

# East End Baptist Church

*The Voice*

AUGUST 2020

## From the Pastor

### A DANIEL STATE OF MIND

As the Covid-19 pandemic began to take effect on society back in February, we began to adjust our lives to suit. We have sanitized, social distanced, worn masks, and quarantined until all of us are quite sick of it and there is still more to be done. I am all for safety, and we will continue to do everything we can to keep worshippers safe as they enter our building. However, the idea of no corporate worship at all is one that I refuse to entertain!

Let me explain. I recently read about a well-known and trusted pastor in California who refused to bow to the government mandate instructing all religious organizations to close their doors indefinitely. "It's for your own safety," they say. Certainly, this is infringement on the rights afforded us by the Constitution of the United States of America. The first amendment states,

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."

Personally, I applaud pastor John MacArthur of Grace Community Church for taking a stand against governmental overreach. You may be thinking, "We are a long way from California." Let me remind you that only a few months ago, a mayor in Mississippi instructed law enforcement officers to cite drive-in worshippers for gathering outside even though they remained in their vehicles.



## Monthly Meetings

- Aug 5th – 6:00PM  
Children's Committee Meeting
- Aug 9<sup>th</sup> – Promotion Sunday
- Aug 12<sup>th</sup> – 5:30PM  
Church Council Meeting
- Aug 12<sup>th</sup> – 7:30PM  
Finance Committee Meeting
- Aug 17<sup>th</sup> – 6:30PM  
Deacons Meeting

Let me get to the point. Do not be fooled into thinking religious persecution is going away with the availability of medications, the discovery of a vaccine, or the election in November. I am afraid it is here to stay. I say this only because I know this is not just a political battle. THIS IS A SPIRITUAL BATTLE!

12 For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.

Ephesians 6:12

As this battle intensifies, which it most certainly will, Satan and his minions (the powers of darkness) will continue to do everything they can to destroy the church by prohibiting all that we hold dear. Worship is under attack! Prayer is under attack! Gathering is under attack! How long until preaching the gospel is deemed “hate speech”? How long until Christians are arrested for standing firm? This sounds scary to me but seems imminent. The time is fast approaching for the church to draw the proverbial “line in the sand.” I suggest that we, the church (the body of Christ), begin to develop a DANIEL state of mind.

In Daniel’s day, the king ordered Daniel not to pray to his God – Our God. You know the story. Daniel knew what the king said but was committed to prayer three times a day.

10 When Daniel knew that the document had been signed, he went to his house where he had windows in his upper chamber open toward Jerusalem. He got down on his knees three times a day and prayed and gave thanks before his God, as he had done previously.

Daniel 6:10

If you want to “stand against the schemes of the devil” (Ephesians 6:11) your commitment to God and the things of God will come into play. Are you deeply committed to God and His purpose and plan for your life? Daniel was! Because Daniel was faithful to God, he was protected from the lions in the lion’s den. Did you catch that? God did not save Daniel from the lion’s den; God protected him IN the lion’s den.

22 My God sent his angel and shut the lions' mouths, and they have not harmed me, because I was found blameless before him

Daniel 6:22

After Daniel was saved, the king made this statement:

“...in all my royal dominion people are to tremble and fear before the God of Daniel, for he is the living God, enduring forever; his kingdom shall never be destroyed, and his dominion shall be to the end. 27 He delivers and rescues; he works signs and wonders in heaven and on earth, he who has saved Daniel from the power of the lions.”

Daniel 6:26-27

Daniel’s stance against the king’s ordinance was not in vain. The king recognized the power of Almighty God and declared it to his kingdom. I pray God will develop in us a Daniel state of mind as we consider the future of Christianity in America. I pray as we stand together in the power of the Holy Spirit, He will deliver us from the powers of darkness and use us as a testimony of His own power.

Oddly enough, the king did not really want to have Daniel killed. I won’t get into that. You should read Daniel 6. You will love it! Just before the king had Daniel thrown into the lion’s den, he had these words to say:

“May your God, whom you serve continually, deliver you!”

Daniel 6:16

Are you serving God continually? Daniel was! As you remain committed to God and serve Him continually, I pray these words over you, “May your God, whom you serve continually, deliver you!” I love you each and all! I can’t wait to see you again in worship!



# New Weekly Schedule

## Sundays

- 8:00AM Drive In Worship
- 9:00AM Sunday School
- 10:30AM Worship in the Worship Center
- 11:15AM Sunday School

## Wednesdays

- 6:30PM Youth Bible Study in the Warehouse
- 6:30PM Adult Bible Study & Livestream in the Worship Center
- 6:30PM Children's Mission

***Social Distancing will be practiced at all times***

*Please be in prayer for our long-time custodian, Johnny Stinson. Johnny recently resigned his position at East End after more than 15 years of faithful service. We love him and he will be greatly missed.*

## Service Opportunity

East End Baptist Church, Columbus MS is currently seeking a part time janitor/custodian. Responsibilities include but are not limited to thorough cleaning of facilities on a weekly basis, lifting and moving objects such as tables and chairs on a regular basis, and preparing facilities for worship services and special events. Applicants should expect to work 25-30 hours per week. Wages will be set based on knowledge and experience. Email resumes to [office@eastendbc.org](mailto:office@eastendbc.org) or mail to

East End Baptist Church  
C/O Personnel Committee  
P.O. Box 8480, Columbus, MS 39705



## Birthday Calendar

August 3 – Cecil Pittman

August 6 – Landon Adams

August 6 – Jacie Gilliland

August 7 – Izzy Stevens

August 7 – Taylor Chisolm

August 8 – Lucy Ann Richardson

August 10 – Katherine Dangerfield

August 10 – Melinda Wilson

August 12 – Joann Sharpe

August 12 – Hudson Smith

August 13 – Elizabeth Ellis

August 16 – Shirley Faulkner

August 17 – Frank Lockhart

August 17 – Lee Horn

August 20 – Brenda Harris

August 20 – Charlie Upton

August 25 – Frank Davis

August 28 – Jennifer Garner

August 31 – Sandy Kilpatrick

