From the Senior Pastor’s Desk

By Freddy Fritz

Let Us Pray

By God’s kind providence and the generous support of God’s people I was able to attend the 1984 Student Missions Conference in Urbana, Illinois. Rev. Eric Alexander, pastor of St. George’s Tron in Glasgow, Scotland was the keynote speaker for the conference. He was an extraordinarily capable expositor of God’s Word. However, he made one statement that has stuck with me for more than 30 years. He said,

Prayer is not supplemental to the work of ministry; it is foundational to the work of ministry.

That is, we do not add prayer to ministry, but, instead, prayer is the foundation of all ministry. So often we make plans for ministry, spend hours and hours preparing to do ministry, and then, almost as an afterthought, pray that the Lord will bless our efforts.

Rev. Alexander was calling Christians to recognize that any success in ministry is solely due to the work of God. We do nothing of eternal value and significance that God has not preordained from eternity past. Prayer is a recognition that God is in sovereign control of all things, and it is our desire to align our wills with God’s will, rather than trying to get him to agree with our plans.

Earlier this summer the church officers had a retreat to spend time in prayer and seeking to discern the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats that face our church family. One of our takeaways from the retreat was that we would like to
encourage our church family to pray in a more focused way this coming year.

To that end, we have scheduled a kick-off Concert of Prayer for Sunday, September 6. Our thought was to begin our ministry year with a significant time spent in prayer. So, we would like to meet for two hours from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. on that Sunday evening. We will spend time praying in huddles, small groups, and a large group. We will intersperse our time of prayer with Scripture, singing, and testimonies. Childcare will be available.

So, let me encourage you to plan to join us for the Concert of Prayer. I believe God will be honored as we seek his will for our upcoming ministry year.

Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed for the Welcome Team and the Narthex Greeting Team. Please see Ted Jefferies if you interested.

Dear Friends,

As I write to give you an update on MNA ShortTerm Missions and Disaster Response I am overwhelmed with my need for your continued prayers, acknowledging the deep need of God's sustaining Spirit. As you read this update and pray for each item would you also consider the following passages from Psalm 50: "Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving..." (v. 14) and "The one who offers thanksgiving as his sacrifice glorifies Me" (v. 23). He is pleased most of all when we need Him, when we cry out to Him, and when we call upon His name; God does not want our devotion or our service. He wants our desperation so that grace can overflow into gratitude.

Arklie

If you would like to mail your gift, please mark your gift for MNA Disaster Response and mail to:

Mission to North America
PO Box 890233
Charlotte, NC  28289-0233

TBPC Trumpet

Staff—
Rev. Freddy Fritz
Editor-in-Chief
Melissa McNulty
Editor

It is the goal of the Trumpet staff to provide articles for learning and growing, news for connecting with our church family, and information on opportunities for service and participation.

The views and opinions expressed in the Trumpet have not been reviewed or endorsed by the Session.

Please forward articles, ministry reports and calendar items for the next edition of the Trumpet to dr.melissamcnulty@gmail.com by September 23, 2015. All articles received after the 23rd will be held for the following month's newsletter.
Everyone encounters difficulties in life. God often uses those trying circumstances to draw us closer to Himself and to show us His love. Many who have experienced infertility or the loss of a pregnancy begin to ask "Why me?" types of questions. During these times, it is important to focus on God's love and remember that there is a purpose behind everything that He ordains. While we may never fully understand God's plan for us during this life, we know that His plan for our life is far better than anything we could ever imagine for ourselves.

Our Valentine by Holly Hawkes - On Valentine’s Day 2014, I held my precious son. Gazing into his eyes at the hospital, I wondered at God’s amazing love. He had filled my empty, longing arms with this precious long prayed for baby boy. February 13, 2014, my husband and I found healing and peace. Yet, God was with us through every month of disappointment, every embarrassing doctor’s visit, every medical bill, every tear and prayer.

Zeke's Foot

Waiting for Gabriel by Melissa McNulty - After being told I would never have children, John and I were completely shocked to discover in October of 2013 that I was pregnant. We called ourselves "cautiously optimistic" even though we were both so hopeful everything would turn out well. We held our breath as we waited for the sound of a heartbeat on the ultrasound, but there was only silence. I'll never forget going for a tearful walk with my husband the night we found out we had lost our baby girl as he turned to me and said, "Jesus just loved our baby so much that He couldn't wait to be with her." Our faith in God, and knowing that He had a plan provided us with incredible comfort in the difficult times.

Eight months later, we discovered I was pregnant again. After having signs that things were not going well with the pregnancy, we went to the doctor expecting to hear that deafening silence once again. Only this time, we heard the sound of a heart, a strong heart. Against all odds, our precious baby boy continued to grow and thrive, and nine months later we got the opportunity to meet Gabriel, our gift from God.

Continued on page 6
Missionaries Supported by TBPC

*Mission to the World*
- Peter & Lauren Dishman
- Esaié & Natacha Etienne
- Ken & Tammie Matlack
- Carla Stevens

*Reformed University Fellowship*
- Jeff & Jenny Lee

*New Harvest Missions International*
- Nathaniel & Cherita Adawonu

*Serving In Missions*
- Rene & Lili Palacio
- Wycliffe Bible Translators
- Don & Judy Vander Ploeg
- Kevin & Gertrude Nicholas
- Ven Con Nosotros Church
- Dr. Oscar & Elizabeth Alvarez

*PRCC*
- Chaplain Ted Hamm
- Chaplain James Cochell

---

**SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

3—Anthony Hunter
3—Mark McLeod
3—Sophia Nobles
4—Chloe Darbyshire
5—Maggie Gordon
6—Joe Cozzolino
6—Margarita Hladek
7—Ashley Jeffries  23—Lauren Dishman
7—Dale Moore  23—Michelle Hunter
8—Meredith Gartman  25—Trina Jeffries
9—Bill Jeffries  25—Randi Mallary
10—Abram Nichols  29—Jessie Hensley
11—Chris Lear  30—Ryan Coffey
13—Jonathan Massie
15—Linda Childers
21—Garry Gawrych
21—Jeff Montoney

---

**SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES**

1—Mr. & Mrs. Billy Jeffries
6—Mr. & Mrs. Roy Riley
6—Mr. & Mrs. Gary Smith
Thank you

Thank you to Jeanne Higby who graciously opened her home for the Sister to Sister. Her hospitality and love were seen everywhere as she turned her home into a luau extravaganza. There were colorful drinks with fruited ice cubes and all were bedecked with flowers in their hair. God too was among us as He showed his glory in a powerful storm that resulted in power outages and falling limbs. However, He was there especially to share the spirit of his love among the sisters. Thank you too, to Nancy for her original corn shooting game and to Deborah Donaldson for giving the thought provoking devotion on the importance of contentment where we are. Thank you also, to all those who attended and contributed to the bounty of the buffet table. Remember to keep your prayer partner in prayer over the next few months, and try to get together if your schedules allow.

September Events

A Women’s Encouraging and Equipping Conference will be available to all women in the church on Saturday, September 19th. Attending would be beneficial for all women who are active in the ministry, those praying about a commitment, or those who are interested in learning more about the role of WM. In addition, there is a Friday night event for those who would like to make a weekend sojourn. Paula Miles, PCA Women’s Ministry Trainer, will be the speaker who will lead four sessions and small group discussions from 8:30am to 3:00 pm Saturday. The conference will be held at Covenant Presbyterian Church in Lakeland, at the cost of $25.00 for the Saturday session and an extra $5.00 if you attend the Friday evening event. For information regarding registration and transportation, please contact Melissa Bayley at 813-528-2830, or e-mail melbay4@gmail.com.

WM Need

Ginny Bremer has announced that she wishes to step down from the position of WM coordinator. She plans to continue in her position until a new coordinator can be found and mentored until she is comfortable in taking over, or until June of 2016. In addition, we continue to seek a shower coordinator and a photographer/historian. Please prayerfully consider taking on the Lord’s work in one of these positions. If you have any questions about the actual duties of any of the positions you can contact Ginny Bremer directly. Keep in mind that several ladies can co-chair a coordinator position. It would definitely be beneficial for anyone considering a position to attend the conference in September.

Looking Ahead

The fall Sister to Sister will be toward the end of October at the home of Sherrie Kaw. The focus will be on gratefulness. An attitude of gratitude is essential for Christians to give thanks always for quiet moments, big dreams, and joyous laughter, as well as heartfelt tears. Keep watch on the WM bulletin board and the weekly Sunday bulletin for more information as the date draws near.

October also marks the month in which the Love Gift Offering will be collected. This year the offering will go toward education for women in the RUF ministry. Please pray for a generous heart as you consider your commitment to this annual collection.

At our last WM 15 meeting we began planning for the annual Christmas Brunch. Molly and Suzanne are well under way in making the necessary decisions. The theme this year will be “Mary’s Story”. Please keep our event in prayer as you anticipate the Advent season. Our next WM 15 will be on September 13, 2015; please join us to share ideas and help plan other future events.
For the Weary Travelers

1. **Focus on God** rather than the struggle. God doesn’t promise us motherhood/fatherhood or a life free of trials. He promises so much more. The more you look to God, his character, greatness, and goodness, the easier it was to let go of uncertainty and the pain. Be encouraged by passages such as 1 Samuel 1-2, which is the story of Hannah and Samuel. Remember that we are called to be steadfast in times of trial. "Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing." (James 1:2-4)

2. **Seek counsel** from pastors and elders. The church is here for us in our brokenness. Godly counsel is important for those who cross into ethical choices regarding infertility treatment.

3. **Allow God to strengthen your marriage** by showing love to your spouse. Philippians 2:2-3 “Fulfill my joy by being like-minded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind. Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. ”

4. **Trust** in God. We need to always remember that God has a plan for our lives, which may be different from what we believe the plan "should" be.

For the Church

1. **Pray for your sisters.** We covet your prayers. Let’s keep asking the Father of Life to bring more little ones into our fold and to heal the broken hearted during the wait.

2. **Don’t minimize the problem.** You may want to encourage your friend by assuring them, “It will happen,” “Just relax,” “You can just adopt,” or "You can just try again." To the person, these comments can be perceived differently.

3. **Avoid unsupportive questions:** “When are you going to have kids?” or “Do you want kids?” and any question about the specific medical problem. Allow the person to share these at their comfort level.

4. **Be inclusive.** Pray corporately for the unborn and infertile. Mother’s Day can be particularly painful. We can be sensitive by not excluding them (e.g. having mothers stand or receive a special gift).
One of life’s most difficult experiences is the death of someone you love. The more dear they are to you, the greater your sadness. Yet sadder still are the deaths of those whom no soul on earth mourns and on whom no earthly love was ever bestowed. Each time you hear of such a tragic existence, your heart sinks a bit and your eyes well for a moment...until...until you see it every day, all day in every metropolis and hamlet for so long and to so many it becomes invisible right in front of you.

Infanticide in America has become invisible to many for nearly half a century. Every single day, an average of 3,000 die the heartless death of an abandoned child even before they open their eyes for the very first time. According to independent researcher and archivist Dr. Wm. Robert Johnston, abortions in our country in 1960 were just shy of 300 per year. They reached the thousands in the mid-60s, the millions in the mid-seventies and peaked in 1990 at more than 1,600,000!

Why would we let such a ghastly massacre like this become a daily routine in America? Inattention. We knew the rate was rising all along, but it was just incremental enough that we didn’t pay it much attention. We should have. In the first 17 years after Rowe vs. Wade, the rate of abortions in the U.S. grew by roughly 500,000%. What started as a slow drip grew into a steady rushing river that ultimately created a crimson lake.

But people are paying attention now. The Center for Medical Progress have released a series of videos exposing some little-known and gut-roiling activities of America’s largest abortion provider, Planned Parenthood (PP). We can’t avert our gaze now because we’ve learned through these videos that a large fraction of those unwanted, aborted children were actually in high demand all along...just not in one piece. Indeed some pretty pennies have been changing hands between the executioners and their opportunistic clients who seek profits from the premeditated death of their helpless, harmless victims. Well, harmless unless their mere existence deprives the potential parent(s) of the gusto-saturated life to which they believe they’re entitled.

These videos chronicle discussions with PP staff, including physicians, about the opportunities available to purchase fetal tissue and organs for research purposes. Each of the subjects speak dispassionately and frankly while discussing all manner of procedures designed to harvest and sell babies’ organs removed during abortion procedures. More than that, the subjects of the videos don’t appear to feel constrained by our nation’s laws.

As Dr. Deborah Nucatola, Senior Director of Medical Services, PP Federation of America, said in the first video, “The federal [Partial Birth] abortion ban is a law, and laws are up for interpretation. So if I say on day one, I do not intend to do this, what ultimately happens does not matter”⁶. She goes on to describe how a typical day begins with looking at what amounts to a shopping list of fetal tissue and organs buyers have requested and comparing them with those that the day’s abortions could yield. Now, one can imagine a local mechanic going through a similar routine to determine if he could get the necessary auto parts to fix the cars on his lot that day, but living-baby organs?

The second video⁷ features a bartering session for the sale of fetal components between a team posing as a start-up company that acquires such items for research and Dr. Mary Gatter, President, PP Medical Director’s Council. At one point Dr. Gatter indicated a price increase may be required under certain circumstances, then turned
toward her business associate and said “I want a Lamborghini” with a chuckle. Is the idea of financing a luxury car by selling human flesh funny? Only if your moral compass is completely out of order. Or perhaps you previously decided a compassectomy was a must if you ever hoped to advance in your chosen line of work.

The next in the series of videos includes discussions where babies—in parts or in whole—are referred to as “specimens” along with comments by Dr. Savita Ginde, Vice President and Medical Director, PP Rocky Mountains, about the importance of ensuring the stories were consistent between her organization, other organizations and the national level of PP about the nature of the transactions where fetal tissue and the like were exchanged for money. Keeping a consistent story between collaborators is not a hallmark of those involved in a legal, legitimate business.

Other videos in the series feature equally disturbing references to fetal organs, tissues and “intact cases” (fully intact aborted babies) as “line items” by the Director of Research, PP Gulf Coast. In another scene, the CEO of Stem Express, a company that purchases aborted babies from PP, joking over lunch about some aspects of being in the business of buying dead babies intact or not. And there are more videos coming. But so what? Why does any of this matter? It matters because it reveals the truth about an organization who receives billions in taxpayer funds to kill babies and profit from their death. Ever since the first video appeared online, the defunding of PP has been a topic of serious conversation in the offices and chambers of Congress. The videos are also important because they undermine PP’s façade as an organization whose primary purpose is to meet the health needs of women.

More than anything, though, these videos are important because they illustrate a shortfall in our culture that has, like the crimson lake, advanced slug-like to a place of prominence. In his book Losing our Virtue, Why the Church Must Recover its Moral Vision, David F. Wells describes this growing and crippling phenomena:

“What was once an open space between law and freedom, one governed by character and truth, is now deserted, so law must now do what character has abandoned”.

In the fetuses-for-sale scandal, PP has heavily invoked this reality. Of course they and their supporters brought up all the usual canards: the videos just misleading attacks on women, women’s health, and women’s right to choose. Yet the trump card was oft played as it was early in the drama when PP President Cecile Richards vowed: “PP has broken no laws”. That’s yet to be seen, but the implication is clear: Law is the only arbiter; everything else is just opinion. In other words, there is no longer a moral law. That’s what happens when people and nations discard character and truth.

Thankfully, David Daleiden isn’t one of those people. He started the Center for Medical Progress in 2013 out of concern “about contemporary bioethical issues that impact human dignity.” By making their thought-provoking videos, he and his colleagues have transformed the debate on the sanctity of life in a way that put the nation’s largest abortion provider on the defensive by artfully exposing their indefensible behavior to the world. His is a powerful testimony of what one person with a vision can do to steer our nation back to God, truth and character.

There’s no reason you couldn’t do that too.
"These men saw something take place in space and time that altered the course of human history."

Dear Friend,

In 2 Peter 1:16, the Apostle tells us that he and the other Apostles "did not follow cleverly devised myths" when they proclaimed "the power and coming" of Christ Jesus. Rather, the Apostles were "eyewitnesses of his majesty." These men saw something take place in space and time that altered the course of human history. The incarnation, ministry, death, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus are not legendary events in a fictional tale. They are firm historical realities on which the Christian faith stands or falls.

In the face of cultural hostility, followers of Christ must not compromise the bold historical witness of the Christian faith. We stand not on a mere idea or a fanciful myth, but on historical events that testify to the fact that Jesus is Lord and Savior.

We must be prepared to articulate and defend our faith so that we can give an answer for the hope that is within us (1 Peter 3:15). To help prepare you for this task, our national conference will be centered on the theme of "The Gospel."

Truth and clarity regarding the life and work of Jesus Christ are critical issues for the rising generation. That is why I am looking forward to revealing the Ligonier Statement on Christology at this conference. It's intended as a clear and memorable articulation of orthodox Christology, and I hope it will serve the Church for years to come.

In addition to our regular conference sessions, we are also hosting an apologetics seminar for youth and families, with the aim of preparing young people to defend the truth of the gospel in an increasingly hostile culture.

We hope that you will be able to join us this winter for a special time of fellowship, worship, prayer, and study as we consider the historical fact and transforming power of the gospel of Jesus Christ. Can I count on seeing you in Orlando this February?

In Christ,

R.C. Sproul
The Great Works of God

Scripture Reading

“Great are the works of the LORD, studied by all who delight in them. Full of splendor and majesty is his work, and his righteousness endures forever” (vv. 2–3). - Psalm 111

Devotional

So great are the works of God that those who know them cannot help but proclaim them publicly. That is how Psalm 111 begins, and indeed, we agree with the psalmist. When we look at the design of the world around us—the grandeur of the mountains, the power of the ocean, the beauty of the fields—we cannot help but praise our Maker. In His works of creation, we see His attributes and come to a clearer understanding of who God is and, if we have been given new hearts by His Holy Spirit, we long to learn as much as we can about Him (Ps. 19; Rom. 1:20). Moreover, we study His works and ways as much as we can, confident that we can know Him truly but never exhaustively, and we do so no matter what the world around us might think. John Calvin comments, “Incomprehensible as is the immensity of the wisdom, equity, justice, power, and mercy of God in his works, the faithful nevertheless acquire as much knowledge of these as qualifies them for manifesting the glory of God; only it becomes us to begin the study of his works with reverence, that we may take delight in them, contemptible though they be in the estimation of the reprobate.”

But the greatness of God’s works is not limited to His works of creation. There is also His work of salvation, which is the focus of Psalm 111:4–9. Commentators suggest that the psalmist has in view the exodus from Egypt and conquest of Canaan. Verse 5 alludes to the Lord’s provision of manna in the wilderness when it speaks of His feeding those who fear Him (Ex. 16). Verse 6 has the conquest of Canaan in view, while vv. 7–8 refer to the revelation of the Mosaic law at Sinai (Ex. 20; Josh. 1). The redemption spoken of in Psalm 111:9 would be the actual liberation of the Israelites from Egyptian slavery (Ex. 12).

Looking to the generation of the exodus enables the psalmist to conclude his hymn with the statement that “the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom” (Ps. 111:10). This is a lesson to be learned from the Israelites in both a positive and negative sense. Positively, seeing how God provided for His people after rescuing them from Egypt shows us how wise it is to fear our Creator. If we fear Him and are joined to His covenant people, He will meet our needs. Negatively, seeing what happened to that generation when they did not fear the Lord encourages us to fear Him. If we do not continue in the fear of the Lord, we will miss His inheritance just as the Israelites wandering in the wilderness were barred from the Promised Land (Num. 32:13).

Coram Deo

Calvin also comments that nothing is more profitable for believers “than to spend their lives in the celebration of the praises of God.” Meditating on the works of the Lord reminds us of His greatness and that wise men and women fear Him, showing Him honor and love. If we forget His mighty acts in history, we may be tempted not to fear Him in the manner He is due, and thus meet destruction. Let us take time daily to think on the greatness of God’s works.

Passages for Further Study

Deuteronomy 3:24; Psalm 92; Matthew 11:20–24; Hebrews 3:7–4:13
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SUNDAY</th>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
<th>FRIDAY</th>
<th>SATURDAY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1 7p Outreach Team Meeting; 7p Missions Committee Meeting</td>
<td>2 9a Women's Bible Study; 6:15p Dare 2 Declare Rehearsal; 7:15p Adult Choir Rehearsal</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5 7:45a Men's Bible Study</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 8:45 Adult CEF, Youth &amp; Children's Sunday School, CE&amp;F; 10:30a Worship Service; 12p State of the Church Lunch</td>
<td>7 6:30p Women's Bible Study</td>
<td>8 10:30a Staff Meeting; 7p NTCA Board Meeting 2015</td>
<td>9 9a Women's Bible Study; 6:15p Dare 2 Declare Rehearsal; 6:30p Kids of the King Rehearsal; 7:15p Adult Choir Rehearsal</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12 7:45a Men's Bible Study; 9a Men's Ministry Team Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 8:45 Adult CEF, Youth &amp; Children's Sunday School, CE&amp;F; 10:30a Worldview Sunday Worship Service; 12:30p Welcome Lunch</td>
<td>14 11a Staff Meeting; 6:30p Women's Bible Study</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>16 9a Women's Bible Study; 6:15p Dare 2 Declare Rehearsal; 6:30p Kids of the King Rehearsal; 7:15p Adult Choir Rehearsal</td>
<td>17 7p Session and Diaconate Meetings</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>19 7:45a Men's Bible Study</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 8:45 Adult CEF, Youth &amp; Children's Sunday School; 10:30a Worship Service; 5p PHOS Dinner and Meeting</td>
<td>21 11a Staff Meeting; 5:30p Women's Bible Study</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>23 9a Women's Bible Study; 6:15p Dare 2 Declare Rehearsal; 6:30p Kids of the King Rehearsal; 7:15p Adult Choir Rehearsal</td>
<td>24 9a NTCA School portraits</td>
<td>25 9a NTCA School portraits</td>
<td>26 7:45a Men's Bible Study</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 8:45 Adult CEF, Youth &amp; Children's Sunday School; 10:30a Worship Service; 5p PHOS Dinner and Meeting</td>
<td>28 11a Staff Meeting; 5:30p Women's Bible Study</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>30 9a Women's Bible Study; 6:15p Dare 2 Declare Rehearsal; 6:30p Kids of the King Rehearsal; 7:15p Adult Choir Rehearsal</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Sunday Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Sunday School for Children</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:45 AM</td>
<td>Classroom Wing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30 AM</td>
<td>Sanctuary</td>
<td>Christian Education &amp; Fellowship for Adults</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Worship Service

Inside This Issue

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Feature</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rev. Fritz</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ministries</td>
<td>2-10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calendar</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Worship Times</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

www.tb pca.org