

The Nall Call

Monthly Newsletter of Nall Avenue

February/March 2021 Volume 35, Issue 2 & 3



Faith, Hope, and Love

But the greatest of
these is Love.
1 Cor 13:13



Set Your Clocks Ahead

Daylight Savings Time begins Sunday March 14. Be sure to set your clocks ahead 1 hour the night before.

Youth Update by Lewis Jones, Minister of Family Life

On Saturday, January 30th, middle school and high school students attended a day-long event called The Ready Conference. This is a wonderful event put on each year by Spurgeon College and Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. This year the conference was virtual and groups were able to stream the event to their local churches. Thousands of students and leaders attended from all over the United States and many other countries abroad.

The major overall theme of the conference each year is to help students to be ready to defend their faith in a shifting culture. This year, we studied and were led through the book of Jonah by some great leaders within Spurgeon College, MBTS, and their own local churches. Sam Bierig, Jared Bumpers, Jordan Wade and Jared C. Wilson each led a session describing how the book of Jonah is not only relevant for students and our culture today but also that there is a “Jonah” in all of us.

There was so much applicable information shared with students that day, but if I could sum up in a few short sentences the takeaways, I’d say the Lord reminded us that no matter who you are, no matter what you’ve done, you’re never too far away from God’s grace. No matter if we find ourselves as Jonah, the sailors, or the people of Nineveh, God’s grace even reaches for those who run from Him. But instead of running from God, we need to rest in Him; instead of trying to earn God’s grace, we need to receive it! Finally, God’s love and the Gospel is for our sinful self, not our fake self. God came for the sick, those who need a savior, in other words, all of us! You, me, and even those who are in opposition to us. What will it take for us to love our enemies like God does? We need to remember God calls each of us, everyone, to repent and turn from our sin and follow Him, no doubt, but he tells us to come to him with our hurts and sin and lay it at His feet. Again, we are never too far from God’s grace!

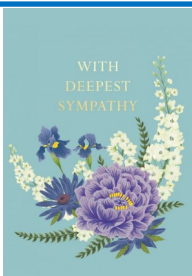


1st Monday of every Month
Santa Fe Café
on 87th Street
No RSVP Needed
6:30 am.

Deepest Sympathies

We extend our deepest sympathy to the families and friends:

Vivian Davidson, sister of Elore Baldwin
Mary Ruth Cook, mother of Lois Miller



Third Monday of each month.
Our next prayer gathering will be:
Monday, March 15, 6:30 pm
All are welcome!



Advice & Aid

You may have noticed an addition to the prayer list under the heading of ministries. This addition is for Advice and Aid; a pregnancy care center. Advice and Aid has two locations. One is in Overland Park, and the second is in Shawnee, KS.

Advice & Aid Pregnancy Centers help women and their families make an educated decision about an unplanned pregnancy. They do this by providing evidence-based, medical information about parenting, adoption and abortion. In most cases, an unplanned pregnancy is a very stressful situation.

The staff provides a safe, confidential and caring environment. They help reduce fear and worry through calm, non-judgmental conversation. Where there are concerns about relationships, housing, finances, or general health issues, their staff has knowledge of many resources and organizations that can help. That's what the name means. They give the advice and information to women and their families so they can make an educated decision. They provide aid in many ways, but primarily by being a good listener in a safe and loving environment.

At this time, due to COVID-19, they are not taking any new volunteers. However, we are able to pray for this organization and for the women who turn to them in their time of need. There is a Young Professionals group for those in their 20s or 30s. They gather monthly and it's a great chance to gather with like-minded individuals and make friends. On June 5th, 2021 there will be a walk. It is not yet known if it will be in person or virtual. Donations are needed and accepted as this is a non-profit organization.

Advice & Aid provides a variety of services in the areas of health, emotional, educational and physical services. They also provide services for men. You can learn more and stay updated by visiting their website at <https://adviceandaid.com>.



We are excited to welcome Bri Nicoletti to our NABC Staff as our new Administrative Coordinator. She has a tremendous amount of experience with office management and administration. She moved here from Chicago in 2018. She has a heart to serve others and a passion for music.

“Throughout my career, the one thing that has been consistent is my desire to seek out every opportunity to be of service to others. I have been employed in many customer and client facing positions, and superior service is the standard I hold myself to. I am a versatile, positive, and energetic employee with the hunger to learn and grow. I have over ten years of experience in administrative roles and office management, customer service, human resources, and marketing.

In addition to my career, I also sing professionally, which allows me to continue my passion of service to others. In my spare time I enjoy cooking and baking, exercising, reading, volunteering and spending time with family and friends.” - Bri Nicoletti

We are very excited to have her onboard and can't wait for you to meet her!



Identity Crisis by Pastor Joe Funderburk

In the past decade a cavalcade of thinkers and writers have made the observation that the West in general, and America specifically, is in the middle of an identity crisis. This crisis is spilling out in many different political, economic, racial, gender, and religious conversations and conflicts. In short, we don't really know who we are anymore as a people and as a nation. This identity crisis is touching on every level of society from the individual to national organizations and groups. The church is not immune to this either. In a culture that seems to be pushing Christianity out of its chair at the table, most believers are feeling an increasing unease about what is ahead wondering where we will be left when the music stops. The rate of change and the types of changes we are seeing make us also want to question who we are. It is on this question of identity that I believe we have a place of refuge and strength. Even though our world is experiencing an identity crisis, it is not something we have to join them in.

The Scriptures provide a firm foundation for our identity in Christ. In Christ we are reconciled, adopted, and redeemed. We have been given a new heart, a new name, and a new purpose (1 Peter 2:9). In Christ we are all members of one body with Jesus as the head (1 Corinthians 12:12-27). When we fully appreciate the implication of that we can have confidence to understand our value and place in the world. In Christ we are valued, useful, and needed. We are immediately connected to something much greater than ourselves. This truth should fuel our passion and our purpose to live for Jesus in this world. The Scriptures also call us the Bride of Christ for all eternity (Revelation 19:7-8). We are desired, cherished, and loved forever. We have been brought into a covenant relationship that will never be broken or betrayed. Christ offers us security, empowerment, and protection. In essence what the Word makes clear is that we have been given a new identity and we don't have to be in search of any other.

It is very easy to get caught up in this crisis of identity in our culture, but if we are willing to cling to our identity in Christ we can move forward as His church together in confidence. We don't have to feel afraid, intimidated, inadequate, or alone. It is true that we will continue to feel the squeeze of a culture that is antagonistic toward our faith in Christ. But freedom in Christ isn't based on circumstance, it is based on our standing before Him. If we can only lean into that identity then we can weather any storm. So, where are you finding your identity today? Are you still searching for it, or do you recognize its firm foundation in Christ alone?

Missions Camp 2021

July 19th - 23rd student ministry will be going to Student Life Camp @ YMCA of the Rockies in Estes Park, CO.

Cost is \$250 for the whole week (scholarships available) plus travel meals & souvenirs. Spots are limited so if your student and their friends are interested in attending, please register by emailing Lewis Jones

Dates to remember: **March 28th** - \$100 Non-refundable Deposit Due **June 6th**
Parent and Student Meeting **June 27th** - Forms and Final Payment Due



CHURCH BUSINESS MEETING

MAKE PLANS TO ATTEND

There will be a regularly scheduled Business meeting on Sunday, March 28th at 5:00 PM in the Sanctuary!
All are welcome!