



baptist church

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What is Forward in Faith?

Forward in Faith is an opportunity for each of us to individually respond in a tangible way to improve our facilities. Our facilities are a tool, a tool to reach a lost world... and as one of our church members put it, our tools have grown dull. We are in the process of sharpening two of our most used tools in our outreach and in-reach ministries, our sanctuary and multi-use fellowship hall.

Renovation of our basement has begun, soon to be followed by an upgrade to our sanctuary. Forward in Faith supports this effort. Members and friends of our church will be challenged to commit to a season of prayer for our community and our church. In addition, our congregation will be asked to commit to a sacrificial commitment over the next 3 years. The funds we raise during this time will pay for the cost of our ongoing renovation and future facility improvements.

Lessons from Nehemiah

Sunday, May 2nd, will be our final lesson in our Connection Group Stewardship Focus. Each youth and adult Sunday morning connection group has already participated in a Forward in Faith devotional, based on Exodus 34-36.

- April 11th is to consider the people who are worshippers. Look at Exodus 35:4-35 and see how everyone participated and brought their best offering of resources, which were unique.

- April 18th wrapped up by looking at the purpose of commitment and sacrifice. Exodus 34:29-35 highlights that there is a noticeable difference when we meet with God.

- On May 2nd both your Connection Group leader and Pastor Allen will share lessons from the story of Nehemiah.

- As we study God's word together, pray for your family and the other church families to step into a bold relationship with the Lord, a relationship built on Faith.

FORWARD IN FAITH BANQUET

Camp Helen, Saturday, May 1, 2021

Have you received a phone call from your hostess asking you for your banquet reservations? If not, she has probably missed you. Would you help her? Please call the church office at (256) 837-0971 and make your reservations before Thursday, April 22 @4:30pm. We sincerely want every family to participate in this event of fellowship and celebration.

The banquet is at 4 to 6pm on Saturday, May 1, 2021 at Camp Helen. The event will be catered by Lawler's Barbeque. The primary menu will be gluten free, and there will be an option available by reservation for special dietary concerns. The latter half of the program will be outside (weather permitting), so please bring your folding camp chairs if you have them. There will be no offering, no solicitation, no tickets, but a reservation is needed.

For children, Nursery – 5th Grade, there will be a children's party, which will be held concurrently on the Church grounds at WHBC. Drop off for the party will begin at 3:30 pm. Make sure to register your kids at the following link, regardless if you have or have not been contacted by one of the Forward in Faith hostesses. This will help us to have updated contact, medical, and allergy information on your child(ren).
<https://www.wallhighway.com/events/forward-in-faith-banquet/>

It is hoped that this will be one of the greatest congregational gatherings in the history of our church. So many people have worked so hard to make it a great event, for you and others. You will always be glad you attended this thrilling, inspiring event. Plan to be present!



WALL HIGHWAY KIDS CAN CONNECT, GROW, SERVE AND GO TOO!

The Kids Ministry has some exciting news about our banquet on Saturday, May 1. We will be having on-campus childcare and activities for the kids while the adults and youth are attending the banquet at Camp Helen. We will begin accepting kids for childcare, Nursery – 5th Grade, at 3:30 PM Saturday, May 1. While the kids are in the Preschool and Kids Building, we will have plenty of fun activities scheduled for them to enjoy. Food will be provided for them while here at church. This will allow time for parents to attend, enjoy, and hear information about our church campaign. After the banquet, parents will need to pick up children by 6:30 PM. Please make sure that when your hostess contacts you for reservations, let them know how many kids will be in childcare and their ages. Make sure to register your kids at the following link, regardless if you have or have not been contacted by one of the Forward in Faith hostesses. This will help us to have updated contact, medical, and allergy information on your child(ren). <https://www.wallhighway.com/events/forward-in-faith-banquet/>

On Sunday, May 2, the Kids Ministry will be having a special Small Group lesson about Nehemiah. During this lesson, we will have a hands-on “STEM” activity (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics). This will be designed to teach them about our remodeling project and God’s people giving funds to help aid with the costs of remodeling.

Another way we will teach our kids about our campaign will be during “Focus” the summer of VBS/VBX Sunday’s. Each Sunday morning, beginning June 6 – August 1, 9:30 AM – 12 Noon, we will be offering a new and fun way to do VBS/VBX. During this time, we will be emphasizing the funding campaign as one of our mission projects that kids can choose to give to. As part of our summer of VBS/VBX Sunday’s, we will promote a church-wide Small Group outreach emphasis. This will provide an opportunity for our adults, youth, kids and families to invite guests to church where all members of the family will have a place to plug into. This will also provide teachable moments to become familiar with, pray for, and to give to our fundraising campaign.

On the last Sunday of VBS/VBX, August 1, we will end the campaign emphasis and tally up the total contributions and gifts given to the kid’s mission choices. Our desire is to celebrate with the kids of the blessings God’s people have faithfully given during “Focus” our summer of VBS/VBX Sunday’s. We will have a special time with the kids and their leaders to pray, asking God to use and to bless the gifts given for His Glory as we continue to tell others about Jesus.

We hope that moms, dads, and grandparents will participate with us and to use these tangible and teachable moments. Help remind the kids by emphasizing the praying and the giving of offerings to the kids VBS missions projects this summer. We continue to look forward to the great things to come for the families of Wall Highway!

Bro. Jim Graham



Connect



Grow



Serve



Go

IT IS TIME TO PUT FEET TO OUR PRAYERS

In one sense, we are asking a lot. We are asking the members of Wall Highway to give a very large sum to quickly pay off the loan from the renovation project. We are asking this giving to be over and above our normal tithing and giving. It’s a lot of money.

But in another sense, in the most important sense, we are only asking every one of us to do what is best for us and our families: earnestly pray and then be obedient. We believe that this will result in the Hallelujah goal being met, with the loan paid off entirely during this campaign! We all already know it really isn’t a lot of money to God!

Sunday May 16th is our In-Gathering date. That is when each family has the opportunity to be obedient to God’s leadership. It will be a special day in the life of our church. The actual giving in fulfillment of the commitments will begin on Sunday June 6, 2021 and continue through June 6, 2024. In actuality, tens of thousands of dollars have already been given!

We ask you to pray and then give sacrificially ... whatever God tells you to give. We believe that if we honestly ask God, He will tell us our specific sacrificial amount.

As we commit to that amount and then give it, God will develop in each of us an increased faith in Him and a renewed interest our (His) church. Our ministries will be expanded. Our unity of the church body will increase. God will increase our understanding that it truly is more blessed to give than to receive and that giving is the Christ way of life.

God will also give us a newly renovated facility, one free of debt. Members and visitors alike will enjoy the safer, more functional and more appealing facility without a debt burden. Over the next three years, our church budget won’t be constrained by interest payments, we’ll be focusing on new ministries.

EARNEST PRAYER IS ESSENTIAL. Each family is urged to pray and concentrate on spiritual values before making a commitment. It takes courage to make a sacrificial commitment. That courage comes to those who pray.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

Prayer Focus	March 28 – April 16
Banquet	May 1
Nehemiah Lesson	May 2
Gary Looney’s Testimony	May 2
In-gathering Service	May 16

Campaign Goals

Victory Goal: \$920,000

Debt reduction equivalent to one full “budget year”

Challenge Goal: \$1,240,000

Repayment of the loan principle identified as needed for renovation

Hallelujah Goal: \$1,400,000

Complete repayment of the renovation loan plus contingency funds