



Nick Moore-Missionary of the week

Nick Moore works at the Baptist theological seminary in Gweru, Zimbabwe, where he trains pastors and laborers. As International Mission Board missionaries, Nick and his wife, Kyndra, along with their seven children, have the joy of pairing their gifts with those of our African brothers and sisters to advance God's kingdom. The Moores help send out students from the seminary to serve as pastors and plant new churches across this landlocked nation located in the southern part of Africa. A chicken project run by the seminary helps cover students' fees. The project also assists widows caring for nearby orphans. Nick has hopes to expand the community outreach using the seminary's land.

As real people with real struggles, the Moores are able to see God use them in their weakness. "I'm not a huge fan of people calling missionaries heroes," Nick said. "If you see a missionary who is effective and able to persevere in difficult places, you're not seeing a strong person. You're seeing God's power perfected in weakness."

Nick encourages churches and believers back in the US to be faithful. "We are one part of the body and we cannot function without the others doing their role."

Pray with Nick and his family for faith to persevere. Lift up the Zimbabwean laborers whom they are grateful to serve alongside. The Moores are confident God has great plans to use these brothers and sisters. Ask God to give Nick and his family a humility to trust Him and be the vessels they need to be.

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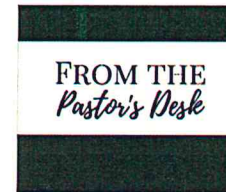
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Volume XLVIII May 1, 2021 Number 5



TJ's Take

As Americans, we often assume that our freedom to exercise our faith will always be protected by our Constitutional rights. In fact, many of us are unable to relate to the biblical call to suffer well in the face of persecution. As a result, persecution for Christians is just something that happens in other places across the world—far away from the safety of the land of the free.

But in the midst of the lockdowns related to COVID-19, we have seen the possibility of persecution in our nation increase significantly. Churches have been unfairly targeted, whether directly or indirectly, in many ways over the course of the past year.

Just to our north in Canada, we have seen a serious attack on one particular local church which has dared to gather for worship in the midst of Canada's strict lockdowns. In recent days, Grace Life Church in the province of Alberta has faced increasing levels of government persecution.

In the early stages of the high restrictions from COVID-19, Grace Life willingly complied with governmental lockdowns. However, over the course of time, the restrictions in Alberta have remained incredibly strict. "Having engaged in an immense amount of research, interacting with both doctors and frontline healthcare workers," Grace Life Church reasoned, "it is apparent that the negative effects of the government lockdown measures on society far surpass the effects of COVID-19."

And so, after much prayer and preparation, in obedience to the commands in Scripture for the church to gather together for corporate worship, the church began to meet in gatherings beyond the capacity limits placed by the Canadian government.

The government did not back down. James Coates, the pastor of Grace Life Church and a husband and father of two children, was arrested and jailed for a month before being released. After his release, the government constructed a fence to surround the church building in order to prevent the church from meeting, and they even sent more than 200 law enforcement officers to their campus on a Sunday morning in an attempt to intimidate and prevent their gathering.

We often think something of this sort will never happen here in America. Perhaps it won't. But what if it does? How will we respond as a church?

If it does happen here, we shouldn't be surprised. Jesus says in John 15 that the world hates us. And as 1 Peter 4 tells us, "Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you." American Christians have been spared from this kind of action in our nation's history, but persecution and trials are not a strange thing. We should expect them. And when they come, Peter continues, "But

rejoice insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed."

As counterintuitive as it might seem, we are to rejoice when we share in Christ's sufferings. Jesus teaches the same thing in Matthew 5:11–12 when he says, "Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

Paul tells us in Philippians 1:29 that suffering is a gift that has been granted to us. And the apostles model that perspective when they were beaten and ordered to stop proclaiming the good news of Christ. In response, Acts 5:41 tells us, "Then they left the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer dishonor for the name."

If suffering comes—if we face persecution of any kind here—will you be ready? Will you stand for Christ? Will you rejoice that we might be counted worthy to suffer dishonor for the name of our Lord?

Psalm 2 says that the governments of the earth come together to set themselves against God—they conspire to reject the Sovereign Ruler of the universe. They put pastors in prison and put up fences around church buildings and send hundreds of law enforcement officers to intimidate and persecute the gathered church. But Psalm 2 also says, "He who sits in the heavens laughs; the LORD holds them in derision."

We do not serve a God who can be threatened by the schemes of men. So, if persecution comes, we can stand. Because our God laughs at them. We know that he is in the heavens—that he sovereignly rules and reigns over his creation. Yes, in this world we will have trouble. But we take heart, because Christ has overcome the world.

In Christ,
Pastor TJ



MICKEY'S MUSINGS

Church Connect APP

Church Connect, the member portal for our database, can now function as an app on your iPhone or Android device. It is a web app and not a native app; therefore, it cannot be installed from a "store" on your device. As such, it is launched from a shortcut (icon) on the home screen. Keep reading to learn more about creating the shortcut. (NOTE: 1. For iPhone users, these instructions primarily work with the Safari browser. 2. If you have previously installed a shortcut to Church Connect, you will need to delete it and create a new shortcut for app functionality.)

The Church Connect web app still displays the same content as our Connect page. But when used as a web app, it runs in a special "standalone" mode which means it doesn't feel like a webpage.



<https://centralbaptistparis.churchtrac.com>

1. Scan the QR Code...Or navigate in your browser to your Church Connect page.
2. Click the Button ...Use the Action or Share button to open the menu.
3. Add to Home screen ... Follow the prompts to finish adding the app to your device.

If you need assistance creating this on your phone, please feel free to stop me sometime when we are at the church building. Thank you for your patience as we continue to make technological advances for the glory of God in service to His church.

Online Giving

We will soon transition to another giving platform that integrates seamlessly and more cost-efficiently than our current service. Once we have that setup, you will be able to contribute from the Church Connect App on your mobile device or by navigating to the church connect website. Again, thank you for being patient and flexible as we make improvements.

Check-in Kiosk

We have received great, positive feedback in our check-in procedures for nursery and children. Thank you for growing with us in protecting our young ones and caring for their security. Planning for a check-in kiosk is in the works for the nursery hallway and, potentially, on the third floor for children's activities. A kiosk will allow our regular participants to check-in and print labels themselves, thus allowing the registration personnel to focus on new participants without causing a logjam at the desk. More information will be provided as the kiosk(s) reach the functioning stage in the planning.

Blessings,
Mickey Ballard



Hello Church Family,

It is hard to believe that May is here. The year is moving quickly, which means ministry activities this summer are getting closer and a lot of planning has to be done. There are many ways to serve in the church, especially in the nursery, children, and student ministries. The nursery staff is in need of adult leaders to serve in both babies and Pre-K sides of the nursery. If you are interested in getting put on the rotation, please contact the church office, Jonathan Graves, or Kristi Brown.

There is also a fundraiser that has started for both children and student camps. Neither ministry has had the opportunity to raise funds this year because of Covid, but camps are still moving forward and everyone is excited about it. If you are interested in sponsoring a student or child by giving a donation for either camp, please contact me for more information.

This year the students will be heading to Ridgecrest, NC for Mission Fuge camp. The students will have the opportunity to work in the local community in many different projects throughout the area. Not only do they serve in the community, but are involved in Bible study throughout the week and are encouraged to share the gospel of Jesus Christ with those they are serving. Camp is a great way for students and adult leaders to learn more about God's Word, grow in their relationship with God, have an opportunity to serve in the community, and be an example of Christ to others.

Children's camp will be at Campbellsville University in Campbellsville, Kentucky. This camp is for children that have completed 2nd grade through 5th grade. This is a fun-filled week for the kids. They will be involved in Bible study, great worship services, and some crazy games throughout the week. Everyone is looking forward for camp, especially since everything was shut down last year because of the pandemic. We are excited that camp is moving forward and our students and children will have the opportunity to experience summer camp again.

Last but not least, VBS (Vacation Bible School) will be a go this year, June 6th-10th. There will be more information coming out soon, but we are in need of adult leaders to lead Bible study, and all the other activities that are involved with VBS. We are also in need of volunteers that can there to help in many other ways. If you are interested in helping with VBS, there will be a sign-up sheet on the registration table across from the office. We are anticipating a good turnout of children, so adult help will be needed. For more information, please contact me, or the church office.

God Bless
Jonny

May AWANA Calendar

May 2nd - Regular Club Night
May 9th - No AWANA
May 16th - Regular Club Night
May 23rd - Closing Night/AWANA Store!

Average Giving Report through April 25th

Year to Date Budget Giving \$148,524
Year to Date Budget Required \$143,392
Budget Surplus \$5,132

April 2021

Average Sunday School 107 Average Worship 231



Dear Central Baptist Church,
Thanks to everyone that visited mom on her birthday or sent her cards, she enjoyed all of them. We love Central Baptist Church and the people. Thanks for all the prayers. She was truly blessed with her friends at Central Baptist.

Ione Donahue Family

Central Baptist Church Family,
Thanks to everyone for the phone calls, those who sent cards and all the prayers for Richard and I during the last few weeks with our health concerns. We are both slowly improving.

Richard & Phyllis Gay

May 2021

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

Week of Prayer for Association Missions

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
							1
2 3:30 PM Deacons Meeting	3 9 AM Quilters	4 10 AM Staff Meeting	5 6:30 PM Special Called Business Meeting	6 12:00 PM National Day of Prayer (Sanctuary)	7 TJ's SWBTS Graduation in Texas	8 2:00 PM Margaret Kerr Memorial	
5:30 PM Ballard Reception	6:30 PM Church Council						
9 Mother's Day	10 9 AM Quilters	11 10 AM Staff Meeting	12 6:30 PM Prayer Meeting	13	14	15	
No Evening Services							
16 Senior Recognition	17 9 AM Quilters	18 10 AM Staff Meeting	19 6:30 PM Prayer Meeting	20	21	22	
5:30 PM Pastor Graduation Reception							
23 Lord's Supper	24 9 AM Quilters	25 10 AM Staff Meeting	26 6:30 PM Prayer Meeting	27	28	29	
30 No Evening Services	31 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED						
	Memorial Day						
<p>Julia Woodward Offering CBC Goal \$600</p>							

Our Ministry Opportunities

Sunday:

- 8:00 AM – Worship Service
- 9:30 AM – Sunday School for ALL Ages
- 10:45 AM – Worship Service
- 6:00 PM – REV 3 Ministries (Youth)
- 6:30 PM – AWANA
- 6:30 PM - Pastor's Bible Study

Monday:

- 9:00 AM – Willing Hand Quilters

Wednesday:

- 6:30 PM – Prayer Meeting

Church Connect can be activated by visiting

www.centralbaptistparis.churchtrac.com/connect. You can also scan the QR code below with your phone's camera to be directed to the link.



Central Baptist Church
CHURCH CONNECT