

this week

Sunday, March 19

8:30 a.m. Worship
9:00-9:30 a.m. Library Open
9:00 a.m. Early Sunday Bible Study Group
9:40 a.m. Sunday Bible Study
10:50 a.m. Worship
12:00-12:30 p.m. Library Open
12:15 p.m. Stewardship Committee Meeting
4:00 p.m. Mixed Ensemble
6:00 p.m. Judeo-Christian Faith, Bible Drill,
Bible Skills, Student Gathering
7:00 p.m. Advisory Council

Monday, March 20

6:45 a.m. Mentors *Stepping Up*
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. ESL Classes
9:30 a.m. Precept *Spiritual Gifts*
1:30 p.m. GriefShare, Ladies Handbells
5:00 p.m. Stephen Ministry Training
6:30 p.m. GriefShare, Adult Handbells
7:00 p.m. Precept *Spiritual Gifts*

Tuesday, March 21

9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. ESL Classes
9:30 a.m. Early Learning Program
6:15 p.m. GROW O-Team

Wednesday, March 22

9:00 a.m. MOPS, ELP Planning Meeting
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. ESL Classes
2:00 p.m. Funeral Service - Vernon Dietrich
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
6:00 p.m. Mentors *Stepping Up*
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 23

9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. ESL Classes
9:30 a.m. Early Learning Program
10:00 a.m. Adult Game Day, Women's Bible
Study Joy Beyond Agony
6:30 p.m. Empty Nesters 2 Fellowship
7:00 p.m. Precept *Isaiah Part 2*, Men's Basketball

Friday, March 24

9:30 a.m. Early Learning Program

Saturday, March 25

11:00 a.m. Women's "What's In Your Purse"

WEDNESDAY DINNER

March 22, 2017

Build your own nachos/taco salad, Mexican rice, guacamole, chips and cheese dip, sour cream, dessert, and 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

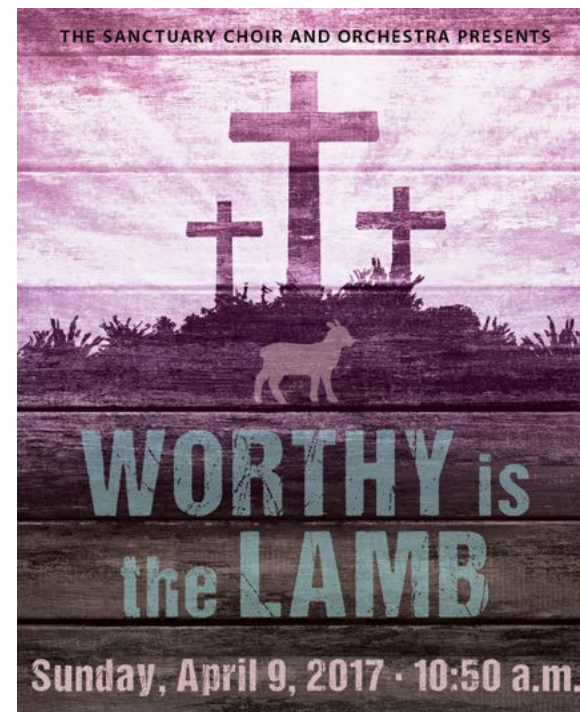
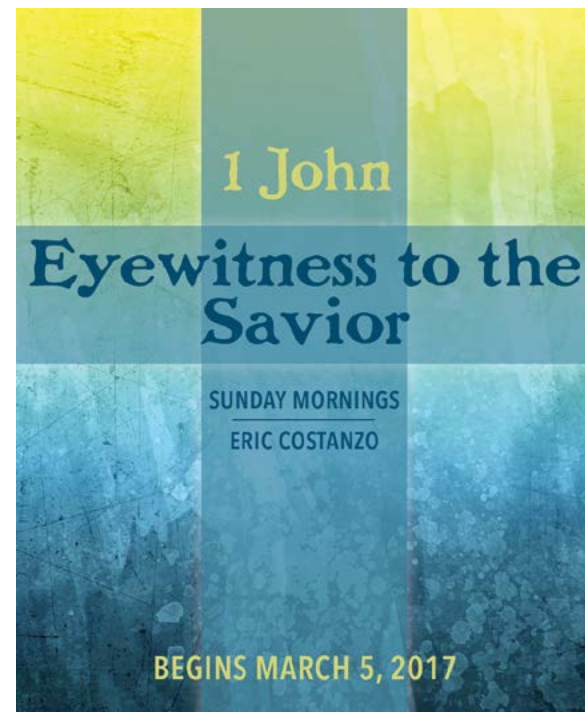
MENTORS MEN'S MINISTRY - Join us tomorrow morning or Wednesday evening as we begin the ten session study, *STEPPING UP: A CALL TO COURAGEOUS MANHOOD*. The Monday group will meet 6:45-7:45 a.m. in Fellowship Hall, March 20-May 22. The Wednesday group will meet 6:00-7:00 p.m. in room B121, March 22-May 24. Sign up online at southtulsa.org/men or at the table in the Commons. The cost for the class is \$10.

NEW CLASS - The best way to connect in a church like South Tulsa Baptist is to find a Sunday Bible Study class. It is the place for you to connect with a small group of people and find community. If you have not found a group, I'd like to introduce you to a new Adult Bible Study class that will begin on Sunday, April 2 at 9:40 a.m. in room B123-124. Steve Streich and Steve Beck will be leading this class through the *Explore the Bible* study series. If you don't have a class, I encourage you to visit this class to see if you might find your small group community!

SUMMER MUSIC FUN FOR BOYS AND GIRLS - SMAK - June 12-16, 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., for kids who have finished grades 1-6. PreSMAK - June 12-14, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m., for ages 3 years-Kindergarten. Enroll online at southtulsa.org.

CARE BAIR BAGS FOR FOSTER CHILDREN - Girls in Action is collecting money to fill "Care Bair" Bags for the Bair Foundation. The bags are given to children as they go to a new foster care home. One bag is \$10 to sponsor. Please send your donations to GA's by Wednesday, March 22 in an envelope marked "Care Bair." Help us reach our goal of 65 bags!

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



the
channel

03.19.17

volume XXVII, no. 11
southtulsa.org



8:30AM Worship

Stepping Up Men's Class Video

This Is Amazing Grace
Whom Shall I Fear

Prayer and Welcome Dru Finley
Always

It Is Well (Trust Your Name)

Faith Story Casey Bales

Greeting One Another

Scripture Reading Noah Costanzo

Message 1 John 2:15-29

Response *Lord, Be Glorified*

New Commitments - New Members

A New Day at South Tulsa

Blessing

10:50AM Worship

Stepping Up Men's Class Video

A New Day at South Tulsa

Sing to the King *Come, Thou Almighty King*

Prayer and Welcome Eric Costanzo

Greeting One Another

Great Is the Lord Almighty

Faith Story Casey Bales

When All Is Said and Done Philip Stephens

What a Day That Will Be

Choral Worship *Jesus Saves*

Holy Ground

Giving *How Majestic Is Your Name*

Laurie Lightbody

Scripture Reading Noah Costanzo

Message 1 John 2:15-29

Response *Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross*

New Commitments - New Members

Blessing

I Am Not Ashamed of the Good News, Pt. 1 of 3

by Dr. Eric Costanzo

Romans 1:16: "For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes: first to the Jew, then to the Gentile."

The gospel – the good news about life in Jesus – is to be a source of joy and courage for us, not cause for shame. The gospel comes from God Himself, and is good news because everyone who believes it will receive God's salvation – the only true hope for human beings before and after death. Paul, who wrote these words, also said that this is good news for Jew and Gentile alike. The good news is for everyone.

Who would be ashamed of that?

Well clearly Paul felt that being ashamed of the good news about Jesus was a temptation. If we are honest, many of us have also struggled at times with being embarrassed or ashamed about our faith in Jesus.

I would argue, however, that our reasons for being ashamed of the gospel in 21st Century America are much different than those of Paul's 1st Century audience.

There are many differences, for instance, in how we experience persecution. But, there is also so much more. In the context of the first century Roman Empire, this verse takes on an entirely different meaning that is easy to miss.

In first century Rome, it was not too flattering to be named along with Jesus of Nazareth – whether among Jews or Gentiles. Among the Jews, Jesus was a blasphemer and fraud. Among the Romans, Jesus had been executed with odious criminals, and as a criminal Himself. Jesus and His teaching were an affront to multiple "kingdoms." Thus, the 1st Century Christians had to decide which kingdom to serve first.

Will you and I ever have to make that choice? Which kingdom do we serve first? If our commitment to any earthly kingdom makes us feel ashamed to live boldly in and for God's Kingdom, Romans 1:16 has an even deeper meaning.

More next week...

Welcome New Members



Barbara Arnold,
by letter

Ken & Pat Shirley,
by letter



Yuqing Wu,
by baptism

George Lu &
Annie Zhang Lu,
by letter



A New Day AT SOUTH TULSA

A New Day at South Tulsa is our church's strategy to pay off our existing debt. We believe God has called us to be excellent stewards, or managers, of all the resources with which we have been blessed. For the last several years, our church has been faithfully paying off debt that was obtained as a result of completing our current campus. Beginning with Easter 2017, we are putting into action a plan to pay off our current debt (beginning at around \$1,850,000) in 18 months or less. This will free up some \$40,000 monthly in our church budget to go towards missions, ministry programs, and church family needs. Our goal as a church is to eliminate debt and stay out of debt.



But there is more. We also know that many families in our church and in our community are also likely struggling with debt constraints. So, as a part of A New Day at South Tulsa, we are offering several segments of Financial Peace University© and Financial Freedom so that families can also begin to experience debt elimination and financial freedom alongside our church emphasis.

Financial Peace University is financial expert Dave Ramsey's nine-week money class. You'll learn practical ways to pay off debt, overcome your fear of budgeting, and create a savings plan to replace retirement worries with financial peace. Cost: \$100 per kit (individual or couple). **WEDNESDAY Nights** (4/19-6/14) 6:00-7:15 p.m. **SUNDAY Nights** (4/23-6/18 or 25) 5:30-7:00 p.m.

Financial Freedom, a video seminar taught by Jim Sammons, has helped thousands of people avoid financial disaster as they have understood what the Bible teaches about money and have begun to apply those principles. A great choice if you have already completed Financial Peace University (or would like to dig deeper into Scriptures about Biblical stewardship). Cost: \$50 per kit (individual or couple).

SUNDAY Nights (4/23-6/25) 5:30-7:00 p.m.

Class enrollment begins today!

Thinking Christian

by Dru Finley

Prove It

Prove it! We've all heard those words. They are usually words that come after one child makes an extremely bold claim to a friend who is apprehensive about the truthfulness of his claim. It's natural for us to want to see evidence. There are a lot of bold statements made in this world, and the natural response to most of them is, prove it!

There is no bolder statement than the message of Christ! The claim that Jesus was God in flesh, who died and rose from the grave is by far the most bodacious claim in all of history. But, people want to see more verbal or written evidence. What they want is for you to prove it!

Francis of Assisi was attributed as saying, "Preach the gospel at all times; when necessary, use words." This statement though is only half true, because we know that a person must hear the gospel in order to believe. Romans 10:17 tells us that "faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ." So the reality is that we are not preaching the gospel unless we are using words! But, we must also never forget the other side of the equation, the Word without a changed life lacks the ability to prove it.

Often times what Christians don't realize is that the world wants to believe something. We must understand that if we merely regurgitate a mass of facts with little to no change in our lives, our message becomes deflated and lacks the power to convince the onlooking world of what we say we believe is true. The world will stop and stare if they see a group of people who prove what they are saying by transformed lives. The only hope that we might "Prove it" to the world, is if they see Him in us! And, the only way they will see Him in us is if He has made His home in our heart, and we have made our home in His Word! So, make a bold statement by declaring the gospel with your words, but live in such a way that your transformed life will "Prove it" to the onlooking world!

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

Disaster Relief Training

Disaster Relief Training will be held on April 1 at New Beginnings in Bixby beginning at 8:00 a.m. for: Orientation, Feeding Line, Chainsaw, Clean Up/Debris Removal.

What's in Your Purse?
Ladies Luncheon & Purse Exchange

SATURDAY, MARCH 25, 2017
11:00 am to 1:00 pm | South Tulsa Gym
Speaker Karen Wright

Bring a gently used purse to exchange or donate to the Ministry Center and learn more about what Christian women need to carry to be prepared for all God has in store for us.

RSVP TODAY @ southtulsa.org or sign up in Sunday Bible Study class

last week

GIVING

Ministry Financial Plan	2,677,475
Actual MFP Receipts	2,575,387
General Fund	55,448
Building Fund	2,690

SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY

Adults	475
Students	42
Belize Mission Trip	37
Children	71
Preschool	61
Unclassified	10
Total	696

WEEKDAY BIBLE STUDIES 42

Adult, Student, Precept, Women's

THE MINISTRY CENTER

Volunteers	28
People Helped	175

WORSHIP SERVICE ONLINE

LIVE Views	4,672
<i>(U.S. 3,115; International 1,557)</i>	
Retirement Center Ministry	148
<i>(12 locations)</i>	
ON DEMAND Views	806
<i>(U.S. 537; International 269)</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 Belize Mission Trip 2017
Connie Faurot, <i>Minister to Families with Children</i> connie@southtulsa.org	