



# *The Messenger*

ZION HILL BAPTIST CHURCH NEWSLETTER

MAY 2020

If we could have had a business meeting you would have heard these things:

**Personnel Committee.** Matt Hill has resigned, and the committee has approved the decision for the Hills to be able to stay in the parsonage until June 30. Bro. Matt received full pay and benefits through April 5. The committee is seeking resumes to fill the position of Youth/Children Director. Associational Missionaries in Faulkner and Caroline Associations have been contacted. North Pulaski Association is currently without a director.

**The Nominating Committee** is Praying and contacting people about accepting positions as teachers, officers, and committee members for the 2020/2021 church year that starts in September. They are also trying to fill the vacancies that need to be filled for the rest of this year.

**Parking and Grounds.** The church voted to fix the old tractor and purchase a new tractor for the upcoming mowing season. However, with the loss of income because of Corona-19 and the economic uncertainty we face, we are going to try to get another year out of the old tractor. Help mowing the church property will be needed soon. The field behind the church around the pond has been too wet and muddy to mow.

**Building Maintenance Committee.** This committee has purchased floor covering to replace carpet at the parsonage, and they are waiting until the parsonage is vacant to rip up old carpet, replace with the new flooring, and also fix damage caused by a leaking water heater.

A need that we have been made aware of from the IMB. There are missionaries who have been sent back to the United States from foreign countries because of the global pandemic, and others who are furloughed who need a place to stay. The Building Maintenance Committee feels that once the parsonage flooring issues have been dealt with, a good use of that home would be to make it available to a missionary family.

**Children and Youth:** Camps have been cancelled for this summer. Vacation Bible School has been delayed. You can help by doing a Bible reading, telling a story, or singing for the Monday-Friday upload to Facebook.

**Finance:** God bless you to all who have continued to give during this time to support the mission of Zion Hill Baptist Church. You can mail checks to the church, set up direct deposit through your bank, drop checks off at the church office, in the drop box by the office door, or give online at <https://www.zionhillcabot.com/giving>. Thank you all, and God bless you. Amen.

*Terry Fortner*

---

## **Pray 714: Prayer and Fasting**

The ABSC Task Force has proposed a plan for prayer that leads up to and utilizes the National Day of Prayer scheduled for May 7, 2020. This plan, entitled Pray714, calls for daily prayer from May 1 to May 7, leading up to the National Day of Prayer. There is also a call for fasting. This is a plan in which we all can participate as a church without physically meeting together. Please turn to the reverse page and read through the Pray 714 plan as presented by the Task Force. Consider using this plan as a part of your daily Bible study and prayer.

# Pray714: Join Us in Prayer and Fasting

In light of the urgent needs in our nation, we are asking you to join us in **7 Days of Fasting and Prayer, May 1-7**. We will end the fast the night of the National Day of Prayer, uniting with millions of people across the nation in prayer.

Our prayer focus for this fast will be 2 Chronicles 7:13-15. Notice there are four things God tells us we must do and three things that God promises He will do. These seven things will guide our prayers each day.

**13** *"If I shut up the heavens so that there is no rain, or if I command the locust to devour the land, or if I send pestilence among My people, 14 and My people who are called by My name **humble themselves** and **pray** and **seek My face** and **turn from their wicked ways**, then I will **hear** from heaven, will **forgive their sin**, and will **heal their land**. 15 Now My eyes will be open and My ears attentive to the prayer offered in this place."*

Please fast at least one meal a day (some may want to fast completely) and set your phone alarm to pray at **7:14 AM** and **7:14 PM** each day. Gather your family together for this prayer nightly.

**OUR DAILY FASTING AND PRAYER FOCUS – If my will people who are called by my name will...**

## **DAY 1: "Humble themselves"**

Humility is admitting our sin and acknowledging our needs. We come individually and collectively today to see our sins and turn from our pride. Ask God to break us of our pride across our nation.

## **DAY 2: "pray"**

Today, ask the Lord to blanket our nation with a spirit of prayer. Pray that God will empower and bless every movement of prayer that is happening and manifest Himself greatly on the National Day of Prayer, Thursday, May 7. Pray that our national leaders all the way to our students and children will join in prayer for our land.

## **DAY 3: "seek My face"**

We often seek God's hand, wanting things from Him for ourselves. Spend the day seeking God's face. Look at Him and worship Him today. Ask Him to turn His face toward our land with favor. Pray the prayer of Numbers 6:24-26:

*The Lord bless you, and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you, and be gracious to you. The Lord lift up His countenance on you, and give you peace.*

## **DAY 4: "turn from their wicked ways"**

Our nation is filled with sins that grieve a holy God. Pray for a spirit of repentance across the church and the nation ... that we will not merely ACKNOWLEDGE our sins but TURN from our sins. Our individual sins, joined together, form our national sins. Ask God what sin(s) He desires you to release. What will you personally turn from today?

Pray particularly over the sin of ABORTION, the taking of innocent life. Ask God that, as a nation, we will turn from this horrific sin.

## **DAY 5: "I will hear from heaven"**

Ask God today to hear the prayers of millions across our land. That His "eyes will be open and His ear attentive" to the prayers of His people. Ask God to give millions of people the faith to believe that God is doing today exactly what He promised: that if we will pray and turn, He will hear, forgive, and heal!

## **DAY 6: "I will forgive their sins"**

Pray for a cleansing of the church and the nation. Pray specifically for God to wash over believers, churches, and our nation with a tidal wave of His forgiveness as we turn to Him. Pray that we would not trust in ourselves for this forgiveness but turn to the cross and embrace what Christ has done as our sure hope of forgiveness. Pray for a *national spiritual awakening*, that millions who don't know Him will awaken to their lost condition, cry out to God, and find His forgiveness!

## **DAY 7: "I will heal their land!"**

Pray for a great healing across our land! Pray for a healing of relationships, families, churches, and racial, cultural, and political division. Pray for a national healing from the Corona Virus that is profound and visible. Pray that God will heal us in such ways that only He could receive the glory ... that even political, media, and healthcare leaders would recognize that it was the hand of God that healed our land!

**JOIN US ON MAY 7 AT THE NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER VIDEO EVENT OR AT YOUR LOCAL EVENTS.**

**Arkansas Baptist State Convention Task Force**