



**FORT WAYNE BAPTIST**  
Church



**June 2020**  
**Newsletter**

**Pastor:**

Rev. Scott Carter  
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**Fort Wayne  
Baptist Church**

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**Web:**

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**Sunday:**

Bible Study—9:00 AM  
Worship—10:00 AM

**Wednesday Eve:**

Dine Lite—6:00  
Bell Choir —4:30  
Choir Practice—5:30

## The Thinnest of Margins

Human skin is not very thick. On a healthy adult human, the eye lids, the thinnest part, is about .5mm or 0.019685 inches while the thickest part, the soles of your feet, is about 4mm or 0.15748 inches. About twice the thickness of a sheet of paper at its thinnest to nice card stock at its thickest. Certainly not a great barrier to much of anything, especially given how important it is for keeping necessary stuff inside and bad stuff outside.

Some skin, however, is even less protective. In fact it invites danger. While other skin seems to repel even the most legitimate troubles. For the thickness of a sheet of paper people die or live, prosper or are oppressed.

Unless you have been living in a hole, and honestly in the last few months that might be a serious possibility, you know that news has been full of racially motivated killings and violence and the potential for it. Perfectly innocent people have been killed because they were perceived to be the wrong color.

Notice I said “perceived.” Not that they were the wrong color. The problem lies in the eye of the beholder, not the skin of the victim.

“But..” I hear you say. You want to argue about innocence. Ultimately it comes down to two questions. First, did the people who died, or were the object of violence or hate, do anything that merited the response they got? Second, would the same thing have happened if the people involved were of a different color?

Meanwhile heavily armed people can illegally enter a government building, threaten the working of the government, and essentially commit an act of terror to make their point; and what happens? Nothing, because they were perceived to be the right color.

“A few bad apples...” you say. Let me finish that for you. “A few bad apples spoil the whole bunch.” If I know of evil or injustice and I fail to speak out about it then I am an accessory. If I am part of a system that regularly does harm to people based on their skin color and do nothing to try and stop it then I am part of the problem. Bad apples must be removed when they first start to turn.



Martin Luther King Jr, an American Baptist by the way, wrote in his Letter from the Birmingham Jail:

*"First, I must confess that over the last few years I have been gravely disappointed with the white moderate. I have almost reached the regrettable conclusion that the Negro's great stumbling block in the stride toward freedom is not the White Citizen's Council-er or the Ku Klux Klanner, but the white moderate who is more devoted to "order" than to justice; who prefers a negative peace which is the absence of tension to a positive peace which is the presence of justice; who constantly says "I agree with you in the goal you seek, but I can't agree with your methods of direct action;" who paternalistically feels he can set the timetable for another man's freedom; who lives by the myth of time and who constantly advises the Negro to wait until a "more convenient season."*

If we truly claim to love our neighbors as we love ourselves then we must share the outrage to senseless violence and hate. Outrage must lead to action. Perhaps action can lead to change. For I truly believe that if people of good intent will act the barrier to change will be but the thinnest of margins.

—Pastor Scott



"I have a dream that my four children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character."

Martin Luther King, Jr.



## PRAYER REQUESTS

- The country during the corona virus pandemic
- Marvel Powell
- Brian Blair— was moved to Signature Healthcare temporarily
- John Trammel — continued prayers
- Hti Mu — breast cancer
- Julie Russell — cancer
- Seth (Vaunetta's grandson) — continued prayers

# What's Happening

**All Church activities are cancelled until further notice**

## **Service Opportunities**

The Chaplin at St. Joe Hospital contacted Randy Rusk with two requests:

If you would like to write some Thank You cards for the medical staff and other hospital workers who have been serving during this crisis, you may drop them off at the church office and Randy has volunteered to get them and take them where they need to go. Janet goes in to check on things on Wednesday and Friday afternoons. You can ring the buzzer and let her know you are there and leave them with no contact. Or you may call Janet at 260-609-8710 to set up a time to drop them off.

If you can sew and would like to make masks (I know some of you are already doing this) the Chaplin can provide the raw materials. Randy has volunteered to pick those up and drop them off to you if you would like to participate. When you are done he can collect the finished products. If you would like to help with that please contact Randy Rusk to coordinate a drop off time.

## **Join us for Bible Study and a Sunday Worship Service from your home!**

Tuesday through Thursday Pastor Scott has been doing a Bible Study, and on Sunday we have a short service and sermon. These are all available through our website:

<https://fortwaynebaptist.com/>

## **SHOEBOXES**

I may be quarantined but I am still thinking about OCC Shoeboxes. I have been busy crocheting hats, soap holders, purses, frisbees, making jump ropes and picture books just to name a few items. When things get back to whatever a new normal is I'll schedule workshops to work on items. Stay tune for updates.  
—Sharon



## **CHURCH OFFICE HOURS**

Limited office hours until further notice

If you need immediate assistance call or text Pastor Scott at (260) 715-8080 or Janet at (260) 609-8710.

Email will be checked on a regular basis, so if you leave a message, be patient and Janet will get back to you.

Thank you.

# Fort Wayne Baptist Church

## June 2020



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 HAPPY BIRTHDAY MARVEL POWELL!!	2	3	4 HAPPY ANNIVERSARY GENE & BARB ELY!!	5	6
7	8	9	10 HAPPY ANNIVERSARY DEL & RUTH PROCTOR!!	11 HAPPY BIRTHDAY CALEB CALDWELL & KAITLIN BUECKER!!	12	13 HAPPY BIRTHDAY NICK JEWELL!!
14	15	16 HAPPY BIRTHDAY MARY TANER!!	17 HAPPY BIRTHDAY JANET ARVOLA!!	18	19 HAPPY BIRTHDAY SCOTT CARTER!!	20 HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TODD & ANGIE QUINN!!
21 FATHER'S DAY	22	23 HAPPY BIRTHDAY HUGH WALLIS!!	24	25	26 HAPPY ANNIVERSARY DENNIS & NANCY NOAK!!	27
28	29 HAPPY ANNIVERSARY DICK & DE STONER!!	30				