



SEPTEMBER 2019



*"And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. And all who believed were together and had all things in common.-Acts 2:42-44"*

As promised in last month's newsletter, I am going to share from the passage above what is needed for church to take place. In August I wrote about what a church does not need to be a church. This list was not exhaustive by any means, but it did hit upon some things that appear to be of extreme importance in this consumeristic culture that we live in. We care more about what we can get out of a church rather than what we can give to a church through our time, talents, and gifts. So this month I am going to address the phrase: *"And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching."* So let us dive right in to that discussion.

I do not believe it to be coincidental that the first thing that is mentioned is the importance of the Word of God which is what the "apostle's teaching" was and is. The reason I am not surprised is because all of the other three things that are needed to have a functioning church, you must have some foundation upon which to stand. That foundation is of course the foundation of the Word of God. You cannot fellowship rightly, observe the Lord's Table respectfully, or pray responsibly without the Word of God giving to you instruction. So, this is the lynch pin of all of the other three components of a church and therefore must be dealt with first.

To be a "New Testament Church" we must do the things and hold fast to the things that those in the "New Testament Church" did and held onto. They believed so much in the necessity and the power of the Word of God in their lives and in the life and health of the church that they "devoted themselves" to it. It was not a five minute foray into the Word; it was a consistent and

conscientious study of the Word. They did not dip their toe into the kiddie pool of reading the scriptures, they dove into the deep end and allowed themselves to be swallowed up by the Word of God so that they might be changed and cleansed by it. They recognized that if they were to be "successful" in their walk as individuals and corporately, they must hear what God's word was telling them. They could not "lean upon their own understanding" and expect God to bless that endeavor.

I believe the 1<sup>st</sup> Century Christians believed and understood that the Word of God was their daily "manna." The only way that they could get through the day spiritually is that they had to have the nourishment of the Word. They did not want to starve. Just like the manna in the wilderness the true bread of the Word is within our reach and all we have to do is reach out our hands and gather it in. Unlike the manna in Moses' day, you can never take in too much. It never goes bad overnight and fills the home with a stench that lingers for days. Rather the more you bring into the home the better every nook and cranny of the home and the hearts of the residents are perfumed by the glory of the Word. Our conversations, thoughts and actions become more and more governed by the Word of God. Charles H. Spurgeon was a huge fan of John Bunyan the author of *Pilgrim's Progress*. He once said of Bunyan that if you cut him that he would bleed the Bible. What a wonderful testimony to have and what a wonderful example for which we should aspire to and emulate.

It is my desire that I as an individual and we corporately as a church would be known as people of the Word. That not only would we be well-versed in its content and meaning, but that our reputation would be that we live out the Word of God. It is one thing to know something and another to have that knowledge totally transform our behavior. This is the reason that I harp so much on the reading of the Word and its importance. It is the reason that we have been providing opportunities to get into the Scriptures more, through the *Celebrating the Sixty-Six* initiative. We have a new one for the fall that will be rolled out on September 8<sup>th</sup>.

The reason that the early church was so successfully in sharing the Gospel in the midst of persecution and difficulties, was due in large part to their knowledge of and living out the Word of God. Oh that we might follow in their footsteps, and dive into the depths of the Scriptures. May it cleanse and change us more into His image, giving to us the courage and comfort to live in this world as His ambassadors. May it be said of us at the end of our lives that if you cut him/her that they bled the Bible.

*In His Name & For His Glory,  
Pastor Tim*

***Come and Stand with us.***

***A call for the endurance of the Saints***

*Wednesday Evenings  
6:30-8:00 pm  
FRBC Fellowship Hall  
Beginning September 25.*

*Our guidebook, Stand, can be downloaded as a PDF file from Desiring God Ministries.*

*Contributing authors:  
Jerry Bridges, John Piper, John MacArthur,  
Randy Alcorn, and Helen Roseveare.*

*All Christians, no matter their age, want to make it to the end. And we don't want to barely make it by the skin of our teeth, but to "lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and ...run with endurance the race set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith." (Heb. 12:1-2)*

*If you are weary in your faith journey, Stand will awaken and solidify rugged, Christ-exalting endurance within you.*

**Dinner Out**

**The last dinner out for 2019 is Saturday,  
September 21, 5 pm at PF Changs Restaurant.**

**Sign up is required, a sheet is available  
in the foyer.**



**Nursery**

***Nursery Workers  
Needed!***

***If you can volunteer to be in the nursery  
Sunday, September 15 or 22 contact Jeff  
Middlestead or email the church office.***

***Thank you!***

### ***Birthdays:***

1—Rob Mlodzik  
1—Rhonda Dohms  
15—Lily Hoffman  
11—Becky Godfrey  
18—Jeff Middlestead  
25—Jerry Kroehler  
30—Anne Timmons



### ***Happy Anniversary***

2—Ron & Anne Van Asten  
4—Romy & Maay Garzon  
25—Dan & Judy Waggoner

**Deaconess of the Month:**

**Carol Smith**

**Communion is Sunday, September 8**

### **St Joseph's Food Pantry**

Each month we will collect  
non-perishable food items.  
Place your food items on the  
table provided in the foyer.



### ***Evening Service***

***September 15. 5 pm  
September 29. 5 pm***

***September 8. 5 pm  
September 22. 5 pm***



***Fox River Baptist Church  
2600 E. Henry Street  
Appleton, WI 54915  
920-734-6162***

***Website: foxriverbaptist.com  
Email: office@foxriverbaptist.com***

***Office Hours:  
Tuesday & Thursday, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 Noon***

### ***Nursery Schedule***



**September 1**  
Gene Pogreba & Bryce Middlestead  
**September 8**  
Jeff Middlestead & Ian Dohms  
**September 15**

**September 22**

**September 29**  
Rhonda & Anna Dohms

### ***Usher Schedule***



**September 1**  
Kyle Tubbs & Ryan Smith  
**September 8**  
Jeff Middlestead & Jerry Kroehler  
**September 15**  
Ron Kempen & Jay Hoffman  
**September 22**  
Rob & Sam Mlodzik  
**September 29**  
Bob Abitz & Gene Pogreba

### **Financial Update**

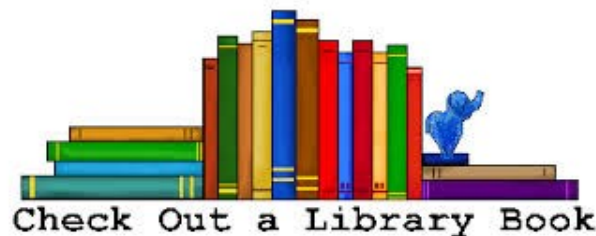
August 4-25, 2019  
Budget needed weekly: \$ 2606.00  
Received: \$ 2187.00  
Contact Rob Mlodzik with questions.



Online giving is available on the website:  
**www.foxriverbaptist.com.** Contact Bill Olson  
if you have any questions.

### ***Fox River Baptist Vision Statement***

*We desire that everyone who enters Fox River Baptist Church grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ and grow in authentic, loving, familial relationships to make the name of Christ known in our community and world, all for the glory of God and joy of all.*



### **Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes**



**GOAL: 25 shoeboxes**



A table is available in  
the foyer with boxes,  
and other information.



Youth begins meeting September 11,  
6:00–7:30 pm  
at Pastor Tim and Becky's home.

### **Praises & Prayers**

Here at FRBC, we have a prayer  
chain meant for the sharing of  
prayer request needs and for  
sharing praise for the awesome  
& mighty work God does in our  
lives. Please feel free to share any praise or re-  
quest at our new prayer request email address:  
**prayer@foxriverbaptist.com**



**Care to be part of the prayer chain?** Email or  
call Shari Middlestead: shari@middlestead.com  
(920)209-1989 or  
Renee Brown: eener654@gmail.com  
(920)428-5306