

Blessings

April 2021

A publication of Byromville Baptist Church



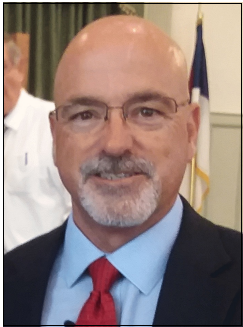
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On the cover: Easter Egg Hunt March 27. See more pics on the church's Facebook page.

Pastor's column

Anxious about being anxious



Mike L. Parker

Sunday morning, March 21 found me on cloud nine. I was getting ready to preach the inspired word of God, and I knew I had the right sermon. Thirty six hours earlier I didn't have a clue what to preach. I had become anxious about what the sermon. After my dear friend Brenda

texted me about the sermon title for the bulletin I had to confess to her that I didn't have one and asked her to pray for me. Five minutes later I had a word from God - 'Anxiety'.

The sermon went well, but while driving home after church I became anxious for someone dear to me and couldn't get control of my thoughts. This led to greater anxiety and a whole lot of similar worrying and fretting. Those three words with the basic same meaning will wear you out if you don't fight the good fight with the extra strength of the Lord. We can't win that battle on our own. So, I am going to go out on a really short limb and discern that maybe a few in my congregation have also dealt with being anxious about something since that sermon.

In the sermon I referred to the writings of the Apostle Paul. You know the full proof game plan for beating worry, anxiousness, and fretting as related by him in Philippians 4:6-8. In this scripture he instructs us to not be anxious about anything (just don't do it) and instead with thanksgiving to pray about everything while filling our minds with positive, praise worthy thoughts. But you and I and Paul are all alike. We each have a mind that is continually being attacked. Paul himself the master teacher kept stumbling over his burden for the welfare of the churches.

Paul endured a recurring battle in his mind to live a worry free life as much as possible. At least Paul's times of anxiousness led to his taking action instead of being spiritually and emotionally paralyzed like many Christians today.

The main point for this article is to stress to each of us that the battle has already been won on the cross and it is our job to appropriate that truth by never giving in to Satan's devilish scheme to distract us. Yes, the Apostle Paul gave us all the truth that we need to prevail, but the fact remains it is a battle and Paul can also attest to that truth.

Some folk might think it a bit immature to cover the same topic twice in seven days, but when God says shed more light on the subject you shed more light on the subject. In fact I am in pretty good company because Paul told the believers in Philippi that it didn't bother him to repeat or reinforce the same message. *Finally, my fellow believers, continue to rejoice and delight in the LORD. To write the same things again is no trouble for me, and it is a safeguard for you.* (Philippians 3:1)

Did you hear that! Paul said that it was a safeguard to them. So rejoice that God loves us enough to keep bringing the good word of His grace until we get it right. He knows life can be tough, but He has all the ability and strength to see us through. We like Paul look forward to hearing "well done my good and faithful servant". Until then, don't quit, and 'Just Don't Do It' when it comes to worrying, being anxious, and fretting. Have a blessed week and keep your eyes on Jesus who is the author and perfecter of your faith.

In Christ,

Pastor Mike



April 11
After 11 am
Worship Service

Farewell/ Appreciation
Lunch For Pastor Mike

For the past 22 months, we've been blessed to have Mike Parker as our interim pastor. Join us in Saliba Hall to celebrate Pastor Mike as he moves on to his next great Kingdom adventure. Food will be provided by the social committee. You may bring a dessert if you'd like.

BBC calls Reed Benson as pastor

On March 7, BBC by a unanimous vote called Reed Benson as pastor. His first Sunday will be April 18.



Reed and Pat Benson

Reed is from the Lost Mountain community in Cobb County and has been in full time church ministry for over 40 years. Reed has served as a minister of music, a minister of children and youth, and as a pastor. His wife Pat is from Kathleen, and her sister and two brothers still live there. The Bensons have a daughter who

lives in Germany and a son who lives in Jackson with his wife and two children.

Reed graduated from Mercer University Atlanta in 1984 and later received his masters from there as well. He was ordained to the ministry in 1984 by Dogwood Hills Baptist Church, East Point.

Reed has a wide range of interests and skills. He has sung with the Sons of Jubal. He plays the piano. He is a certified law enforcement officer. He is a chaplain for law enforcement agencies. He teaches church safety/security courses and peace officers training. He loves to hunt and fish. He loves sports. He loves to cook. But most of all, he loves God and loves people.

A big thank you to our Pastor Search Committee (John John Averill, Jill Brannen, Lillian Gresham, Joe Kent, Keith Lamberth, Jimmy Lockerman, and Paula Smith) for their faithfulness and diligence.

More information about Reed and Pat will be in the May *Blessings*. Below is Pastor Reed's first newsletter article.

The steps of a righteous man are ordered of the Lord

Every time I read this passage from Psalm 37:23 I am reminded that my life is not my own. I belong to God. Pat belongs to God. We have committed both our individual lives, our ministry, and our marriage to His calling and purpose. We have resolved to travel

together down the path that He has set before us. We have entrusted our steps to Him.

That is why we are so excited to be coming to Byromville Baptist Church to serve with you as your pastor. We are looking forward to becoming part of this church family and community. I believe God has some special things for us to do as we minister together. I want to express my thanks for your kindness the weekend we came to be with you in view of a call. The food and fellowship were a special time. Thank you for the confidence you have shown in your affirmation to call us. Also, a special thanks to your Pastor Search Committee. It was truly a joy to work with them these past few months. There is a lot to do, and I believe together we can make a difference for the Lord. I love the hymn text that gives us hope.

Our first Sunday at Byromville Baptist will be April 18. I encourage you to invite someone to join you that day to worship. We will be moving into the parsonage on Thursday, April 15. Join me in prayer that together we will seek the Lord's guidance and direction as we reach the community for the Kingdom.

So, what will be our guiding principle? *To love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and Prophets.* Matthew 27:36-40

If we love God and love others, then we will make a difference in our community. "We are one in the bond of love. We have joined our spirits with the Spirit of God. We are one in the bond of love."

See you in a few weeks.
Reed



SUNMONTUESWEDTHUFRISAT

April 2021

1*April Fools Day***2***Good Friday***3****4 EASTER**

7am Sunrise
Service and
Breakfast
10am Sunday
School
11am Worship

5**6****7****8**

2pm-7pm
Blood Drive at
BBC

9**10**

*National
Siblings Day*

11

12pm Farewell/
Appreciation
Lunch for Pastor
Mike

12**13****14**

*National
Pecan Day*

15

11am Women
On Mission

16**17**

*Husband
Appreciation Day*

18

Pastor Reed's
first Sunday

19**20****21****22****23****24****25**

12pm Pantry
Shower and
Lunch for Reed
and Pat

26**27****28****29****30**

Birthdays

4-2 Jeanna Everidge
Penny Langston
4-3 Kris Braddock
4-5 Myra Kirksey
Bob Peavy
Gloria Chambers
4-7 Martha Peavy
Marsha Taylor
4-8 Kade Vaughan
4-11 Jimmy Dorsett
Pam Evans
4-12 Beth Roney

4-13 Derek Humphries
Jase Roberts
4-15 Joshua Gathier
4-17 Shawn Raper
4-22 Taylor Willingham
4-25 Cal Scarborough
4-26 Judson Humphries
4-28 Dennis Phillips
Arthur Roney
4-30 Ashley Lamberth
5-1 Jimmy Gauthier
Glynn Grantham

5-1 Thad Kitchens
Ross Stout
5-4 Tommy Bodrey
5-5 Sophie Roney
5-6 Lily Diehl
5-7 Jamie Roberts
5-8 Cooper Blankenship
Nikki Gaultney

Please pray for these folks
on their birthday.

Weekly Schedule

SUNDAY

Sunday School . . 10AM
Worship 11AM

WEDNESDAY

Prayer/Bible Study. 6PM

Sunday School Stats

February 21–March 28

Senior adults	4
FBIC	12
CIA	5
Young Adults	7
Youth	0
Older children	2
Young children	5
Older preschoolers	4
Younger preschoolers	4
Nursery	0
Other	4
TOTAL	49

January Financial Summary

January receipts

General offerings	\$ 8,754.00
Other	.31
TOTAL RECIEPTS	8,754.31

January disbursements

General expenses	3,512.26
Lottie Moon Christmas Offering	3,420.00
Houston Baptist Association	392.11
Cooperative Program	1,120.30
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$8,444.67

February Financial Summary

February receipts

General offering	\$ 6,239.00
Other	.99
TOTAL RECIEPTS	6,239.99

January disbursements

General expenses	8,391.65
Houston Baptist Association	304.64
Cooperative Program	870.64
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$8,444.67

Year To Date Summary

	Actual	Budgeted	Difference
Receipts	14,993.00	22,376	-7,383.00
Disbursements	14,591.36	22,376	-7,784.64

Women On Mission April 15 at 11AM
Going out to eat after meeting.
Bring items for birthday party at
Pioneer Nursing Center.



Pictured above is Pastor Mike baptizing Luke Worley (left) and Mason Scarborough (right) during the 11am worship service on March 28.



RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

April 8, 2021 2pm--7pm

Byromville Baptist Church

Sponsored by Fullington Academy

Visit <https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/find-drive> or call Rhonda Youngblood at 478-244-5033 to make appointment.



Vacation Bible School June 21-25, 2021

Call VBS Director Jill Brannen at 478-244-9501 today to volunteer to help with our biggest evangelistic event of the year!

Camp Houston Summer Camp Dates

Girls (2nd–6th grade)	June 7-9
Boys (2nd–6th grade)	June 21-23
Youth	June 24-26
Younger Children (ages 5-7)	June 28-30

All camps are day camps only. For applications and more information go to <http://www.houstonbaptist.org/CampApplication2021.pdf>



7am Sunrise Service
Breakfast following

10am Sunday School

11am Worship

Easter, April 4, 2021

Blessings is published monthly by Byromville Baptist Church. Send news items and/or comments to Editor Brenda Lockerman at POB 217, Byromville, GA 31007, email to brendalockerman@windstream.net or call 478-433-2791.

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