

this week

Sunday, February 26

8:30 a.m. Worship, Family Dedication
 9:00-9:30 a.m. Library Open
 9:00 a.m. Early Sunday Bible Study Group
 9:40 a.m. Sunday Bible Study, Discover Class
 10:45 a.m. Belize Training
 10:50 a.m. Worship
 12:00-12:30 p.m. Library Open
 12:15 p.m. Youth Handbells
 2:00 p.m. Moving the Nehemiah Wall of Food
 4:00 p.m. Mixed Ensemble
 5:00 p.m. Ladies Ensemble, International & Refugee Ministry Meeting
 6:00 p.m. Judeo-Christian Faith, Bible Drill, Bible Skills, Student Gathering

Monday, February 27

9:00 a.m. -1:30 p.m. ESL Classes
 9:30 a.m. Precept *Spiritual Gifts*
 1:30 p.m. GriefShare
 5:00 p.m. Stephen Ministry Training
 6:30 p.m. GriefShare
 7:00 p.m. Precept *Spiritual Gifts*

Tuesday, February 28

9:00 a.m. -1:30 p.m. ESL Classes
 9:30 a.m. Early Learning Program
 6:15 p.m. GROW W-Team

Wednesday, March 1

9:00 a.m. -1:30 p.m. ESL Classes
 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Library Open
 4:15 p.m. Children's Handbells
 4:30 p.m. Children's Chimes
 4:45 p.m. Fellowship Dinner
 5:30 p.m. Children's Choir, Youth Choir, Ladies *Sermon on the Mount*
 5:45 p.m. Bible Study & Prayer
 5:45-6:45 p.m. Library Open
 6:20 p.m. Student Worship
 6:30 p.m. GA, RA, Mission Friends
 6:45 p.m. Sanctuary Choir
 7:30 p.m. Orchestra

Thursday, March 2

9:00 a.m. -1:30 p.m. ESL Classes
 9:30 a.m. Early Learning Program, Precept *Isaiah Part 2*
 10:00 a.m. Adult Game Day, Women's Bible Study *Joy Beyond Agony*
 7:00 p.m. Men's Basketball, Precept *Isaiah Part 2*

Friday, March 3

9:30 a.m. Early Learning Program

Saturday, March 4

9:00 a.m. Mission Ignition at FBC, South Tulsa Volleyball Tournament
 11:00 a.m. South Tulsa Chili Cook-Off
 5:00 p.m. FIT Dinner Groups

WEDNESDAY DINNER

March 1, 2017

Rotini, Caesar salad, vegetable, Texas toast, dessert, beverage

Adults \$5, children \$3.50, family max \$18.

Please call the church office, 918-299-0904 to make your reservations by Tuesday at noon.

southtulsa
BAPTIST CHURCH

10310 South Sheridan Road | Tulsa, Oklahoma 74133
 918.299.0904 | southtulsa.org

Sharing the
Good News about
Jesus in our
community and
around the world

more

MENTORS MEN'S MINISTRY - Join us Monday, March 6 in the Fellowship Hall from 6:45-7:45 a.m. for a time of men's Bible study and fellowship. Donuts, bagels and coffee will be served. We will be previewing our next study - STEPPING UP: A CALL TO COURAGEOUS MANHOOD. Morning and evening times will be available - choose Mondays 6:45-7:45 a.m. March 20-May 22 or Wednesdays 6:00-7:00 p.m. March 22-May 24.

EAST ASIA MISSION TRIP REPORT - Join us just after the evening service on Sunday, March 5 at 7:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall to hear how God moved through our mission team on their recent trip to East Asia. Light refreshments will be served.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY: WHAT'S IN YOUR PURSE? - Plan now to attend a luncheon and purse exchange Saturday, March 25 at 11:00 a.m. Save the date, details to follow.

DISCOVER CLASS BEGINS TODAY - New members and those interested in becoming members of South Tulsa Baptist Church are encouraged to attend a two-week class today and Sunday, March 5 from 9:40-10:40 a.m. in the Family Room.

CHILI COOK-OFF - March 4, 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall. Do you think you make the BEST chili? Let us be the judge! Enter a pot of your best (\$25) to support the Belize Mission Trip. The top three participants will win prizes! Everyone is invited to eat chili (\$5/person) and to sample the competition chili. Register by 5:00 p.m. March 3 at southtulsa.org/food-services or by calling the church office. Please arrive with your chili at 10:30 a.m. Winners to be announced at 12:30 p.m.

(For more information about upcoming events please go to southtulsa.org)

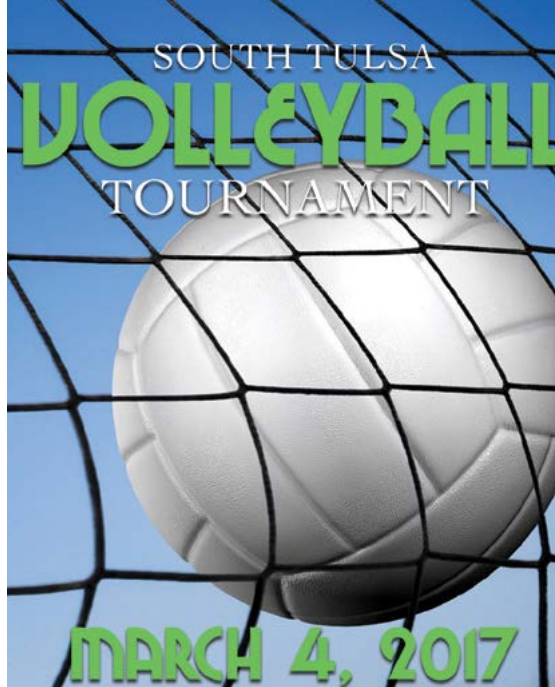


MISSIONS EVENT FOR KIDS GRADES 1-6
 First Baptist Church, Tulsa | bgco.org/missionignition
 Please contact Connie Faurot at 918-299-0904 to register.

march 4, 2017
 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Missionary Speakers • Bible Skills Games • Inflatables • Archery
 Mission Challenge • Mission Projects • Open Racing • Worship • Lunch

\$5 before MARCH 1 \$10 after



SOUTH TULSA
VOLLEYBALL
 TOURNAMENT

MARCH 4, 2017

the channel

02.26.17

volume XXVII, no. 8
 southtulsa.org



*Celebrating
20 Years
on Staff -
Carolyn Larkin-Kelso*

8:30AM Worship

77 Seconds@SouthTulsa
Victory in Jesus
Open Up the Heavens
Welcome and Prayer Dru Finley
Church Matters Eric Costanzo
Cornerstone
Easterwood Family Dedication
Greeting One Another
Scripture Reading Benjamin Lee
Message Nehemiah 13:4-11
Response *In Christ Alone*
New Commitments - New Members
Blessing

10:50AM Worship

77Seconds@SouthTulsa
Recognition of Carolyn Larkin-Kelso's 20th Staff Anniversary Chuck Baukal
Call to Worship Orchestra *Overture of Praise*
All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name
Prayer and Welcome Dru Finley
The Bond of Love
Church Matters Eric Costanzo
Redeemed - Thou Art Worthy
Choral Worship *Mercy Tree* Solo - Ann Archer
Giving *Come Home* Mixed Ensemble
Scripture Reading Benjamin Lee
Message Nehemiah 13:4-11
Response *Grace Greater than Our Sin*
New Commitments - New Members
Blessing

The Season of Lent Begins This Week

by Dr. Eric Costanzo

On March 1, many evangelicals and other Christians around the world will celebrate Ash Wednesday and the beginning of the Lenten season.

The word "Lenten" means "lengthen." The purpose of the season of Lent is exactly that; to lengthen the observance of Easter so that it will be more meaningful and the celebration more anticipated when it arrives. It is a very similar idea to the Advent season before Christmas. For many Baptists, Lent has not typically been part of their worship life or liturgical observance. Perhaps this should be rethought just a bit, because Lent has its roots in very solid Church history. As early as the fourth century AD, Christians observed a 40-day fast in preparation for Easter weekend. *This was well before there was an officially recognized Roman Catholic Church.*

The purpose of a Lenten fast by early Christians was two-fold: 1) To remember the suffering of Jesus in the wilderness during his 40-day fast and temptation, and 2) to fast and reflect on Christ's death and resurrection in one's own heart for a similar period of 40 days.

In the early church, though, there was more. Easter Eve was the date of a church's annual baptismal service. Before cathedrals and baptisteries existed, most of the organized groups of believers who called themselves "churches" would only have one baptismal service a year in some local body of water. Thus, Lent was also a preparation for a large baptismal service.

How cool is that? 40 days of spiritual preparation before your baptism if you're a new believer. 40 days of spiritual preparation to celebrate the baptism of new believers if you're already a believer. 40 days of preparing for and celebrating Easter, instead of just one Sunday with an extra-large crowd, like we typically have. Would you consider joining in the observance of Lent this year? If so, find an Ash Wednesday service around town and start this season off right.

On Ash Wednesday we pray: From dust we came and to dust we will return... "blessed be the name of the Lord" (Job 1:21).

1 John: Eyewitness to the Savior

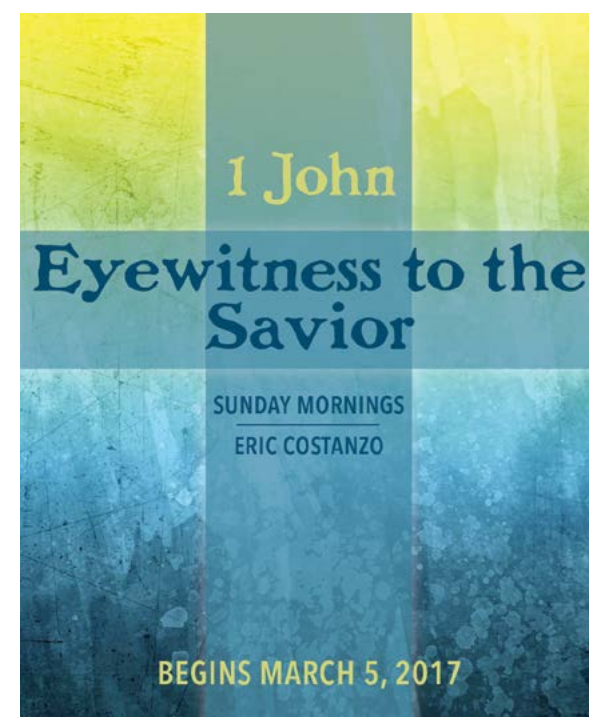
A good story is powerful. A good story draws us in, captivates our imagination, and often sticks with us long past its telling.

True stories are even more impactful, especially when they come from an eyewitness. When someone who was there can describe how things looked, sounded, and felt, we almost never forget. The true stories recorded about Jesus in the New Testament came from eyewitnesses; from men and women who were there and experienced these things first hand.

John the Apostle was one of those eyewitnesses. John said, *"That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched—this we proclaim concerning the Word of life" (1 John 1:1).*

As a disciple of Jesus, John was among those who remained closest to Jesus throughout his adult life. And John has given us not only an eyewitness account, but also deeply meaningful descriptions of how Jesus redefines every part of the story of our universe.

Join us in the weeks leading up to Easter as we dig into John's eyewitness account, and together discover more about what it means to have a full life in Jesus.



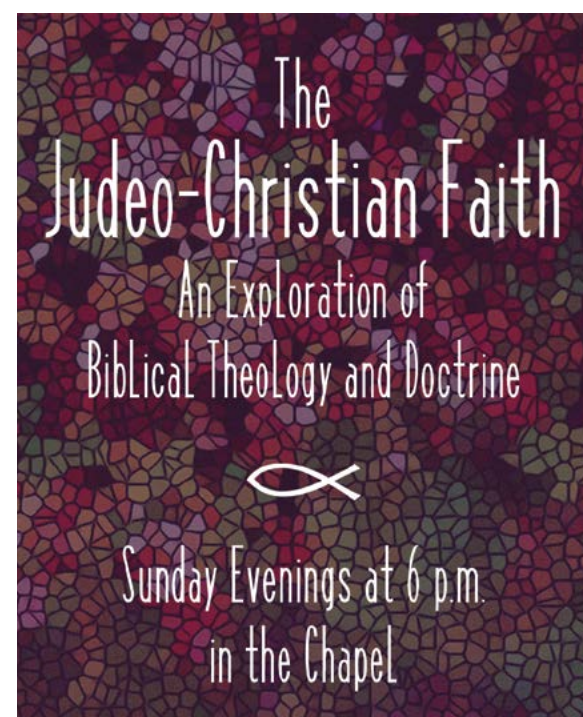
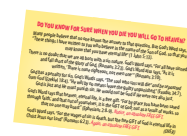
Thank You

As we dedicate our daughter Kelsey today, we would like to say thank you for all the prayer, love and support you have poured on our family over the last two years. Kelsey is a miracle and a blessing to us. This fellowship of believers has been a rock for us, and we thank the Lord daily for our brothers and sisters in Christ at STBC. - Brian and Connie Easterwood

20-Year Anniversary

Let's celebrate Carolyn Larkin's 20th anniversary as our church secretary. Since 1997, Carolyn has been the voice of South Tulsa. Carolyn balances answering our church phone, greeting all visitors to our church office, updating our church-wide calendar, updating our church member database, and maintaining our church prayer list with patience and a servant attitude. Carolyn gets great joy from all she does including helping a member navigate our website to visiting with a guest who needs assistance from our church. Please congratulate Carolyn for 20 years of service to our church!

Share the Good News - Yellow witnessing cards are available on the Track Rack outside the Library.



Thinking Christian

by Dru Finley

He Took Our Place

The cross of Christ is a glorious thing! It is the Christian's hope and joy. Which to the outside world may sound like a strange thing to say about an instrument of death, but for us the cross is more than what meets the eye.

As Christians we must be sure to never look at the cross the way the world does. We must make sure that when we see those two beams bound together with bloody nails driven into them, we see victory! The empty cross along with the empty grave are to us symbols of freedom!

The cross is the very thing that gives us life, but how can an instrument of death bring life to those who look to the cross with Faith? In a word, Substitution. Within the cross is the act of Christ being a substitution for our punishment. Charles Spurgeon shared, *"I have always considered, with Luther and Calvin, that the sum and substance of the gospel lies in that word Substitution—Christ standing in the stead of man. If I understand the gospel, it is this: I deserve to be lost forever; the only reason why I should not be damned is this, that Christ was punished in my stead, and there is no need to execute a sentence twice for sin."* Put simply, while on the cross the Father treated sinless Christ as if He lived your life and mine, but in heaven the Father will treat us as if we lived Christ's life.

This is the perplexing glory of the Gospel! Why would God do such a thing? Because, He is a God of Love, Mercy, and Grace! The act of the cross may not always fully make sense to us, but know that this is the only act that has the power to give life to those who place their faith in Christ. So, when you see the cross realize this is the punishment you deserved, this is where God's wrath was poured out upon your sins. But most importantly, when you see the cross know that He took your place!

(Read Dru's full article at southtulsa.org or watch the video under the "Media" tab.)

last week

GIVING

Ministry Financial Plan	2,419,462
Actual MFP Receipts	2,358,519
General Fund	58,038
Building Fund	1,075

SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY

Adults	531
Students	75
Children	95
Preschool	91
Unclassified	10
Total	802

WEEKDAY BIBLE STUDIES 256

Adult, Student, Precept, Women's

THE MINISTRY CENTER

Volunteers	60
People Helped	166

WORSHIP SERVICE ONLINE

LIVE Views	2,744
<i>(U.S. 1,829; International 915)</i>	
Retirement Center Ministry	142
<i>(11 locations)</i>	
ON DEMAND Views	560
<i>(U.S. 374; International 186)</i>	

MINISTRY STAFF

Dr. Eric Costanzo, <i>Pastor</i> eric@southtulsa.org	Debbie Steen, <i>Minister to Families with Preschoolers</i> debbie@southtulsa.org
Philip Stephens, <i>Minister of Music</i> philip@southtulsa.org	Mary Ann Stephens, <i>Music Ministry Associate</i> maryann@southtulsa.org
Dave Bender, <i>Minister of Administration & Media</i> dave@southtulsa.org	Karen Pirtle, <i>Student Ministry Associate</i> karen@southtulsa.org
Dru Finley, <i>Minister of Discipleship & Development</i> dru@southtulsa.org	Alice Bones, <i>Director of The Ministry Center</i> alice@ministry-center.org
Matt Wolff, <i>Minister to Families with Students</i> matt@southtulsa.org	ON THE COVER Carolyn Larkin
Connie Faurot, <i>Minister to Families with Children</i> connie@southtulsa.org	