



THE STEEPLE

Fayetteville Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church
1720 Huntsville Highway – Fayetteville, TN 37334

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OCTOBER - 2017

Bryan Bult – Pastor



THE VIEW FROM THE STEEPLE -

Will You not revive us again, that your people might rejoice in you? (Psalm 85:6)

October 2017 is an exciting month, since it marks the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation. In October of 1517, Martin Luther nailed his 95 Theses on the Church door at Wittenberg, Germany. By doing this, Luther only intended to start a discussion. Instead, he sparked a worldwide movement that is still progressing five centuries later. In the 16th century, the Lord sent one of the greatest revivals in history, turning his church to a renewed focus on the Holy Scriptures to continually reform the church.

This Reformation had at least five emphases. I am excited to preach a sermon series this month, focusing on one of these per week.

- 1-Scripture Alone (Sola Scriptura) is our necessary, sufficient, infallible standard of what to believe and how to live.
- 2-Grace Alone (Sola Gratia) is what saves us, not grace + anything else.
- 3-Faith Alone (Sola Fide), itself a gift of God's grace, is the instrument by which we connect to God's grace, not faith + good works.
- 4-Christ Alone (Sola Christus) saves us by his perfect obedience and his substitutionary atoning death for us; he doesn't help us save ourselves.

5-To the Glory of God Alone (Soli Deo Gloria) - If God saves us, and not we ourselves, then he gets all the glory for it. We reserve none for ourselves.



Why this focus on something that happened 500 years ago? The reason is not nostalgia alone, although there is plenty to celebrate from church history. But here's the primary reason to commemorate this important milestone.



The Reformation challenges the church not only to be "once reformed" but also "ALWAYS REFORMING." If we focus anew on the Bible, it will show us some ways we need to change. It will show us our need for personal renewal, family renewal, and church renewal, in that order. It will cause us to pray anew, as the Psalmist does, "Won't you revive us again, that your people may rejoice in you?"

I hope you'll join me in this renewed focus in October. And I hope you will pray with me that God will be pleased to send revival to His Church again. There is no greater need in our tumultuous world and our divided country than that the Church be revived. He's done it periodically throughout history, and He can do it again! *If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves, and seek my face, and turn from their sins, then I will hear from heaven and forgive their sins and heal their land.* That is God's promise, and He does not lie.

Will you not revive us again, that your people might rejoice in you?

Soli Deo Gloria!

Bryan



OCTOBER FLOWER COMMITTEE –

Chairwoman – Michelle Bult
Sheley Cowley, Beth Dickey, Denise Kidd,
Roberta Kidd, Connie Powelson, Shay Ulrich

WOMEN'S MINISTRY NEWS–

The annual meeting of the TN/AL Women's Ministry will be held this year on November 3 and 4 at the Bethel Church in Oak Hill, AL. If you are interested in attending, please contact Becky Hall.





The ARP/WM annual meeting is October 13 and 14 at Bonclarken. This year's theme is "Our God is Holy." There will be several different seminars offered and the meeting will last most of the day on Saturday.

In September our Women's Ministry collected boxes of tissues and bottles of hand sanitizer for the teachers and students in Lincoln County and Fayetteville City schools. The ladies of Titus 2 packaged up these items, prayed God's blessings on those who would receive them and then delivered them to the different schools. We thank all those who contributed supplies and those who took the time to offer heart-felt prayers for the young people of our community.



The annual meeting of Presbytery was held at our church in September. In addition to preparing communion for the service, the Women's Ministry provided dinner, breakfast, lunch and snacks for the delegates who were attending and their guests.

We were blessed to have so many ladies who were willing to cook, decorate, serve and clean up. Thanks to all who offered their services for this meeting.

The October meeting of Joy Circle will be at the home of Anna Margaret

O'Connor. There is a designated meeting place for each month's Joy Circle Bible study except January and May. If you are willing to host Joy Circle on either of those months, please contact Becky Hall.





HOST OF CHRISTMAS PAST BAKE SALE –

(Donna Sumners)

It's that time again! Time to bake!! The Host of Christmas Past Bake sale will be on Saturday, November 11th. All proceeds will, once again, be equally divided between Good Samaritan and Jr's House Child Advocacy Center.

We need baked goods of all kinds. Cakes, pies, breads, brownies, basically anything containing flour and/or sugar!

Please let Donna Sumners know what you would like to donate at dokasu79@gmail.com or 931-581-2515.

We will also need help packaging the baked goods and working the booth so even if baking isn't your gig, we still need your help!!

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD -

(Kristie McElyea)

This is our final push to collect items for our OCC shoeboxes. We are still in need of toiletries like washcloths, bar soap and deodorant, as well as wow items like cars, jump ropes, and puzzles. You can go to the website <http://faithfulprovisions.com/101-operation-christmas-child-shoebox-ideas/> for lots of good ideas about what to purchase to put in a box.

Our 2nd annual packing party will be held after church Sunday, November 5th following a luncheon. Don't miss out on the fun! We will check boxes and deliver them to the Fayetteville collection site during National Collection Week (Nov. 13-20). Our We GLOW children love participating in the delivery to Fayetteville First Baptist. Boxes will be available in the foyer soon if you'd like to grab a box and pack it yourself. Please return your packed shoebox by Sunday, November 5th.

Shipping charges have increased from \$7.00 to \$9.00 per shoebox this year. We would appreciate monetary donations to help with shipping as well. If you'd like to make a donation for shipping, please make your **check to FARPWM (Fayetteville ARP Women's Ministries) with "OCC Shipping" on the memo line.** Thanks for your continued support of this ministry.





MANSOUR KHAJEHPOUR

We were blessed to have Mansour Khajehpour, an ordained member of the Northeast Presbytery of the ARP Church, meet with us last month. He told his life-story of being a youth on the streets on Iran, hating Christians, hating Americans. And then being changed by Christ – to one who loves the Lord and works to bring HIS message to an unsaved world.

It has not been easy for him – He was disowned by his family, hated, persecuted and even imprisoned. But he has not wavered in his desire to evangelize among worldwide Iranians and Afghans and establishing house churches in Iran.



MUSICAL NOTES -

(Joe Stephenson)

We have had an exciting start to the new choir year. Some of you may have noticed that we have three new members in the Adult Choir. We are excited to welcome Garrett and Lauren Honea and Joy Lieb to the choir. They are all making a wonderful addition to our choir and we thank them for joining. We also want to invite anyone else who is thinking about joining choir to come on to rehearsal on Sunday mornings at 8:45AM.

This Christmas on Dec. 3rd at 7PM we will be presenting "The Messiah" by Handel which is one of our favorites. We will talk more about "Messiah" as we get closer to the presentation. We will begin rehearsals for "Messiah" on Sunday evening October 15th at 6:30PM. If you have thought about singing with us on one of our special holiday presentations we would love to have you join us. Just come to the rehearsal or contact Joe Stephenson at Josephwstep@gmail.com or 256 468-0433. The special presentations are a great way to share your talents without committing to the choir every Sunday morning. Please join us. We would love to have you.

FALL FELLOWSHIP –

(Ginny Golden)

This fall we are again invited to the Cannon farm at 4 Pendergrass Road for a day of fun and fellowship. The event is scheduled for October 28th – Time to be announced later.

Activities include zip lining over the lake, raft rides, bonfires and hotdogs and s'mores. Bring a finger food to share and drinks for your family. Make plans now to attend! The more the merrier!



HERITAGE RECIPE –

Everyone loves a salty snack like traditional Nuts and Bolts. But sometimes you want something a little sweeter for those fall gatherings. This recipe hits the spot.

SWEET TREAT

8 cups Corn Pops (or Crispix)
1 cup salted peanuts (or mixed nuts)
2 cups packed brown sugar
1 cup butter, cubed
1/2 cup light corn syrup
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
1/2 teaspoon baking soda

1. Preheat oven to 250°. In a large bowl, combine cereal and peanuts; set aside. In a large heavy saucepan, combine the brown sugar, butter and corn syrup; bring to a boil over medium heat, stirring constantly. Boil for 5 minutes, stirring occasionally.
2. Remove from the heat. Stir in vanilla and baking soda (mixture will foam). Immediately pour over cereal mixture and toss to coat.
3. Spread into two greased 15x10x1-in. baking pans. Bake 1 hour, stirring every 20 minutes. Cool completely on wire racks. Store in airtight containers. Yield: 14 cups.

LONG RANGE PLANNING TEAM Q AND A -

A few months ago we surveyed the congregation for your thoughts regarding our Long Range Planning Team's vision to hire an associate pastor. Thank you for expressing these to us. Some of these are printed below with our answers.

We believe that an associate pastor is unnecessary at this time. We do not believe that our church is large enough nor able to financially support this budget increase.

We understand that the addition of a staff member will challenge us financially. However, choosing the right associate should be an investment that defrays its own cost. And, God be praised, He has allowed us to meet our budget over the last few years. That fact seems to suggest we need to be challenged. As far as congregation size is concerned, we did some research for the purposes of comparison. According to our 2016 denominational records, there is only one other ARP church larger than us that doesn't have an associate pastor in their budget. We are the only English-speaking ARP Church our size or larger that does not have an associate on staff. Most ARP churches with associates are significantly smaller than us. This does not answer the question of necessity, but it does help put the concern about our size in perspective.

Is this a part time position? If so do we expect this person to hold another job?

The LRPT has in mind a full-time position, but is prayerfully open to considering alternatives.

Currently we don't do outreach to bring people in to support this, and, at this time, we don't even fill the sanctuary for one service.

We agree that we need to do a better job of outreach. We would hope an associate pastor could, as part of his job, help mobilize and equip volunteers to be more intentional with our outreach and evangelism efforts. We would like to see the sanctuary more filled than it is, and believe an associate pastor could help catalyze outreach and evangelism efforts to achieve that goal. Church health, not church growth, is our primary goal. While numerical growth is not our only goal, making disciples entails reaching more people. We have no plans to add an additional service at this time, but we would hope that our attendance at our one service would increase as more of us are mobilized to do outreach.

While I appreciate and agree with the concept of growth, there are many other more urgent needs at our church right now. For example, the rotting stairway to upstairs and a leaking steeple. The church must be maintained to grow.



Duly noted! We agree this problem needs to be addressed. Your session and deacons have appointed a steeple committee to prayerfully research the leaky roof problem under the steeple to find a long-term and cost-effective solution so we can move forward with our vision.

There are several reasons to have an associate pastor. The cost is the only one not to, but growth from the result of an associate would probably overcome that. Will continue to pray for LRPT to make decisions in accord with God's will.

That is our prayerful hope as well. Thank you so much for the prayers!

Would like to see a better detailed reason of why one pastor is unable to fulfill the needs of our current congregation.

Ephesians 4 answers this question well. There the Apostle Paul shows us it's not the pastor or pastors' job to fulfill everyone's needs, but to train and equip church members to meet one another's needs and do the work of ministry. It is a challenge to say the least, for one man to speak to all the members of the church on a regular basis, much less adequately equip them to serve in ways they are gifted to serve.

An additional staff person would help us to train and equip volunteers much more efficiently. So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, *the pastors and teachers, 12 to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up 13* until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.... 16 From him *the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.*



TITUS 2 NEWS –

(Ginny Golden and Rebecca Parker)
Upcoming Trip-

Come along for an Amish tour in Ethridge (Lawrenceburg) TN. We'll depart the church Tuesday, October 17 at 8am, be back by 2pm. See and shop with several Amish farms and get the lo-down on their history on this guided tour. We plan to visit for about two



hours, and break for lunch. Cost is \$8/person (if 10 in our group). CASH ONLY for fare and shopping.

With a population of around 1,500, the Amish community in Ethridge is the largest in the South. Established in 1944, the Amish in this settlement are very conservative, belonging to a Swartzentruber affiliation, among the most conservative in Amish society. While farming

is their principle occupation, there are also those who make their living in sales – from candles and soaps, to candy and furniture. It should be an interesting opportunity to visit a unique community.

Prayer Partners

The new prayer partners for Titus 2 have been matched up and those who participate in this chance to draw closer to one another by sharing prayer concerns are encouraged to make contact with your new partner now, if you haven't already.

I've heard many times, "I'm not a good prayer partner..." I bet most of us have felt this one time or another.

Well, I have some encouragement for those of us who feel like we are an inadequate prayer partner.

First of all, know that our prayers for one another are heard by our Lord. We will not let our partner down if we simply remember to pray for her. When she comes to mind, simply pray for her health, her family and her relationship to our Lord. Even if we are clumsy with contact, we can still lift up our partner in prayer.

When Paul was in prison he felt the prayers of many of his followers even though he didn't experience contact with them. In turn, he prayed this for them:

I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, and his incomparably great power for us who believe. (Ephesians 1:17,18)

So even if you haven't talked to your partner and even if you feel you don't really know her, you can pray Paul's prayer. To me, this seems like a pretty powerful prayer and one that I will pray for my partner today.

God bless you and your prayer partner.



TRAILS FOR KIDS –

(Teresa Brown)

Fall break is just a few days away so parents and grandparents may be looking for a fun place to take their kids. May I suggest the Trails for Kids at the Don Davidson Park on the 64 West bypass near Fayetteville High School.

In 2009 Kevin Freeman, a visionary, could picture a place where nature enthusiasts could spend time near the Elk River. What do you enjoy? Is it running



or walking a trail, taking your dog for a walk, nature watching, or biking. There are 2 miles to explore. The Trails can be used year round. Kevin and his children Hunter, Rachael, Audrey, and his wife Tina help maintain the trails. Chris Mitchell from the Fayetteville Recreation Department sends crews to the trails for cleanup. Several young men have projects at the Trails for Kids where they earned their Eagle Scout Merit Badge. The naturalists in Lincoln County enjoy the birding opportunities at the island at the park. This greenway is a little gem in Lincoln County. Come spend

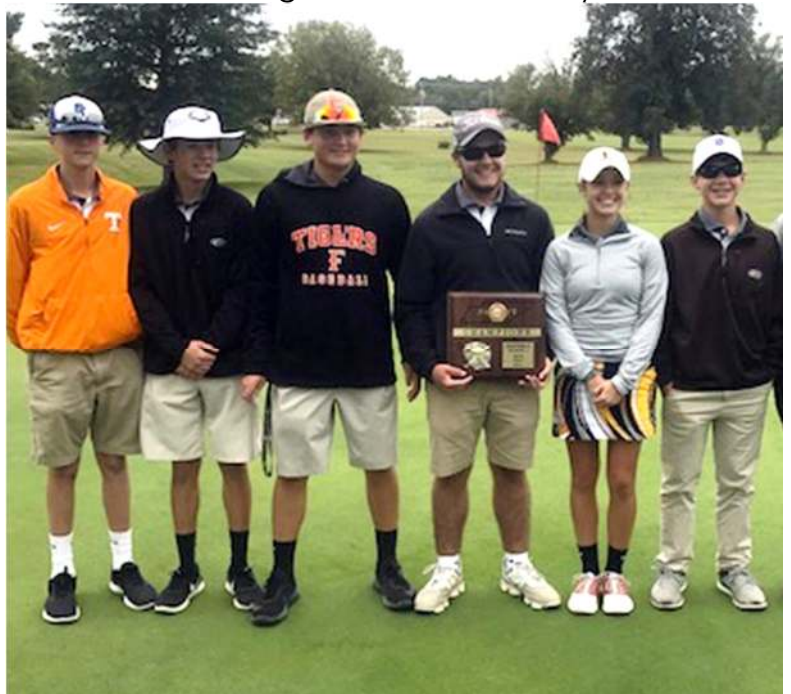
a fall day exploring the Trails for Kids and re-discover the beauty hiding in plain sight.



SEEN AND HEARD –

Meg O'Connor placed 10th in the Regional Cross Country meet in Murfreesboro.

The Fayetteville High School Golf Team wrapped up their regular season district play with a 10 – 0 record. The team, which includes members **Drake McElyea** and **Mac O'Connor**, went on to win the District 12, Region 6 championship in tournament play at Lawrenceburg.



Shayla Martin will be playing on the Fayetteville High School basketball team and on the FHS softball team.

Meg O'Connor came in 3rd at a district Cross Country meet in Lawrenceburg.

THE BRIDGE STREET MINISTRY –

(Teresa Brown)

On September 21st a group from the ARP Church traveled to Nashville for a fundraiser for the homeless ministry called The Bridge Street Ministry. Each Tuesday night, church services are conducted UNDER the Jefferson Street Bridge. This is ground zero for homeless families. First the people that come are greeted with love, fed delicious food, treated to some of the best music in Nashville, and hear the Word preached with love without judgement for any past mistakes. Candy Christmas is the CEO of this massive program to minister to a population of over 4,000 homeless. It takes some serious money to provide the services for this ministry. Many years ago, Candy made a call to Averitt Express and asked Tony Brown, service center director in Nashville for his help. Since that day, Averitt Express has partnered with the Bridge Ministry to aid the homeless.



The big fundraiser is called "A Night to Remember" and held at David Lipscomb University. Tony Brown was the table host representing Averitt Express. Attending this event was Tony and Teresa Brown, Bryan and Michelle Bult, and Edwin and Debbie McAlister. The speaker was Franklin Graham. Franklin says his father Billy has announced that he will now live to be 100! He told about Samaritan's Purse going into Syria with medical supplies and ministering to

mostly Muslims. It is shocking for them to hear that God loves them. Regardless of religion, medical attention is given. His stories were very simple but powerful to hear. It was a blessing to see how this ministry is changing lives and opening hearts.

Before the dinner, the Bults were introduced to Candy Christmas. Candy was so touched by their humility that she recognized ALL pastors who were in attendance. As the evening progressed, the Holy Spirit was at work in this massive crowd. Since Tony is a personal friend of Candy, the Averitt table is next to the head table. The entertainment was Hillary Scott and the Scott Family. Hillary is lead singer for Lady Antebellum and made an album with songs about loss and healing. A friend gave the Bults this album to help Bryan heal following his life-changing accident. When Hillary is pouring out her heart singing "Thy Will," the Bults suddenly realize who she is. The song was written by Hillary following the loss of her child during pregnancy. The photo here shows Michelle telling Hillary Scott that her music was used in Bryan's healing process. These two ladies immediately bonded. Michelle has twins and Hillary is expecting twins. She told how it is encouraging for her to hear this powerful story.



Maybe there will be an opportunity for a group from ARP Church to assist the Bridge Ministry. At Christmas, churches come from near and far to help pass out the Christmas gifts. The Averitt truck transports all the gifts to the Jefferson Street Bridge. It is always a cold, nasty night in December but under the bridge it is filled with the love of Christ. So maybe this story has inspired you to minister in a way you have not done before. Maybe you feel confident enough to tell someone they helped change your life. When you least expect it, the Holy Spirit speaks and opens your heart to ways to minister to others.



Children's Church Volunteers:

- 1 – Camille Hester
- 8 – Connie Powelson
- 15 – Haley Crabtree
- 22 – Abby Underwood
- 29 – Ginny Golden

Toddler Class Volunteers:

- 1 – Teddy and Carolyn Ray
- 8 – Gail Fowler
- 15 – Sarah and Matt Thelen
- 22 – Kristie McElyea
- 29 – Roberta Kidd and Peggy Wright

We GLOW Snack Volunteers:

- 4 – LeeAnn Smith
- 11 – NO We GLOW – Fall Break!
- 18 – Pam and Haley Crabtree
- 25 – Debbie McAlister

Youth Meal Volunteers:

- 1 –
- 8 – No Youth or Choirs ~ Fall Break
- 15 – Sharon Martin
- 22 – LeeAnn Smith
- 29 – Debbie McAlister



Thanks to all that have already volunteered and to those that will in the future. This is a vital part of the Youth Ministry of our church!!

**If you would like to volunteer in any of these ministries, please contact Gail Fowler 433-5205 or fayarp@gmail.com.



If you have information you would like to have included in the newsletter, please email Deborah O'Connor at mulberry47@hughes.net

October 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1</p> <p>Communion</p> 	<p>2</p> <p>Piper Spears, Bd. David Powelson, Bd. Kathy Byers, Bd.</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Jae Hester, Bd.</p> <p>Diaconate Meeting @ 7:00pm</p>	<p>5</p> 	<p>6</p> <p>Marisa Kernemer, Bd.</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Ryan & TaLisa Towry, An.</p>
<p>8</p> <p>Brook Allison, Bd. Jay McElyea, Bd.</p>	<p>9</p>  <p>Columbus Day</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Casey & Brianne Towry, An.</p> 	<p>11</p> <p>Maggie Kidd Circle @ 1pm Session Meeting @ 7:00pm</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Old Farmer's Day</p> 	<p>13</p> <p>Calvin Todd, Bd.</p> 	<p>14</p>
<p>15</p> <p>Jonah Thelen, Bd. Clessie Spears, Bd.</p> <p>Messiah Rehearsals Begin 6:30</p> 	<p>16</p> <p>Chris Ray, Bd.</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Chris Taylor, Bd. Gene Templeton, Bd.</p> <p>Amish Tour</p> 	<p>18</p> <p>Jay Circle @ 6:30pm</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Randy Tallman, Bd.</p>	<p>21</p> 
<p>22</p> <p>Anna Claire Dickey, Bd. Emily Beech, Bd.</p> 	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Fall Fellowship Georgia Hawkins, Bd. Cheryl Wiley, Bd.</p>	<p>26</p> 	<p>27</p> 	<p>28</p> 
<p>29</p> <p>Daniel Pitts, Bd.</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p> <p>Halloween Peyton & Ashton Towry, Bd.</p> 	