

# The

February 26, 2012  
Volume 25 Issue 4

# V I S I O N

**Terry Parker Baptist Church**

*Love God, Love People, Share the Good News*

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## **Surprised By Hope:**

### **Rethinking Heaven, the Resurrection, and the Mission of the Church**

Christians normally think of the future in terms of 'heaven', but the promised reality is far greater: a new heaven and a new earth...a whole new creation! Once you share this vision of the future with God, it will transform how you understand the purpose of life and the mission of the Church today. In six weekly sessions, beginning **9:15 AM Sunday morning, February 26<sup>th</sup> in the Oasis Room** you are invited to explore the amazing insight of N. T. Wright with us and see what God's Word has to say about our hope for tomorrow.

## **From the Senior Pastor**

Our *Journey of Faith* series focused on the story of Simeon from Luke 2 for the Worship Celebration message on February 12. Luke records few facts about this man of faith. He is identified as a righteous and devout man, looking forward to the fulfillment of God's promise to send a Messiah. Guided by the Spirit he entered the temple complex in Jerusalem just as Mary and Joseph entered with Jesus, who was 40 days old. Simeon took the child in his arms and praised God for fulfilling His promise to send the Messiah. In his praise he identified Jesus as a light for the Gentiles and glory for Israel.

As I talked about this story I focused on the concept of light in the scriptures, noting that light usually referred to God and His promises. John proclaimed that God is light and described Jesus, the Messiah, as God in the flesh. In his words of praise Simeon called Jesus a light for the Gentiles and glory for Israel. In Matthew 5 Jesus spoke of His followers as the light of the world, believers who will reflect the light of God because they have

experienced His gift of grace and become Christ followers by faith.

The Jews identified themselves as God's people and referred to everyone else as Gentiles. Simeon echoes the words of Isaiah when he identifies the Messiah as light for the Gentiles. He is praising God as light for all people, not just one group. This insight is critical to the New Testament understanding that salvation is for all people who will receive God's gift of grace by faith and commit themselves to be the light of God for the world.

As children of God by faith we are challenged by the Savior to *SHINE* in the world so that all people will see the love of God in our lives, give glory to God and become citizens of the kingdom of God. Let us see this challenge as a privilege and resolve to *SHINE* as Christ followers for God's glory and the salvation of all who believe!

In His service,  
Howard Goodwin

## **Discipleship Development: Surprised By Hope**

**In the Oasis Room, Sundays @ 9:15 AM & Mondays @ 6:00 PM**

I'm looking forward to sharing this study time with those who want to occasionally stretch their faith. N.T. Wright is one of the world's leading authorities in New Testament studies and the life and teachings of Jesus. This curriculum is designed to stimulate discussion regarding several popular traditions in the teachings of the Church that deserve further examination. Filled with questions, thoughts for reflection and ideas for personal and missional applications for the Church, this study should help you better understand:

- What heaven is really like?
- What our primary task is with regard to the Kingdom of God.
- What our responsibility is to our family, friends and acquaintances who are not Christians.
- What kind of hope the gospel holds for this present life?



**The Six Session Titles are:**

1. Hope for our World
2. The Hope of Resurrection
3. The Hope of Heaven
4. The Hope of Jesus' Second Coming
5. The Hope of Salvation
6. The Hope of the Church

See you soon?  
+Dale



**Pastors and Staff**

Howard Goodwin  
Senior Pastor

Roger Smythers  
Pastor of Administration

Dale Nixon  
Pastor of Discipleship  
Development

Lenore DuClos  
Receptionist/Secretary

Karen Allen  
Pianist

Judy Branch  
Church Hostess

Brad Stevenson  
Security

**Welcome New Members**

George & Donna Rae Irwin  
Doris Porter



**Weekly activities**

ATTENDANCE

**SUNDAY**

- Sunday Bible Study
  - February 5 - 78
  - February 12 - 65
- Worship Celebration
  - February 5 - 99
  - February 12 - 83
- Hispanic Worship
  - February 5 - 35
  - February 12 - 41

**TUESDAY**

- Keenager Choir
  - January 31 - 14
  - February 6 - 15

**WEDNESDAY**

- Prayer Meeting
  - February 1 - 14
  - February 8 - 16
- Wednesday Bible Study
  - February 1 - 17
  - February 8 - 18
- TeamKID
  - February 1 - 6
  - February 8 - 6
- Students On Mission
  - February 1 - 12
  - February 8 - 21
- Adult Choir
  - February 1 - 8
  - February 8 - 7

**FRIDAY**

- Ladies Bible Study
  - February 3 - 9
  - February 10 - 7

**Deacon of the Week**

February 26 - March 3  
Bill Stevenson

March 4 - March 10  
Walt Williard &  
Brad Stevenson

**Extended Session Workers for:**

March 4  
Lenore DuClos &  
Rochelle Chalker

March 11  
Paula Holton &  
Bunnie Morrell

**Stewardship Report**

Received the week of  
February 5 \$ 11,512.25  
February 12 \$ 3,839.00

Weekly Budget Requirement  
\$ 7,028.00

**Major Repairs Fund**

Our Church Goal: \$30,000.00  
Received Through  
February 12  
\$ 22,672.00  
Spent Through February 12  
\$ 10,879.00

**Souper Bowl of Caring**  
**Donations:** \$427.00

# The Vision

Terry Parker Baptist Church  
7024 Merrill Road  
Jacksonville FL 32277

Office:904.744.6577 FAX:904.744.0307  
email: staff@tpbc.org  
Web site: www.tpbc.org

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## CALENDAR FEBRUARY-MARCH 2012

### Weekly Activities

#### Sundays

9:15 AM - Bible Study Groups  
10:30 AM - Worship Service  
5:00 PM - Hispanic Worship

#### Mondays

8:00 AM - Fun Walkers

#### Tuesdays

10:00 AM - Senior Adult Choir Rehearsal  
6:45 PM - Hispanic Prayer Meeting

#### Wednesdays

8:00 AM - Fun Walkers  
6:00 PM - TeamKID grades 1-5  
- SouledOut Student Ministry grades 6-12  
- Prayer Meeting  
6:30 PM - Adult Bible Study  
7:30 PM - Adult Choir Rehearsal

#### Thursdays

1:00 PM - Craft Class

#### Fridays

8:00 AM - Fun Walkers  
9:00 AM - Ladies Bible Study

### Other Upcoming Events

Keenager Council Meeting - Monday,  
February 27, 10:00 AM  
Adult 6 Luncheon - Tuesday, March 6, 11:00 AM  
Old Fashion Hymn Sing - Thursday, March 8,  
10:00 AM  
Properties Committee Meeting - Thursday,  
March 8, 2:00 PM  
Keenager Meeting/Luncheon - Friday, March 9,  
11:00 AM  
Brotherhood Breakfast - Saturday, March 10,  
8:00 AM  
Deacons Meeting - Saturday, March 10, 9:15 AM  
Church Council Meeting - Sunday, March 18, 4:00 PM  
Women on Mission Meeting - Monday, March 19,  
10:30 AM  
Stewardship Committee Meeting - Tuesday,  
March 20, 7:00 PM