

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
OF SHALLOTTE | JUNE 2023

# the Vision

HAPPY

Father's

DAY



## Compassion Sunday Update

Amy Myers

On April 30, we joined churches across the country for Compassion Sunday by setting apart the day to change the future for children living in poverty around the world. Thank you so much for the opportunity to share with you about Compassion International! It was a pleasure to help several of you step into child sponsorship. Nine children were sponsored through First Baptist Church of Shallotte this year, bringing our two-year total to 16! Not to mention the countless others of you who shared amazing stories of the children that you already sponsor through Compassion and other organizations. Your faithfulness to care for "the least of these" and share the love of Jesus around the world is so evident! If you would like to learn more about

Compassion, or decide you would like to sponsor a child, always feel free to email me at [amyers@us.ci.org](mailto:amyers@us.ci.org) or visit [compassion.com](http://compassion.com). Thank you again for the opportunity to share with you and to serve alongside such an awesome church!



## Church Events

- Jun 2<sup>nd</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> -Fusion & Youth Lock In 7p-8a
- Jun 4<sup>th</sup> -Grad Sunday [fbcshallotte.org/grad-sunday](http://fbcshallotte.org/grad-sunday)
- Jun 9<sup>th</sup> -Bags of Hope Packing [fbcshallotte.org/hope](http://fbcshallotte.org/hope)
- Jun 10<sup>th</sup> -Bags of Hope Distribution [fbcshallotte.org/hope](http://fbcshallotte.org/hope)
- Jun 11<sup>th</sup> -Baptism
- Jun 13<sup>th</sup> - Mens' Ministry Meeting 6:30-8:30p; Dinner Provided; Guest Speaker Larry Thompson
- Jun 17<sup>th</sup> -21<sup>st</sup> -Centrifuge
- Jun 18<sup>th</sup> - Father's Day
- Jun 25<sup>th</sup> -29<sup>th</sup> -VBS 6:30-8:30p

# If You Knew What the Future Held, How Would That Change Your Decisions Today?

Sometimes even Thor needs to be reminded of what matters most.

In late 2022, [actor Chris Hemsworth discovered](#) that he is 8 to 10 times more likely than the average person to develop Alzheimer's disease. Therefore, Hemsworth, best known for his role as Thor in the Marvel universe, announced he had reevaluated his priorities.

Hemsworth learned of his predisposition toward the disease during the Disney+ series, "Limitless." The show focused on mortality and death, and in the final episode he met with longevity physician Dr. Peter Attia and submitted to a series of genetic tests.

The tests showed that Hemsworth had two copies of the gene APOE4, from both his mother and father. Scientists don't know much about APOE4, but they do know it has the strongest correlation to the development of Alzheimer's. And having two copies of the gene increases Hemsworth's chances exponentially.

The National Institute of Health recorded in a 2021 study that 1 in 4 people carry a single copy of the gene, but less than 3% of the population have both. In addition, Alzheimer's disease runs in his family. His grandfather suffered from it. The odds are not in his favor.

## A life-changing impact

Hemsworth has not been shy about the impact of this news. In the show he shared, "The idea that I won't be able to remember the life I experienced, or my wife, my kids, is probably my biggest fear."

"Doing an episode on death and facing your own mortality made me go, 'Oh God, I'm not ready to go yet,'" he said. "I want to sit and be in this space with a greater sense of stillness and gratitude."

"And then you start talking about kids and family, [and] they're getting older, they're growing up, and I keep slapping another movie on top of another movie. Before you know it, they're 18, and they've moved out of house, and I missed the window."

So, he said, he has decided to make some critical changes. "It really triggered something in me to want to take some time off. Now when I finish this tour this week, I'm going home, and I'm going to have a good chunk of time off and just simplify. Be with the kids, be with my wife."

Since his announcement, the native Australian is still making movies, but he has slowed down his pace, as he said, to focus on what matters most.

## A reality check

Rarely are we ever privy to what comes next. Rarely do we have a chance to get a glimpse into the future, to consider our roles as husbands and fathers, as men and disciples, and to get a chance to make a course correction when we need to.

But God knows what we do not know. And that's why the Bible is clear on the brevity of life and significance of our priorities. That is to say, you and I may not have the kind of scientific information that Hemsworth has, but we do have a clear view of the horizon, an unhindered picture of what matters most. We have the Bible.



## It's about our choices and decisions.

Hemsworth's reality check resulted in a shift in his priorities, which, in turn produced decisions that will shape his future. For all of us, here are a few takeaways:

### Your choices are your life. Literally.

Hemsworth decided to change his priorities, plain and simple. By doing so, he acknowledged the significance of the choices we make. Life itself is the result of our choices. With the information we have, with prayer and time in God's word, are we making the best decisions we can?

The Bible teaches that our decisions should be grounded in His Word, display an application of biblical wisdom, align with His will, and should show faith in Him (Prov. 3:5-6, James 1:5, Phil. 4:6-7, 1 John 5:14).

That happens when you know the Bible and stay humble in prayer. So when you make your choices as a man who follows Christ, remember that your choices first and foremost should reflect a solid faith in Him.

### Life is brief. Use it wisely.

We tend to operate as if we have plenty of time, or as if we control the future. But the Bible candidly portrays the brevity of life. For instance, the book of James provides perspective on our decisions and the brevity of life.

"Come now, you who say, 'Today or tomorrow we will travel to such and such a city and spend a year there and do business and make a profit.' Yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring—what your life will be! For you are like vapor that appears for a little while, then vanishes. Instead, you should say, 'If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that.' But as it is, you boast in your arrogance. All such boasting is evil" (James 4:13-16).

James is echoing other passages in the Bible that warn against assuming you control the next day. Planning is good but do it with humility. The Bible teaches that today is your priority and you are a steward of this day that God has given you (Psalm 39:4, 78:39, 90:12).

Visit Pastor Bob's Blog:  
**BOBWEATHERS.NET**



.....If You Knew What the Future Held, How Would That Change Your Decisions Today?  
continued

### Love people. They matter most.

Perhaps the most compelling--and maybe the saddest--thing that Hensworth realized was that one day he would not remember his kids or his wife. But that realization resulted in the determination to create memories for them. Suddenly and clearly, it was not just about him. It was about them.

What memories are you making for the people in your life? When they look back on your leadership and your love as a man, a spouse, or a dad, what will they remember?

And most important of all, will your family remember that you

walked with Christ (Deut. 6:4-7)?

### It's what you do next that matters.

Maybe you've had your own reality check. Maybe you realized that you need to adjust your priorities, to make decisions more in line with what God wants in your life. Maybe you haven't been the man, husband, friend, or father you want to be. Maybe your career needs a break, you need a breather, or you just need to take a step of faith and make a change.

Maybe. But wherever you find yourself in life, the good news is always the same. In Christ, there

is always hope. And grace. And forgiveness.

As a Christian, you live in the light of eternity. God has a plan for you, a part to play, in His great kingdom. Make decisions that reflect that truth—you live for Christ, not for yourself (2 Cor. 5:9).

But above all, make sure you are "ready to go." If you do not know Christ as your Savior, trust Him today. Start living the life He designed for you. Before it's too late.

Remember, it's what you do next that matters.

In His Grace,  
Pastor Bob

## Progress to New Associate Pastor

- ☒ With prayer and input from ministry sources, Pastor Bob drafts a new job description
- ☒ The Personnel Committee and the Deacons review the job description
- ☒ The Personnel Committee reviews a second draft of the job description
- ☒ The church adopts the job description in the April Quarterly Ministry Meeting
- ☒ The Nominating Committee activates a Search Committee in a called business conference on May 7 following morning worship
- ☒ The Search Committee begins the process of searching for a new Associate Pastor
- ☐ The Search Committee brings a candidate to the church in a called business conference
- ☐ The new Associate Pastor begins service at FBCS!

## New to Our Family



*Lola Myers  
Joined Mar 26*



*David Day Jonathan  
& Cullen Everson  
Joined May 21*



*Shannon Smith  
Joined May 7*

## Deacon of the Week



KEVIN GORE

(910) 880-0758  
kevinmgore@yahoo.com



MARK VARNAM

(910) 842-3076  
markmonicaandgirls@atmc.net



ROB MICHEL

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MICHAEL NORTON

(859) 358-4224  
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GARY GALLOWAY

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May 28<sup>th</sup>-Jun 3<sup>rd</sup>

Jun 4<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>

Jun 11<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup>

Jun 18<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup>

Jun 25<sup>th</sup>-Jul 1<sup>st</sup>

# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF SHALLOTTE

LOVE GOD. LOVE ONE ANOTHER. LOVE THE WORLD.

4486 Main Street  
Shallotte, NC 28470

910.754.4048  
fbcshallotte.org

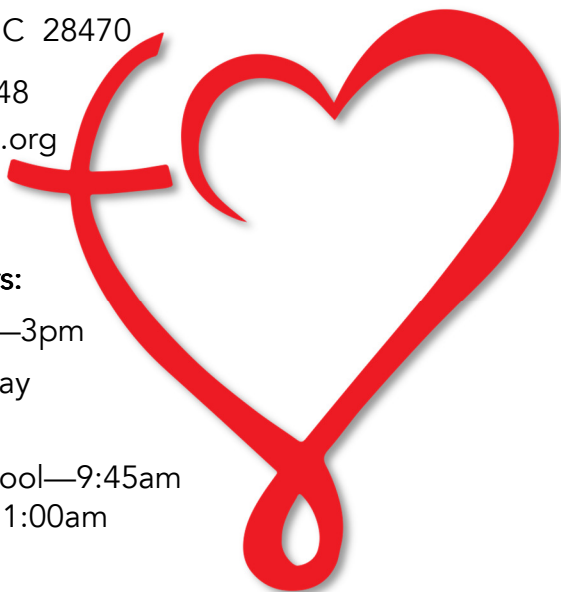
## Office Hours:

M-Th 9am—3pm

Closed Friday

Sunday School—9:45am

Worship—11:00am



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## THE WORD OF GOD IN A YEAR

*O send out thy light and thy truth! Let them lead me.*

### READ WITH FAMILY

Deuteronomy 5	Psalms 88
Deuteronomy 6	Psalms 89
Deuteronomy 7	Psalms 90
Deuteronomy 8	Psalms 91
Deuteronomy 9	Psalms 92-93
Deuteronomy 10	Psalms 94
Deuteronomy 11	Psalms 95-96
Deuteronomy 12	Psalms 97-98
Deuteronomy 13-14	Psalms 99-101
Deuteronomy 15	Psalms 102
Deuteronomy 16	Psalms 103
Deuteronomy 17	Psalms 104
Deuteronomy 18	Psalms 105
Deuteronomy 19	Psalms 106
Deuteronomy 20	Psalms 107

### DAY

1st
2nd
3rd
4th
5th
6th
7th
8th
9th
10th
11th
12th
13th
14th
15th

### READ IN SECRET

Isaiah 33	Revelation 3
Isaiah 34	Revelation 4
Isaiah 35	Revelation 5
Isaiah 36	Revelation 6
Isaiah 37	Revelation 7
Isaiah 38	Revelation 8
Isaiah 39	Revelation 9
Isaiah 40	Revelation 10
Isaiah 41	Revelation 11
Isaiah 42	Revelation 12
Isaiah 43	Revelation 13
Isaiah 44	Revelation 14
Isaiah 45	Revelation 15
Isaiah 46	Revelation 16
Isaiah 47	Revelation 17

### READ WITH FAMILY

Deuteronomy 21	Psalms 108-109
Deuteronomy 22	Psalms 110-111
Deuteronomy 23	Psalms 112-113
Deuteronomy 24	Psalms 114-115
Deuteronomy 25	Psalms 116
Deuteronomy 26	Psalms 117-118
Deuteronomy 27-28:19	Psalms 119:1-24
Deuteronomy 28:20	Psalms 119:25-48
Deuteronomy 29	Psalms 119:49-72
Deuteronomy 30	Psalms 119:73-96
Deuteronomy 31	Psalms 119:97-120
Deuteronomy 32	Psalms 119:121-144
Deuteronomy 33-34	Psalms 119:145-176
Joshua 1	Psalms 120-122
Joshua 2	Psalms 123-125

### DAY

16th
17th
18th
19th
20th
21st
22nd
23rd
24th
25th
26th
27th
28th
29th
30th

### READ IN SECRET

Isaiah 48	Revelation 18
Isaiah 49	Revelation 19
Isaiah 50	Revelation 20
Isaiah 51	Revelation 21
Isaiah 52	Revelation 22
Isaiah 53	Matthew 1
Isaiah 54	Matthew 2
Isaiah 55	Matthew 3
Isaiah 56	Matthew 4
Isaiah 57	Matthew 5
Isaiah 58	Matthew 6
Isaiah 59	Matthew 7
Isaiah 60	Matthew 8
Isaiah 61	Matthew 9
Isaiah 62	Matthew 10