

# *the Connection*

28 AUGUST 2020 NEWSLETTER

## UNCHANGING GOD IN CHANGING TIMES

WRITTEN BY KEVIN WILLIAMS

Over the last few months we have become familiar with words and phrases that we probably had not heard much before. Social distancing, flatten the curve, coronavirus, PPE, asymptomatic, and contact tracing are now regular vocabulary used in news reports and even every day conversation. This highlights the fact that our daily lives have changed in many ways.

Change is often unsettling, and we are observing a variety of reactions in our society to this fast-paced change: anxiety, fear, frustration, anger, and despair. But God's children are different. We respond differently because we have a personal relationship with our unchanging Heavenly Father.

Moses understood turbulence as he led the people of Israel for forty years in the desert. To the Lord he said, "Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever You had formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, You are God" (Ps 90:2). When our circumstances are tumultuous we can cling to our unchanging God. The Lord Himself declared, "I am Yahweh; I do not change" (Mal 3:6). Aren't you thankful for that? Our hope is not in returning to normal or adjusting to the new normal; our hope is in God.

The Psalmist reminds us that the foundation of the earth and the heavens will perish. They will grow old like a garment and change (Ps 102:25-26). But he proclaims to the Lord, "You are the same, and Your years will have no end" (Ps 102:27). Hymn writer Walter Smith put it this way: "To all, life Thou givest, to both great and small. In all life Thou livest, the true life of all. We blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree, and whither and perish, but naught changeth Thee." Your health may change. Your economic status may change. Your career may change. Your relationships may change. But because of God's unchanging promises, your eternal standing as God's child will never change!

Let me encourage you to look at your changing circumstances through the lens of your unchanging God. When you communicate with believers this week, point your brothers and sisters to our Heavenly Father and His steadfast promises. And when you have opportunities to talk with those who are fearful or angry, share the hope that can only come from a relationship with our faithful God.

*Thou changest not. Thy compassions they fail not;*



## SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE

9:30 OR 11 AM

We offer two services in the auditorium. The services will simultaneously be live streamed in the gymnasium (no singing), or available to you at home.



### MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

#### Kids 4 Truth begins

Wednesday, September 9 at 7 pm for ages four to grade six. Please see Chris Lee if you have any questions.

### 30 AUGUST 2020

- CALL TO WORSHIP
- "MY SAVIOR'S LOVE"
- "I LOVE TO TELL THE STORY"
- PRAYER
- "THE POWER OF THE CROSS"
- CHILDREN'S STORY
- "GUIDE ME, O THOU GREAT JEHOVAH"
- MESSAGE: "WAS BLIND BUT NOW I SEE" JOHN 9 PASTOR KEVIN WILLIAMS
- "AMAZING GRACE! HOW SWEET THE SOUND"

Adult fellowship groups and Sunday school for children and teens will begin Sunday, September 13. Classes will be offered at 9:30 and 11 am. More details will be included in next week's newsletter. A baptism and new members' testimonies and joining service will be held later the same day at 6 pm. Please see Pastor Kevin if you are interested in being baptized.

*As Thou hast been Thou forever wilt be.*

### WEDNESDAY PRAYER & BIBLE STUDY 7 PM

This service takes place in the auditorium. In addition, you may also participate in a Zoom group that will follow the same format at the same time (Please email [kwilliams@meadowlandsbaptist.com](mailto:kwilliams@meadowlandsbaptist.com) for a Zoom invitation). For our Bible study we will discuss the following questions that relate to the Sunday morning sermon:

#### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR JOHN 9

1. Which three words in this passage do you think are most significant?
2. What is being said about those three important words?
3. What does this passage say about Jesus?
4. How do people in this passage respond to Jesus?
5. How does this passage challenge or encourage you?
6. What from this passage can you share to encourage a fellow Christian?
7. What from this passage can you share with an unbeliever?

## BRIDAL SHOWER FOR JOSEPH O'NEIL & GRACE HARDER



*When: Tuesday, Sept. 1  
Where: Meadowlands Gym*

*There is a group limit of 50 people. Please register here or at the link below to attend.*

*Gifts can also be dropped off at the church office.*

*Their gift registry may be found here or at the link below.*



You may also e-transfer a gift from your bank to [custom@meadowlandsbaptist.com](mailto:custom@meadowlandsbaptist.com).

## MBC MISSIONARIES JOSH & ERICA BURRELL, MALTA

We have been able to meet as a congregation since early July. Joe and Jenny Mifsud were able to be back with us for their first Sunday, and seven people from four continents were baptized. Pray for these three married couples and a single man. They desire to walk in obedience to the Lord and have a hunger for truth. The adversary doesn't like that.

Pray for the spiritual growth of our church, salvation of those without Christ, and for God's provision of a meeting place in Gozo.

During the months that our church was not meeting, the builders were working steadily on our property and have accomplished a lot. At the same time, our offerings were greatly affected, and we have exhausted the church's building resources, along with those that have been given through our Malta Building Fund. As the workers are on a mid-summer shutdown, it became a natural point to pause the work, and inform the contractor that we will need to replenish our financial reserves before we can continue. Pray for provisions for the building project.



## PRAYER REQUESTS

- Comfort for Scott Young as his mom passed away on Wednesday.
- Meadows Baptist Academy Teacher In-Service begins Monday-Friday.
- Terri Huniak's husband, John, has chronic nerve pain.
- Laura Cook's sister, Lee, is going through chemo treatments for breast cancer.
- Nell Popowich: health needs

## DEACON NOMINATIONS END SEPTEMBER 27

### CURRENT DEACONS:

Robert Lummerding, Paul Stephens, Anthony Neumann, Chris Lee, Brian Hunter, Manuele Russo, Willem Piennar, Jeffrey Parcon, Jeff McConnell

*Nomination forms and ballot box are located in the church foyer on the credenza by the front doors.*

[Guidelines for in-person gatherings may be found on our website.](#)

## Need to contact us?



### Church Office

780-440-1195

### Pastor Kevin Williams

587-635-2758

### Pastor Jerry Ascher

587-635-2751

### Pastor Mark Richmond

587-635-2752

### David Treau

587-635-2753

## GIVING

E-transfer is available. From your bank's website, select the e-transfer feature. The email address to transfer to is [donations@meadowlandsbaptist.com](mailto:donations@meadowlandsbaptist.com). Your donation will be automatically accepted and you will receive a confirmation of the transfer.

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