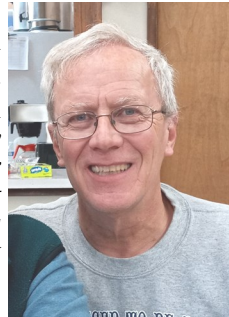




Lapis Lazuli



Preparing for Sunday School, where we were working our way through the first chapter of Ezekiel, I came across this description of the throne of God. “*Now above the expanse that was over their heads there was something resembling a throne, like lapis lazuli in appearance.*” I typically read this to be something like: “...a throne, like %%^%##(&\$% in appearance.” The words ‘lapis lazuli’ meant little to me. That has been forever changed.

Wanting to do due diligence, I did an internet search for lapis lazuli, and found it is a semi-precious mostly blue stone. Clicking on images, I was hammered by what I saw. I looked at a few images, to confirm, and in all of them I was looking at a blue stone with light brown spots and streaks. Then I typed in ‘Earth seen from space,’ and looked at a ball the same shape of blue, with similar light brown spots and streaks. Please, look it up yourself. It is a powerful comparison.

If that is the intended comparison, then earth serves as God’s throne. Other passages come to mind. Solomon, when dedicating the temple, said, “*Behold, heaven and the highest heaven cannot contain Thee; how much less this house which I have built?*” (2 Chron 7:18). David, in Psalm 8 praised God this way: “*When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is man that you are him, the son of man that you care for him?*”

Astronomers tell us we are a tiny planet circling a modest star in a distant arm of an

insignificant galaxy. Probably all true. But this is where God has set His throne.

There is more. In Exodus 24:10, Moses and the elders receive a vision of God, and the pavement below His feet is lapis lazuli. In Isaiah 54:11 and Revelation 21:19 we find it in the foundation of the New Jerusalem. It’s a powerful picture.

But it is a picture with problems. First, instead of ‘lapis lazuli,’ many Bible translations read ‘sapphire,’ another blue stone, but very different. And after all, the Hebrew word is ‘sappir.’ The Theological Wordbook of the Old Testament clears that problem up like this. “That the people of biblical times did not understand the word to be ...modern sapphire, but lapis lazuli, the rich, azure gem...seems probable.”

Another problem—the bigger issue, in my mind, is that the ability to see lapis lazuli as a representation of earth was hardly possible before our modern technical era, when someone was finally able to see earth from space.

Today, I can type in “Earth seen from space” and see an image. In 1969, astronauts were able to take a picture. In the history of the world before that? All this symbolism was missing. If I was inclined to doubt this symbolism, I would consider this argument compelling.

But maybe, God is giving a special blessing to we who live in these times. A reminder that this earth is His throne. He has chosen it, He blesses it, and He considers it, and us, special. God is here, and we will trust Him.



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“Our mission is to proclaim the Word of God, leading people to a saving faith and a growing relationship with Jesus Christ.”

Photo of the Month



Another baptism this month. Bo reacts strongly; either because the Spirit was strong, or the water was cold!

Elders Report

Thursday, 5 September 2024

Attendees: Steve McLachlan, John Doyle, Jeremy Eaton, Mike Bell, Dion Ricketts, and Knute Hernas.

Previous minutes were reviewed and approved.

Scheduled Reports:

The Nominating Committee has completed their recommendations

Pastor's report

- This Sunday we'll vote on adding Ahmad & Dina and Nick & Shelby as supported missionaries; also on giving Randy & Margo a retirement gift of \$2,500.
- Bo Allen will be baptized this Sunday, right after the offering.
- Andrew Abell wants to host MNF starting Sept. 9, and is willing to host the entire season if needed.
- Sandy is approved to start a new Women's Ministry activity called "Kingdom Krafts."
- Sandy wants to hand-off chairmanship of the building committee and recommends Tyson. Approved.
- Building report: Still no progress; HVAC project is still in limbo; asking the congregation to devote a day of prayer and fasting.

Youth Pastor's report

- Youth Leadership
 - Parents Meeting was a huge success! Ten new members will bring the count to 16 (or 17).
 - First meeting is Sept. 16 from 5:30 to 7:30.
 - Retreat at Double J Ranch Sept. 20-21; Service Project @ TBF – clean up cut off tree branches.
- "See You at the Pole" prayer project is Sept. 25 at both DHS and CHS.
- AWANA Trek/Journey – Dan Sliter will be John's assistant again this year.
- Studying the high school book, "Witness."
- Youth Group – CJ Finch and McKenzie are helpers.
- Good turnout so far
- Still working on the scholarship wording
- Mission Trip: considering the House of Omeed in Vancouver, BC.

Old Business

- YouTube: Dion will get credentials from Ben Mc. and will report on his attempts at uploading sermons.
- Our sermons are also currently available on podcast
- Turkey Shoot date is October 19, right after Men's Breakfast
- Elder nomination—decided not to nominate this year.

Intercessory Prayer

Next Meeting: Thursday, 3 October 2024, 6:30pm;

Church Funds



Shoebox Packing Party

Have you been buying gifts for shoeboxes? The packing party is coming up soon, and it takes a lot to fill a box. School supplies, small toys, hygiene items, clothing, or whatever—they all make good gifts; and we need them in quantity! Once again, I (Pastor Steve) am ordering yoyos in bulk! Neener-neener; you'll have to find something else to give.

See you at the party, Saturday morning, October 26th, 10 am—Noon.



Turkey Shoot

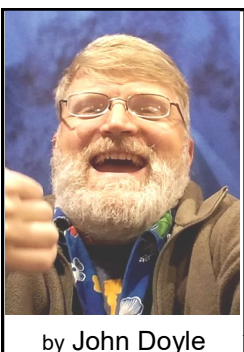


Saturday, October 19 will be a good day for our men. Start out with breakfast at church at 8 am, then go home, pull out your favorite rifle and/or pistol, and head out to Pastor John's range for the Turkey Shoot at 11!

\$5 entry to cover food (Lunch is included), prizes of Turkey, Ham, or itty bitty game hens, and a message from local missionary Robert McDowall! It will be a good day!

Robert & Cindy McDowall

InFaith Missionaries Robert and Cindy McDowall will speak at TBF on Sunday, October 6th. Hear what's going on in their lives and ministry, and stick around for coffee fellowship where you can visit with them and everyone else!



by John Doyle

Youth Stuff

What's that??? A chill in the air and no kids hanging out on the block??? The school year is in full swing and so is the Youth G.A.N.G! Spokavenger Hunt was a big hit in September, special thanks to all the adults helping to race the kids around Spokane. Special kudos goes to Mrs. Annie Ricketts; her team won 1st place. Well, all the Ministries are in full swing now. Youth G.A.N.G. on Sundays, Youth Leadership every other Monday, and the YLTs serving in Awana on Wednesdays.

What's that you say? We couldn't fit in another thing....Not true-another Big Event is just around the corner, bring on Octoburr!!! That's right!.....the

Youth G.A.N.G. is on the move!!!

Youth Group G.A.N.G. (God's Anointed Next Generation) Youth Group 3:30 to 5pm, come hang with the G.A.N.G. Discover the Word of Christ and maybe a game or two.

Youth Leadership Training

YLT Meetings for the month of October 7th and 21st 5:30-7:30pm.

Youth Group Big Event

Harvest Festival @ Walter's Fruit Ranch. Oct 20th, Bus Leaves 2 pm from TBF. 2 to 7pm. All are welcome, Families as well. Come join the fun at Walters, cost \$5 per car and money to buy snacks and drinks. Sign-up for the bus and parking passes on the clip board in the back of church.



Walters' Fruit Ranch

WHERE FUN GROWS!

Upcoming Events

- YLT Fall Retreat, @ CLBC (Nov)
- TBF Youth Christmas Party (Dec)

Volunteer

The Youth ministries can use your time, talent, and prayers. If you are interested in volunteering or serving the Youth G.A.N.G we can sure use help, please contact: Youth Pastor John Doyle @ (509) 435-6393, tbfpdoyle@gmail.com

TBF Women's Retreat

Oct 4-5
Lori Rieth's cabin

- ◇ Food: Taco Bar dinner Friday evening, Breakfast provided, and salad lunch.
- ◇ Fellowship: Ice Breaker and Ornament Making.
- ◇ God's Word: Speaker Jan Smith is coming to us from Newport.
Jan has followed Jesus since her salvation in 1982. Her joy is sharing God's Word with women, children, friends and family. She has served in children's ministry and Bible Study Fellowship, and currently serves in Awana.

The cost is only \$10, and if that's a hardship, let us know. Join us for a great time of fellowship, worship, food, and crafts.



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Nominations

Mark your calendar for Sunday, November 17th, for our Annual Business Meeting. Of course it starts with a Pot Luck, which is followed by committee reports and voting on Budget items—including missionary support, board members, and any other business that comes up.

Nominations for this year are:

Trustee: Jim Buchanan and Wyatt Downing
Deaconess: Sandy Buchanan
Treasurer: Sue Warwick
Secretary: Jana Scott
Sunday School Superintendent: Tyson Lacy
Missions Committee: Laurie Anderson, Sandy Buchanan, Janice Emery, Sharyn McClure

Church only works as the church-goers make it work!
Plan to be a part of this meeting!

REVERENDFUN.COM COPYRIGHT BIBLE GATEWAY



I WAS GOING TO OFFER THAT GUY UNTOLD RICHES BUT HE ENDED UP TRADING HIS SOUL FOR THE REST OF MY CANDY BAR

Prefer to get your Newsletter by email? We can do that! Contact the church office at tbfdavenport@



Awana in October

Don't miss this change! Instead of holding the Jogathon just a few weeks after Awana starts, we're delaying it until spring! So October 2nd is now Inside Out Night. Here's how the nights shape up this month:

Oct 2	Inside Out Night
Oct 9	Pratts Puppet Show
Oct 16	Sports Night
Oct 23	Bible Character Night
Oct 30	Twins Night

The Pratts are a highly popular husband and wife puppet and music team, who just happen to be in our area October 9. Moms, Dads, and other family members are invited to join us for the first half hour of Awana on the 9th and share the fun, at 6 pm.



Missionary of the Month:
Pastor Daniel & Mary
Chittumuri



Serving in India



October 2024

Women's Ministry Leader: Carmelyn Choate
Group Members: Lori Rieth
Kristi Bell
Joan Wintersteen
Debbie Anderson



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 Coffee Fellowship		1 Doctrine Study 7 pm	2 Awana 6-7:30 pm Inside-Out Night	3 BSF 10-11:30 am Ladies Prayer 1 pm Elders Meeting 6:30 pm 	4 Men's Coffee Connection 7 am  <i>IBF Ladies Retreat @</i>	5 Awana Conference in Spokane 9 am —3 pm <i>Lori Rieth's at the River</i>
6 Robert & Cindy McDowall share Coffee Fellowship after church Youth Group 3:30 pm	7 MNF @ Andrew Abell's Youth Leadership 5:30 pm	8 Quarterly Board Meeting 6:30 pm	9 Awana 6-7:30 pm The Pratts	10 BSF 10-11:30 am Ladies Prayer 1 pm 	11 Men's Coffee Connection 7 am  Quilt Retreat at CLBC October 10, 11, & 12	12 
13 Youth Group 3:30 pm	14 Deaconess Meeting 2 p MNF @ Andrew Abell's	15 Mission Committee Meeting 2 pm Doctrine Study 7 pm	16 Awana 6-7:30 pm Sports Night	17 BSF 10-11:30 am Ladies Prayer 1 pm 	18 Men's Coffee Connection 7 am 	19  8 am Turkey Shoot 11 am @ Doyle's 
20  WHERE FUN GROWS! Youth Group Harvest Festival @ Walter's Fruit Ranch Leave at 2 pm	21 MNF @ Andrew Abell's Youth Leadership 5:30 pm	22 Doctrine Study 7 pm	23 Awana 6-7:30 pm Bible Character Night	24 BSF 10-11:30 am Ladies Prayer 1 pm 	25 Men's Coffee Connection 7 am 	26 CLBC Workday OCC Packing Party 10 am- Noon 
27 Communion/ Benevolence Offering Youth Group 3:30 pm	28 MNF @ Andrew Abell's	29 Doctrine Study 7 pm	30 Awana 6-7:30 pm Twins Night	31 BSF 10-11:30 pm Ladies Prayer 1 pm 		