



Bible-based. Christ-centered. Family-focused. Mission-minded.

Welcome! We're glad you are here!
Sunday - February 11, 2024

"If I Could Start Again ..."

by Troy Spradlin

Have you ever considered your life and thought, "If I could start all over again, I would ..."? I believe we all do that at some point or another, perhaps quite often. It is natural to allow retrospect to dictate what might have been if given the chance. Usually, we apply this thought to something unkind we may have said or did to someone, a bad decision we made, or the outcome of a certain direction in life. So, what if you could start again as a Christian? That may not be something we consider because it's one of the better decisions we have made. Right? Typically, we shouldn't have any regrets or desire for "do-overs" for when we committed our life to Christ. Yet, even becoming a Christian can be subject to hindsight scrutiny. Would you do anything differently? I would.

For starters, I would have gone to Bible school sooner. It's easier to truly appreciate some things after you have experienced them. The decision to attend a Bible school was not easy for someone like me, who was married, involved in a lucrative career, and entering middle age. Yet, it turned out to be one of the best decisions of my entire life. It gave me the working knowledge I needed to find the answers to my questions (2 Peter 1:3). It opened my eyes to the power of God's Word (Romans 1:16-17). It equipped me to teach others (2 Timothy 2:2). It also provided numerous, wonderful contacts, and friendships that have been such a blessing over the years. Yet, I allowed seven years to pass before I made that crucial decision to attend.



I would encourage any Christian (new or old) to get as much Bible knowledge as you can, first thing, even attend a Bible school. There is a reason why Hosea wrote, "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge" (Hosea 4:6). It is because the Bible is the most important teaching we should seek out.

Secondly, I would have entered ministry sooner. After I was baptized as an adult (I had fallen away from the church in my youth), I started finding ways to serve more in the church. I discovered that being around Christians and serving was the best method for holding me accountable to God. As I grew, I began to be invited to teach and preach. I had been asked earlier but always declined for some reason. One brother eventually encouraged me to start.

Since then, I have learned so much more about compassion, grace, mercy, and forgiveness than I ever could have outside of ministry. I have also seen the power of God's Word in changing lives and witnessed very specific prayers being answered (Matthew 7:7; 2 Timothy 3:16). I can't imagine my life without being in ministry, I wish I had started sooner. I encourage every Christian to find a ministry and serve: a food pantry, prison ministry, nursing home visitation, grief support and care, building and grounds, fellowship, or something within your personal strength.

Thirdly, I would have become a missionary sooner. It only took one mission trip for me to recognize "my calling" (that is, what I truly needed to be doing for the Lord), and that was serving as a missionary. That decision provided many opportunities to preach and teach the Gospel in countries I would have never gone to, otherwise. The impact it has had on my Christian worldview is priceless (Gal 3:28). I thank God He allowed me to do that work.

Looking back, I wish I would have started sooner. There was no reason I couldn't have gone on a short-term mission trip earlier; there indeed were opportunities. Had I entered the mission field sooner, perhaps I may have accomplished far more work for the Lord's kingdom than I did. So, if you are a new Christian and able, I strongly encourage you to go on an evangelistic, foreign mission trip. It can be life-changing in how you view the world!

Did you happen to notice a pattern in my list here? It is the recurrence of the word, "sooner." That's the real lesson, "Do it sooner, rather than later." We are not promised tomorrow (James 4:14). Yet, despite my tardiness, there is one thing I now know with certainty: everything happens on God's timing. We can't change the past. We can only learn from it. Looking back, I'm thankful God was longsuffering with me and I get to serve Him now.

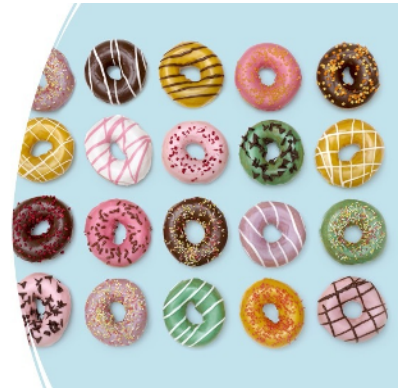


MSYG EVENTS & INFO

**SNAC
SUPER BOWL
EDITION**
TONIGHT | Fellowship Hall
Bring Finger Foods

**YG BIRTHDAY
NIGHT**

Wed. February 21st
4:30 pm in the FH



Gulf Coast Bible Camp
120 Bible Camp Road
Lucedale, MS 39452

Camp Sessions & Dates:

Baldwin County Week:
May 26 - 31 (1st-12th grade)

Gulf Coast Week:
June 2 - 7 (1st-12th grade)

Middle & High School Week:
June 9 - 14 (6th-12th grade)

Junior Week:
June 23 - 26 (1st-5th grade)

Hattiesburg Week:
July 7 - 12 (1st-12th grade)

register at gulfcoastbiblecamp.com



**GULF COAST
AREAWIDE 2023-2024
SCHEDULE**

AUG 13 / AZALEA CITY COC

SEPT 17 / GULF SHORES COC

OCT 15 / SCENIC HILLS COC

NOV 10-12 / FUEL RETREAT

JAN 7 / SPANISH FORT COC

FEB 18 / EASTERN SHORE COC

MAR 10 / UNIVERSITY COC

APR 21 / MARGARET ST. COC



2023 - 2024

Upcoming Workshops & Info

February 11:

PEARLS & Bible tests, Workshop, &
2nd Speech Dress Rehearsal

February 25 & March 3:

Away Speeches



2023 - 2024

Workshop TODAY

1-2, Bible Bowl test

2-2:30, Oral Bible Reading

2:30-3:30, Puppets

**3:30-4:30, Song Leading / Songs
of Praise**

**4:40-5:50, Speech Dress
Rehearsal #2**

L2L Easter Bags

Easter bags will be given to L2L
participants at convention. If you would
like to donate money or candy please see
Renee Ray, April Estain, or Ashley Ray!

Kingdom Kids Easter Egg Hunt

MARCH 17, 2024 | 11:45 AM
MARGARET STREET LAWN

LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED
PLEASE SIGN UP ON THE KK FB PAGE EVENT IF
YOU WILL BE ATTENDING

THIS WEEK'S MEMORY VERSE:

"And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart,
with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your
strength.' this is the first commandment." - Mark 12:30



Digital access to our Calendars on your
computer or personal device.

Scan this QR Code for the
Church Calendar on teamup.com

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER LIST

Recent/Urgent Requests

- Rick Bird* - removed appendix, recovery
- Becky Bernardi - prayers (AGingerich's mom)
- Cassie Buchanant* - 2nd surgery, recovery
- Ann Cotton - losing blood (DWest MiL)
- Richard Curtis - SHH, kidneys (Fisher*)
- Talor Freeman* - prayers, encouragement
- Dawson Hitchcock* - covets prayers
- Sharon Parker* - seizures, upcoming surgery
- Lee Smith - fractured vertabrae, kidney infec.
- Edwina Sumrall-broken shoulder, pneumonia
- Caden Thompson - premature baby (J.Carter)
- Willie Waitman Jr. - leg amputation(Pace)

Grieving a Loss

- Terry Baxley* - passing of Darlene
- Bostwick* family - loss of mom, Kandi
- Gary Good* - loss of sister
- Debbie Hill* and family - loss of Mary Salinas
- Hatcher family* - loss of mom, Rachel Sullins
- Judy Jennings and family* - loss of Terry
- Paul Lipfrd and family - loss of mother
- Linda Loftin* and family - loss of Jim*
- Scott Shanahan - loss of Scott's father, Kevin
- Gloria Vonada & family - loss of Troy*

Assisted Living / Shut-Ins / Rehab

- Ron Bartanen* - Victorian Manor
- Dennis Brice - hospice (Gary Coleman*)
- Sherryn Canniff* - homebound
- Sherry Davis*-Memory Care (Davis/Napier*)
- Renee Decker - hospice (Lester*)
- Donna Dudley-Life Care Center (S. Davis*)
- Annie Favorite - Haven (Mary Lou's mom)
- Bobbie Garcia*- Fort Walton Beach
- Linda Mann* - Shut In
- Peggy Masoner - Santa Rose Health Care
- Larry McDaniel*-Santa Rosa Rehab
- Ina Ruth Miller*
- Ruth Phillips*- Shut In
- Jim Pitts - Daphne, AL
- Lillian Raines* - Victorian Manor
- Faye Smith - Shut in (JEnglish mom)
- Marlene Smith - (Fulton*)

Expectant Mothers

- Hannah Newcomb - April 2024
- Tara Henry - May 2024

Other Requests / Health Issues

- Sharon Ates - upcoming surg. (Gallagher*)
- Gerry Baldwin - health (J.Pace sister)
- Louie Bond - knee surgery, recovery
- John & Gale Broadfoot - health
- Rachel Bugsby -heart surgery, recovery
- Robbie Bullard-aneurysm/defect valve (Lee*)
- Janice Carter* - mobility, prayers
- Robert Collins - foot problem (J.Pace cousin)
- Keturah Dickey - MS (K. Longmire*)
- Laura Elliot - (S. Lee* mom)
- Myrna Fuller* - pulmonary fibrosis
- Steve Fulton - pain, health difficulties
- Dixie Gorham - heart failure
- Scott Graham* - back pain
- Edwina Harris - health (J.Pace sister)
- Donald Hamilton - tests, health (McGriff*)
- Kenna Jackson - (Kristina P's* friend)
- Josie Locklin* - fractured vertebrae , health
- Yvonne Loomis - prayers, health (Nunes*)
- Martin family* - prayers
- Vicente Martinez - kidney transplant
- Donald McGriff* - health, prayers
- Mary McGriff* - @ home recovering
- Theresa McHargue-ill, prayers (Gallagher*)
- Ron Miller- esophagus infection (Ina Ruth*)
- Jeffery Norman - transplant list (Nunes*)
- Patsy Prince - health struggles (Burnham*)
- Otis & Eleanor Pollit - (Gallagher*)
- Kara Ritchie - blood disorder (M.Scott*)
- Glenn Rose - heart problems (Garcia*)
- Jennifer Salter - surgery, recovery (Ruth W.*)
- Rodger Schwitzerlett - (Gallagher*)
- Donnie Turner- (Helms*)

Military

- John Bartell - Washington, DC
- Spencer England - Jacksonville, FL
- Javanta Johnson - NAS Jacksonville Airforce
- Spencer Gable - New London, Groton, CT
- Amya Huey* - Italy
- Ni Mack - Kansas

Mission Works

- Shanahans* - Mission Italy
- Eliezer Perez - San Lorenzo, Paraguay
- Trevor Smoot - Domestic Missions
- Sebastain Garcia - Brazil
- SRC Correctional Institute

Cancer

- Mike Anderson - (Warrington)
- Misty Bray* - (Bird*)
- Jimmy Calhoun - (Mike Scott*)
- Mark Carlson - (C.Davis*)
- Tish Clark - (Hatcher*)
- Jack Davis*
- Sheryl Downy - (Burnham*)
- Eddie English - (R.English*)
- Timothy Ezzell - former member
- Chris Hendrix - (Baxley*)
- Ricky Jennings - (McGriff*)
- Lisa (Dixon) Johnson - (McGriff*)
- Tierney Lancaster - rare blood (Baxley*)
- Evergena Larkin - final stages (McGriff*)
- Greg Lewis* - lung cancer
- Marie and Jeff Lorentz - (J. Bartell*)
- Peter Machon - (Torpey*)
- Darrel Mason - (D.Hill*)
- Connie Moore - (Fulton*)
- Karen Parker - (Spradlin* friend)
- Ariel Perry - throat (Hatcher)
- Karen Pollit - (Gallagher*)
- Al Sherdan - bladder/prostatic cancer (Coen)
- Brooks Ann Singley* - waiting on results
- Mary Lee Smith - (McGriff*)
- Meg Stojanik - (Hatcher*)
- Reynold Voeltz - (Boughton's friend)
- David Walther - brain (English*)
- Kellie (Wiggins) Ward - (former mem.)
- Daisy Jean Williams - (J.Pace)

Students in College

- Haley Bartell
- Savannah Smith
- Seth Crider
- LizAnn Webb
- Stephen English
- Nick Webb
- Caitlyn Frizzell
- Lily Weathersbee
- Jackson Lash
- Reed Wilson
- Caleb Owens
- Lexi Wildes

Recently Baptized/Restored/Identified

- Makenley Hitchcock* - Baptized 12/31/23
- Debbie Gill* - Baptized 1/23/24
- Savannah Smith* - Baptized 1/31/24
- Dawson Hitchcock* - Restored 12/31/23
- Joe and Gloria Martin*- Identified 2/4



SERVING WITH HONOR

SUNDAY, FEB 11

MORNING

Opening Prayer Richard McCool
Song Director Elliot Wilson
Sermon Troy Spradlin
..... "Heart, Soul, Mind, and Strength"
Scripture Reading Matt Gingerich
..... Mark 12:28-34
Closing Prayer Phillip Webb

Serving Communion (Left - Right):

Brett Napier Justin Davis
Pat Mense Darrell Bozeman
..... Michael English (Balcony)
Comments Josh Owens

EVENING

Opening Prayer Jake Newcomb
Singing Blake Hatcher
Scripture Elliot Wilson
..... Revelation 14:14-16
Comments Josh Owens

Worship Service and Preparation:

Communion Prep Lanya Lester
PowerPoint Connie Bartell
Greeters John Pace
Secure Building Casey Bearden

WEDNESDAY EVENING

Song Director Luke M / Dalton L
Opening Prayer Matt McReynolds

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE REPORT:

Sunday Bible Class 167
AM Worship 239
PM Worship 113
Wed. Night Bible Class 168
Contribution \$16,655
Weekly Budget TBA
2024 Average Contribution \$21,487

TIMES OF SERVICES:

Sunday AM Bible Class 9:00 am
Sunday AM Worship 10:00 am
Sunday PM Classes, Worship . 6:00 pm
Wednesday PM Bible Class 6:30 pm

Visitors:

Thank you for coming!

You are our honored guest!

For more information about the church, spiritual topics, our classes, and activities, there is a tract rack at the entrance of the auditorium for your convenience.

Or, ask any member for assistance.

Please take a moment to fill out a visitors card, or sign our guest book so that we might have a record of your attendance. Thank you!

MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADMINISTRATION

- Deadline for all bulletin items is **Thursday, by noon.**
- If interested in utilizing the library, please reserve with Blisse or Lisa.
- Apologetics Press Study Bibles available for purchase - see Blisse.
- **Reminder:** If you use online giving, please consider covering the processing fees as part of your contribution.



FOOD PANTRY

- Food Pickup : 3/12/24 @ 9:30 AM
- Preparing Boxes:
 - 3/13/24 @ 5:30 PM
 - 3/14/24 @ 9:30 AM
- Distribution : 3/14/24 @ 2:30 PM

EDUCATION

- Adult and Children Bible classes available on Sundays @ 9 AM and Wednesdays @ 6:30 PM.
- Willing to teach? See Chris Davis!



OWLS BIBLE STUDY
ANGELS AND DEMONS
Every Thursdays @ 10:30 AM
Starting February 1st

<WiFi Password posted in Foyer>



Scan this QR Code to open webpage for Online Giving

STAFF

Troy Spradlin Preacher / Minister
..... cell: 850-910-2868
..... spradlin.troy@gmail.com
Casey Bearden Family Minister
..... cell: 706-889-3222
..... caseybearden@live.com
Blisse Hatcher Church Secretary
..... cell: 850-625-8911
..... margarstcoc@gmail.com
Scott Shanahan Missionary
..... cell: 865-443-9856
..... scottshanahan@hotmail.com
Trevor Smoot Domestic Missionary
..... cell: 937-417-4297
..... smooterii@outlook.com

ELDERS

Rick Bird 994-3148
..... rickbird424@gmail.com
Phillip Webb 232-7431
..... pw_webb@hotmail.com
Joe Wilson 206-8350
..... jaw@wilsonharrell.com

CONTACT FOR FEBRUARY:

Primary..... Rick Bird
Secondary Phillip Webb

DEACONS* & MINISTRIES

Administration Troy Spradlin
Benevolence..... Dennis Maduell
Building & Grounds Paul Lipford*
Education Chris Davis*
Evangelism Troy Spradlin
Finance
Fellowship Jeff Scott*
Involvement Joe Taylor*
Lads to Leaders David English
OWLS Stephen Fulton
Missions Mike Scott*
Visitation Bob Locklin
..... Mason Chandler
Kingdom Kids Dane Harrington*
Worship Blake Hatcher*
Youth & Family Casey Bearden