



"I charge you therefore before God and the Lord Jesus Christ, who will judge the living and the dead at His appearing and His kingdom: Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables. But you be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry."

2 Timothy 4:1-5, NKJV

Attending the **Southern Baptist Convention** in **Louisville** was kind of a double-edged sword, for me. On one hand, I was encouraged as the messengers strongly approved empowering President Johnny Hunt to appoint a committee to study how to implement the Great Commission Resurgence.

This is a document first drafted by Dr. Danny Akin, president of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. The document calls for us as Southern Baptists to rethink how we are utilizing our **Cooperative Program** dollars in

accomplishing our goal of world evangelization.

The discouraging thing is the reason such a rethinking or restructuring may be needed. The truth is, baptisms among SBC churches are in decline. As I reported from the pulpit last Sunday, the sixteen million members of the Southern Baptist Church of 2008 saw the same number of baptisms as there were in 1958. Back then there were only six million Southern Baptists. That means it took ten million more of us to see the same number of people come to Christ, as fifty years ago. And this is despite the tremendous growth in population during that same time period.

I guess we shouldn't be surprised by these findings. The fact is, back in 1999, I was confronted by the statistic that 95% of those calling themselves Christians had never led another person to receive Christ as Savior. Just this week I learned from a program on Cross TV, that 90% of Christians have never even invited a neighbor to Church!

What makes this particularly difficult to swallow is that all the while the numbers are demonstrating our lack of interest in leading others to Christ, I continue to hear more and more Christians tell me they believe Jesus is coming soon!

Well, if we really do believe His coming is near, then shouldn't we be even more committed to evangelism than ever? Shouldn't we be doing everything within our power to call everyone we can to Him?

As tragic as it is to hear the death of famous superstars like Michael Jackson, Farrah Fawcett and many others who slipped into eternity last week, it is even more tragic to realize that the people we know personally and see most often, even those we love, may go out into eternity without Christ.

Every month I give you a schedule of the many events and activities going on at Immanuel in the coming weeks that we can use as opportunities to invite others to attend. Well, guess what? Other than **our 60th Anniversary celebration, July 19th**, there aren't a lot of events in our July calendar, this year.

That was by design. As a staff we wanted to bring less things to the table this summer, so that we might stop and regroup and rethink what we are doing. If what we are doing isn't resulting in more people coming to Jesus, then we need to retool our schedule books.

This month is a great opportunity for us to use.... not to invite someone to an event at Church, but to invite them to Church. Not to invite someone to a social, but to invite them to the Savior.

That is what I plan to do with the slower season of July, this year. I challenge all of us as a family of faith to do the same.

Blessings & Peace,
Brother Dan

60 YEARS TO CELEBRATE!

As I reported last month, we are preparing for Immanuel's 60th Year Anniversary. We will celebrate on Sunday, July 19th, with Sunday School, and morning and early afternoon worship services. In between we will have old-fashioned dinner on the grounds and root beer floats at the conclusion. It will be a big day, because we are celebrating 60 years of ministry.

60 years of preaching the gospel is no small feat in a culture that is now turning its ears away from the gospel and turning to myths and fables instead.

60 years of being faithful to preach and teach Baptist doctrine is no small feat in a culture that is constantly complaining of its hatred for all things doctrinal and denominational.

60 years of preaching and teaching that salvation is by grace through faith, and that Jesus is the way of salvation is worthy of our praise and thanksgiving to God. This is especially true, since we believe that salvation is a gift of God, not by baptism or church membership. This is especially true, since we preach that believing in Jesus is the Only way to be saved, in a culture where people believe that "all roads lead to heaven," and we're, "all trying to get to the same place, just using different paths."

60 years seems like a long time to those of us who are here for the moment, living temporal lives in a culture that shifts and changes, because it is built on shifting sands. But 60 years is nothing but a blip in eternity.

So, let's praise God! He has given us a history of 60 years to celebrate His praise together! That means it is time for us to recommit ourselves to His message of eternal salvation to all who believe. It is time for us to return our attention to what He is doing in us, with us, for us and through us until He comes again!

It is time for us to return for a reunion and a remembrance, as well as a renewal and a resurgence of evangelistic determination! It is time for us to reassert our determination that whether Jesus comes back tomorrow, or whether His return isn't for another 60 years, or even 600 years, that those of us who are a part of Immanuel Baptist Church will be busy about the task until He comes to call us home!



Jaxton Alan Monaghan was born on June 15, 2009 to Bill and April Monaghan. He weighed 7 lbs ¼ oz and was 21 inches long.



BACK TO SCHOOL MISSION PROJECT

The wMu needs your help for a mission opportunity experience. We are collecting school supplies for a giveaway scheduled for August 8th from 8am to 10am. We are going to open this up to the community to come and receive school supplies for free. This is going to be a big undertaking, but we know that the IBC family gives so generously for missions and this will be a great witnessing opportunity for our community and our local children. Please be apart of this mission project. We need to start collecting them now. List of items we are collecting:

- | | |
|------------------|--------------------|
| Spiral notebooks | Hand Sanitizer |
| Glue | Crayons (small pk) |
| Pencils | pencil bags |
| Loose Leaf Paper | rulers |



We have many new books in our library. Gay Totten's choices for this month are... "[Treasure in an Oatmeal Box](#)", "[She said yes, the unlikely martyrdom of Cassie Bernall](#)", "[Boys! Shaping Ordinary Boys into Extraordinary Men](#)", and the "[Best of Becky Freeman](#)". There is something for everyone. Come by the office and check something out.



Dear Friends,

It's hard to believe the summer has already been this full and it's not even over yet. We have just returned with our College and High School students from our trip to the Creation 2009 Festival. We had 22 to participate in the event of music, preaching, and teaching. While we were there, we got to witness thousands saved and many more recommit their lives to Christ. The students and leaders were treated to speakers such as Ergun Caner from Liberty University, Ron Luce from Acquire the Fire, and many more. We also were treated to music from Casting Crowns, David Crowder, Hawk Nelson, Third Day, and many more. This event was just the start to our summer.

Next on the docket is our mission's camp in Summerville WV. We will be taking students up for this event on July 27th. This year I have the privilege to lead the evening worship time in message. Be in prayer for us as we spend a week reaching the area in missions. We look forward to seeing God move in His students. Also this month we will be having our first annual "MESSY OLYMPICS" here at the church. Students will meet here at 1pm on Saturday the 18th. They will compete in teams, performing gross and strange events to win prizes. This should be a blast.

Then as August rolls around we have another trip planned. On the 4th & 5th the students will travel to Charlotte NC for a day of fun at Carrowinds and Shopping. So mark your calendars for the fun coming your way.....

Josh

