

REFLECTIONS

The university graduation scene this year seems to be in total disarray. The young people graduating from college are from the high school class of 2020, who had their graduating events and activities canceled by Covid. This year many private and public university graduations were disrupted or canceled by campus protests and administrative indecision. There have also been some notable and controversial graduation speeches.

I have advocated for many years that no one should give a graduation speech unless they have personally sat through fifty commencement addresses by someone else. I say this on behalf of all students and their families. A corollary to this would be: a kindergarten graduation does not need a commencement speaker. Pop quiz: who was your high school, tech school, collegiate, or graduate school graduation speaker? Bonus question: What was the point of the address?

Last year I attended three graduation ceremonies. All three speakers were deeply experienced in the art of the graduation address: America's teacher of the year, a long-termed local public official, and an Oklahoma Supreme Court Justice. They each were excellent, relatable, and moved rapidly to the point of their address.

My mother saved highlights from the lives of her children and grandchildren in large accordion folders. In the one marked for me she had saved my college graduation program as well as a newspaper article about the speaker. This is the only reason I now know that my college graduation speaker was a U.S. Representative and Baptist layman, John H. Buchanan. He was a last-minute substitute for Joseph Blatchford, Director of the Peace Corp, who had taken ill. Rep. Buchanan's points were: "Follow the truth wherever it may lead you...change what is unjust or unworthy. Change does not mean 'to destroy.' Be a realist...and do something about the problem...but don't be a problem yourself." Too many points for any graduation where everyone is seated on a football field, but on target for a meaningful life. I always find myself, on these occasions, thinking about our ultimate graduation. The Speaker will be our Lord, so I take the advice of Paul to Timothy to heart: *Study (God's Word) to show yourself approved unto God.* (2 Timothy 2:15)

Keep healthy. Pray mightily. Enjoy your life today. Live your best life. And let's experience the love and power of God together.

Bro. Darryl

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The Evangel

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

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday Morning

Continental Breakfast

Worship

Bible Study & Conversation

9:20 a.m.

10:00 a.m.

11:15 a.m.

Wednesday Evening

The People's Pantry

The Clothes Closet Ministry

Prayer Service

5:00 p.m.

6:30 p.m.

Dr. Darryl DeBorde, Minister
Bill Ess, Music Minister

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The Evangel

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Braden Park Baptist Church
Tulsa, Oklahoma

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It is
God
who
works
in you.

Philippians
2:13, ESV



Our Church Family

AT HOME

Kevin Avery	Paula McPherson
Alice Barrett	Georgia Metcalf
Elizabeth Burke	Bonnie Nutting
Joe Crotser	Annette and Dennis Parker
Marion Corbett	Margaret Van Horn
Lydia Ford	

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

June 11 Caryn and Mike Perrier 20 Years



Looking Ahead

SUNDAY, MAY 26

9:20 a.m. Continental Breakfast

10:00 a.m. Shining Joy
—Philippians 2:12-18

Our sermon series *Pure Joy* continues this week as Paul challenges the church to “shine like stars in the universe.” This passage underscores the motive and victory of our faith and service. Invite your family and friends to church this Sunday and be blessed.

11:15 a.m. Ladies Bible Study
Conversations with the Pastor
(No Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal)

MONDAY, MAY 27 MEMORIAL DAY

8:45 a.m. Monday Morning Prayers
Call (712) 832-8330, then access code: 887-7647

TUESDAY, MAY 28

8:00 p.m. Prayer for the Nations
Kevin Avery’s Facebook Zoom link

WEDNESDAY, MAY 29

5:00 p.m. People’s Pantry Ministry
Clothes Closet Ministry
Community Supper in Fellowship Hall

6:30 p.m. Prayer Service

SUNDAY, JUNE 2

10:30 a.m. Pulpit Guest Rev. Bobby Reid

Behind the Scenes



Community Hamburger Night June 12

Our first Community Hamburger Night for the Summer will be Wednesday evening June 12 as part of our People’s Pantry and Clothes Closet ministries. Serving will begin around 5:00 p.m. and include opportunities for Gospel conversations under the pavilion.

We will need volunteers, starting at 4, to help us with the setting up of the tables and folding chairs, as well as with the serving of the food and welcoming our neighbors.

FOR THE CHURCH RECORD

Weekly Budget Need	\$ 2,073.00
General Receipts May 19	\$ 1,896.00
Special Offerings.....	\$ 0.00

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