



Parkview Baptist Church
 3403 NW 13th Street
 Gainesville, FL 32609
 Pastor Greg Magruder
 Phone: 352-378-2606
 Email: office@parkview-baptist-church.org
 Website: www.parkview-baptist-church.org

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The Pastor's Letter



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THE JOURNEY

Motto for Mission 2020: Magnify Jesus as Lord



“When I open a door, no one can close it. And when I close a door, no one can open it.” – Revelation 3:7 (CEV)

Time to Dream is a six-week, all-church campaign designed to help God's people dream God-sized dreams and make the most of their God-given doors of opportunity.

The campaign begins Sunday, March 1 and ends on Palm Sunday, April 5. You can purchase a study guide for \$6.00.

Mission Statement

The Mission of Parkview Baptist Church is to lift up Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord, and to obey His Great Commission.

Matthew 28:18-20

Our Purpose Statement

The purpose of Parkview Baptist Church is raising the family of

Jesus Christ by leading every member to:

-MAGNIFY HIS LORDSHIP IN WORSHIP
-MULTIPLY HIS FAMILY THROUGH EVANGELISM/MISSIONS
-MATURE HIS CHILDREN THROUGH DISCIPLESHIP
-MODEL HIS LIFE THROUGH SERVICE/MINISTRY
-MINISTER HIS LOVE THROUGH FLOWSHIP

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY 9:30 A.M.
SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP 10:45 A.M.
SUNDAY MORNING CHILDRENS SERVICE 2ND & 4 10:45 A.M.
WED CHILDREN'S BLAST, PRAYER, BIBLE STUDY 6:30 P.M.

Leap Year: A Time to Dream

The year 2020 is a Leap Year. We have an extra day in February in order to set our calendars right. According to Mary Jo Dilonardo, “It takes the Earth about 365.242189 days – or 365 days, 5 hours, 48 minutes and 45 seconds – to circle once around the sun... However, the Gregorian calendar we rely on has only 365 days, so if we didn't add an extra day to our shortest month about every four years, we would lose almost six hours every year. After a century, our calendar would be off by about 24 days” (“13 Unexpected Leap Year Facts”, January 6, 2020). Julius Caesar came up with the idea and required that any year that could be divided by 4 would be a Leap Year. That made too many Leap Years, so Pope Gregory corrected the formula and came up with his Gregorian calendar 1500 years later.

Leap Day (February 29) took on some special qualities and traditions. Irish tradition says that St. Bridget complained to St. Patrick that men took too long to ask women to marry them. So Patrick allowed women on February 29 to propose marriage to a man. The Queen of Scotland added that if a man turned down the proposal on Leap Day, he would be fined. Maybe that is why in Greece getting married during a Leap Year is considered bad luck.

Of course, people born on February 29 only have a birthday every four years. They are known as “leaplings” or “leapers.” They usually celebrate their birthdays on February 28 or March 1. In fact, the Department of Motor Vehicles requires that people born on Leap Day list their birthday as March 1. How many people were born on leap day? There are about 187,000 people in the US and 4 million people in the world who were born on February 29. Your chances of being born on Leap Day are one in 1,461 (see <https://www.mnn.com/family/family-activities/stories/13-things-you-didnt-know-about-leap-year> and <https://www.infoplease.com/leap-year-explained>).

Our 2020 Vision for Leap Year is Christ Above All. We want to Magnify Jesus as Lord (Philippians 2:9-11). Our objective is to let Christ rule our personal lives, our families, and our church by yielding to him in worship and obedience. We will need to develop habits in our personal and corporate lives that allow Jesus to be our Lord. So let me leap February during this Leap Year and move on to what is coming in March.

From Sunday, March 1 through Palm Sunday, April 5 we are going to participate in the church wide 40 Day Campaign Time to Dream: Open Doors to Your Future. We will discover the doors God opens to us: the door to a new you; the door to authentic relationships; the doors to greatness and abundant blessing; and the doors to our world and our eternal legacy. These six weeks of intense focus on Christ will open doors to a new relationship with Jesus and a new vision for our church. What is God's will for our lives and church? What open doors does he have for us? We aim to find out!

I will be preaching on God-sized dreams for our church each Sunday. You will be studying a different theme each week during the Sunday morning Bible Study hour. We will all be on the journey to see what open doors God has for us as we move toward Easter. **If you would like to purchase a Study Guide, you can sign up for a book in the foyer or your Bible Study Class. The cost of the study guide is \$6.00.** You will need to sign up soon so we can order the books and receive them before March 1. Children and Youth lessons will be available for teachers of children and youth if desired.

I hope you do not mind me leaping over February and jumping into March. I am looking forward to the Easter Season and the 40 Days leading up to that time of celebration of our Risen Lord! Let's celebrate Jesus together and discover the open doors he has for each one of us!

Pastor Greg