

FROM THE *WELL* OF *REHOBOTH**

Rehoboth Baptist Church sbc

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Daniel Keely, Interim Pastor

*“And he removed from thence, and digged another well; and for that they strove not: and he called the name of it Rehoboth; and he said,
For now the Lord hath made room for us, and we shall be fruitful in the land.” Genesis 26:22*

Monday December 11, 2017

“For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.” Isaiah 9:6

From the Pastor's Pen...

We have a pastor - Congratulations to brother John Wylie! I don't think I have ever seen a business meeting go so quickly, smoothly, and with such agreement! It will still be a few weeks of transition time (probably first couple of weeks of January) as John will be helping the church in Springer to transition as well as moving 18 years worth of accumulation stuff!

I again commend and thank the pulpit committee for their sacrifice and work for the past 6 weeks. Although I was never a part of the meetings, I have heard of the many hours spent together as they prayed and sincerely sought the will of our Lord in this matter. Brother Ronnie Jost, Brother Bob Allen, Brother Mickey Keely, Sister Jody Wallace, and Brother Ken Warren, thank you.

For the past few weeks on Sunday Morning, I have been exposing what God has said to us out of Philippians. Many little points have been made, such as the plurality of the leadership there (from verse 1), as well as the fact that Paul loved them (1:7-8) and was making plans to go see them (2:24). But it wasn't just him, he was also sending them Timothy and Epaphroditus as fellow-laborers. A phrase in 2:29 says, “hold such [*plural*] in reputation [*in honor*].” It could be translated “honor such men.”

I still find it amazing that God has given such grace to the church in giving a multiplicity of men to set an example; teaching and feeding the flock of God entrusted to their care. I encourage any who had or has reservations about our brother and pastor John to pray for, support, and honor him. And because he will always have difficulty saying this (as it sounds rather self-seeking) obey God's Word by submitting to him (Heb 13:17, 1 Cor 16:16, 1 Pet 5:5).

That said, the big idea of Philippians was not necessarily leadership, but to put others first. To do things selflessly. Lovingly giving in to others

preference and seeking their good, even as Christ Jesus did for us. We are to do this without “murmuring and disputing” so that our love for each other would shine the light of the gospel to a world in darkness. I know this goes without saying, but this should encompass all we do as the church. Again, he says, “do **all** things without murmurings and disputings.” This is directly linked with our witness in the next verses.

We must protect the witness of the Church. For far too long the solution to conflict has been either to escalate it or separate from it. We must be about the process of rectifying it. God has given us the “ministry of reconciliation” and calls those blessed who are “peacemakers” (not conflict avoiders). If we cannot love one another and dwell in unity, our witness is destroyed. We cannot as the church be divided, for even our Lord Himself said, “if a kingdom be divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand and if a house be divided against itself, that house cannot stand.”

If we are to honor the Lord Jesus Christ, we simply cannot escalate or run away from conflict with our brother. We are duty bound to resolve it as much as we can on our end, even if this means giving up our preferences, our rights, or even our life. This is what is communicated in Philippians 2:2-8. Laying down His life for His enemies is what Jesus did for us. Is it too much of a stretch to lay down my preference for one whom Jesus died for? Are there things that you have said by action, “these things are worth losing fellowship or gospel witness over?”

Let us Repent! Selflessly giving, unconditionally loving, putting others first, forgiving as we have been forgiven, and focus on the lifting up of our LORD JESUS! I pray I can continue to “provoke you to love and good works” (Heb 10:24).

For His Glory, Daniel

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The Pulpit Committee has presented Brother John Wylie in view of a call to pastor our church. He preached Sunday Morning and Sunday Evening and then we entered into a specially called business meeting to vote whether to call Brother John as our pastor.

The Church did vote in favor of calling Brother John Wylie to come and be our pastor. Bro John is going to need some time to get things settled at Springer Missionary Baptist Church. He has eighteen years to sort through.

When Brother John and Rhonda are ready to make the move, we will ask for some men to head down to Springer to rent a truck and move Brother John and Rhonda.

We are looking forward to the time when Brother John arrives and begins his journey here at Rehoboth. We pray for God's blessings on Brother John and Rhonda, as well as Springer Missionary Baptist Church during this time of transition.

With the approval of Brother John, this concludes the business of the pulpit committee. I extend my gratitude and thanks to the other members, Bob Allen, Jody Wallace, Mickey Keely, and Ken Warren. I feel we have fulfilled our duties.

Your Brother in Christ,
Ronnie Jost

YOUTH CHRISTMAS PARTY

Sunday December 17th following morning service the youth will meet in the fellowship hall for a Christmas party and gift exchange. After the party they will start to work on their last play practice.

Christmas Caroling

Friday December 15th at 6:00 pm. Everyone is invited to take part. We will be singing at Shepherds Cross and Wal-Mart

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## Salvation Army

Thursday December 21<sup>st</sup> from 10:00 am ~ 4:00 pm we will be ringing the bell for the Salvation Army at Wal-Mart (north door). We are in need of two more volunteers. Please give Nancy a call or text (633-2748) to be added to the schedule.



### SERVICE TIMES:

Sunday:

Bible Study . . . . . 9:00 am  
Morning Worship . . . . . 10:15 am  
Evening Worship . . . . . 6:00 pm

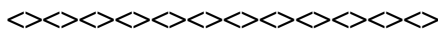
Wednesday:

Bible Study . . . . . 6:00 pm

### STATISTICAL FACTS:

December 10, 2017

Sunday School . . . . . 104  
Worship Attendance . . . . . 138  
General Offering. . . . . \$4,412.00  
Randy Chovan . . . . . \$100.00



### Extended Child Care

Wednesday December 13<sup>th</sup>:

Nancy Keely

Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup>:

a.m.: Atzbach Family

p.m.: Cindy & Mady Wilson

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### Congratulations

To Michael & Brooke  
on the birth of

*Ford Andrew Ross*

Born December 5<sup>th</sup>

8 lb 8 oz 21¼ in

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### SECRET SISTERS

Mark your calendars for January 9th. We will have a final get-together at 6:30 - 7:30 at the home of Nancy Keely. There will be hot soup and bread and fellowship. Plan to bring a card or treat for your secret sister. If you know you cannot make it that evening feel free to bring it to the church anytime. I would love a head count so if you could tell me if you can make it or not I would appreciate it.

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CHRISTMAS PLAY

The youth & children have been working hard on the Christmas play. Their performance will be on Wednesday December 20th at 6:00 pm.

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### PARSONAGE

If you have any belongings in the parsonage please take time this week to remove it.

# Sunday's Lesson

December 17, 2017

## Song of Solomon: The Perfect Love

"The LORD hath appeared of old unto me, saying, Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love: therefore with lovingkindness have I drawn thee." Jeremiah 31:3

This week we complete our study of the Personal Books with the Song of Songs, written by King Solomon, one of the 1005 songs he was known to have written. But this song has been included in the Bible because it depicts the ideal love relationship in marriage and so presents a divine theology of marriage. Some believe this is an allegorical poem describing the relationship between God and Israel or between Christ and the church. The details are seen as symbolic of deeper spiritual truth. Some believe this is an actual love between Solomon and the Shulamite woman. It is a beautiful story and one that brings us to Ephesians 5:25-33.

### Reading Schedule:

- Monday: Song of Solomon 1-2
- Tuesday: Song of Solomon 3-4
- Wednesday: Song of Solomon 5
- Thursday: Song of Solomon 6
- Friday: Song of Solomon 7
- Saturday: Song of Solomon 8

Chapters 1 & 2 show us the banter between two people who love each other. He tells her just how he feels and she tells how she misses him when he is gone from her. Through the book the compliments are many between them as they express their love and need for one another. True love is powerful – the most powerful force on earth. Read each chapter with your heart set on Jesus and His love for you. Check out I Corinthians 2:9 to remember how much He loves us. And turn to I Chronicles 16:8, 9 to remind yourself what you are to do. The strength of love that is true is found in our lesson, chapter 8:6, 7. How does our love compare?