

# FIRST SOUTHERN BAPTIST CHURCH

August 6, 2020

Volume 1, Issue 5

## Pastor's Word

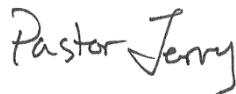
The word for August is "Keep"

As a verb keep means to "have or retain possession of". There is so much that I would like to encourage you to "keep." I want to encourage you to retain possession of three lasting virtues:

1. **Keep the faith.** stay focused on Jesus every day. We often sing at the close of worship a song with that message; *"Keep the faith someone really loves you. Keep the faith someone really cares. Keep the faith someone really loves you and that someone is the Lord."* Jesus is the "author and perfecter" of our faith (Hebrews 12:1-2).
2. **Keep hope.** In the cover of my mom's Bible was written "You can trust an unknown future to a known God." Keeping hope reminds me of another song (Loretta's favorite), *"Because He lives I can face tomorrow, because He lives all fear is gone, because I know He holds the future and life is worth the living just because He lives."* We have hope because He is with us.
3. **Keep love.** Keep love burning in your heart for God, other believers, and the lost. Love is the first gift listed in the fruit of the Holy Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23). Jesus says it is the distinguishing trait of His disciples (John 13:34-35). In 1 Corinthians 13:7 we find the strength of love.
  - *"Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance."* 1 Corinthians 13:7 NLT

I would like to encourage you to keep faith, hope, and love a priority in your life. Everyday put them in action. I leave you with 1 Corinthians 13:13 NLT *"Three things will last forever—faith, hope, and love—and the greatest of these is love."*

God's Blessings,



As you may or may not be aware, we are still offering the following on the church's Facebook page at **First Southern Baptist Church**:

- "Worship and Word" broadcast at 10:30 a.m. on Sundays by Pastor Jerry; upon viewing you are encouraged to **Share** and **Like** so that it will be available to your friends on FB
- Livestreaming of Wednesday's Bible study at 6:00 p.m. led by Janice Lanford. We are currently studying the book of 1 John.

The church family is encouraged to continue to mail in their tithes and offerings, or drop them off at the church office during the hours listed. Thank you so much for your faithfulness in giving.

A separate newsletter is being sent out with the mid-year update from Pastor Jerry.

## August Verses of the Month

### A psalm of thanksgiving

**"Shout with joy to the LORD, all the earth!  
Worship the LORD with gladness.  
Come before him, singing with joy.  
Acknowledge that the LORD is God!  
He made us, and we are his.<sup>[a]</sup>  
We are his people, the sheep of his pasture.  
Enter his gates with thanksgiving;  
go into his courts with praise.  
Give thanks to him and praise his **name**.  
For the Lord is good.  
His unfailing love continues forever,  
and his faithfulness continues to each generation."**

PSALM 100 NLT

**First Southern Baptist Church**

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Office Hours are Monday – Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon

# North American Mission Board

## Prayer Calendar - August 2020

### Jim and Joni Duke

*Chaplain*

Michael DeBakey Veteran Affairs Hospital  
Richmond, TX



Pray for us to find a church where we can invest as we transition to new things in the Houston area. Pray for Joni as she seeks her place of service in the Lord's vineyard.

### Ebbie David

*City Coach*

The Hill Church, GenSend San Diego  
La Mesa, CA

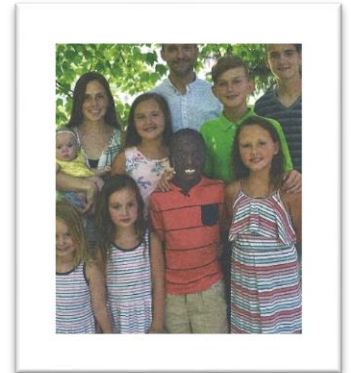


Pray for laborers to come to our Send Cities and invest their lives here to further the kingdom. Pray for people we will encounter this year – that their hearts are softened toward the gospel and they choose Jesus over crowded loneliness.

### Ryan and Tricia McCammack

*Church Planter*

Gospel Hope Church  
Avondale Estates, GA



Pray we would visibly display the reconciling hope of the gospel to our neighbors. Pray we would faithfully raise up the next generation of disciple-making leaders.

### Josh and Deborah Stone

*Church Planter*

Cuyahoga Valley Church  
Broadview Heights, OH



Pray unbelievers in the community will encounter Christ and be baptized. Pray believers in the community will grow in their love for and service to Christ.

### Jorge and Belkis Rodriguez

*Church Planter*

Grace Family Church  
Chicago, IL



Pray the gospel flows freely and mightily in and through Grace Family Church as we seek to make followers of Christ from all people groups in Rogers Park and are propelled to work humbly as agents of God for the city and its welfare.