#### "Are We Losing Focus?"

Earlier this week, the news outlet CNN published an article titled "The Evangelical Church Faces a 'State of Emergency' Over the Pandemic and Politics, Andy Stanley says" by reporter John Blake. If you are unaware of who Andy Stanley is, he is the son of popular evangelical leader and author Charles Stanley. Andy preaches for a multi-campus congregation where more than 30,000 people attend every week.

In his book "Not In It to Win It: Why Choosing Sides Sidelines the Church," Stanley writes, "The moment our love for or concern for country takes precedence over our love for people in our country we are off mission...when saving America diverts energy, focus and reputation away from saving Americans, we no longer qualify as the ekklesia [church]. We're merely political tools. A manipulated voting demographic. A photo op... We give up the moral and ethical high ground."

While I do not agree with all of his doctrine/theology, Stanley has a point. America is not first – God is. Please do not misunderstand me. My father served in the military for over twenty years, and several of our members have a military background. I love this country, as I am sure that you do. But my love for the red, white, and blue does not trump my love for Christ.

Too often, political power players attempt to woo the religious. They promise a more assertive stance against abortion, more tolerance of faith, et cetera. And many times, they succeed, leading astray even the most devout of Christians. Stanley is speaking of this: we are losing sight of our purpose as Christians, and if we lose that, we have lost everything.

Our mission as the Lord's Body (the church) is to promote the Gospel of Christ – not the Gospel of America. Jesus said:

"If anyone comes to Me, and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be My disciple" (Lk. 14:26).

This text is a clarion call that nothing is to come before Christ, not family, not friends, and indeed not the political agenda of elected officials. Are we on mission? Are we out there seeking and saving the lost, or are we being distracted by other things? Consider how much time you spend in frustration and looking to Democrats and Republicans for an answer when there is only one who can answer you.

#### Mike

#### Well Said

- \*We do not stop laughing because we grow old; we grow old because we stop laughing.
- \*Instead of putting others in their place, let us put ourselves in the place of others.

#### **Upcoming events**



June 18 @ 11:00 a.m.

Ladies brunch at Chicken Salad Chick in the Highlands.



June 24 @ 7:00 p.m.

Movie: Overcomer



Our God is an Awesome God

June 14-7:00 p.m.

Keller, Texas

(If you need a ride, please let Gary Gough know.)

SYS meets every Tuesday evening during the summer. This is a great event for our youth (as well as our adults) to attend.

June 21—Bedford Road (Victor Mathison)

June 28—Westhill (Brandon Watson)

July 5—Brown Trail (John O'Dell)

July 12—Bridgewood (Chris Carrillo)

July 19—Northwest (J.J. Hendrix)

July 26—Grandview (Buddy Fry)

August 2—Brown Steet (Rob Waller)



Do you have a favorite hymn?

Do you know a hymn that we haven't sung in a while?

Here's your chance to make a request(s). There is a sheet in the foyer where you can make your request(s).

## Prayer Requests & Concerns

Nancy Smith received GREAT news from her oncologist this week. She continues to be cancer free. Thank you, God. God is good!

Tennessee Liebowitz continues to recover from the accident he was involved in. Broken color bone is healing. Keep him in your prayers.

Rita Anguiano, Abraham, and Jessica traveled to Mexico this week. Keep them in your prayers for return safe travels as well as continued safety while there.

Otha Cole is schedule for knee surgery on June 22.

Keep these folks in your prayers for healing as they await further treatment and/or procedures:

Perry Grace-knee surgery in July;

Tommy Seymour—waiting to have tumor removed from kidney Gary Gough—waiting to begin radiation. Appt. on June 20.

Also, continue in prayer for our shut ins:

Mary Busby Tina Garza Mary Heflin Ursula Hargrove
Jimmie Newton Peggy Schubert Joyce Singleton Weldon Smith
Edith White



and again I say rejoice! The angels were rejoicing Sunday morning as Samyra (Sammi) Alvarado was baptized. Both of Noami's children have now been baptized. What a blessing!



June 13—Mayra Green

June 13—Kimiko Sonterre

June 14—Mary Johnson

June 18—Anna Gonzales

#### **Daily Bible Reading**

**June 12** | Kings 9:1-10:29; Acts 8:14-40; Psalm 130:1-8; Proverbs 17:2-3

**June 13** I Kings 11:1-12;19; Ac5s 9:1-25; Psalm 131:1-3; Proverbs 17:4-5

June 14 | Kings 12:20-13:34; Acts 9:26-43; Psalm 132:1-18; Proverbs 17:6

June 15 | Kings 14:1-15:24; Acts 10:1-23; Psalm 133:1-3; Proverbs 17:7-8

**June 16** I Kings 15:25-17:24; Acts 10:24-48; Psalm 134:1-3; Proverbs 17:9-11

**June 17** I Kings 18:1-47; Acts 11:1-30; Psalm 135:1-21; Proverbs 17:12-13

June 18 | Kings 19:1-21; Acts 12:1-23; Psalm 136:1-26; Proverbs 17:14-15

# Sermons, Bulletins and More @ freetownroad.com

### Freetown Road Church of Christ



1038 Freetown Road Grand Prairie, Texas 75051

972-641-4596 fax: 972-641-4597

Web: freetownroad.com

Email: freetowncoc@sbcglobal.net

## Service & Class Times

Sunday Bible Class: 9:30 AM
Sunday Worship: 10:30 AM
Sunday Evening Worship: 5:00 PM
Wednesday Bible Study: 7:00 PM

Minister:
Mike Lane

# <u>Sunday</u>, <u>June 5</u>, <u>2022</u>

Sunday Attendance-AM Worship: 56 2022 Budget: \$3,252.88 Contribution: \$2,466.23 June 14—Ladies' Bible Workers @ 9:30 a.m.

June 14-SYS in Keller @ 7:00 p.m.

June 15 — Wednesday evening meal @ 6:00 p.m.

June 15 — Bible study @ 7:00 p.m.

June 18—Ladies brunch at Chicken Salad Chick @ 11:00 a.m.

June 24—Movie night, 7:00 p.m.



Wednesday, June 15, 6:00 p.m.
Come fellowship with us!

Menu: Spaghetti w/meat sauce, salad, garlic bread
Chef: Peggy Holveck

#### Welcome Guests!

We are delighted you have chosen to worship with us. You honor us with your presence. We pray you find your time with us uplifting and encouraging and that our worship will honor our God and bring you closer to Him. If you have any questions, simply ask one of our members, or speak to one of our ministers. Please take a moment to fill out one of our visitors' cards, so we can have a record of your visit with us. Feel free to let us know what you think by writing comments on that card. You are always welcome!

# Those to Serve June 19, 2022

Welcome & Opening Prayer, and Family Matters:

Gary Gough

Family prayer: Tommy Seymour Communion Leader: Mike Lane Scripture Reading: Paul Grace Closing Prayer: Wren Smith

Cleaning crew: Pink team (Erica Alvarado)

# The Family Gram

June 12, 2022

Volume 44

Number 24



Freetown Road
Church of Christ
2022

# Order of Worship

Song Leader Perry Grace

Welcome and Opening Prayer Jerry Morris

> Hymns He is Exalted Give Thanks As the Deer Glorify Thy Name

> > Family Prayer Mike Lane

Hymns His Grace Reaches Me The Lord's My Shepherd Highest Place

> Scripture reading Cain Gonzales Psalm 37:25-27

Sermon Lacking in Nothing

Invitation Hymn Only a Step

Communion Hymn By Christ Redeemed

Communion Leader Tommy Seymour

> Family Matters Jerry Morris

Closing Hymn A Common Love God Be with You

Closing Prayer Brandon Anguiano

Cleaning crew: Red team (Peggy Holveck)