

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
OF SHALLOTTE | MAY 2022

the. VISION



END OF SCHOOL YEAR BASH Wednesday, May 25 5:30-8:30pm *Come dressed and prepared to get wet!*

Free family events for all ages! Water activities include the Tropical Thunder, a 65' two lane slip n slide, the ever famous and popular dunk tank, Wipe Out Slide, 27' Liquid Magma Slide water inflatables and Slip n Slide Baseball Field with kiddie pools at each base for the younger children to enjoy.

There will also be hot dogs, chips, sides, desserts and drinks as well as a free Sunset Slush.

Be sure to spread the word about this ministry!

Volunteers are needed to help with the inflatables, security, cooking team, registration, set up/clean up and greeting/welcoming. Please contact Pastor Michael for more information or to sign up to volunteer at michael@firstbaptistshallotte.com or call the office.

VBS Volunteers Needed

Spark Studios VBS kids will learn that God's creativity didn't stop in Genesis. The Master Artist is working to redeem, reclaim, and transform us—His creation—to the design He planned for us. Kids will see the beautiful truth that they are God's workmanship as they learn to use their talents to bring glory to Him. Join the VBS team on this amazing, memorable week. If you want to know more about how you could serve during VBS or to sign up, contact Dean Carroll at (910) 540-4387 or carrollconst@atmc.net.



Church Events

- May 1st — Compassion Sunday
- May 1st — Spaghetti Lunch & Dessert Auction Fundraiser
- May 4th — Wednesday Reset Bible Study Resumes
- May 8th — Mother's Day
- May 9th — Ladies' Ministry Meeting
- May 10th — Men's Ministry Meeting
- May 25th — End of School Year Bash
- May 30th — Memorial Day (Church Office Closed)

The Difference Between Moms and “Birthing Persons” and Why It Matters

In late 2020, a panel of Harvard intellectuals declared that not all people who give birth are women. Or, at least, they don't claim to be.

On Twitter these “experts” referred to women as “birthing people” and promoted “maternal justice” saying, “Globally, ethnic minority pregnant and birthing people suffer worse outcomes and experiences during and after pregnancy and childbirth.”

Not surprisingly, the backlash was severe. Twitter users mocked the panel mercilessly. But rather than admit the absurdity of referring to mothers as “birthing people,” as if someone other than a woman could give birth, the panel doubled down. In subsequent comments and with a follow up tweet, they said, “The webinar panelists used the term ‘birthing person’ to include those who identify as non-binary or transgender because not all who give birth identify as ‘women’ or ‘girls.’” They further added, “We understand the reactions to this terminology and in no way meant for it to erase or dehumanize women.”

But, it did. And still does.

A growing trend

The panel's exercise in irrational semantics is not intended to define a woman, or a mother. It's intended to capitulate to the growing trend of identity woke politics in our culture.

In our time a person can be a biological male but “identify” as a woman, and a woman can be a biological female and “identify” as a man. So, some women living as “men” would, apparently, prefer not to be called “mothers.” Therefore, even the medical community is willing to adopt the notion that a biological female who identifies as a man is now a “birthing person.” That “man” is capable of giving birth.

Therefore, the culture requires all people who can give birth to accommodate this nonsense and refer to themselves as “birthing persons,” rather than mothers.

This trend snowballed rapidly. In June 2021 the Biden Administration explained sections of its 2022 proposed budget would replace the word “mothers” with the phrase “birthing people” to refer to anyone who can biologically give birth, even if they identify as a man.

And it didn't take long for this trend to worm its way from academia to politics to your pocketbook. Apple's iOS update for April 2022 includes a “pregnant man” emoji and thirty-five other “gender-neutral” cartoons and gifs. And it is not an option. It's like pink eye at your toddler's daycare. If you own an iPhone, you get it whether you want it or not.

The assault on motherhood

It's hard to fathom anything more absurd or demeaning than a culture that reduces Moms to “birthing persons.” But before we dismiss this trend as irrelevant nonsense, we need to look more closely at it from a biblical perspective.

The primary problem with all of this woke identity politics and language twisting is fairly simple. Call yourself whatever you like, but it doesn't change who God created you to be. And anytime a person intentionally denies who God created them to be, they will always be less than God created them to be.

Of course, the standard for human identity is Gen. 1:27:

“So God created man in his own image; he created him in the image of God; he created them male and female.”

This benchmark verse teaches three biblical reasons that we need to protect motherhood and insist that biological women, who are actually female, are the only candidates for being Moms:

continued on page 3.....



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God designed humanity

God made men and women biologically compatible to reflect His nature and to fulfill His purposes (Gen. 1:28). So, these biological traits are integrated into the created order. They are not about how you feel, but about what is true. Men and women are biologically different, and biological men are not capable of giving birth.

Eve was not the first “birthing person.” She was the first woman and, the moment she became pregnant, she became the first mother. That made Adam the first earthly father.

The trend in our culture toward the denial of biological facts devalues all of humanity and insults God.

God defined women

To be clear, a woman’s value as a person does not hinge on motherhood. She is first and foremost a human being created in God’s image. Nor does being a parent, loving and assuming the responsibility of a child, require giving birth. Women were not created for the sole purpose of motherhood, but only women were created for the capability of motherhood.

In fact, in God’s created order, all mammals who give birth are, without exception, biologically female.

So, to claim that women who have babies are “birthing persons” just to mesh with the identity politics of our culture devalues the significance of motherhood. The woman is reduced to

nothing more than a task—giving birth. All the linguistic genuflecting to accommodate woke culture actually devalues women while claiming tolerance and inclusion.

God defends motherhood

It’s not so much that God inserts Himself into our culture wars as it is that He assumes the precious and significant truth of motherhood. The Bible advocates for mothers and motherhood. The woke culture diminishes motherhood, but the Bible consistently heralds Moms for their role in families, in society, and in the church.

For instance, both Timothy’s mother and grandmother are touted for their influence on him (2 Tim. 1:5). Hardworking Moms are admired and appreciated for their impact on their families and their communities (Prov. 31:25-30). And though motherhood is not required for women to be complete, to be impactful, or to be blessed by God, it is celebrated as

evidence of God’s favor on a woman and her household (Ps. 113:9, 127:3, Luke 1:46-48).

Along with Dads, Moms are to be respected by their children and honored by their community (Deut. 5:16, Prov. 1:8). In the ancient world such respect was nearly unheard of, but it was advocated in the biblical community of faith.

And perhaps most significantly, God uses motherhood as an illustration of His love for us (Is. 66:13, 49:15). Motherhood gives us an even fuller picture of the nurturing nature of God’s love. If we lose the true value of motherhood and the value of women as Moms, these illustrations in the Bible will make no sense, further diminishing our grasp of who God is and how He loves us in Christ.

So let’s be clear. Moms, we celebrate you because you are far more than a “birthing person.” And no one can replace you.

New To Our Family



Larry & Laura Dulin
joined Mar 13



Miller & Mamie Caison
joined Mar 27

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF SHALLOTTE

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
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Shallotte, NC

LOVE GOD. LOVE ONE ANOTHER. LOVE THE WORLD.

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fbcshallotte.org



Office Hours:

M-Th 9am—3pm

Closed Friday

Sunday School—9:45am

Worship—11:00am

52 Week Bible Reading Plan

	Gospels	Epistles	The Law	History	Psalms	Poetry	Prophecy
Week	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
19	<input type="checkbox"/> Luke 1-2	<input type="checkbox"/> 2Cor 6-8	<input type="checkbox"/> Ex 21-24	<input type="checkbox"/> 2Sam 10-14	<input type="checkbox"/> Ps 54-56	<input type="checkbox"/> Job 37-38	<input type="checkbox"/> Jer 32-36
20	<input type="checkbox"/> Luke 3-4	<input type="checkbox"/> 2Cor 9-10	<input type="checkbox"/> Ex 25-28	<input type="checkbox"/> 2Sam 15-19	<input type="checkbox"/> Ps 57-59	<input type="checkbox"/> Job 39-40	<input type="checkbox"/> Jer 37-41
21	<input type="checkbox"/> Luke 5-6	<input type="checkbox"/> 2Cor 11-13	<input type="checkbox"/> Ex 29-32	<input type="checkbox"/> 2Sam 20-24	<input type="checkbox"/> Ps 60-62	<input type="checkbox"/> Job 41-42	<input type="checkbox"/> Jer 42-46
22	<input type="checkbox"/> Luke 7-8	<input type="checkbox"/> Gal 1-3	<input type="checkbox"/> Ex 33-36	<input type="checkbox"/> 1Ki 1-4	<input type="checkbox"/> Ps 63-65	<input type="checkbox"/> Prov 1	<input type="checkbox"/> Jer 47-52