

REFLECTIONS

I took a university class entitled, *Reading the Bible as Literature*. Our textbook was a Bible that had no chapter numbers or enumerated verses. Some of the books of the Bible had been edited to eliminate repetitious material. Overall, though, the point was to read and study the various books of the Bible just as if these were novels, short stories, or poetry found in an advanced English literature course. It was an English course, not a course in Religion. Our professor was Dr. Joseph King, a man who was well into his 70’s at the time. His enthusiasm and keen wit kept me fascinated with his insight into the styles, structures, and metaphors of this diverse book we honor as The Bible.

Dr. King cautioned the ministerial students in the class to be careful when handling the biblical material. He believed a sin of the “religious” was to just “study the words as a duty,” but never truly experience the stories as masterful art and beauty. None of the books of the Bible were originally written with chapter numbers or verses. These were added as aides to corporate worship and personal reference. All the letters of Paul were just that, letters. They were read out loud in their entirety before the congregations that received them. I tried that in church one Sunday. Some people were kind in their comments.

Psalms and Proverbs are one kind of literature—wisdom, the Kings and the Chronicles another—history. The Gospels tell the stories of Jesus while Daniel and The Revelation tell of the last times. Jeremiah and Amos call God’s people to repent while Isaiah and Hosea demonstrate God’s faithfulness and mercy. Each of the books of the Bible can stand alone as expressions of God’s story and our story. Sin and sorrow, pain and death are hard taskmasters. Anger and revenge, pride and power destroy us from within. But redemption, repentance and love offer a tender path worth walking each day.

There is a special power that comes with reading the Scriptures out loud and listening to it read by someone else. *Faith comes by hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ.* (Romans 10:17 NIV)

Keep healthy. Pray mightily. Enjoy your life today. Take pleasure in your Bible reading. And let's experience the love and power of God together.

Bro. Darryl

THE EVANGEL (USPS 180-140) is published weekly except 1st week of July and 4th week of December by the
BRADEN PARK BAPTIST CHURCH • 4739 East 5th • Tulsa, OK 74112-2716
Periodicals postage paid at Tulsa, OK.
POSTMASTER: send address changes to • THE EVANGEL • 4739 East 5th • Tulsa, OK 74112-2716

PERIODICALS
POSTAGE
PAID
Tulsa, OK
USPS #180-140

The Evangel

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

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday Morning	
Continental Breakfast	9:20 a.m.
Worship	10:00 a.m.
Bible Study & Conversation	11:15 a.m.
Wednesday Evening	
The People's Pantry	5:00 p.m.
The Clothes Closet Ministry	
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

Printing provided by
Imperial Printing



The Evangel

Proclaiming the Good News!
Braden Park Baptist Church
Tulsa, Oklahoma

VOL LIII

May 19, 2023

No. 20



*Holy and
awesome
is his name.*

PSALM 111:9

Our Church Family

AT HOME

Alice and Bill Barrett

Elizabeth Burke

Berta Caldwell

Marion Corbett

Joe Crotser

Lydia Ford

Paula McPherson

Georgia Metcalf

Bonnie Nutting

P J Shepard

Margaret VanHorn

Leslie White

IN REHABILITATION CENTER

Bill Barrett

Franciscan Villa, Broken Arrow

IN THE HOSPITAL

P. J. Shepard

St. Francis Medical Center

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

May

22

Jamie Pearcy-Steel

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

May 24

Lori and Ron Heerlyn

37 Years



Looking Ahead

SUNDAY, MAY 21

9:30 a.m.

Continental Breakfast

10:00 a.m.

In Aw of Your Law
—Psalm 119:113-120

Be careful to whom you give your heart. Be careful to whom you give your thoughts. Be careful to stand in awe of the source of truth and love. Enrich your own Bible study skills with practical helps and applications. Invite your family and friends to church, and be blessed.

11:15 a.m.

Conversation and Bible Study followed by
All-Church Potluck Fellowship Dinner.
Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal to follow dinner.

MONDAY, MAY 22

8:45 a.m.

Monday Morning Prayers
Call (712) 832-8330, then access code: 887-7647

TUESDAY, MAY 23

8:00 p.m.

Prayer for the Nations
Kevin Avery’s Facebook Zoom link

WEDNESDAY, MAY 24

5:00 p.m.

People’s Pantry Ministry
Clothes Closet Ministry

6:30 p.m.

Bible Study and Prayer

SUNDAY, MAY 28

10:00 a.m.

When Trouble Comes—Psalm 119:137-144

Behind the Scenes



SUNDAY MAY 21

Everyone is encouraged to bring a friend or neighbor to our *All-Church Potluck Fellowship Dinner* this Sunday, **May 21**. If you would like, bring a dish or dessert to share. The church will be providing Chicken Tenders with Biscuits and Gravy.

MEALS ON WHEELS NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

The *Meals On Wheels of Metro Tulsa* ministry was dramatically impacted by the pandemic. The number of recipients reached record highs and have remained high. County-wide the number of volunteers dropped by 700. With a great reorganization effort and the implementation of weekly deliveries, the program is regaining its volunteer base. To learn more about the new service areas and opportunities to volunteer, contact Bro. Darryl at (918) 230-0781.

FOR THE CHURCH RECORD

Weekly Budget Need	\$ 2,050.00
General Receipts May 12	\$ 2,025.00
Special Offerings May 12	\$ 0.00

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