#### From the Pastor's Pen...

"Work on it!" That's my motto for 2020! There are some ways I need to improve this year. I am in the process of identifying some of the most important areas that need work. Then. . . I'm going to work on it! What about you? I'll bet there are some areas in your life that could use some attention. We all have room for improvement. Are there sins you struggle with? Are you lax when it comes to spiritual disciplines? Is your love for the Lord without fervor and passion? Whatever it might be, let me encourage you to identify it. Then. . . work on it!

Just like each individual has room for improvement, so does the church. So, what are we going to do? Step one is to identify the most critical areas that need work. Then. . . *we work on it!* I identified one of those areas last Sunday morning, Sunday School. We're going to work hard on improving our small group ministry and getting more people involved. Being in a small group has the potential to greatly aid in your spiritual growth. It also fosters a greater sense of fellowship and connectedness with others in the church.

The good news is we aren't left to ourselves and our own resources to try and improve. We don't have to *work on it* by ourselves. We have the presence, power, and people of God to help us. This is not about making resolutions. This is not about setting goals necessarily. It's just a challenge to identify areas where we need to improve and make a commitment that with God's help we will *work on it*!

For the Gospel and the Glory of God!

Bro. Paul

## Caleb's Connections... Colossians 1:21-22

"Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior. But now He has reconciled you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in His sight, without blemish and free from accusation."

In every one of Paul's letters, he always gave a Gospel presentation. He never failed to bring up the sacrifice of Christ, and the reconciliation of God's people. That was because Paul understood the importance of the Gospel. He understood that the Gospel was the backbone of the church. Every message we teach, every song we sing, every prayer we offer should all point to the work of Jesus Christ!

Here in Colossians 1, Paul gives an amazing Gospel presentation, telling us that we were once enemies of God while in our sin. But God has sent Christ to die as our sacrifice. By doing that, He has reconciled us back to Himself. No longer at war with God, but a part of His family! So one day we can stand before the throne, faultless and without blame! Not because of anything we could have done, but because of what Christ has already done!

#### Prayer Requests

- Pray for Matrix weekend in February. Pray that God will do the amazing work He already has planned for these youth

- Pray that our students will use their schools as the mission field that God has given them

From what's on my heart,

Caleb

## **♫♪** Cory's Column...

#### Psalm 40:1-3

<sup>1</sup> I waited patiently for the LORD;
And He inclined to me and heard my cry.
<sup>2</sup> He brought me up out of the pit of destruction out of the miry clay,
and He set my feet upon a rock making my footsteps firm.
<sup>3</sup> He put a new song in my mouth,
a song of praise to our God;
Many will see and fear and will trust in the LORD.

I am so thankful that God hears my cry and answers. Oh how wonderful are the great things He has done for me. Through Jesus, God has rescued me from the pit of destruction; He has scooped me up from the miry sludge of my sin and shame, and He has placed my feet on the Rock – Jesus is my firm foundation!

He has given me a new song. I once was lost but now I'm found. I have a new song to sing; it is the saving Gospel-song of Jesus. His redeeming love is the theme of my song, and I will sing it to Him forevermore.

And I pray that through the testimony of my life, my family's life, and my church's life that others will see and hear Him and put their trust in the saving grace of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Always Singing His Praises,

Bro. Cory

## Katey's Korner...

#### **Family Bible Challenge** 52 Verses Every Christian Should Know

Jan. 5-11John 15:9Jan. 12-18Psalm 1:6Jan. 19-25Titus 3:5Jan. 26- Feb. 1Psalm 139:14

### Sunday School Teacher Training

Saturday, Jan. 18 @ 9:00a.m.

This is for those who teach and substitute in the youth & adult Sunday school classes. If you do not have a co-teacher or regular sub, please bring one other person from your class.

## Summer Camp Dates

Youth Crossings - June 14-19 (7<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grade) Super Summer - July 13-17 Kids Crossing - July 19-22 (3<sup>rd</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> grade) Camp letters for 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> graders are being given out. Please see Katey to get one.



Women's Bible Study "We Over Me"

Wednesday nights @ 6:00p.m. Books can be purchased via Amazon or Lifeway. There's still time to join!

Love in Christ,

Katey



Follow us on Facebook and download the parkwaytupelo mobile app for up to date information.

# The Record Speaks

<u></u>	
Sunday School Attendance	91
Guests	2
Dec. Sunday School Avg. Attendance	78
Dec. Income	\$36,886.72
Dec. Expense	\$34,054.16

The Lord's Additions <u>September 1, 2019 – August 31, 2020</u> By Letter By Baptism By Statement Total

Contribution Statements are ready for pick-up. Look inside the Lottie Moon mailbox located outside of the office door.

Sunday School Teacher Training Saturday, Jan. 18<sup>th</sup> at 9:00a.m.

Deacon Installation Sunday, Jan. 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:00p.m.

January Food Pantry Needs Individual Sized Juices, Nabs/ Granola Bars, Soup, Microwave Meals, Bath Tissue, Paper Towels

<u>3rd Sunday Ushers</u> David Moore, Norman Bowen, Billy Lowry, David Cox, Bobby Wages, Greg Smith

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