

REFLECTIONS

This Reflections is a re-posting from August 2020

A few years ago, I wandered around the Army Navy surplus store looking for a good deal on something. I was open to what that might be. They tried to interest me in some body armor—a bullet-proof vest. It was camouflaged with multiple pockets and places to attach my survival gear. Wearing that vest, they told me, I could face down the bad guys when all the bad stuff starts to happen. What stuff? You know, robbers, looters, zombies, that kind of stuff. Here, try it on. It's only \$140.00 and like new. I looked it over. They were right. I did not see any bullet holes anywhere on it. Of course, this particular vest must have been worn by someone much bigger and in better shape than I ever was. It was not a good look for me.

The experience quickly brought to mind David, when he volunteered to challenge the giant Goliath in a death match. Everyone stopped laughing when they realized David was deadly serious. The well-intentioned king decided that David needed to wear the best armor available, so David put on the king's armor. It was too much, too big and too heavy. "David tried walking around, because he was not used to them....I cannot go in these....So he took them off."(1 Samuel 17) David used his own armor: faith in God, a slingshot, a stone and a plan. I also remembered the story's lesson, be true to who you are; do not wear someone else's armor.

Lately, I've been on a quest for the perfect facemask. I have discovered two that seem to work best, the blue medical one and a double-layered washable black one with a long shoelace type cord that goes over my ears and around my neck. That means it can hang at my neck when I take it off. It can also serve as a stylish bib.

God provides the custom-fitting armor that each of us need for the spiritual battles that we face every day. "Put on the whole armor of God," admonishes Paul in Ephesians chapter 6. Hiding behind someone else's armor will never work. Face the day ready to meet the test with the grace and strength of God's love and power. With all the bad stuff we face each day, armor up, do not be afraid, for our God is with us.

Keep healthy. Pray mightily. Enjoy your life today. Wear your own armor. 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

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

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This
righteousness
is given through
faith *in*
Jesus Christ
to all who **BELIEVE.**
ROMANS 3:22, NIV

Our Church Family

AT HOME

Kevin Avery	Paula McPherson
Alice Barrett	Georgia Metcalf
Elizabeth Burke	Bonnie Nutting
Lydia Ford	Annette and Dennis Parker
Nancy Holdt	Margaret Van Horn

NURSING CENTERS

Marion Corbett	University Village Health Center #333
Hugh Enos	Broken Arrow Nursing Home

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

August

23	Bob Ford
26	Carter Enos
28	Billy Shafer

September

2	Connie Gillis Caryn Peerier
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Looking Ahead

SUNDAY, AUGUST 18

9:20 a.m. Continental Breakfast

**10:00 a.m. The Body of Christ and The Armor of God:
The Belt and Breastplate
— 1 Corinthians 12:27 and Ephesians 6:14-16**

We continue our end-of-summer series focusing on the body of Christ and God's protection. These passages describe the giftedness of God's people for faithful service, and the spiritual armor that equips the church to face the forces that work against all believers. Invite your family and friends to church this Sunday and be blessed.

11:15 a.m. Ladies Bible Study, *Pursued*
Conversations with the Pastor

11:55 a.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

MONDAY, AUGUST 19

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

TUESDAY, AUGUST 20

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

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 21

5:00 p.m. People's Pantry Ministry
Clothes Closet Ministry
Community Dinner

6:30 p.m. Prayer Service

SUNDAY, AUGUST 25

10:00 a.m. Helmet and Sword

Behind the Scenes

Ladies Bible Class Studies New Series

This Sunday morning the Ladies Bible Study Group begins a new six-part series entitled *Pursued: God's Relentless Love for You*. Author and Bible teacher *Jennifer Cowart* designed this through-the-Bible study to recover the joy of God's love and faithfulness. She writes, "And we will discover that although we have broken relationship with God, He runs after us anyway to bring us home." *Connie Connely* leads the class discussions each week following the worship hour.

The Evangel and Our Website

The Evangel newsletter is published and mailed almost every week, but occasionally, like last week, we have to miss an issue. You can also receive the Evangel by e-mail. Another way to see the most recent edition is to check the church website, www.BradenPark.org.

FOR THE CHURCH RECORD

Weekly Budget Need	\$ 2,073.00
General Receipts August 4.....	\$ 2,054.00
Special Offerings.....	\$ 0.00

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