

# The Holy Journal

Fbrichmondpark.com

Quarter 2 2020

Rev. William Davis, Sr.,  
Pastor

**Ministerial Staff**

Rev. Leonard Harrel, Sr.,  
Assistant Pastor

Rev. Sharon Harrel

Evg. Patricia H. Norwood



## From The Pastor's Desk

Rev. William Davis, Sr., pastor

Greetings in the blessed name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus the Christ. We truly thank our Heavenly Father, and God's indwelling Holy Spirit for blessing us and keeping us in His care. We are truly thankful and blessed to be able to share a few anointed words of encouragement to all of our Christian family. It is truly a joyous blessing to be alive and on the battlefield for our Lord. As a Christ believer, we can

boldly proclaim not just in words but also in our actions, reflections, and in our Christian walk. We must be steadfast and fully dedicated and obedient to God's holy word. We find ourselves living in difficult and dangerous times, but thanks be to God we can be steadfast and always abounding on our Christian journey. There's a scripture that I ask every Christian to receive, believe, and live by. 2 Corinthians 5:1 says,

"For we walk by faith and not by sight," and our faith is steadfast in Jesus Christ. Church family, now is the time for all Christian believers to let our light and life shine brightly. Let us pray for one another, study and grow in God's holy word.

May God bless and keep you in His care.

**Pastor and First Lady, William and Emily Davis**

## The "New" Normal!?!?

L.A.Davis

Love, Grace, and Peace Family! I pray this 'letter' finds you safe and doing well in the Hands of Christ!

As we begin the second quarter of 2020, we see the whole world basically living in fear and isolation. Things are happening that we have never, ever seen before, and I pray that this crisis is drawing us all closer to God than we've ever been before. For those of us Christians who find ourselves in fear, I pray that you heed to the command to "Give all your worries to Him because He cares for you." 1 Peter 5:7 (NLV) "For God hath not given us the

*spirit of fear, but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.* " 2 Timothy 1:7 (KJV). Now more than ever we need to hold on to these and other scriptures of comfort and peace.

The Bible tells us in Ecclesiastes 1:9, **there is nothing new under the sun.** God is still in control! Don't let the world's news overwhelm your lives for our Good News (Hope) is still in Jesus Christ!

So as we walk by faith throughout this quarter, and especially during this Holy Week, let us continue to keep our eyes on Jesus, our hands up to the Father,

and our hearts opened to the Holy Spirit! We will make it by the grace of God, adjusting to this **new normal!!!**

Please continue to lift up all families who have been personally touched by this virus, all leaders, all doctors, all nurses, all essential personnel, all parents, all children, and all Christians all over this world,

Joshua 1:9 implores us to **"...Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go."** And right now it **should be NOWHERE!** 😊  
In Jesus' Love...

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# Second Quarter Birthday Greetings

## First Lady Emily Davis

### April

Happy birthday to all of those born in the month of April! We pray that you enjoy your special day during this new spring season and appreciate all that the Lord has done in your life. We also pray that everyone has a safe and Happy Easter. The Lord has risen! And He is always the reason for our celebration. We also pray that everyone is following the recommended guidelines for staying home and staying healthy. God will protect and lead us through these uncertain times!

### May

Happy birthday to all of those

born in the month of May! We will praise God as we celebrate the coming summer months. This Mother's Day, we pray that you take the time to recognize all of the mothers in your life and appreciate everything they have done for you. Strong and powerful mothers lead through Christ and guide their loved ones in a positive direction. To the mothers of First Baptist Church, thank you for all that you have done in your leadership and guidance. We love you and are grateful for all that you do! We would also like to wish a special Happy Birthday to our wonderful Pastor William Davis! We are so blessed to be led by such an inspiring and God-

fearing pastor. We appreciate you so much!

### June

Happy birthday to all of those born in the month of June. We thank God for the gift of summer! May God bless and watch over all of you. This Father's Day, we also want to recognize all of the wonderful fathers we have in our lives! We give thanks to God, the ultimate father and our earthly fathers, past and present. And especially to our fathers that we have here at First Baptist! You all are setting an amazing example for future generations. We thank God for your leadership and dedication!

## The Easter Story

Jesus came to compensate  
For all the wrongs we do.  
He came to earth to die for us,  
So we'd be born anew.

"This bitter cup, let it pass from me,"  
He cried, in a plaintive voice;  
"Yet not My will, but Thine be done;"  
He said, in His faithful choice.

The Judas kiss would seal his fate;  
He faced a hostile crowd;  
The governor, Pilate, saw through it all;  
Jesus' guilt he disavowed.

"I wash my hands of all of this,"  
Said Pilate, "Let Him be."  
But the crowd yelled "Crucify him now,  
And set Barabbas free!"

Pilate yielded to their wish;  
And Jesus was led away.  
The soldiers beat him, and mocked Him, too,  
Yet He continued to obey.

A crown of thorns lay on His head,  
As His sentence was carried out;  
His hands and feet were pierced with nails,  
But He did not scream or shout.

"Father, forgive them for this crime;  
They know not what they do."  
He said this despite His torment,  
because,  
He was thinking of me and you.  
"It is finished," he sighed in His anguish and pain,  
As His body gave up to death.  
The curtain tore, and darkness fell,  
After He took His last breath.

The best of the story is the very last part;  
It's why on Easter we're filled with pleasure:  
Death could not our Savior hold;  
His power is beyond all measure.

He rose from the grave, and was seen all around;  
Ever since, He's inspired devotion,  
And we'll be with Him for eternity,  
When we get our heavenly promotion.

That's why Easter is a major event:  
He suffered and died in our place.  
He rose and forgave us and loves us still,  
Our Savior of matchless grace.

By Joanna Fuchs

## MOTHERS' & FATHERS' DAY WISHES

REV. SHARON HARREL

The months of May and June bring the holidays set aside to honor and appreciate our parents – **Mother's Day** in May and **Father's Day** in June. We thank God for our parents and are grateful for the love, nurturing, and training that makes us the person we are today.

I am thankful for my parents who introduced Christ in my life and reared me in the church. What a difference to know that I have been saved by grace; that God loved me so much He gave his only son for the redemption of my sins; and his son Jesus loved me so much that he gave his very life just for me.

**Happy Mother's Day to all mothers and Happy Father's Day to all fathers!**



## Words To Live By



Praise God for the second quarter of the year 2020—the months of April, May and June!

Today finds us in the midst of the Coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic. Emotions are in a rage and many fear the unknown of tomorrow. God is our assurance that He is in control no matter what the conditions are. Jesus our redeemer provided victory over all things when he suffered on the Christ just for us. No matter what it looks like trust in God and know that He is a God of miracles, signs and wonders; and He specializes in the impossible. **There is nothing too hard for God!**

### "A GARDEN EXPERIENCE"

*He went a little farther. Then He fell with His face to the ground. He prayed, "My Father, if it is possible, take this cup of suffering away from Me. But let what You want be done, not what I want."* – Matthew 26:39

With spiritual darkness surrounding Jesus, He felt the need to go to the Garden of Gethsemane to pray. A war is being waged between good and evil, and the hope of mankind is hanging in the balance. Jesus is grappling with the temptation to stop short of completing His divine assignment, and Satan is using all of the tools at his disposal in an all-out attempt to destroy God's plan for man's salvation.

What we see here is that there is a Garden experience for all of us in this life; we will all have a moment

that will define who we are and what is most important to us. And how we respond to that moment will determine our eternal destiny. And if we are going to successfully navigate our Garden experience, then there are some things we must know about the Garden.

**The Garden is a lonely place;** we must face it by ourselves. Jesus took the disciples with Him to the Garden, but He went through the Garden experience by Himself. We should not expect others to help us through our Garden experiences; people have a tendency to get tired, and they will fall asleep on us when they are supposed to be helping us. But when we are faced with a Garden experience, we must do what Jesus did—turn toward Heaven and call on our Heavenly Father. His ear is always listening; His eyes are always open; He's always there to comfort me in my lonely hours.

**The Garden is a vulnerable place;** it is where we are most open to being overcome and defeated by Satan. Surely, evil is always present, trying to bring us down. But when we are passing through the Garden, when we are dispirited and exhausted, that's when Satan will bring his all against us. But that's when we must make up our minds that we are going to trust the Lord anyhow and stand firm on His promises. He promised to give us the strength to overcome; He promised to never leave nor forsake us; He promised that we can do all things through Christ, who strengthens us.

Finally, **the Garden is a victorious place;** the Garden is a place where Satan can be defeated if we keep hold of our faith. In fact, our faith is better coming out of the Garden than it was going in, because faith is stronger once its been through

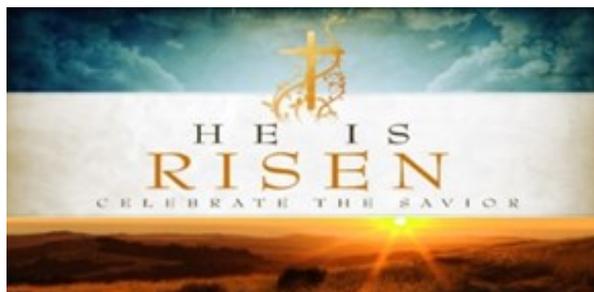
the fire.

Jesus knew that man's fate was balanced on the scales of eternity—Salvation versus eternal darkness. Jesus was being asked to drink from a very bitter cup, which contained the sin of mankind. In that dark hour, Jesus stretched out on the ground and cried, "Father, if it's possible, let this cup pass from Me."

But I like to believe that Jesus looked down the corridors of time and saw me—destined for Hell and eternal death, unable to help myself—and He decided, "No matter what the cost, I've got to go." And right there, Jesus claimed His Garden victory: "Not My will, but Your will be done!"

**Heavenly Father, thank you for Jesus, who loved us so much that He paid the price for our redemption. As we go today, may we share with others the Good News that Jesus has declared victory in our lives, if we would trust in Him.**

**"My Father, if it is possible, take this cup of suffering away from Me. But let what You want be done, not what I want." Matthew 26:39**



NO + FEAR

# Fear Not

Submitted by Bro. Matthew Sharper, Sr.

This can be a scary world. There are unknown tomorrows, unmet needs, concealed uncertainties, and a host of other unknowns that trouble adults and children. As frightening as they may be, there can be comfort for Christians when facing these fearsome barriers. God's hand on their lives should assure them nothing will happen to them unless God wills it for their lives or desires it so He will get the glory. Some of the many "fear not's" in the Bible should encourage the believer that God will comfort us when we face:

**The journey of life.** As He promised Isaac He would help him throughout his life, He will also help His own in this day and time.

*"And the LORD appeared unto him the same night, and said, I am the God of Abraham thy father: fear not, for I am with thee, and will bless thee, and multiply thy seed for my servant Abraham's sake." Genesis 26:24*

**Lack of necessities during hard times.** He will provide for His own during hard times; even when there is not a practical solution, just as He did the "impossible" to meet Elijah's needs.

*"And Elijah said unto her, Fear not; go and do as thou hast said: but make me thereof a little cake first, and bring it unto me, and after make for thee and for thy son. For thus saith the LORD God of Israel, The barrel of meal shall not waste, neither shall the cruse of oil fail, until the day that the LORD sendeth rain upon the earth." I Kings 17:13-14*

**Peril.** The enemy is always outnumbered when God is on your side; as Elisha's servant was allowed to witness.

*"And he answered, Fear not: for they that be with us are more than they that be with them. And Elisha prayed, and said, LORD, I pray thee, open his eyes, that he may see. And the LORD opened the eyes of the*

*young man; and he saw: and, behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire round about Elisha. And when they came down to him, Elisha prayed unto the LORD, and said, Smite this people, I pray thee, with blindness. And he smote them with blindness according to the word of Elisha." II Kings 6:16-18*

**Overpowering obstacles.** As God promised Israel that he would help and strengthen them, He also can do the same for the believer that goes to Him for protection and strength.

*"But thou, Israel, art my servant, Jacob whom I have chosen, the seed of Abraham my friend. ... Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness. Behold, all they that were incensed against thee shall be ashamed and confounded: they shall be as nothing; and they that strive with thee shall perish. Thou shalt seek them, and shalt not find them, even them that contended with thee: they that war against thee shall be as nothing, and as a thing of naught." Isaiah 41:8-12*

**Trials alone.** God promised to be with Israel through all the hardships they would face. He also will be with today's born-again believer, if he will call and wait patiently on God when he goes through scary unknowns.

*"... O Israel, Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou art mine. When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee. For I am the LORD thy God, the Holy One of Israel, thy Saviour: ... Since thou wast precious in my sight, thou hast been honourable, and I have loved thee: therefore will I give men for*

*thee, and people for thy life. Fear not: for I am with thee: I will bring thy seed from the east, and gather thee from the west;" Isaiah 43:1-5*

**Unknown tomorrows.** God knows the details of every believer's future, including what they need. He will take care of them!

*"... And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing? and one of them shall not fall on the ground without your Father. But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear ye not therefore, ye are of more value than many sparrows. Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven." Matthew 10:27-32*

**Death.** Death may be scary to some. God is in control of even that.

*"And when I saw him, I fell at his feet as dead. And he laid his right hand upon me, saying unto me, Fear not; I am the first and the last: I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death." Revelation 1:17-18*

People have always been afraid of something. God has always been there to meet their needs when they faced dilemmas. Although, we may not have all the promises given specifically to certain biblical individuals, it is the same God that helped them that can also still our worrisome mind about our unknowns. Fear not; God can help you.

**"Fear is faithlessness."**

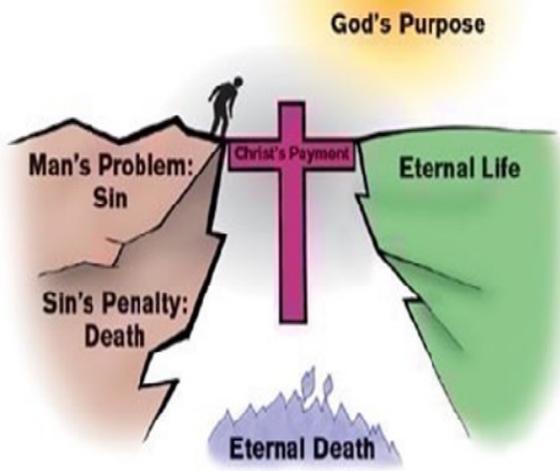


"Fear is Faithlessness."

# Bible Reading Chart—Second Quarter

Submitted by Bro. Matthew Sharper, Sr.

April	May	June
1 = 1 Samuel 11-13	1 = 2 Kings 8, 9	1 = Ezra 9, 10
2 = 1 Samuel 14, 15	2 = 2 Kings 10-12	2 = Nehemiah 1-3
3 = 1 Samuel 16, 17	3 = 2 Kings 13, 14	3 = Nehemiah 4-6
4 = 1 Samuel 18-20	4 = 2 Kings 15, 16	4 = Nehemiah 7, 8
5 = 1 Samuel 21-24	5 = 2 Kings 17, 18	5 = Nehemiah 9, 10
6 = 1 Samuel 25-27	6 = 2 Kings 19, 21	6 = Nehemiah 11-13
7 = 1 Samuel 28-31	7 = 2 Kings 22-25	7 = Esther 1-3
8 = 2 Samuel 1-3	8 = 1 Chronicles 1	8 = Esther 4-7
9 = 2 Samuel 4-7	9 = 1 Chronicles 2-4	9 = Esther 8-10
10 = 2 Samuel 8-11	10 = 1 Chronicles 5, 6	10 = Job 1-5
11 = 2 Samuel 12, 13	11 = 1 Chronicles 7-9	11 = Job 6-10
12 = 2 Samuel 14, 15	12 = 1 Chronicles 10-12	12 = Job 11-15
13 = 2 Samuel 16, 17	13 = 1 Chronicles 13-16	13 = Job 16-21
14 = 2 Samuel 18, 19	14 = 1 Chronicles 17-19	14 = Job 22-28
15 = 2 Samuel 20-22	15 = 1 Chronicles 20-23	15 = Job 29-33
16 = 2 Samuel 23, 24	16 = 1 Chronicles 24-26	16 = Job 34-37
17 = 1 Kings 1	17 = 1 Chronicles 27-29	17 = Job 38-42
18 = 1 Kings 2, 3	18 = 2 Chronicles 1-4	18 = Psalms 1-9
19 = 1 Kings 4-6	19 = 2 Chronicles 5-7	19 = Psalms 10-17
20 = 1 Kings 7	20 = 2 Chronicles 8-10	20 = Psalms 18-22
21 = 1 Kings 8	21 = 2 Chronicles 11-14	21 = Psalms 23-31
22 = 1 Kings 9, 10	22 = 2 Chronicles 15-18	22 = Psalms 32-37
23 = 1 Kings 11, 12	23 = 2 Chronicles 19-22	23 = Psalms 38-44
24 = 1 Kings 13, 14	24 = 2 Chronicles 23-25	24 = Psalms 45-51
25 = 1 Kings 15-17	25 = 2 Chronicles 26-28	25 = Psalms 52-59
26 = 1 Kings 18, 19	26 = 2 Chronicles 29, 30	26 = Psalms 60-67
27 = 1 Kings 20, 21	27 = 2 Chronicles 31-33	27 = Psalms 68-71
28 = 1 Kings 22, 2 Kl. 1	28 = 2 Chronicles 34, 35	28 = Psalms 72-77
29 = 2 Kings 2-4	29 = 2 Chron. 36, Ezra 1, 2	29 = Psalms 78-81
30 = 2 Kings 5-7	30 = Ezra 3-5	30 = Psalms 82-89
...	31 = Ezra 6-8	...



**Second Quarter Dates To Remember:**

4/5	4/10	4/12	5/5	5/10	5/25	6/14	6/21

# First Baptist Church of Richmond Park

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## Ministerial Staff

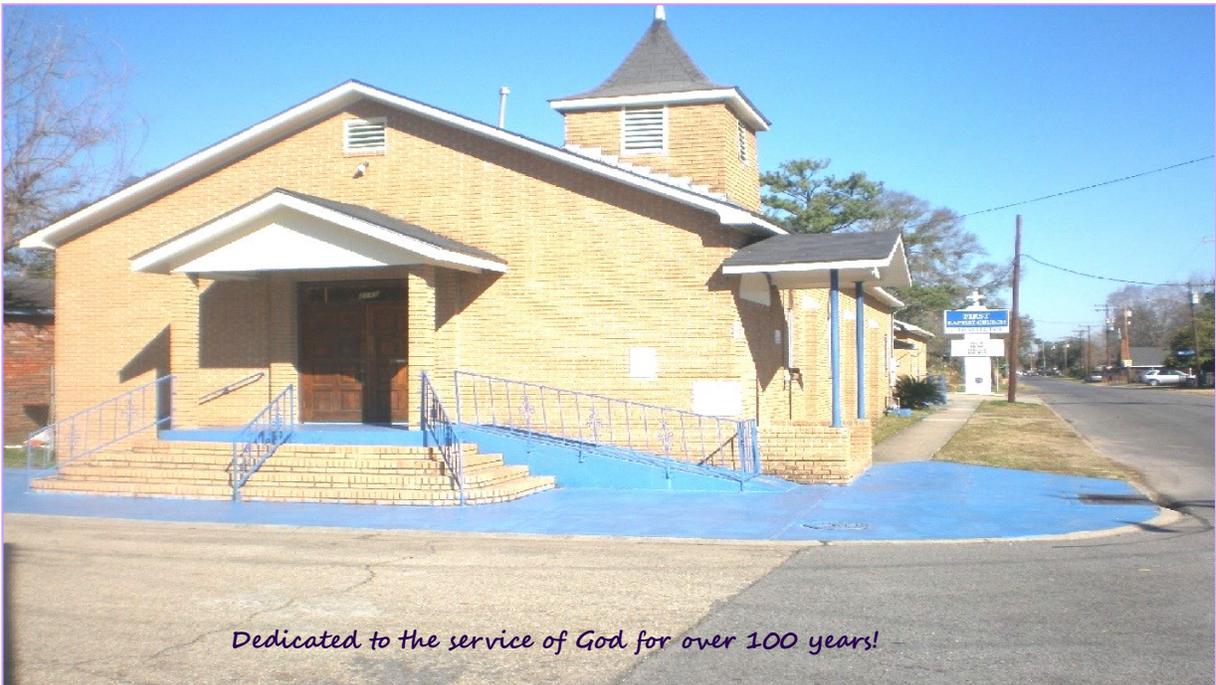
Rev. William Davis, Sr., pastor  
Rev. Leonard Harrel, assistant pastor  
Rev. Sharon Harrel  
Min. Patricia Norwood

*Please join us on*

Sundays @ 11:00 a.m. - Worship Service

Tuesdays @ 6:30 p.m. - Prayer & Bible Study

Alternating Wednesdays @ 11:00 a.m. - Mid-week  
Service



*Dedicated to the service of God for over 100 years!*

FBC CALENDAR OF EVENTS & BIRTHDAYS

APRIL 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	NOTES:
			1	2	3	4	<b>Apr 04</b> Sparkle Chatman; Candace Sharper
							<b>Apr 09</b> Mother Valerie Sharper
5	6	7	8	9	<b>10</b>	11	<b>Apr 10 Good Friday;</b> Johnny Berry John Coleman, Sr.
<b>12</b>	13	14	15	16	17	18	<b>Apr 12 Easter Sunday</b>
							<b>Apr 17</b> Matthew Sharper, Jr.
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	<b>Apr 19</b> Lauren Dunn
							<b>Apr 28</b> Kelvin Gray, Sr.
26	27	28	29	30			

MAY 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	NOTES:
					1	2	<b>May 02</b> Audrey Claiborne; Larry Holliday
							<b>May 03</b> Byron Sharper, Sr.
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	<b>May 04</b> Tyler Wilcox
							<b>May 05</b> Pastor William Davis, Sr.
<b>10</b>	11	12	13	14	15	16	<b>May 09</b> Geron Holliday
							<b>May 10 Mother's Day</b>
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	<b>May 24</b> Stephen Harrel
							<b>May 25 Memorial Day</b>
24	<b>25</b>	26	27	28	29	30	<b>May 28</b> Vandarius Argeyo; Ebon Linton, Jr.
							<b>May 30</b> Marna Mack
31							<b>May 31</b> Kyron Davis

JUNE 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	NOTES:
	1	2	3	4	5	6	<b>Jun 03</b> Byron Ford, Jr.
							<b>Jun 07</b> Christopher Johnson, Jr.
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	<b>Jun 09</b> Lateisha Holliday; Joshua Mason
							<b>Jun 14 Women Day</b>
<b>14</b>	15	16	17	18	19	20	<b>Jun 15</b> Melissa H. Williams
							<b>Jun 16</b> John Byrd; Quinton Freeman
<b>21</b>	22	23	24	25	26	27	<b>Jun 21 Father's Day;</b> Terrance Chatman
							<b>Jun 23</b> Shenique Holliday
28	29	30					<b>Jun 24</b> Shalonda Watson; Rachel Haynes
							<b>Jun 25</b> Leonard Harrel, III
							<b>Jun 30</b> Jayceon Graham; Justin Sharper