

# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

of Weatherford

Mailing Address:  
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**Attending Regularly    Serving Willingly    Giving Generously    Living Uprightly**

## Together Again Sunday

Sunday - May 24th

- 9:00 a.m. - Sunday School
- 10:30 a.m. - Worship / Lord's Supper
- 6:00 p.m. - Worship

Sunday Morning Sermon - May 17th

Straight Talk About Staying Together



## Summer Dates of Interest

- Vacation Bible School June 1-5
- Super Summer June 8-12
- Pre-Teen Camp June 15-19
- Falls Creek (Jr. High) July 13 - July 18
- Falls Creek (Sr. High) July 20 - July 25



## Men's Church League Softball

Contact Jeremy if interested @ 772-2771

## Vacation Bible School Need

Paper Towel Cardboard Tubes  
Please bring them to the church office.

## Rejoice!

The digital clock glowed in the pre-dawn darkness, revealing an hour that was earlier than my usual wake up time. Still, my eyes were stuck open, so I journeyed to the other end of the house where I did a few crunches and pushups while the coffee brewed. Soon I was enjoying the encouragement of God's Word written in a translation I understood and a font I could see. I concluded my reading by jotting down a paragraph in my journal. Thanksgiving followed.

Thanksgiving for the final payment made by Jesus on the cross for my sin. Thanksgiving for the wife God so graciously gave me who continues to walk beside me and love me. Thanksgiving for children who have made wise choices and continue to bless their parents. Thanksgiving for the ability to hear - and to walk - and to see. Thanksgiving for vehicles that run and electricity that works. Thanksgiving for friends and family who continue to enrich life every day. Thanksgiving for trials that keep me near to the heart of God where I find quiet rest.

Soon I was again overwhelmed by the fact that God singled me out to pour great blessings upon. At least it sure seems that way. Or, maybe it is that God has taught me how to rejoice at all times. You know - walk on the bright side of life and accentuate the positive. Doing so is a gift from God.

I admit that I have my share of unanswered prayers and unrealized dreams. There may have been a few people through the years who have felt sorry for me. However, God has enabled me to be content in and with the life He has given me, one stage at a time. Since He empowers me to want what I have, I always have what I want. I can say with Paul that I know how to abound and how to be abased and how to be content.

God is more than able to provide every need for every one of His children. Rest and rejoice today in the greatness of your God. There is nothing that He can't do. He has not forgotten about you and He will take care of you.

The best is yet to come!  
Earl

## Is Music Really the Universal Language?

I have always admired people who can speak another language. I tried to learn to speak Spanish but never had anyone to practice on so it didn't take. I don't think the gift of languages is in my genes; however, my older brother speaks seven languages. I guess the gene pool was used up by the time I came along. Regardless of whether you speak another language or not, I have always heard that music is the universal language and that it speaks to all hearts.

I had a chance to experience first hand whether or not music speaks to all people during our recent mission trip. In Armenia some of the people speak English, but most of the population does not. Our concerts consisted of three Armenian songs (which the people loved even though we butchered their language) and the rest were in English. The words to each song were printed in the program in the language of the people to which we were singing. During the trip we sang to people who spoke Armenian, Russian, Arabic, Hebrew, and English. Several times the audience was a mixture of all of these cultures, and they chose the appropriate program to follow along.

About three days into the trip we were scheduled to sing in a town called Gyumri. By this point in the trip the time difference had started to catch up with most of us. Gyumri was a two-hour bus ride on a rough and winding road near the border with Turkey. Most of the city had been destroyed in an earthquake in 1988, but the center of town had been rebuilt. There were no churches in the city. I didn't say Baptist, or Orthodox, or Catholic. I said there were NO churches. The people were extremely hesitant to even come in the hall where we were performing. It was a rowdy crowd, and there were more unsupervised junior high and early high school aged kids there than we usually have at a concert. To make matters worse the "powers that be" had forgotten the programs so these people were not going to have a clue what we were singing about.

As we began to sing the audience first of all began to calm and as we got into the concert they seemed to be enjoying it more and more. It was as if they understood what we were singing about. Was it the music that was doing the job of taming the restless crowd? After the concert, we learned that several of the members of that audience of what we thought were unreachable due to the language barrier had told the Armenian pastor that was traveling with us that something had happened inside of them as we were singing. Something was speaking to them, and that they needed to change. They called us "God's Voice."

Was it the music? I think not. God used the music as a tool. It was through music that His wonderful Holy Spirit spoke to those people and hundreds of others throughout this trip. Several were saved that evening.

I have not been given the gift of tongues. But on this mission trip we witnessed God speaking to others through us, circumventing the language barrier. Music may be the universal language, and in this case God used it to speak to the hearts of many people.

Thankfully,  
John



## Bread Bakers Needed

For Sunday morning and Wednesday evening visitation  
Contact Melva Dickey if you can help

## Upcoming Events

May 17	WHS Sr. Recognition	9:00a.m. Worship Service
May 17	WHS Sr. Brunch (FLC Gym)	10:30a.m.
May 17	WHS Sr. Baccalaureate Service (WHS Gym)	2:00p.m.
May 17	Adult SS Leadership Meeting (Choir Room)	5:00p.m.
May 17	Children's Choir Musical	6:00p.m.
May 17	Deacon's Meeting (Fellowship Hall)	7:00p.m.
May 21	WMS Graduation	7:00p.m.
May 22	WHS Graduation	8:00p.m.

## Expanding His Reach Building Campaign



Amount Given to Date - \$ 2,623,881.99

## Sunday School Attendance

May 10

551