



The Lamplighter

Terrill Road Baptist Church
Pastor William C. Page

...doing the work He is doing in the world...

July 2011

Maturing Faith

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One of the keys to worship is understanding that it does not originate with man. Worship is not man deciding to do something to proclaim God's goodness. Rather it is a response to what God has already done for man. Worship is the rehearsal of God's goodness. In other words, it is Christians individually and collectively proclaiming how great God is. We do it alone and in groups large and small. We pray, sing, read, listen to His Word proclaimed and give testimony to His Worthiness. It is a response to what He has done in the past, present and what He will do in the future. We don't make it up, but merely say "Amen" to what is. Worship can take place at church, around the dinner table, even on the golf course. It happens when we start talking, thinking, sharing, writing, singing [whatever] and in the process refer to the greatness of God. Yes, looking up at a starry sky and proclaiming, "Wow!" comes under the category of worship!

Unbelievers don't understand because they still think that so much of who they are and what they have and what their life is all about is primarily because of their own hard work, sacrifice and effort. They fail to understand that without God there would be nothing. Until they come to understand how small man really is, the illusion of being self-made will continue. But life has a way of wearing us down, does it not? The whole thing really is tilted in God's favor. It takes some folks an entire lifetime to realize that they really are not the master of their own destiny. As a guy, I understand this thinking. No self-respecting man wants to be viewed (Continued)

Pastor Page (continued)

as weak - *especially* in the eyes of his wife or children. We are trying to be strong for them. If there were ever a song that captures that sentiment it would be Ol' Blue Eyes, *My Way*-

For what is a man? What has he got?
 If not himself - Then he has naught.
 To say the things he truly feels
 And not the words of one who kneels.
 The record shows I took the blows
 And did it my way.

Sounds all strong and confident, doesn't it? I'm not suggesting that those words were the guiding principle for Frank Sinatra's life. I do not know his heart. I saw an interview recently with his wife, Barbara. Frank was admitted into the hospital and she encouraged him to fight and beat this health scare like he did all the other times. His last words to Barbara were, "I can't." He died shortly thereafter. There is coming a day for all of us when we will come to the end of our strength and self-confidence. Better to come to that day sooner than later. It is that pride that gets in the way of our relationship with God. God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble (James 4:6).

Again, life has a way of wearing us down. I do not have the swagger I had as a 20 year-old. I believe the Lord is trying to teach us that we do not have all the strength or all the wisdom. We don't even know all the questions. Yet He knows and understands. But more importantly, He loves us. He has made the first move. He is waiting for our response to that move. Will we worship Him for Who He is or will we clench our teeth through the next hardship until the pain subsides to a manageable level, then go on living full of self-pride? He is waiting for our response with love and grace and forgiveness. He gives grace to the humble (i.e. "one who kneels"). Even believers need to be reminded sometimes. Hear Isaiah's words:

"Listen to Me, you who follow after righteousness, You who seek the LORD: Look to the rock *from which* you were hewn, And to the hole of the pit *from which* you were dug."

NKJ Isaiah 51:1

(Continued)

Pastor Page (continued)

“Lord, help me to realize the difference between the right and wrong kind of pride. Help me to know the difference between confidence in self and confidence in You. Teach me to humble myself so that You won’t have to do it for me. May I learn these things sooner rather than later, so that my life will be sustained by Your grace. In Jesus’ Name. Amen”

As many of our schedules are altered with the summer months, I pray that you find refreshment with vacation and joy with reconnection with friends and family. Please pray with me that TRBC’s ministry to the community this summer will be impactful in the furtherance of God’s Kingdom.

His Servant & Yours,
Pastor Bill

“The Big Apple Adventure” Final Countdown

The Big Apple Adventure, this year's VBS, will begin in just a few days now! The excitement is building! Many "tourists" (children) from TRBC and from the surrounding communities have registered and can't wait for the adventure to begin! The "tour guides" (teachers) are preparing their lessons, the decorations are going up and final preparations are being made for the great VBS week ahead! We praise God for all the children who have registered, all the volunteers who are serving and all the pieces that God has brought together to enable us to have VBS this year!

We will have a luncheon for all the VBS volunteers on Sunday, July 10th. Following the lunch, we will do a prayer walk and final decorating touches that afternoon. Please pray with us for good health and safety for all throughout the week, for dry weather and for hearts to be open to hear and receive God's Word! May all those who are serving be a reflection of God's love and grace. Lastly, we pray that some would receive Christ as their Lord and Savior for the first time and that *all* those attending and *all* those serving would be drawn closer to the Lord as a result of VBS. To God be the Glory!

-Lisa Dyer and Gina Vorrius

Ashbrook

TRBC's "Boomerang" Ministry

I have had the privilege of serving the Lord at our church by being the Ashbrook Nursing Home Coordinator for almost one year. When thinking of a way to describe Ashbrook, the Lord gave me the picture of a boomerang. A boomerang is a stick that when thrown travels in an elliptical path and returns to the point where it began. What better picture to describe what we do as a church body at Ashbrook!

On the fourth Sunday of every month, one hour is reserved for Terrill Road Baptist Church to 'put on a program'. Those who can come that day will go to the dining area to minister in songs, give a short devotion, offer birthday wishes, and serve cookies and juice to the residents. We get to show the love of Christ to them and to their families for that brief period of time. But like the boomerang that comes back to the person who threw it out, so it is with the blessings that we give out to those in attendance. You see, the amazing thing is that those who give out the blessings find that they get many blessings in return.

Here are some examples from some of our folks who minister at Ashbrook that attest to the boomerang of blessings:

Sheryl Morales shared how the Lord used Ashbrook to teach her about worship. "I remember leaving there one Sunday with my spirits lifted, realizing the Lord had begun to show me more of who He is, and to teach me that worship is active, not passive. I have grown and been blessed, and pray that the residents have been blessed as well."

Janet Wilson shared a story of how a young mom brought her three-year old son up to the piano so he could thank her for playing because he "loves music so much". Through this, we are reminded that we are not just touching the lives of the residents, we are also ministering to their family members and to the staff members who work there. She shares, "Not only is this ministry a wonderful way to show the love of Christ to others, but it's my way of 'giving back'".

Jim Wilson shared how he enjoys talking "really talking" with the residents. All of them have had rich life experiences and we can all learn from them. They also greatly appreciate it when we go there. He shared a story about meeting a woman named Janie. When Marc Dyer finished giving the message, she shared this with Jim: "That was exactly the message I needed to hear today". She told him about the hard time she was going through, and he prayed for her right there. He says, "By the end of our Ashbrook ministry that day, I was the one who felt ministered to, and very blessed."

Boomerang of blessings. Don't miss out on the opportunity to bless and to be blessed. Won't you consider joining us? We would love to see you there!

Christy Caruso
Ashbrook Coordinator

Inspiration Point

Recalculating

by Jim Wilson

If you have a GPS in your car, as we do, you know it can be a great help in finding new places and in finding your way home. It is wonderful after you've flown cross-country. You just plug-in where you want to go and, even for those of us who are clueless, it takes you there step-by-step, turn-by-turn. Piece of cake.

They can also be incredibly annoying.

If the GPS doesn't like where you are going, the automated voice says "Recalculating" in a tone that, to me, sounds more and more indignant each time. It's not uncommon for our GPS to "Recalculate" for us ten to twenty times each trip, even when we are going exactly where it tells us to go! I often respond back to our recalculating GPS with something brilliant like "Get over it!", until I realize I am talking to a machine.

As much as we might dislike hearing it, "Recalculating" is something the Holy Spirit tells us every day. God knows where He wants us to go each day. When we go off-track, when we make detours that lead us the wrong way, the Holy Spirit tells us to turn around and go the other way until we are eventually headed in the direction God wants us to go.

Pastor Rick Warren put it like this recently on Facebook: "Directions to the State of Grace: Admit I'm lost and going the wrong way. Ask for help. Trust Him. Make a U-turn. Follow the Map."

Good advice.

Sometimes, we may be tempted to tune-out our car's GPS when it tells us we don't know where we're going. We should never do that with God. Keep your ears open. If you're heading in the wrong direction, He'll let you know. Just listen.



So faith comes from what is heard,
and what is heard comes through
the message about Jesus Christ.

Romans 10:17 (HCSB)

Celebrating Our Members

Perry Cipriano

Born on May 28th, 1958, Perry Cipriano grew up in Clark and has lived in the area for the last 20 years. He is a high school health and physical education teacher and driver education teacher in Orange, NJ.

Perry says with a growing obesity problem in America, physical education is something students need today more than ever. “Where I am, I’m in a bad area, so a lot of kids don’t want to be outside. They don’t want to be in a park because there are shootings in the park and other stuff that goes on. So they’ll stay at home with a video game and popcorn, chips, whatever, and just eat and play the game and get no exercise, and combine that with no self-discipline - it’s a big problem.”

How does he motivate kids? “It’s real hard. There’s always a grade. It’s one of the motivations for the kids who do want to make something of themselves. And, you have to try to give them an activity they enjoy or make it enjoyable. Basketball and football are the two tops. They don’t enjoy any sport that they’re not aware of or are not immediately good at. Then they just shut down.” He says a big difficulty is class size. “I’ll have maybe 70 kids in a class in half a gym, with another teacher with another 60-70 on the other side of the gym. So, that also becomes a problem, too.

Perry says the biggest challenge for him as a teacher is “not to burn out”, especially working in an urban part of Orange. “It’s a really bad area”, he says. “In May, we had two separate shooting incidents, right outside the school, right in the park where we go to gym sometimes. For those couple of days, we couldn’t go outside for gym, and if you went out there, there were police officers in the whole area. There are police officers in the school sometimes, in the cafeteria whenever there’s trouble. So that’s another challenge. Whatever is God’s will - if it’s going to happen, it’s going to happen.” Perry asks that TRBC pray for his safety and for his ability to reach his students. “They always say you’re not going to reach everybody. But if you can reach one or two or three kids, then you’ve done your job.”

Perry himself stays in shape. He goes to the gym himself almost every day, except Sundays, “for maybe two hours a day” for cardio exercise and weights. (Continued)

Perry Cipriano (continued)

Perry has been a longtime collector of sports autographs and memorabilia. “It started when I was in 7th grade. I have stuff signed by pretty much any famous athlete you could think of who’s been alive in the last 20 years.” These are autographs from people Perry has met, often at sports card, memorabilia and autograph shows. “They have dealers set up, selling their stuff. And they usually have one, two, three or four guests. Big shows have up to 50 guests.”

Perry says one item in his collection especially means a lot to him. “When I was a kid in 7th or 8th grade, you could write to any athlete or former athlete, send them an index card, and they would sign it and send it back. And, I remember sending a card to Dizzy Dean, who played for the Cardinals, a Hall of Fame baseball player. I mailed him the card. He died maybe a week later. A week after that, I got a letter back with a note that said, ‘I found this in Dizzy’s pocket. He signed it and forgot to mail it. God bless you. -Mrs. Dean.’ And it was a card signed by Dean. And also, as a kid, I got a signed photo of Roberto Clemente. Then a couple of months later he flew to Nicaragua and died in a plane crash.”

Perry has been part of TRBC for many years. “When my parents still lived here, they came here, around 1990. And then they retired and moved to Delaware, where they still live now. And I stayed. I was in church since I can remember. That’s how I was raised.”



Dear Heavenly Father,
Today, let me make a difference in someone’s life.
In Jesus’ Name. Amen.

July Question of the Month: What Does Freedom Mean to You?



The Lamplighter Question of the Month for July is: With the 4th of July coming up, what does freedom mean to you?
Many thanks to those who responded.

Freedom is defined as "the power or right to act, speak or think as one wants without hindrance or restraint". When I think about what freedom means to me personally, I think about my right to worship and share the Gospel with others 'without hindrance or restraint'. I am able to 'freely' come to church any time the doors are open and worship God through song and hear the Word of God preached openly from the pulpit. I am able to 'freely' share the Gospel with people in public places or in the privacy of my home. I am able to 'freely' leave tracts at a restaurant and pray openly with people in public. But my freedom to do this didn't come freely. No, men and women died (and continue to die) for my freedom to do this. And, Jesus died on the cross of Calvary to supply the Gospel message that I have the freedom to share. I am thankful every day for my freedom. God bless America! -Christy Caruso

Freedom means that I can be here today worshipping. It means that I can pray when I want to and seek God's will in my life. While my relationship with Jesus gives me confidence in the future, freedom gives me hope. It comes at a great cost paid by service members long ago and those today who are both near and far away. The cost was also paid by every believer we read about in the Bible - each one played a key role in laying the foundation for our being able to worship and praise God today. Freedom also means freedom from the penalty of sin, through faith and belief in Jesus Christ. There is absolutely nothing more freeing than being forgiven. Each one of us also has a role to play to safeguard the freedoms of those who will come behind us. May the footprints we leave behind help lead others to the true freedom that comes from Christ. -Jim Wilson

Freedom means that someone paid the ultimate price, so that I can freely and openly worship my Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. -Karolyn Buckridee

Having grown up in a free country, I think I take freedom for granted, until I hear about life in other countries where the government or other groups control so many aspects of people's daily lives. The real freedom in life, though, comes through Jesus - not a "good" or "bad" government. Galatians 5:1 says "It is for freedom that Christ has set us free." We're free from the bondage of sin. Hallelujah! -Sheryl Morales (Continued)

Freedom (continued)

Freedom is simply living in the great United States of America! I can speak and worship without fear. -Julie Staines

I have the freedom to talk about Jesus to anyone at any time in any place without fear. -Barbara Longo

It reminds me of how much more freedom I have just having been born in this country than most people in foreign countries can ever hope to achieve. It makes me hope and pray that most people will someday obtain the same type of freedom we here in America enjoy. -Tristan More

F – Free to serve the Lord

R – Realization of hope and a future!

E – Enjoying the blessings that many cannot and do not have

E – Everyday provides a way to grow and learn

D – Doing things that I may not like, but can! (such as studying and going back to school)

O – Opportunities

M – Many to love, regardless of age, race and place. -Spring Casterlow

Responsibility and sacrifice – without either of these we would not have the freedom that we so enjoy. -Jamie More

Given to mankind by God, freedom continues to be sought after by many living in oppressed nations. It is taken for granted by many in the U.S. and other “free countries”. But, it did not come free of charge, but by the blood and death of some for many. As our freedom from sin and death was not free, but came by a price of blood and death of Jesus, it also is not fully appreciated or accepted as true freedom. -J. Morales

Freedom is having church at Irving Plaza in New York City. Not only can we worship freely in America, but we can worship in a concert hall in the heart of NYC! -Alexia Page

Few or no limitations on practicing my faith, gathering with others for public worship, and associating with those of similar belief, to own property and publicly do the work of ministry and witness. -No Name Given (Continued)

Freedom (continued)

From Pastor Bill Page-

Freedom is not being controlled against your will. This gets dicey because we are all controlled by our sinful nature whether we are aware of it or not (Romans 7). This control happens against our will. So in a real sense, we are all enslaved. It's just a matter of degrees. We see the person who is trapped by alcohol as really enslaved. But a person who is enslaved by the need to be seen as successful by his peers is also a prisoner. It's just seen as a little more *respectable* kind of enslavement.

Real freedom comes in knowing Christ and understanding His claim upon your life. He sets you free from yourself as you mature in the faith. You experience the freedom that comes from no longer being driven to be seen as successful by your peers. You no longer need to drown your reality in drink, because you understand that God has a purpose for your reality as difficult as it may be. You begin to possess what one theologian called the "defiant nevertheless" - an understanding that in Christ there is hope in the face of hopelessness. You are set free from the need to be (and acquire) all that the world system says you need in order to feel good about yourself. THAT is TRUE freedom!

From Citizen Bill Page-

Freedom in the American 4th of July sense to me is a liberty that takes into account the depravity of man. If man cannot govern himself personally very well (again Romans 7), what would make us think that a specially selected group of men and women could govern us any better? The same sinful passions for power and control influence that body. That is why the idea of *limited* government is unique to America. Enough government to get the job done, but not enough to encroach too far upon individual liberty. Of course this is all predicated upon an agreement of the limits (i.e. what is right and wrong). I pray for our country because our nation does not have consensus on matters of right and wrong like it did two generations ago. James Madison said it this way -

“We have staked the whole future of American civilization, not upon the power of government, far from it. We have staked the future of all of our political institutions upon the capacity of mankind of self-government; upon the capacity of each and all of us to govern ourselves, to control ourselves, to sustain ourselves according to the Ten Commandments of God.”

(Continued)

Freedom (continued)

Madison knew that everyone doing *anything* he or she wanted was anarchy. Government of the people, by the people and for the people cannot be sustained if there is not a strong consensus as to what is moral and what is immoral. The 10 Commandments were his standard.

Righteousness exalts a nation, But sin *is* a reproach to *any* people. Proverbs 14:34

I pray that our nation will embrace righteousness so that we can answer "yes" to the following question -

O say, does that star-spangled banner yet wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

Freedom means responsible living and following God's principles of obedience.

-Theresa Kiesel

Freedom means that I can do what I want, like serve God freely. It also means that I can remember what my founding fathers did for me and this wonderful country. -Lucas Page

Freedom means many things to me. It represents how Jesus helped David kill Goliath and freed the Israelites. God gave Samson victory. Freedom means God helps warriors in war and helps them win. God helped many biblical heroes and I'm thankful for that. -Jesse Buckridee

Freedom to me means being blessed to the extent that I can worship God safely and in the way I feel led, free to live a life of joy and peace because I'm no longer in bondage to sin, enabled to live a life full of hope knowing that today and tomorrow are in God's hand. -Janet Wilson

When I think of *freedom*, a single word comes to mind - America!

Here are two official examples of American freedom:

The following, dated July 4, 1776, is an excerpt from the Declaration of Independence:

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."

U.S. Constitution - Amendment 1 Proposed September 25, 1789: "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."

I thank God I am an American. I thank God we can worship Him openly.

-Norma Byrne

Milestones July Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays

July 5 Tristan More
July 5 Betty Williams
July 8 Robin Di Fiore
July 9 Jake Brown
July 10 Jim Wilson

July 11 Stacey Morales
July 13 Zachary Brown
July 22 Anna Wang
July 28 Jay Morales

Anniversaries

July 16 Tom & Matie Cole



If your birthday or anniversary is not listed, or if you choose for it not to be listed, please contact Jim Wilson. Thanks.



July 11-15
9 a.m. to Noon

Hear it! Believe It! Connect It!

Question of the Month for August:

What plans do you have for this summer, or what has been the highlight of your summer so far?

And, a bonus question: What is your all-time favorite vacation spot you have been to?



July 2011



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
Deacon's Meeting 3	Independence Day Church Office Closed 4		Prayer Meeting 6			
VBS Prayer Walk & lunch after service 10			Prayer Meeting 13			
Vacation Bible School						
			Prayer Meeting 20			
Ashbrook Ministry 24			Prayer Meeting 27			
31						

How Well Do You Know God's Word?

“For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through endurance and encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope.” Romans 15:4

Fill in the blanks, then check your NIV Bible to see how you did.

Ezra 1:5 Then the family heads of Judah and Benjamin, and the priests and _____ - everyone whose _____ God had moved - prepared to go up and build the house of the Lord in _____. 5:13 King _____ issued a decree to rebuild this house of God.

Nehemiah 1:11b I was _____ to the King. 2:8b And because the _____ hand of my God was upon me, the King granted my requests. 2:17 Come, let us _____ the wall of _____, and we will no longer be in disgrace. 8:10 Do not grieve, for the _____ of the Lord is your _____.

Esther 4:14 And who knows that you have come to _____ position for such a _____ as this? 4:16 Go, gather together all the Jews who are in Susa, and _____ for me. 9:28b These days of _____ should never cease to be celebrated by the Jews, nor should the memory of them die out among their descendants.

Exciting News About Your Lamplighter!

Each month, The Lamplighter can now be found online at www.trbc4him.org. Tell your friends, especially TRBC members and former members who have moved away. Thank you to Don Williams for his big part in making this happen!

Spiritual Fitness:

Fishing with Bob

By Jim Wilson

Fishing doesn't always mean catching. Sometimes, merely surviving is enough.

There was a time when my father-in-law and I really enjoyed saltwater fishing. We would spend hours fishing in Long Island Sound, or off Montauk, Cape Cod or the Jersey Shore. Sometimes we did very well, or should I say the fish did very well finding our hooks. But, there were plenty of times when we vowed to catch dinner and instead stopped off to get hot dogs on the way home.

Our most memorable fishing trip was in 1985. Due to busy schedules, we had one weekend available to go fishing and had our eyes set on Point Judith, Rhode Island. So did Hurricane Bob, a storm churning off North Carolina. We figured we could leave our homes in NY and CT at midnight, drive to Rhode Island, and spend a few hours on a fishing boat before the storm got close. Right? Sounded like a plan.

So, we drove to Rhode Island, both sets of eyes on the road, both sets of ears on the radio. The weather seemed OK, and we made good time. We went straight for the largest fishing boat we knew of, the "Super Squirrel", only to hear the captain say, "I'm not taking this boat out! There's a hurricane coming!" My father-in-law and I were disappointed, as were the 15 or so other fishing nuts that the "Super Squirrel" didn't want. To the rescue - the captain of a nearby boat who noticed our disappointment and announced to the crowd, "Oh, I'll take you out! Let's go!" So, we boarded the much smaller "Francis Jean" and headed out into the open ocean. As we pulled away from shore, there was a breeze, but the water was not bad.

By the time we reached the fishing area the captain had in mind, the waves had grown and I couldn't get the theme from "Gilligan's Island" out of my head, the part where the "The weather started getting rough. The tiny ship was tossed." This 3-hour tour was not a good idea.

We were able to lower our hooks into the water a few times. But, it was so rough even the fish had run for cover. The swells kept getting higher and higher. Waves breaking over the side of the boat chased most of the sane passengers below deck, where they got violently sick. Jan's dad and I, wearing full rain slickers, stayed outside hanging on to the handrail for dear life.

By now, the waves were taller than the boat and it was raining sideways. Our tiny ship was not doing well. Neither were we. Lightning crashed around us. Waves crashed over the boat. I estimated our boat was about 20 feet high. The waves were about 25 feet high.

I remember praying, "God, please get us back safely. If not, please watch over Jan, Jenny and Steve."

From where we stood and held on, taking wave after wave, we could hear the captain and his maniacal laughter coming from the wheelhouse as he tried to figure out how to keep us alive. Slowly, by the Grace of God, the boat moved in the right direction. We made it to shore and stepped back on land about six hours after we left the dock.

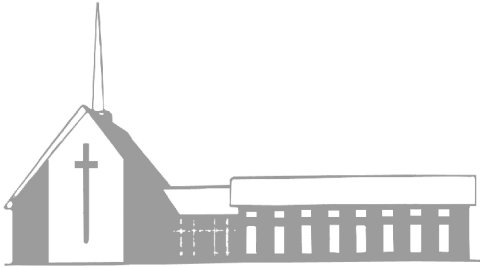
Hurricane Bob had made very good time from North Carolina.

As for us, we had a successful day of fishing. We didn't catch anything. But, we survived.

The Lamplighter

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Terrill Road Baptist Church is a Bible-believing Church where people connect with God, each other, and influence our world for Jesus Christ.



July Nursery Schedule

July 3 Linda Adam and Rachel Morales
July 10 Bonnie Atkins and Alessia Vorrius
July 17 Patrice and Jake Brown
July 24 Karolyn and Elizabeth Buckridee
July 31 Patty and Zoe Buckridee

Thanks to all of you!

My thanks to everyone who
contributed to this issue.
-Jim Wilson, Editor

Deadline for July Lamplighter:
Sunday, July 31