

# REFLECTIONS

When most of us think of the Gospel of John chapter 3, we naturally go immediately to verse 16, which Billy Graham often called “The gospel in a nutshell.” Yet there is much more in Jesus’ discussion with Nicodemus than that verse. One overlooked part of the discussion has to do with the wind. *The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit. (John 3:8)* Jesus uses a play on words here not just about flesh—being born again, but also about the Spirit—when the wind blows. Jesus is teaching us about the power of God’s Spirit in our salvation and daily Christian walk.

We love to name the wind. Tropical storm *Henri* tore through the northeast recently. Our terms for the wind usually include descriptive words like cool, gentle, harsh, or bitter. We have breezes, storms, gales, cyclones, hurricanes, and tornadoes. There are puffs of wind, whirlwinds, and windswept images around us. Many of us were put to bed with the odd lullaby, *Rock a Bye Baby in the Tree Top*. Those of us who came of age in the Hootenanny Era of world history remember songs like “*Blowin’ in the Wind*” and “*They Call the Wind Mariah*.” Later the group Kansas sang the Ecclesiastes paraphrase “*All We Are is Dust in the Wind*.”

Our Scriptures are filled with images of refreshing breezes and mighty winds. We call the Breath or the Wind or the Spirit of God *Rûach* in Hebrew, *Pnúema* in Greek. The Bible opens with the Wind of God blowing across the endless deep, signaling the start of creation. I love the passage in Genesis where God breathes, and newly formed Adam’s lungs are filled with air and his body is filled with God’s Spirit (2:7). The passage in 1 Kings when Elijah, depressed and alone, desperately needing to hear a word from God, cannot hear God in the fiery windstorms but only in the still, quiet voice (19:12). Read in Matthew where Jesus rebukes a fierce storm, and the wind obeys (8:27). Or about the day the gathered church was set on fire and the wind of God’s Spirit was so loud people came from everywhere to see what was happening. We named that day Pentecost (Acts 2).

Keep healthy. Pray mightily. Enjoy your life today. Look where the Wind is blowing. And let’s experience the love and power of God together.

Bro. Darryl

PERIODICALS  
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Tulsa, OK  
USPS #180-140

## The Evangel

Braden Park Baptist Church  
4739 East Fifth Street (5th & Yale)  
Tulsa, OK 74112-2716

### SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

<b>Sunday Morning</b>	
Continental Breakfast	9:20 a.m.
Worship	10:00 a.m.
Sunday School	11:15 a.m.
<b>Sunday Evening</b>	
Sanctuary Choir	5:30 p.m.
Worship	6:30 p.m.
<b>Wednesday Evening</b>	
Prayer Service	6:30 p.m.

Dr. Darryl DeBorde, Minister  
Bill Ess, Music Minister

Telephone (918) 834-3378  
Fax (918) 834-3440  
office@BradenPark.org

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# The Evangel



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Braden Park Baptist Church  
Tulsa, Oklahoma

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*Seek the welfare of the city  
... and pray to the LORD  
on its behalf.*

Jeremiah 29:7, NRSV

# Our Church Family

## LIVING CENTERS

Emerald Care Nursing Center #26 ..... Gina Reynolds  
Pawhuska Nursing Center ..... Violet Crain  
Zarrow Pointe Kaiser Health Center #214 ..... Dorothy Lee

## AT HOME

Alice and Bill Barrett  
Elizabeth Burke  
Berta Caldwell  
Russell Ford  
Bonnie Nutting  
Waneta Reynolds  
Ben and PJ Shepard  
Margaret VanHorn  
Leslie White

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

September  
2 Connie Gillis  
Caryn Perrier  
4 Lara Snyder  
6 Dorothy Lee (101 Years)



# Looking Ahead

## SUNDAY, August 29

**10:00 a.m.** Living on the Edge of Eternity  
—Jeremiah 29:4-19

The world is falling apart on every hand. What is God up to and how are we supposed to respond to these times? The old prophet Jeremiah writes a letter to the faithful whose lives and futures have been destroyed. Within this letter is a favorite Bible verse of many, but have we considered its implications for the church today? Join with us this Sunday, invite a guest, and be blessed.

**11:15 a.m.** Bible Study and Conversation  
**Ladies Bible Study Class**  
(Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal to follow)



## The Online Sunday Bible Study

*Tender Creation:*  
*How the Gospel is the Heart of Creation*  
*Moment 19—Fresh Words, Fresh Water*

Led by Kevin Avery on our Facebook page  
Live discussion and prayer on Zoom  
**Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m.**



## Wednesday, September 1

**5:00 p.m.** People's Pantry Ministry  
**6:30 p.m.** Prayer Meeting

# Behind the Scenes

## FAITH COMES BY HEARING OFFERING

In observance of the 20th Anniversary of 9/11, we are planning a time of remembrance that includes an offering to *Faith Comes By Hearing* and Vision 2033, an effort to provide audio Bibles in the heart languages of every people group in the world.

## FRESH START WORK DAYS PLANNED

Saturday outside work days are being planned for **September 11 and 18**. This is a slight change because of the Labor Day weekend. Plans are for us to prune the shrubbery around the church and power wash the brick planter along Yale. Bring your own tree and bush trimmers, clippers and saws. **On September 18**, bring your chainsaws as we are planning to remove a large tree and haul it away. Also, there are other minor repairs that need to be made around the building.

## CONTINUED COVID-19 VARIANT CONCERNS

With the rapid spread of the Delta Variant and the dramatic rise in hospitalizations, we are temporarily closing our Wednesday evening Clothes Closet ministry. We are asking everyone to wear masks at church, use the hand sanitizers, and to continue to socially distance whenever possible.

## FOR THE CHURCH RECORD

Weekly Budget Need .....	\$ 1,936.00
General Receipts Aug 22 .....	\$ 1,751.00
Special Offerings Aug 22.....	\$ 00.00

**Thank You** to all who are providing sustaining tithes and offerings.