



Parkview Baptist Church
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THE JOURNEY

The Pastor's Letter



Motto for Mission 2020: Magnify Jesus as Lord

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 FELLOWSHIP

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP
 10:45 A.M. IN THE SANCTUARY AND
 PRESENTED ON PARKVIEW FACEBOOK
WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY 7:00 PM
 PRESENTED ON WWW.ZOOM.COM



Celebrating Twenty Years of Faithful Servanthood

August 2020

with Pastor Greg

This year, while having lots of challenges because of the Covid-19 pandemic, is a year to celebrate! Our pastor, Dr. Gregory Magruder, has been leading and ministering with us for twenty years. While we have had our struggles, he has faithfully led us with his convictions of God's purposes for Parkview. He has led us in numerous ministries of missions and outreach. He has stayed unswervingly to God's word teaching and preaching with sound Biblical doctrine.

He has faithfully pastored keeping watch over the "flock". He personally reaches out to the congregation and encourages us to "be there" for each other. He goes into homes and hospitals in times of need to console, encourage and pray.

His dependency on God's word such as Acts 1:8: "But you shall receive power (ability, efficiency, and might) when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you shall be My witnesses in Jerusalem and all Judea and Samaria and to the ends (the very bounds) of the earth," has enabled him to be personally involved, as well as, enabled us to meet needs of our community, state, nation and the world. Although we are a small congregation, his vision, his dependency on God has enabled us to have a greater impact than many thought possible.

Goodbyes

Marlene Maddox said her goodbyes last week to Jesse, her husband of 65 years. She was able to be with him at the end and they squeezed hands to communicate their love. Jesse Maddox was loved and respected and the crowd at the funeral revealed that. He influenced many and diligently cared for and loved his family. Goodbyes are difficult but made somewhat easier when love and deep affection are present.

I learned something at the funeral. We opened the service for friends and family to share their memories of Jesse and many gave warm tributes to Jesse and his impact on their lives. Jean Misner stood up and told how Jesse and Marlene used to live in the same neighborhood with her and Milt. They all became close friends and watched each other's children grow. Then in August of 2000, the Misners moved to Plantation Oaks and the Maddox's moved to the farm near Alachua. They continued to be friends and attended church together. Milt Misner passed away several years ago and now Jesse has passed away too. Marlene and Jean have said their goodbyes to their spouses but remain strong in their friendship to each other. Goodbyes are difficult but made somewhat easier when love and deep affection are present.

What struck me about Jean's story was that while the Misners and Maddox's made their transitions into new homes in August of 2000, my wife Karen and I made our way to Gainesville, Florida in August of 2000 and moved into our new home and a new ministry at Parkview Baptist Church. We said our goodbyes to church, family, and friends in Ohio and made the transition to a new challenge and opportunity in Florida. Life is full of goodbyes and hellos. For every goodbye there is a new hello. Transitions can be painful and difficult but they also open up new prospects and outlooks.

I have been at Parkview Baptist Church for twenty years. The church is holding an anniversary celebration in my honor on August 16. I hope you will be able to attend and celebrate with me. It also seems like a good time to announce my retirement as pastor of Parkview Baptist Church. It is time to say our goodbyes so we all can discover our new opportunities. Let me share the letter I sent to the Personnel Committee announcing my retirement.

July 31, 2020

Dear Jean Paul Calixte and Personnel Committee,

As I approach my 20th anniversary as pastor at Parkview Baptist Church, I look back with gratitude and love for the people of Parkview Baptist and my years of ministry here. We have gone through many changes and members over the years. We have managed to endure the struggles and difficult times and we have celebrated the good times together. I truly consider the people of Parkview to be my family and my friends. You have loved me and my wife and children. You have supported me and encouraged me and even went along with some of my unusual ideas. But through it all, we have grown together and the bonds I share with you are great.

After twenty years of joyful ministry at Parkview Baptist Church, I have decided to retire. It seems to be a good time to move into retirement. The anniversary of my twenty years here will serve as a good point of departure and a good time for the church to move forward in new directions. The COVID-19 pandemic has created a new situation in which to do ministry, but it also provides a respite to consider where the church has been in the past and where the church needs to go in the future. I will step aside so the church can make those decisions.

With your permission, I will retire effective August 31, 2020. My final Sunday to preach and be with you will be August 16, 2020. I will take the remainder of time to clear out my files and my books and secure a good transition for the administration of the church and the incoming leadership. Knowing the excellent leadership of the Personnel Committee under Jean Paul Calixte and the sound guidance of the Deacon Body under Steve Gilly, I am certain the church will seek God and make a smooth transition.

Thank you for the years together. I love you and as always will pray for you my friends and family in Christ.

Gregory Magruder, Pastor