



THE JOURNEY

Believe ... Belong ... Become ...

A New Season Of Belonging Is Waiting For You

Special Easter Week Events

Thursday April 1st

Family Fun Night – 7pm
Featuring “An Easter Carol”

Sunday April 4th

Sunrise Service – 7:15am
Breakfast – 8:00am
Easter Egg Hunt – 9:30am
Easter Worship Service – 10:45am

***For more info visit
www.parkview-baptist-church.org***

The Pastor's Letter

Pastor Greg Magruder



“Disagree Without Demonizing”

Jim wrote me an email that said, “Dear Pastor: This is the actual letter sent to the Sun. It was edited as you can see.” He then included the entire letter he had written in support of churches paying fire fees and property taxes. I responded to Jim by attaching a copy of another letter to the editor that explained my position and wrote:

“Thanks for writing. I would be happy to have you come and visit with me at our church facility so you can see what we actually do at church... You may even realize that my income and 15 year old Maxima are a far cry from the transportation and salaries of TV preachers. I, like you, struggle to pay my taxes and bills. But I also sacrifice over ten percent of my income to support the ministries of my church. That is what most church people do. We support our government and we support our churches and as a result probably influence this community for the good better than any other organization or entity. Historically this has been recognized and appreciated.”

Jim wrote me back. His tone was different. He shared what he does to help the needy and his frustration with TV preachers. Then he said, “I will never be convinced that churches and cathedrals should not pay real estate taxes. There is still enough money left over for helping the needy. However, it was not my intention to insult you in any way. I applaud your good works and that of other churches who do the same. But, paying taxes, like everyone else, is the proper thing to do.”

I responded to Jim and wished him well saying that we could agree to disagree. Jim wrote back and wished me a Happy St. Patrick's Day. I sent him an Irish blessing prayer. This morning Jim sent me an email presentation depicting beautiful scenery and inspiring quotes. I was touched and told him so.

I have never met Jim in person. Maybe one day I will. But I believe I have a new friend. We have agreed to disagree but now we correspond as friends.

Too often we get caught up in the issues and the rhetoric that polarize people. We are more concerned about our side winning than we are about the person we are attacking or disagree with. My family correspondence this week in light of the health care bill has been interesting. Even within my family and relatives there is widespread disagreement about the health care bill. Certainly Congress has fanned the flames of animosity in the way it handled the bill and high fives at the White House did not help the nation view this as a bi-partisan piece of legislation. A friend of mine has sent numerous tongue-in-cheek Facebook entries about the sky falling, the electric grid being turned off, and the takeover of bank accounts since the bill passed.

The vehement response of some Christians has frankly been downright un-Christian at times and does not honor the name of Christ.

I am all for vigorous discussion of issues and promote the use of every legal way to get a position to pass. What I am seeing however is the demonization of those we disagree with. We need to return to a civility that allows for disagreement and discussion without the destruction of our opponent.

In light of that, I encourage you to vote in the upcoming run-off election on April 13 between Craig Lowe and Don Marsh. Do your research where they stand on the issues especially the fire assessment fee on churches. Then get out and vote for the candidate of your choice.

I may disagree with Jim about churches being taxed but I hope I have treated him in such a way that would please the Lord. I am more interested in letting my opponents know about Jesus than I am about winning political or ideological battles. I will argue and debate but I won't belittle or demonize someone for whom Jesus died and rose again. May we all experience the forgiveness of Christ and the power of his resurrection in our lives this Easter Season; even our enemies and opponents.

Pastor Greg

APRIL SERMON TITLES

- | | |
|----------|---------------------------------|
| April 4 | “Scars”
<i>Luke 24:36-48</i> |
| April 11 | “Game”
<i>Romans 5:1</i> |
| April 18 | “Fame”
<i>Romans 5:8-11</i> |
| April 25 | “Blame”
<i>1 John 2:1-2</i> |



**QUARTERLY
BUSINESS MEETING**

APRIL 18, 2010

7:00 PM

Can I Trust Me With You

Have you ever tried to get a turtle to come out of its shell? One day last summer, my boys and I were returning to our family's beach condo when we encountered a turtle trying to cross the road. I pulled over and we rescued the little guy. After I placed the turtle in the grass on the other side of the road, Joshua, Caleb and I stood and watched it. Becoming impatient, Caleb grabbed a stick laying close by and began to poke and prod at the openings of the turtle's shell. I asked him what he was trying to accomplish. He said he wanted to see the turtle's head and maybe just pet it. So I reached down and picked up the turtle and rested it against my chest. After a few short moments, the turtle emerged from its shell and looked around. As long as I kept the turtle close to my chest, Joshua and Caleb were able to touch and pet the turtle's head.

A lot of us feel like that turtle being poked with a stick. When we get poked, we retreat to the safety of our shells. We venture out of our shells enough to find a good local church to attend. We begin attending, but we still stay in our shells. Why? The one place we should be able to receive comfort, sanctuary, edification and love is the church, yet we are still hiding in our protective shells. Why? Sometimes we don't want to let God get that close to us. We are afraid God may want us to give up something we hold so dear.

Sometimes we think that letting others get too close to us will be too demanding on us.

Most often, I think we look around at the others in church and ask: Can I trust me with you?

I am sad to report that in my experience the answer has been a resounding NO! Back in the shell we go!

We so want to be a part of that group described in the second chapter of Acts. We wonder if that kind of place is possible.

"Can I trust me with you?" reveals our yearning for acceptance and love in a place that is real. We are not looking for real in the modern vernacular; like keeping it real; as though "honesty" at any cost is what we desire.

We are looking for real in an honest, yet loving way. We want to be real about our dreams and aspirations; real about our failures and disappointments; real about our doubts and differences. We want to be real in a loving and safe environment without fear of who we really are being used to hurt us.

How do we create this safe environment? How do we bring one another out of our shells? The whole poking each other with a stick thing doesn't work and must stop.

Can I trust me with you?

In order for us to get real with each other, for us to trust ourselves with one another, five elements must be in place.

We need: 1) Trust 2) Grace 3) Humility 4) Submission and 5) Affirmation.

I invite you to join me in unpacking these elements to discover how to trust one another and develop the mind of the 1st century church. You can be a part of this journey on my blog found at shane-johnson.blogspot.com.

Can I trust me with you?

Let's join together and make the answer YES for our community.

In His Grasp,
Pastor Shane

WOMEN'S MISSION & MINISTRIES

April 8 Ronald McDonald House Ministries
Fidelis Class (L. Brown)

April 13 Harms Mission Group
in Prayer Room 10AM

*Congratulations to
Mr. and Mrs. Louis Ergle
on the celebration of your
50th Wedding Anniversary.*

*Join us for a reception in their honor
on Saturday, April 10 at Noon.*

*Celebration will be in the
Family Life Center at*

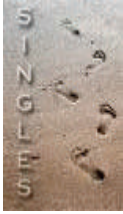
Eliam Baptist Church in Melrose.

*Please RSVP to Rick or Sandy Ergle
at 473-2684 or 478-9236.*

*5th
Golden
Anniversary*



**Sunday, April 18
5:00 PM**



SOL-SERVANTS
 A FELLOWSHIP MINISTRY OF
 SOLO (SINGLE) ADULTS
 SOCIALLY SERVING CHRIST



- Upcoming Activities:**
- | | |
|---------|--|
| April 3 | UF Lacrosse Game |
| 17 | 10 AM Starke Strawberry Festival |
| 21 | Cooking & Serving Wednesday Night Supper |
| 23 | 7 PM Game Night |
| May 15 | 10 AM Newberry Watermelon Festival |
| 19 | Cooking & Serving Wednesday Night Supper |
| 21 | 7PM Game Night |

The McCormick's Music Ministry
 is coming to Parkview!
April 18, 2010
10:45 AM Worship Service

Greeters For April

- 4 Connie Baker
- 11 Sylvia Coleman
- 18 Evelyn Casey
- 25 Rebecca Clark

Ushers This Month

- Bob Casey
- Denise Green
- Jerry Green
- Henry Keene

"WILLING WIDOWS" GROUP

Luncheon Meeting
April 8 11:30 PM
 This month we will meet at Christine Green's home
 to have sandwiches and work on our projects.
 All widows are invited to join us.

Mission Statement
 The Mission of Parkview Baptist Church is to lift up Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord, and to obey His Great Commission.
 Matthew 28:18-20

Our Purpose Statement
 The purpose of Parkview Baptist Church is raising the family of Jesus Christ by leading every member to:

-MAGNIFY HIS LORDSHIP IN WORSHIP
-MULTIPLY HIS FAMILY THROUGH EVANGELISM/MISSIONS
-MATURE HIS CHILDREN THROUGH DISCIPLESHIP
-MODEL HIS LIFE THROUGH SERVICE/MINISTRY
-MINISTER HIS LOVE THROUGH FELLOWSHIP

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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 Email: parkviewbaptistic@bellsouth.net
 Website: www.parkview-baptist-church.org

April Birthdays

- 1 Sadie King
- 2 Bob Prine
- 2 Ashley Olitsky
- 2 Bill Powell
- 3 Edna Walker
- 4 Sarah Hudson
- 4 Caleb Johnson
- 5 Jane Weininger
- 10 Doris Martin
- 14 Paige Comstock
- 15 Austin Cox
- 16 Marlene Mattox
- 20 Virginia Clark
- 21 Charles Perry
- 21 Joey Stehno
- 21 J.D. Comstock
- 23 Greg Magruder
- 24 Debra Martin
- 24 Ralph Newman
- 26 Mac McEachern
- 29 Jay Clark
- 30 Monnie Winchester
- 30 Tom Lunsford
- 30 Jay Weininger



May Birthdays

- 1 Kevin Deal
- 6 Alyssa Atwood
- 6 Virginia Hoyt
- 7 Wes Magruder
- 9 Harold Simpson
- 10 Margie Boles
- 12 Crystal Humphrey
- 14 Aubrey Woodley
- 17 Karen Stehno
- 18 Christine Green
- 19 Jason Gilly
- 19 Rosemary Williams
- 20 Cheryl Lloyd
- 20 Jake Atwood
- 25 Joann Newman
- 27 Devin Smith
- 30 Sylvia Atwood



DID WE FORGET YOUR SPECIAL DAY?

*PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE
IF WE OVERLOOKED YOU
OR ONE OF YOUR LOVED ONES ON
OUR BIRTHDAY CALENDAR.*

FRESH AIRE CAMPAIGN

NOT EQUAL GIFTS, BUT EQUAL SACRIFICE

OUR GOAL: \$35,000

FOR A NEW AIR CONDITIONER UNIT FOR THE SANCTUARY

FACTS:

- † ORIGINAL AIR CONDITIONER IS IN CRITICAL CONDITION & NEEDS REPLACED
- † SUMMER WILL SOON BE HERE AND WE NEED TO BEGIN WORK SOON
- † \$11,000 HAS ALREADY BEEN COMMITTED TO THE CAMPAIGN
- † THE MORE CASH WE RAISE THE LESS WE WILL HAVE TO FINANCE

OUR BIBLICAL PRINCIPLE FOR GIVING:

“Each person should do as he has decided in his heart—not out of regret or out of necessity, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make every grace overflow to you, so that in every way, always having everything you need, you may excel in every good work” (2 Corinthians 9:7-8).

The church is in critical need of a new air conditioner/heating unit for the church sanctuary. The Trustee’s are asking all members and friends of the church to help with this effort. All gifts will be appreciated regardless of the amount. **It is our prayer that the needed funds will be raised by the first of April.** If all the funds are raised by this date, we will not have to finance the project. If we do not have the total amount needed by April 1, we will finance the rest and pay it off with the monthly contributions of the members.

We encourage all members and friends of Parkview to pray about this request and fill out this commitment card with what the Lord has laid upon your heart to give so we can make plans to get this project done. This is not a legal document or a binding contract but only a heartfelt faith promise to help the church replace the air conditioner/heating unit. Thank you for your gift!

.....
*I am willing to contribute the following one-time amount for this effort: \$_____.

*If all funds are not raised, I’m willing to contribute the following amount each month to help pay off any balance the church has to finance: \$_____ per month.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Note: The Trustee’s ask that all contributions be over and above your normal tithe or offering.

Signing the above does not constitute a contractual obligation.

Please send your offering and faith promise form to:

**Parkview Baptist Church
3403 NW 13th Street
Gainesville, Florida 32609**

