

Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints.

(Jude 1:3)

The Contender



Contending for the Open Door

I know thy works: behold, I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it: for thou hast a little strength, and hast kept my word, and hast not denied my name.

(Rev 3:8)

Email: Apostolicfaith.maysvilleky@gmail.com

The Newsletter of Apostolic Faith Tabernacle, Maysville, KY

www.aftcmaysvilleky.com

For the People had a Mind to Work.

This verse of scripture, Nehemiah chapter 4, verse 6 was written when Nehemiah and the children of Israel were rebuilding the walls of Jerusalem.

The first six months of 2020 have been very exciting at Apostolic Faith Tabernacle. After securing the necessary permits and with the arrival of the steel framing, work began in earnest to transform the former 84 Lumber building to Apostolic Faith Tabernacle. The bulk of the interior work began on Monday, January 6, 2020. Throughout the months of January, February and into March, steel framing had been installed, drywall erected, and restrooms completed in the foyer. When finished this construction will allow Apostolic Faith Tabernacle to conduct services in a temporary sanctuary while the rest of the building remains under construction.

The saints of Apostolic Faith Tabernacle have worked many hours

tirelessly and selflessly to bring this building project to where it is today.

Some, Brother Bob Thompson, Brother Ray Womacks and Brother Paul Blythe, who have retired from their jobs, have spent countless hours working on this project while others have rushed from their jobs and homes to continue working at the church, often long hours here in addition to their regular jobs.

Brother Phil Kerr of Princeton, West Virginia, has been a tremendous help with this remodeling project. His assistance on the project was invaluable. He was instrumental in getting this project started, he himself working many hours at the project site.

Brother Stan Powers has proven himself a leader as project manager, coordinating contractors, interpreting Pastor Osman's vision of the completed work, and providing project leadership throughout the ongoing

work.

Although most of his work at the church property will be hidden behind drywall and above ceilings, Brent Bell's contribution to this building project is invaluable. Every steel beam added to the building during this project was put in place and welded by Brent. Nearly all the framework and drywall are attached in some way to a beam that was welded by Mr. Bell.

As we continued to work toward getting the temporary sanctuary ready for occupancy and our first service at 1648 US 68, a worldwide pandemic struck, which was known as Covid-19, causing government shutdowns throughout the US and the world of what was deemed by the government as non-essential businesses which included churches.

With plans put on hold, we had to wait until we could hold services

(See Work, page 2)



Three Families Grow By Two Feet

There are three families who attend Apostolic Faith Tabernacle who have welcomed a new child into their families and into their hearts since the last publication of this newsletter.

On Tuesday, August 6, 2019, Oliver William Fizer was born to Joel and Tiffany Fizer of Bentonville, Ohio.

Oliver, born at Holzer Medical Center in Gallipolis, Ohio, was 22.25 inches in length and weighed 7lbs., 1oz. at birth.

Paternal grandparent is Lisa Fizer of Manchester, Ohio.

Maternal grandparents are Timothy and Debbie See of Jackson, Ohio.



Oliver William Fizer

(See newborns page 4)

Work (from p.1)

again. Video services through Zoom were our only option so God blessed the **temporary** online services. Slowly, the work continued on the construction, and we could see the dreams of our pastor and our pastor before him becoming reality.

The floor in the foyer of the sanctuary has a marble look and is simply beautiful.

Nearing completion, the church foyer is nothing short of amazing!

(See more photos of church construction on p.9)



.....
Thank God for a Man of God who is an overseer and not an over looker.

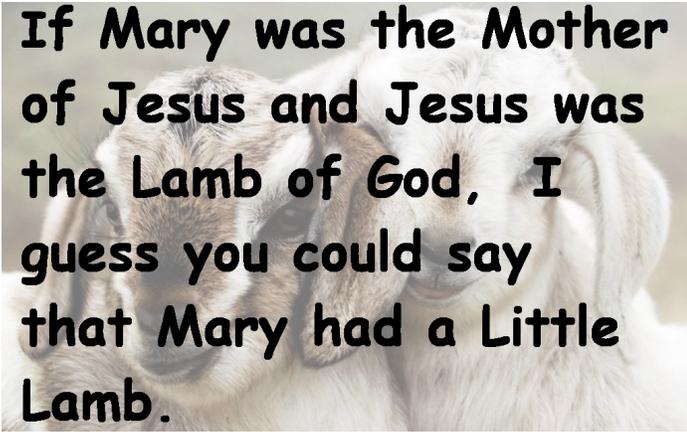
You've Got to Be Kidding!

*A merry heart doeth good like a medicine: but a broken spirit drieth the bones.
(Proverbs 17:22)*

One Short

As the storm raged, the captain realized his ship was sinking fast. He called out, "Anyone here know how to pray?" One man stepped forward. "Aye, Captain, I know how to pray." "Good," said the captain, "you pray while the rest of us put on our life jackets – we're one short."

Behold the Lamb of God



If Mary was the Mother of Jesus and Jesus was the Lamb of God, I guess you could say that Mary had a Little Lamb.

Technically Speaking

Technically, Moses was the first person with a tablet to extract data from the cloud.

Help Lord

A man, late for an important meeting, was searching desperately for a parking spot in a crowded lot. Looking up to the sky he entreated "Lord if you find me a parking spot, I promise to start going to church again." The words were barely out of his mouth, when a spot opened up right in front of his car. The man looked back up and said, "Never mind I found one."

Now Here or Nowhere

A religious women upon waking up each morning would open her front door, stand on the porch and scream, "Praise the Lord." This infuriated her atheist neighbor who would always make sure to counter back, "there is no Lord." One morning the atheist neighbor overheard his

neighbor praying for food and thinking it would be funny, he went and bought her all sorts of groceries and left them on her porch.

The next morning the lady screamed, "Praise the Lord, who gave me this food." The neighbor laughing so hard he could barely get the words out screamed "it wasn't the Lord, it was me."

The lady without missing a beat screamed "*Praise the Lord for not only giving me food but also making the devil pay for it!!*"

The Secret Service

A friend of mine was in front of me coming out of church one day, and the vicar was standing at the door, as always, to shake hands with the worshippers. He grabbed my friend by the hand and pulled him aside.

The vicar said to him, "You need to join the army of the Lord." My friend replied, "I'm already in the army of the Lord, Father."

So the vicar inquired, "Then how come I only see you at Christmas and at Easter?"

My friend whispered back, "I'm in the secret service."

The Christian Barber

There was a barber that thought that he should share his faith with his customers more than he had been doing lately. So the next morning when the sun came up and the barber got up out of bed he said, "Today I am going to witness to the first man that walks through my door."

Soon after he opened his shop the first man came in and said, "I want a shave!" The barber said, "Sure, just sit in the seat and I'll be with you in a moment." The barber went in the back and prayed a quick desperate prayer saying, "God, the first customer came in and I'm going to witness to him. So give me the wisdom to know just the right thing to say to him. Amen."

Then quickly the barber came out with his razor knife in one hand and a Bible in the other while saying "Good morning sir. I have a question for you... "Are you ready to die?"

Lactose Intolerable

Why won't we drink milk in the new world?

Because at Armageddon there will be udder destruction.

(I don't make these jokes up. I just print them)

(Newborns - from page 1)

Within a few days of Oliver’s birth, a beautiful daughter was born to Meagan and Damon Powers of Manchester, Ohio.

Charlee-Brooke Alyson Powers was born Thursday, August 22, 2019 at Meadowview Regional Medical Center in Maysville at 2:52 pm.

At birth, Charlee-Brooke weighed 6 lbs., 11 oz. and was 19.5 inches in length.

Charlee-Brooke’s maternal grandparents are Shawn and Vicki Overholser of Florence, AL.

Her paternal grandparents are Stan and Lori Powers of Manchester, OH.



Charlee-Brooke Alyson Powers



As the year 2019 approached an end, Tucker Grey Osman was born to Megan and Drew Osman of Maysville, KY on December 2, 2019 at Meadowview Regional Medical Center. Arriving at 5:05 in the evening Tucker weighed 8lbs, 4 oz. and was 21 inches in length.

Tucker’s maternal grandparents are Myron and Marybeth Whittaker of Covington, GA.

His paternal grandparents are Pastor Randy and Charlotte Osman of Maysville, KY.



Tucker Grey Osman



Finding Your purpose Podcast: Episode #8:

The Life and Legacy of Elder

William Osman

Brother Drew Osman’s *Finding Your Purpose Podcast, Episode 8* is dedicated to the Life and Legacy of our former pastor, and Brother Drew’s grandfather, the late Elder William Osman.

Several saints of the Maysville church, including our current pastor, the son of Elder William Osman, spoke of the great faith of our former pastor.

Others who knew the Elder when he first came into the church and those who knew him when he was first called into the ministry also spoke of his great faith and humility.

In addition, some of his great minister friends spoke of

their friendship with him and his faith and devotion to the kingdom of God.

One of the purposes of this podcast is to introduce the late Elder William Osman to a new generation of Apostolic saints who may not have known the great faith that the former pastor of Apostolic Faith Tabernacle in Maysville possessed.



The late Elder William Osman

Editor’s Note:

Brother Drew’s podcast, *Finding your Purpose Podcast* can be heard the first of each month on Apple Podcasts, Spotify and other platforms where podcasts are heard.

With God’s word you can take me anywhere but without it you can’t drive me an inch!



Find Your Purpose, It Will Change Your Life.

By Brother Devin Blythe

Being a youth leader is not something I take lightly. I honestly believe it is my purpose in the church and what I am called to do. As a young man in college, God began dealing with me heavily and I would feel a burden almost every night but I didn't understand what it was. I prayed often that God would show me what he wanted me to do and many times I tarried in the altar trying to figure out God's plan for my life. I attended Truth Tabernacle in Wheelersburg for midweek services during college, and a message Pastor Robert Davis preached one night put me on my face in the altar until 11:00 that night. He preached on your purpose in the church and the will of God. One night soon after, I was praying at my grandparents home in Wheelersburg and I heard a still small voice just whisper "Youth". Everything started to make sense after that. I called my wife, who was my girlfriend at the time, the next morning and told her what God had told me the night before. She said "you won't believe this, but God showed me the same thing and I was going to call and tell you". I felt a calm assurance that I was going to fulfill my purpose in God's church for this time in my life.

During our marriage counseling meeting with Pastor Osman before we got married, Pastor said something that made Cheyenne and I look at each other and smile. He told us that there was a lot of youth coming up in the church and he would like someone to help plan activities and take them to church meetings, etc. I could hardly contain the excitement as we told him that God had

already dealt with us about this and we were ready and willing. He started to smile and tears came into his eyes as he choked out "It must be God's will". And as they say, the rest is history.

Our first trip was to SkyZone in Springdale, OH and from that point on we have done our best to do as much with the youth of AFT as we possibly can. Even as I was working two jobs trying to provide for my family, I tried to always keep a weekend night open so we could take them to a church meeting or get them together for games. I strongly believe the time, money, and effort that we put into our youth will have a direct impact on their walks with God and hopefully help them find *their* purpose in the church just like we did. You can't really describe the love and the burden that we have for the youth but Cheyenne and I can honestly say we pray for them daily and try to do our part to see them saved.

Not everyone's purpose is to be a youth leader, a preacher, singer or a Sunday school teacher, but I believe everyone should find their purpose in the church because it's there if they are willing to do it. I want to be a willing vessel that he can use and be able to hear him say, "Well done thy good and faithful SERVANT". Then we can dance on streets of gold with the young people that we played a small part in getting there. God bless the youth of AFT and may everyone who reads this find their purpose in the kingdom of God. **DB**



From Anger to Fear

I don't know but this anger, this spirit of anger, that's fueling even this recent presidential campaign is a reflection of the mind of this age. People are restless, people are frustrated and this anger, this boiling inferno... this boiling inferno of unrest and anger is causing good Apostolics to fight the battle of bitterness. There is a frustration in the pulpit and there is an unsettled, carnal frustration in the pew and everything we ever stood for, everything the elders have ever preached is now being challenged in the hearts of men and women.

Why? Because there's this unrelenting pressure from the anger! *"Where's God? Has God left me? Where's the God of yesterday? If I have the Holy Ghost, why am I not happy?"*

And that anger is propelling one man in this campaign who, in my humble opinion, lacks substance. Fear is the next wave that's going to come through this global community, mainly, namely America when this anger has finished the sentence. Right now there's a comma. Don't put a period here,

there's just a comma.

With anger will come fear and the next wave behind anger is going to put up another man. Anger's promoting one man now but fear will promote another man. If we're not careful and get it settled, peace in our hearts right now, we'll be swept with the tsunami of fear that's coming next and we'll sell our soul, we'll sell our birthright, we'll sell our principles because we are afraid.

I'm going to start trusting the Lord now! I'm going to walk in peace now! I'm going to say, "Hey God, the steps of a good man are ordered of the Lord! You know where I'm supposed to be! You brought me here!"

ANGER IS PROMOTING ONE MAN NOW BUT FEAR WILL PROMOTE ANOTHER MAN.

The preceding was an excerpt from the message "THE VANISHING VIRTUE OF LOYALTY" preached by Elder Bill Pitman of Forest, MS at Apostolic Faith Tabernacle, Maysville, Sunday morning, March 6, 2016.



Thank God For His Blessing!!

By Brother Devin Blythe, Church Youth Leader



Church Bus Donated by Pastor and Sister Morrell and church, Covington, GA

God blessed the youth of Apostolic Faith Tabernacle with a church bus during the coronavirus pandemic. Pastor and Sister Morrell and Higher Praise Tabernacle, Covington, GA donated one of their twenty-one passenger church buses to Apostolic Faith Tabernacle and it is going to be such a blessing! Before this we could only take twelve in our old church van and everyone else had to be in a separate vehicle. With the new church bus we can all fit in one vehicle with plenty of luggage space. It will be great for youth trips and camp meetings!

Thank you Pastor and Sister Morrell and Higher Praise Tabernacle! And thank God for this, one of His many, many blessings! **DB**



New Look For Old Building



The former 84 Lumber building will soon be getting a new look. Work is soon to begin on the front exterior of the building that will give the building the look of a church instead of a place of business.

The photo on the left is the current condition of the front of the building while the photo on the right is an artist's rendering of how the exterior will look when work is completed. **TC**



Musical Moments

In each issue we feature a musician from our church. Our featured musician in this issue is our church organist, Brother Drew Osman. Brother Drew is also a young minister in the church.

When did you decide or realize that you wanted to be a musician?

I do not really recall when it first came to me because as long as I can remember I had a fascination with music. Many years ago, when I was a small child my family and I were at a conference in Nashville, Tennessee and near the end of an offering, a saxophone player was playing an instrumental. My father was sitting about half-way back in the congregation I was up at the front of the church acting like I was playing a saxophone. I was two or three at the time so I can say I have always had a deep love for music.

When did you decide that your instrument of choice would be the organ?

I started out playing the drums. My parents bought me a drum set when I was young, about a year old I believe. From that moment on I have had a love for music. I started playing the drums, but the church already had a drummer. Then I decided I would play the base guitar because that was what several of the young boys in the church were doing. Then, shortly after I realized my greater desire was for the organ so that is where we are today. It was not that I did not like the bass guitar or the drums, it was just that the organ was where my heart was.

Are you still proficient on the drums and bass guitar?

You do get a little rusty but the instruments stick with you.

You mentioned lessons on the organ. Who was your teacher or teachers?

I took lessons in Louisville, Kentucky for a while, but my teacher just did not hold my interest, so I acquired some mentors in my life who sent me things to study with.

Other than the home church, where are some other places you have played?

I played at Western Kentucky Youth Conference in Madisonville, Kentucky. Another neat place I got to play was at Elder Russell Frazier's in Fontana, California when my father preached his camp meeting.

Another place I hold very dear to my heart was when I played the bass guitar at Elder Larry Taylor's funeral.

Do you get nervous playing at other churches?

Absolutely! In my home church I am comfortable because Brother Jonathan Blythe carries me. At the home church I can do little moves and it sounds good.

At a few places I had to play lead on the organ, and I got extremely nervous.

You mentioned, at an early age that you knew

that you wanted to play music. Was there anyone specifically who inspired you at that age to jump in and learn to play?

Brother Jonathan Blythe has always been a great musical hero of mine. He is one of the best piano players, period! One of the best in Southern Gospel music! If you get a quartet up there, he is phenomenal! Brother Blythe makes the piano talk, so he has always been a big inspiration to me.

As far as the organ is concerned, Shelbyville, Indiana has always been a big part of my inspiration. When I was a young child, I loved to listen to Brother David Howell play the organ so I would consider him one of my musical heroes.

Is there any great musical memory that you recall above all the others?

One of my favorite memories of playing music is not playing music. Let me explain; as much as I love music, I am more interested in the Holy Ghost moving in a service. One year at Western Kentucky Youth Conference the musicians practiced all the songs together. We had gotten there two hours early to practice. I did not get any sleep and I was worn out!

The Holy Ghost began to move in the prayer meeting. After the first song Elder Keith Avery said if we just pushed a little, something would happen. He told the musicians to put our instruments down and when we locked arms and began to worship you could see the Holy Ghost moving from one side of the congregation to the other like a wave.

Do you practice on a regular basis?

Almost every day. I am constantly listening to music and looking for ways to get better. It is a constant learning and if you are not constantly critiquing yourself you will not get any better. Oftentimes you will go the other way.

Is there anyone, professional or non-professional that you would like to collaborate on a project with?

I know this sounds cliché, but in my opinion the Apostolic church has the best talent anywhere, period! I have heard young guys in recent years that sound like professionals. There are a wide range of musicians that I would love to work on a project with. I have seen musicians in the last few years that are simply amazing! Each group or band that you play with has a different style. When the men of the home church play together, we know where everyone one is at. Since we play every night together we have a collectiveness.

When you make a mistake in the service do you keep on playing?

Yes, you act like nothing happened and most of the time people does not even notice. .

Any final comments?

The music in the Apostolic Church, (people do not realize this) really does call for the anointing because every single song affects the service. The most important part of a service for me as a musician, the most stressful time is the alter call. You must really be linked up because the preacher is not concerned with what song you sing, therefore the music must pickup and put their minds together and figure out what is appropriate for the service at that moment.

High School Graduation Parade and Party

Friday, May 29, 2020 Due to the covid-19 pandemic, there was no regular graduation for the class of 2020.

Even though it was raining, spirits were not dampened as the church gathered to watch the graduation parade to honor Mason County high school's graduating class of 2020.

Sister Audrey Blythe, a senior who attends Apostolic faith Tabernacle was riding in an red, 1950 Ford pickup owned and driven by Darrell Hunt of Tollesboro, Kentucky. The third passenger in the truck was Audrey's father, David.

The parade route began at the high school and proceeded to the middle school, taking it past the church where there was a huge cheering section for Audrey. People had gathered at the entrance of the church to cheer as she passed by.

It was originally planned for Audrey to ride in the back of the truck with her mother and father riding in the front with the driver but those plans were changed when it literally *rained on Audrey's parade*.

Following the parade there was a graduation party for Audrey in the building behind the church. Food and drink was served as was graduation cake. Sister Audrey received several cards and gifts.

During and following the parade, a beautiful double rainbow appeared in the sky. It was as if God was saying, "*My child, I've got this*".

Audrey, we wish you all the best in all your future endeavors.



Photo from the front page of The Ledger Independent; Monday, June 1, 2020.



Above Photo by Audrey's uncle, Tim McCann

Be careful what you ask for because you may just get it.

(Work, from page 2)

The sisters of Apostolic Faith Tabernacle did a wonderful job painting the restrooms in the foyer and the trim in the foyer. A mural in the nursery was drawn free-hand and painted by Sister Megan Osman. It is simply amazing!

Brother Nathan Golden who attends Christian Tabernacle, an Apostolic church in Indianapolis, IN, painted the walls of the temporary sanctuary and the foyer.

Joe Keith and his son Kyle installed the drywall in office and restroom areas as well as portions of the temporary sanctuary and foyer.

The sisters of Apostolic Faith Tabernacle painted the restrooms in the foyer and the also made and painted the trim in the foyer.

M&K plumbing was responsible for the plumbing which included all interior plumbing, digging for and laying the main lines to installing water fountains and all restroom appliances and fixtures. Kevin Ginn and his workers did a tremendous

job!

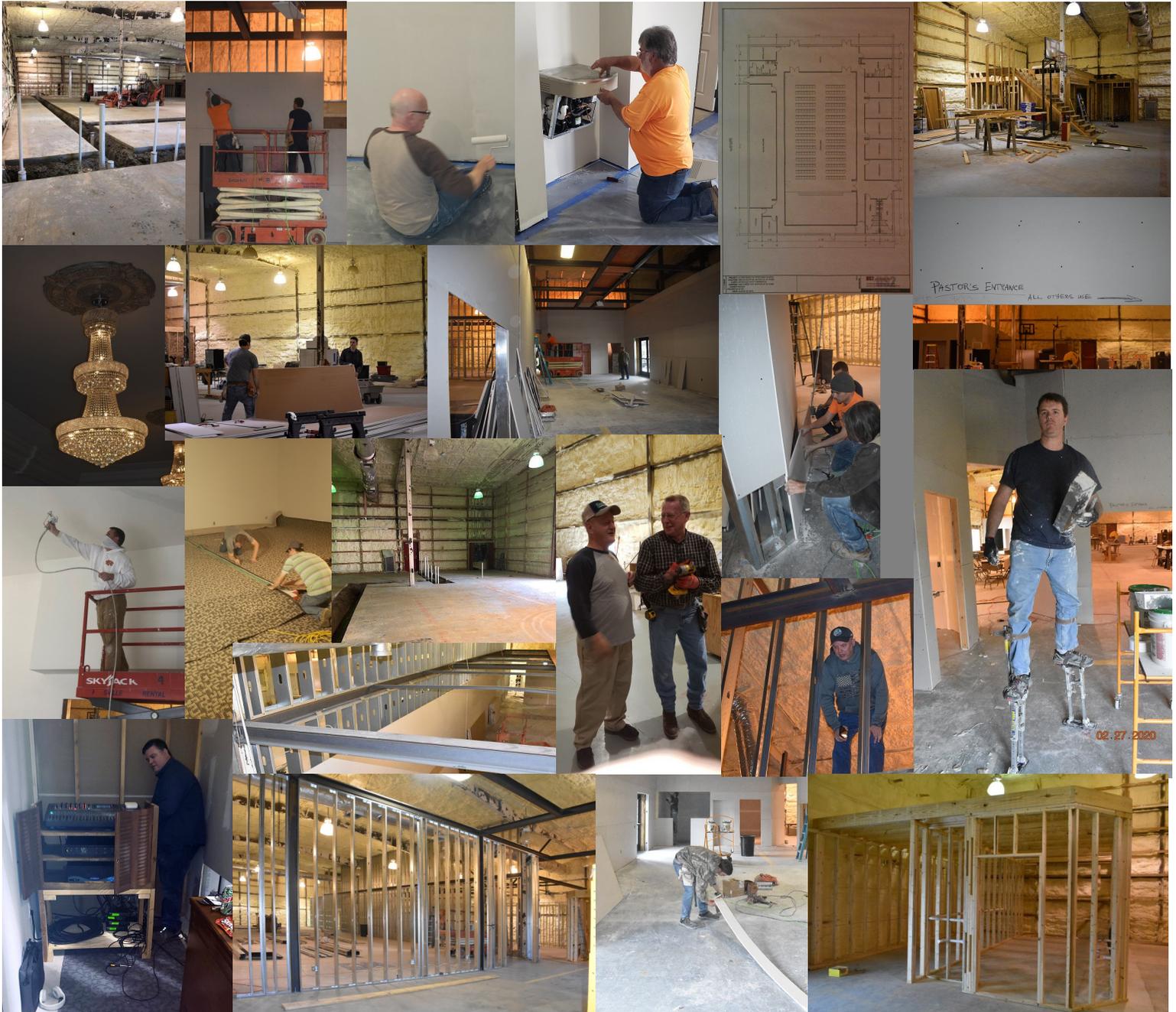
Doug Applete and his crew installed the drywall in the temporary sanctuary and the foyer.

The chandeliers in the foyer were put together by the sisters of Apostolic Faith Tabernacle. Imagine the work of putting them together piece by piece! They did a great job!

The carpet in the temporary sanctuary was laid by Winchester Carpet located in Winchester, Ohio

We apologize to anyone we may have overlooked as many contributed to this project! Please know that your hard work and labor is greatly appreciated

A tremendous thank you to all who have helped bring this project to where it is today. We are looking forward to the day that we can celebrate the completion of this building project! As work progresses on this project we will keep you updated in the Contender.



When mercy prevails judgement is not compromised. When mercy prevails, judgement is satisfied.

And Now, a Word From Our Pastor

Pastor Randy Osman

Romans 8:18-25

AN ETERNAL OPTIMIST

A lady by the name of Helen Keller wrote a book entitled *Optimism*. It was copyrighted in 1903. It would be hard to get excited about a book with such a title if it was written by someone who had it all together. I would be unimpressed by the title if it weren't for the unique circumstances out of which the author wrote it. Before the age of two, Helen Keller had lost her vision and her hearing. In an instant her world went silent and dark. At the age of two a godsend by the name of Anne Sullivan broke through Helen's solitary confinement and touched her soul. Helen Keller became the first deaf and blind person to earn a bachelor's degree. She also authored a dozen books including a manifesto on the philosophy of a life of optimism. She said no pessimist ever discovered the secrets of the stars. The last page of her book echoes the first page of scripture. "Optimism is that harmony of man's spirit and the Spirit of God proclaiming His works good."

If the Spirit of God is in you then optimism is the order of the day. It is part of our spiritual birth-right. Helen Keller's book goes on to say that optimism is not at odds with the reality that is around us. To be an optimist you do not have to ignore circumstances around you. To be an optimist simply means we are anchored to another reality. The crucifixion and the resurrection of Jesus Christ is much deeper, stronger and longer than the reality that we can perceive with our five senses.

Most of us take our eye sight for granted but even the simplest of visual processes is divinely complex. The retina alone performs approximately ten billion calculations every second. *We are wonderfully and fearfully made*. Man has never and will never be able to create a computer that will ever come close to matching what God has created. As stated, the retina performs nearly ten billion calculations per second and that is before an image even travels through the optic nerve to the visual cortex. As amazing as the human eye is, something more amazing still is the mind's eye. It is the mind's eye that enables us to imagine the unthinkable and believe the impossible. In the words of Helen Keller, "The only thing worse than being blind is having sight and no vision".

As the eternal optimist we do not place our hopes on what we see. The Apostle Paul said that hope that is seen is not hope (*Romans 8:24*). We do not place our hope on the falling world around us. We don't place our hope in the national and world leaders because we know that men will fail and have fallen. We have a hope tonight that is beyond this life.

The church has been under attack and has suffered persecution since its inception. It has literally been through the fire. God has always had a church even throughout what is known as the dark ages. People were still being baptized in Jesus' name and people were still receiving the Holy Ghost.

Sin today is a result of the sin of Adam and not the fall of creation. God saw that his creation was good (*Genesis 1:31*)

Because of Adam's sin, creation is suffering, it is groaning, it is in decay and God is angry with the wicked every day. (*Psalms 7:11*) There is not a day goes by that God is not angry with the wicked.

God has not changed his mind how he feels about sin. The believer does not focus on today's sufferings, he looks for tomorrow's glory. A Christian is not looking at the suffering of this world, he is looking up!

A child of God goes through trials as does the sinner (*Matthew 7:25*). When saints of God are going through trials, the world looks at us and wonders where our peace comes from. They think we are ignoring reality. What they don't realize is that a child of God does not ignore reality. He is aware of another reality.

Sinners are crying, "what are we going to do, what are we going to do!" We, as children of God have our hope in another reality. What are we going to do? We are going to have church, we are going to praise God, we are going to pray, have revival, and we are going to see people born again and healed. God gave the church hope for a future in heaven with Him. That is our other reality.

With the shape that this world is in right now, we need to get our eyes off of what we can see and get them on what we cannot see.

When we hear and see what is going on in this world we need to look up, our redemption draws nigh. We have an eternal hope that God is coming after a bride that has made herself ready. Look up with an optimistic outlook. While the entire army of Israel was too frightened to respond to the call of Goliath, David had the optimistic attitude that with God fighting with him he knew he could take the giant.

If we go to God with faith and an optimistic spirit, He will do great things for and with Apostolic Faith Tabernacle.

The preceding message was preached by Pastor Osman at Apostolic Faith Tabernacle on Sunday evening, May 24, 2020

Marrying for puppy love will lead to a dog's life.