

The Challenger

Ministerial Staff

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NO. 7

David Mace tells me the phrase "Going postal" has been replaced in our common vernacular today. Now, when we want to convey that we're about to completely lose our minds to the point of exploding all over the people around us, we're to say, "I'm about to go 2020!"

2020 – Why has it become the subject of T-shirts, jokes, and groan-filled conversations? Is it because it's been the year of COVID-19 along with its accompanying shut-downs? Riots destroying our cities? Election season where people are divided over two political platforms that are so radically different? An emotionally-charged media that has been redesigned not to relay news but to raise blood pressure? (I'm not really speaking tongue-in-cheek with that last one. My dad had a clever nurse in ICU one time who turned on the news station he said he hated to get his blood pressure to come up to a more acceptable level. It worked!) All of those factors have surely contributed, no doubt, but life's circumstances have always been hard. The media has always been motivated by what sells or a channel of propaganda for whomever is trying to pull the strings. This world being an evil and difficult place in which to live is one of the constants we have been sure of since the fall.

I think what has made 2020 unusually difficult is the pervading spirit of anger that has so saturated our culture throughout all these difficulties. Whether motivated by our fear, indignation, or the slow realization our culture is losing its mind, we feel more and more that things are spinning out of our control, so we get angry.

Not all of that is bad. There is plenty in our culture to be legitimately angry about. You know the list. Passive apathy, though it might make us seem more peace-loving to others, is not the life Jesus lived or calls us to. But our question is, what are we doing with all our righteous anger? Allowing it to dictate our entire outlook when we're called to live the joy-filled life is not the answer. Proverbs 29:11 says, "*Fools are quick to express their anger, but wise people are patient and control themselves.*" Know that in Proverbs, a fool is not a dummy, intellectually speaking. He could have a PhD from Harvard yet he's the one who unwisely lives for himself and he lives for the now, pursuing instant gratification regardless of long-term consequences or considerations of God's Law. He says with his heart (regardless of what he may say with his lips), "There is no God!" Therefore, his immediate concern on an issue isn't a careful evaluation of whether his anger is selfishly motivated, the ramifications of his anger on others, or the best way to utilize it constructively, it's how to vent it and voice it as loudly as possible so he can level any opposition with his forcefulness.

We Jesus followers are to be different. We don't look for opportunities to "Go 2020." We are "patient and control ourselves." We patiently consider what the other side is saying. We weigh both sides against God's Word. We weigh what God says in how to approach it. We allow Him to guide and/or restrain us so that we'll only act appropriately. Sometimes, the appropriate response is godly anger, but when dealt with wisely, it's then motivated by His Spirit encased in love and not by our own selfish perspectives encased in hate.

We don't have to wait until 2021 to start getting this right. We can work on it now and perhaps redeem the remainder of 2020!

In His Grip,
Pastor Fred

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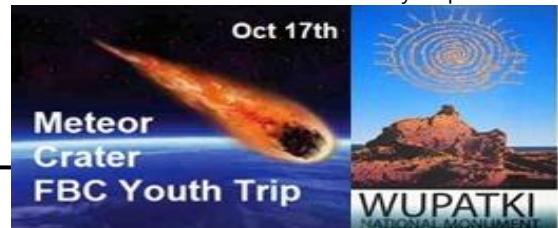
Mexico Mission Trip will be November 12th thru 15th! Now would be a good time to start thinking if you would be interested in going. If you think you would, please see Pastor Ted for more information and pricing

*****Please join us Thursday & Friday, 10/15-16, from 6:00pm-8:30pm in the Activity Center as we will be packing 1,000 pounds of food into boxes in preparation for the trip.**



Youth Trip to Wupatki and Meteor Crater

Saturday, Oct 17th we are headed to Meteor Crater and Wupatki. Come with us as we explore Northern Arizona. We will leave at 8:00 AM. You will need to bring a water bottle, hat, money for any souvenirs, and a permission slip (you may have your parents sign the permission slip when they drop you off). We will return after dark. Admission to both parks AND lunch is provided by FBC. We will get some kind of snack in Flagstaff before we head back to Winslow. Text or call Pastor Ted if you plan on going. He told them we would have about 15. See Pastor Ted if you have any Questions or need more details. With social distancing you will need a mask to wear in the museum and park visitor center



Senior Luncheon will be Friday, October 23rd, from Noon - 2:00 in the Activity Center. This will be a POTLUCK, so please bring a main dish and side to share. Please wear a mask while entering and greeting others as well as when passing through the food line. We look forward to seeing you there!

Come to Family Bible Connection

Wednesday Nights
6-7 pm
In the Activity Center

Everyone is welcome!



The Hope Pregnancy Center is opening again on Tuesdays with the new hours of 2-5pm. We will have very specific COVID guidelines in place in order to insure the health and safety of our families and our volunteers: Temperature checks, masks required while in the building and the center, hand hygiene and cleaning in between each client. Our basic services include: diapers, wipes, baby items/clothes, small food pantry, books and toys. We are always willing and able to offer guidance and counseling as the need arises. No classes will be offered at this time.



Mark your calendar!!

- 10/05 Men's Potluck 6pm
- 10/05-10/09 WUSD Fall Break
- 10/06 Hope Pregnancy Center 2-5pm
- 10/08 Food Box Distribution 3pm
- 10/10 Men's Prayer Breakfast 8-10am - Activity Center
- 10/11 Deacon Meeting 4pm
- 10/13 Hope Pregnancy Center 2-5pm
- 10/15-16 Pack food boxes for the Mexico Trip 6-8:30pm
- 10/17 Youth Trip - Meteor Crater & Wupatki
- 10/20 Hope Pregnancy Center 2-5pm
- 10/23 Senior Luncheon Noon-2pm
- 10/22 Food Box Distribution 3pm
- 10/27 Hope Pregnancy Center 2-5pm
- 10/31 Trunk or Treat 6-8pm



Food Box Distribution is the 2nd and the 4th Thursday from 3:00pm - 5:00pm. If you are in need or know of someone who may be helped by receiving a box, please share this information. For more information please see Freddie Campbell.

Trunk or Treat

Saturday, October 31st from 6-8 pm
in the South Parking Lot
Come join in the FUN!

Candy Donations are welcome - Thank you!

