



THE CORNERSTONE

Volume 20, Issue 3 & 4

First Baptist Church Newsletter

March and April

Building Together On Christ Alone



BOOK and BOOM!



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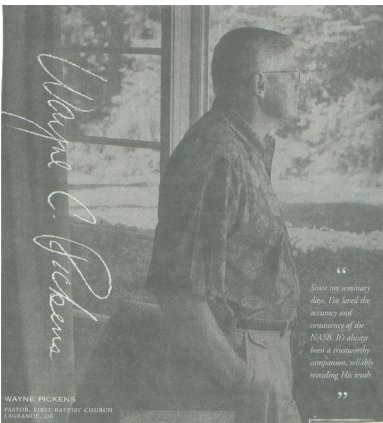
Attention all men, fathers, sons and grandfathers! I am helping to organize a special Blue MT. Men's Gathering at Camp Elkanah on Saturday, April 30. This one-day event for men involves searching for Truth with our speaker, Ron Schafer (pastor from Monument), who will preach the word twice (10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.) That's the BOOK!

Then after a big lunch together and Ron's second session we will shoot for Turkeys. Starting around 3:00 p.m. The TURKEY SHOOT COMPETITION will begin for men and boys (fathers and sons) in various divisions involving rifles, pistols, shotguns, black powder and bows. Win the division and take home a frozen turkey as the prize. That's the BOOM!

So, grab a buddy and plan to come. More information will be forth coming. Cost is \$10 for men and \$5 for those 15 years old and younger.

See You There,

Pastor Wayne





TRUTH DETECTORS

On March 1, we will begin a new Veritas Fellowship course entitled, *Truth Detectors: Christian Worldview, Film, and Culture*. This course will help participants evaluate film with a decisively Christian worldview. One resource that we will utilize is reviewed below.

Meaning at the Movies (Crossway Books, 2010)

Meaning at the Movies by Grant Horner is not designed as a set of glorified cliff-notes for Christian movie buffs. Rather, it is as the author notes, "An extended meditation on why we have movies at all, why they are so powerful, and why Christians need to think deeply and theologically about film art - indeed, about all human cultural production." These words alone were enough to draw me in.

Horner endeavors to explain the curse as a two-fold problem, namely, the search for meaning *and* death. He holds, "Culture is what we produce in our futile attempts to understand the world. It is what we believe and what we do to deal with the twin problems of meaninglessness and death." This is where movies emerge, which are in the eyes of the author, "the modern-day equivalent of philosophy," or "the absolute center of modern culture."

Practical Considerations

The author builds a strong case for developing Christian discernment (a discipline that seems to grow weaker by the day among Evangelicals). He argues that when we walk away from movies we should be "stronger for having been exposed to error, *and exposing it as error.*"

Horner proposes a simplified definition of worldview I rather like: "Who believes what about what and why?" The elements that emerge in this definition may be directly applied to movies and promote Christian discernment. He builds on his initial definition by adding the following: "A worldview is any collection of ideas and their attendant attitudes that attempt to explain and systematize, at some level, how the universe works."

Horner rightly maintains that ideas never occur in a vacuum. "Ideas are related to other ideas ... Most ideas that claim to be new are merely rehashed versions of old ideas" (think, New Age movement and recall the original lie in the garden, for instance). Accordingly, he sets out to briefly explain the dominant worldviews that are entrenched in culture including theism, deism, naturalism, nihilism, and pantheistic monism.

Discernment is crucial. The author notes, "If you watch a film with the powerhouse combination of a mind saturated with Scripture *and* a working understanding of the major worldview systems, you will in many cases be able, even with a single viewing, to analyze a film with a high degree of discernment."

The author continues to sharpen the discerning skills of the reader in a chapter entitled, "How to Interrogate a Movie." Thoughtful questions are encouraged, including:



Youth Ministry Update

February and March have turned out to be busy months in our ministry—numerous service activities and planning for two trips.

Twenty one of our brothers and sisters from First Baptist are planning on making the mission trip to *Mexico* in March, including eleven students high school age and under. Those going have been busy with preparations for the trip, fundraising in particular.

We want to thank the First Baptist church family and the body of Christ at large for your incredible support and for partnering with these missionaries in the work—through the use of your time and talents, through prayer and through your financial giving.

On a trip of this magnitude, financial support is always one of the most crucial needs and once again the Lord has provided through His people in an incredible way. A number people have provided work projects, made donations, or purchased taco tickets for the Fiesta Fundraiser. There was a tremendous turnout at the Fiesta Fundraiser on February 24. The report I heard was that over 400 people attended, seventy more than last year.

Please continue to pray for this trip as the group goes to build homes for those in need and as we partner with a local church in San Luis to share the Gospel with children via Vacation Bible School.

In addition to Mexico, a number of our young ladies will be going to Portland March 4 & 5 to attend the *Revolve Tour*, a conference specifically targeted to minister to young women. There will be eight students and five adults attending. Pray for safe travel and a fruitful weekend for them.

Finally, on February 25, many of our junior high school students will be rolling up their sleeves at the *50 Plus Crab Feed* at First Baptist. I anticipate a special evening as our youth show love and respect for their elders by waiting tables and serving them.

Please join me in giving thanks to our Lord Almighty. Let us praise Him and give Him glory for the work He is doing in the hearts of young men and women, boys and girls. If you see a student who is serving the Lord, encourage them in their labor. They look up to you as adults and your words have a tremendous impact on them.

Please pray for guidance in all our preparations for Mexico. Please pray for a powerful work of the Spirit as we meet on Thursday nights—that there would be an ever deepening commitment to Christ in all of our hearts, students and staff alike.

Truth Detectors from pg.2



1. What view of anthropology is presented?
2. What metaphysical view is presented, i.e. ultimate reality?
3. What is the view of destiny, i.e. random or determined?
4. Is the universe progressing or decaying?
5. Is the film in the modern or postmodern stream?

Horner adds, "The next time you watch a movie and don't think biblically, you'll be disobeying God." This sharp and necessary admonition catapults the reader immediately into section two.

Analysis

The second half of the book is devoted to exploring various aspects of film including comedy, "the invention of fear for pleasure," romance, and dark themes that emerge in contemporary movies.

Horner's discussion on *fear* is worth the price of the book. He writes with great insight here: "Because we are wired to gain pleasure from the fear of God, yet as a race we do not fear him, we find ourselves in the rather perverse position of experiencing certain pleasures coming to us in the form of highly manufactured and densely controlled fears packaged as entertainment. I believe this is why 'fear for pleasure' has become such a profitable sector of the film industry." He argues that people in general want control over the things they fear. They want to "limit that fear within prescribed boundaries, which [they] can never do in the case of the 'fear of the Lord.'"

Meaning at the Movies is a good resource to turn for thoughtful Christians who are concerned with the content that is being propagated on the silver screen. Horner's analysis is biblical and balanced. And he demonstrates a good working knowledge of movies and the worldviews that lurks behind the storyline.

Contact the church office for registration information.





Heidi Ho and AWANA Newsletter

All is well at Heidi Ho and busier than ever. We recently had our Valentine's day parties and school registration for the 2010-2011 school year. All of us at Heidi Ho want to say a Big "THANK YOU" to Gifts of Grace for supplying breakfast food, coffee and juice for all of our Heidi Ho parents who waited in the early morning hours to register their children for next year. The continued shared relationship between First Baptist and Heidi Ho is so appreciated as we service children, families and one another. Please continue to be in prayer for our State Inspection on March 2nd. We will have a State Inspector and her Supervisor visiting and we are hoping that they will be open to allowing us to maintain our current class sizes by granting us an exception. I would also like to continue to express my great appreciation to all those who work at Heidi Ho and desire to see God Glorified daily.

The AWANA program continues to be a blessing as we see the kids who participate placing God's word in their hearts while learning more about Jesus. We recently had our "Bible Quizzing" at Union Baptist Church and we are now planning for our AWANA Games in March. Also, AWANA Camp plans are coming together for April. Thank you again to EVERYONE who gives of their time to the AWANA program. John and I appreciate you GREATLY! May God receive all the HONOR and GLORY!

Don McLean

Pastor of Family Ministries

Intern Brock Ewing from pg.3



Seminary

Lastly, a brief update on Seminary for those of you who are interested: It was a taxing fall for me trying to balance studies with ministry. But the Lord has been so gracious to answer prayers time and time again. I finished finals on the first week of December and am enjoying the break. At the same time I'm trying to focus more intently on ministry and I'm making an effort to be self-disciplined in planning ahead so I'm better prepared when school starts up again at the end of January.

Thank you all so much for your support and your encouragement and your prayers. As Paul Rowan is fond of saying, "Prayer is the work of the ministry."

Brock

**MARCH B-day's**

- 1) **Bob Carter**
Tony Corig
- 6) **Charlie Wallace**
Caden Ridley
- 7) **Phyllis Hart**
- 9) **Mike Burton**
- 10) **Caleb Wagner**
- 12) **Cindy Whitmore**
Isabelle Lawrence
- 14) **Tyler Patrick Leigh**
- 15) **Noelle Christine Hays**
Glen Ricker
- 17) **Clyde White**
Gary Howland
- 18) **Helen Peters**
Dean Ricker
Regan Sophia Kruse
- 19) **Dixie Stonebreaker**
Emma Coulter
- 22) **George McDonald**
- 23) **Mary DeViney**
- 24) **Lindsey Davenport**
- 25) **Ben McLean**
Eli McLean
- 26) **Heidi Ann Moran**
Barbara Hills
- 29) **Heidi Routt**

& Anniversaries

- 19) **Steve & Dixie Stonebreaker 1969**
- 21) **Ron & Julie Brow 2000**
- 22) **Don & Joan Robinson 1951**
- 25) **Pat & Dawn Seggermann 1995**
- 29) **David & Marjie Pidcock 1969**



- 2) **Branden Garinger**
- 3) **Chad Scott Moran**
Bonney Daggett
- 4) **Brock Ewing**
Samuel Thieme
- 5) **Bryce Wagner**
- 6) **Jason Hays**
Dara Pickens
- 7) **Caden Michael Ricker**
- 8) **Bob Routt**
Carol Kruse
- 10) **Nick McLean**
- 12) **Laura Patterson**
- 13) **Betsy White**
- 14) **Toni Burton**
Holly Wagoner
Nick McLean
Ashley Willey
- 17) **Gary Howland**
- 18) **Karen Butler**
Caden Ricker
- 20) **Bill Hansen**
- 22) **Logan Patterson**
Pat O'Rourke
- 23) **Tatiana Ricker**
- 25) **Zachary Lawrence**
- 26) **Bonnie Pickens**
- 27) **Megan Hunter**
Hunter Johanson
- 28) **Tim Wilcox**

**ANNIVERSARIES**

- April 1 **Mark & Mary DeViney—1989**
Mike & Jeri Query—1960
- April 8 **Anthony & Margaret Corig—1972**
- April 14 **Chris & Holly Wagner—2004**
- April 20 **Tom & Peggy Wallace—1991**
- April 24 **Rob & Heather Cashell—1999**



View from the Ridge

There are many stories in the Bible of people having to leave their homeland for new places. Joseph and Mary were told to leave Bethlehem and move to Egypt; not next week, and not after they have returned to Nazareth to pick up belongings and say good bye to family and friends, but NOW, and to a country they knew nothing about, no friends, no family. That had to be scary and traumatic to a young newlywed couple with a young child.

Abram was also told by God to “Leave your country, your family, and your father's home for a land that I will show you.” He was 75 at the time, not a time in one’s life that you contemplate a major move to another country.

A few weeks ago, my dad was saying that he was having some near fainting spells and wasn’t sure if they were mini-strokes or his heart was getting weaker. So Jeri and I took off for his place, a two and a half hour drive from where we were staying in Santa Paula. My sister sent a letter with us outlining her concerns of her 92 year old father with health issues living alone and she being almost three hours away. On the way down Jeri and I discussed how to bring up the subject of Dad going into a retirement home or assisted living, somewhere that would provide the level of care we felt he needed now.

When we arrived there was one of these home oxygen provider vans parked in front of Dad’s place, ordered by his doctor because of low blood oxygen. After the technician left, we were sitting around the dinning room table discussing what had transpired and what his symptoms were. There was then a pronounced period of quiet, when Dad slowly looked up at me and said “You and your sister need to start planning on what you are going to do with me when the time comes that I can’t live here.” Hello!! Is this an answer to prayer or what??

I gave him Sharon’s letter and after he read it we discussed some of the options. I remembered something that Alberta Stave had told me years ago when proposing change to senior family members. You give them choices and let them choose, if they are mentally capable of that. If you make the choices and force them into those choices, then if things go gunny bags they will blame you for whatever. But if they make the choices and things turn bad, they are able to live with that and accept it. So I suggested to Dad that he really needed to consider moving into a retirement facility, either in Fallbrook where he lived, or somewhere closer to Sharon and Dick where they could visit him more often. I also mentioned like cold weather any more than I do and I would not be there five months out of the year. I emphasized the La Grande, but he doesn’t importance of him making his choices while he was able and not waiting until we had to make the choices for him. Later we went out to dinner - Sword fish at Vera Cruz Fish House - and nothing more was said. Two days later Dad calls Sharon and tells her to start looking for a place near her. This is going way too easy!!

I took Jeri back down to Dad’s as he was having vision problems in one eye, had a doctor’s appointment and was low on food. Our plan was for her to stay with him until we could get him moved up to Thousand Oaks. Meanwhile, Sharon and Dick were making arrangements at The Reserve, a very nice retirement facility in Thousand Oaks.

To say that the week was an emotional time for Dad is an understatement. He has lived in his mobile home for a tad over 40 years. He has lived alone since 1984 when Mom passed away. Several times during the week he vacillated

about moving and was up and down emotionally. Several times he questioned why he couldn’t have gone like Mom did; early and quickly. Each time Jeri was there to ease him through the emotions.

On Friday, the 11th of February, Dick and I drove down to gather up Dad and a few of his belongings and make the trip back to his new home in Thousand Oaks, just 15 minutes from my sister’s

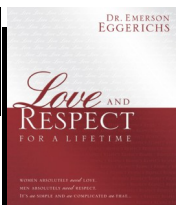


**BOOK
&
BOOM**



**Men’s Gathering
April 30
@ Camp Elkanah**

Calling all men to come study the Scripture and shoot for Turkeys. Ron Schafer, pastor from Monument, will be the guest speaker. Turkey Shoot competition in the afternoon.
More info to come.



**LOVE and RESPECT
Marriage Seminar
April 1 & 2**

The CB church in Prairie City is hosting this conference to help husbands and wives break the cycle of conflict.

Emerson and Sarah Eggerichs have been highly recommended by Dr. James Dobson and Focus on the Family.

The cost is \$30.00 per couple. The Prairie City Hotel has been remodeled and would be a good place to stay. Register on line

@ www.loveandrespect.com

place. Jeri had already packed most of his stuff. While she and Dick finished loading his things, I took Dad into town to pick up a prescription and make a final visit to the VFW hall. He took his golf clubs to be given to a youth golf program and to have one last drink with some friends. There were six or eight there and it was, again, very emotional. Dad had a scotch on the rocks and I had diet soda, and he bought a round for everyone there. All were surprised that he was leaving, some stories were shared, all told me what a great guy Dad is and he will be sorely missed. I waited until Dad gave the signal that it was time to leave, allowing him all the time he wanted. It wasn't all that long as he hates good-byes. We went back to his house, he made one last walk through, climbed in Dick's SUV, and the final journey began. Jeri and I drove his car back.

He has chosen to stay in the studio apartment that was suppose to be temporary while a one bedroom apartment was being remodeled, claiming that he would just rattle around in the larger place. It has now been two weeks since he moved and he has adjusted well to the changes. There are not a lot of rules, no assigned seating for meals, lots of activities that he will probably not participate in, and a varied menu for meals that are really good. It's like living in a hotel with a great restaurant in house. The staff responds quickly for all of his requests and check on him daily. But best of all, my sister's stress level has been reduced significantly knowing that he is closer and has people looking after him. Jeri and I have had dinner there twice with him and he appears to be contented.

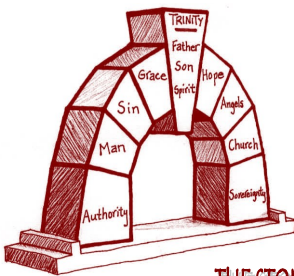
As for his mobile home, the four of us are going down this weekend and finish getting everything out that we or the grandkids want, plus a few more things that Dad wants for his new apartment. It appears we have sold the MH to one of the workers there in the MH Park where Dad lived. We agreed to sell it lock, stock and barrel, so we wouldn't have to mess with yard sales and having to remove the trailer off the space. Banks will not loan money on 40 year old mobile homes, so we let him determine what amount he could put down, his monthly payments, and at 6% interest we will hold the contract. It is a good deal for everyone. Again, an answer to prayer.

Our family has been blessed by God in this transition. I know there are those out there whose experiences with aging parents have been nightmares. Ours have been surprisingly tranquil by comparison. We have learned much from this experience and hope to be able to make the same transition some day just as easy for our kids. It is a journey most of us will have to make unless the Lord calls us home sooner than later.

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THE STONES
 ON WHICH
 WE STAND

