand,
Keep me safe till the storm passes by.

Proverbs 12:25
NKJV

*"Anxiety in the
heart of man
causes
depression,
But a good
word makes it
glad."*

Schedule of Services:

Wednesday, January 13th:
6:30pm Prayer Meeting

Sunday, January 17th:
10:40am Worship Service
& Children's Church

3:00-5:00pm Teen Quizzing
5:00-7:00pm R!OT Youth Meeting



Rembrandt "The Storm on the Sea of Galilee" Public Domain
<https://www.remb/the-storm-on-the-sea-of-galilee.jsp>



Praises:

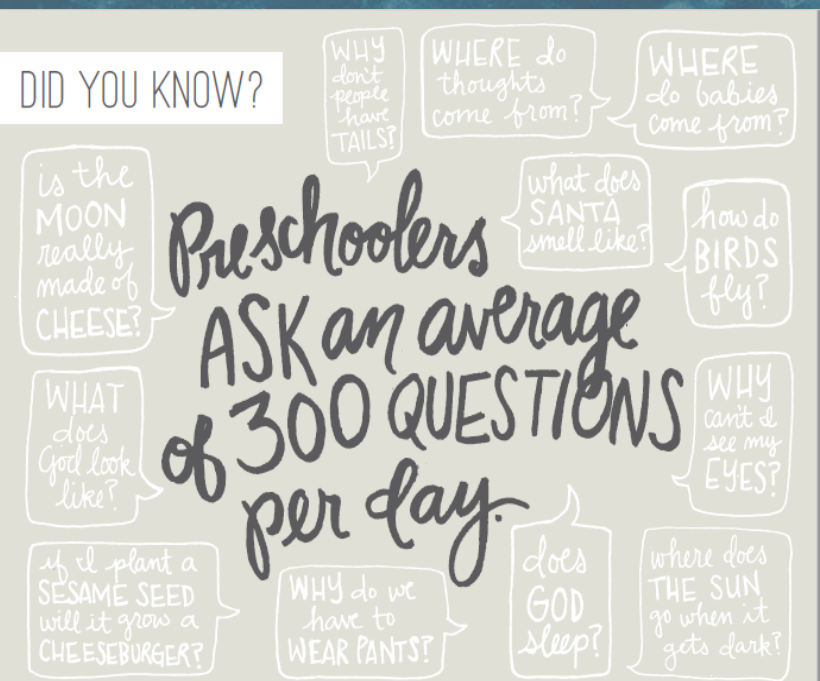
- Praise the Lord for those taking our Bible Challenge! Reading through the Book of Proverbs has blessed, challenged, and strengthened many during these challenging times. Thank you, Lord, for your wisdom!
- Praise the Lord for a great crowd Sunday! We are having to put out rows of chairs each week to accommodate the crowd and to keep everyone socially distanced as much as possible. God is up to something!
- Praise the Lord, for our college-aged students! It is always a blessing to have them around during their breaks. It's especially nice to have them involved in the music program!
- Praise the Lord for Renee Plank working with MOPS (Mother of Preschoolers) again! This is a great ministry to young moms, to find encouragement and spiritual direction for their lives at this important time in their life.

Prayer Needs:

Prayer Needs can be found in the emailed and mailed versions of the newsletter.

Upcoming Events:

- February 9th, Tuesday – 6:30pm
Nominating Committee Meeting
- February 21st, Sunday – 10:40am Worship Service: New Members, Baptisms.
- February 28th, Sunday - 10:40am Worship Service: District Superintendent Dr. Ron Blake will be speaking.
- February 28th, End of Church Year
- March 4th, Thursday - End of Church Year: Reports Due (SDMI, NMI, NYI, Treasurers, Etc.)
- March 7th, Sunday – 10:40am Worship Service: Annual Church Elections



IF YOU'RE A MOM, YOU KNOW.

WE KNOW HOW YOU FEEL AND MOPS IS JUST WHAT YOU NEED.

VISIT MOPS.ORG

LOCATION Southwest Church 4797 Tincher Rd, Indpls, IN 46221

TIME 6:30pm - 8pm

DATE 2nd and 4th Monday's from September - May

CONTACT Renee Plank - Call/Text @ (317) 853-9481

Call to Prayer and Fasting

What happens in one part of the world is not isolated but impacts us all. This is certainly true as we reflect upon the pandemic and the ways in which it has touched the whole world. This can also be said of political unrest, which creates uncertainty and destabilization around the globe. It is in these precarious times that God's people turn toward the sure and certain hope that is found in Jesus Christ.

As followers of Jesus, we seek ways to be loving, forgiving, and charitable. In Jesus' Sermon on the Mount, He reminds us: "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God" (Matthew 5:9). He continues by telling us that we are called to be salt and light in our world: "... let your light shine before people, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven" (Matthew 5:16).

Like the Lord we follow, we are called to be peacemakers and to have a positive impact as salt and light in our world. This cannot be done apart from God's grace experienced through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Therefore, the Board of General Superintendents is calling the global Church of the Nazarene to a week of prayer and fasting beginning on Monday, 11 January. When the church joins in prayer and acts in unanimity with Jesus' vision, we are assured that God will do what we cannot.



Please, join us each day next week as we focus on the need for spiritual renewal within the Church and for healing the great divides in our world.

Monday — *Pray for spiritual renewal and revival to come to the Church.*

Tuesday — *Pray for peace and opportunities to show Christ's love to others.*

Wednesday — *Pray for the persecuted church around the world and for our missionaries.*

Thursday — *Pray for those who are suffering as a result of the global pandemic.*

Friday — *Pray for unity among God's people and for healing across the nations.*

Saturday — *Pray for those who have yet to come to faith in Jesus Christ.*

Sunday — *Pray for the Holy Spirit to fill us again so that we may be empowered to be Christlike in this world.*

--Board of General Superintendents

BAPTISMS & MEMBERSHIPS

We will be doing baptisms and taking in new members in February. If you have received Christ in your life and have not been baptized or if you are a believer and want to go through our membership class, please see Pastor Scott.

- Baptism is a symbol of our leaving the old life and rising to new life in Christ. It is our testimony to the world that we are a Christ follower and desire to belong to the family of God.
- Membership is when a believer makes a commitment to their local church, to support it with their attendance, tithes and offerings, and to use their talents and gifts to help accomplish Christ's Great Commission. It is agreeing with the doctrines and polity of the Church of the Nazarene as they have outlined from the Scriptures guidelines for the church. With membership you have the right to be a part of the Annual Elections, voting, and even being a candidate for a position.
- If the Lord is leading you to either of these areas, please contact Pastor Scott, and we will set up a class time for you.