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If church historians made lists like sports journalists, many would argue that when comes to preaching, outside Christ and the apostles of course, Charles Haddon Spurgeon is the GOAT. (If you're unfamiliar, it's an acronym for Greatest Of All Time.) He began preaching as a teenager and was almost immediately recognized for his extraordinary gifts, delivering more than 600 sermons before turning 20. At the age of 19, he became the pastor of the largest Baptist church in London, the New Park Street Chapel. The church grew rapidly and was forced to rent venues to hold the growing crowds. Seven years into his ministry, the congregation settled into a new permanent location and became Metropolitan Tabernacle, where he ministered for next 30-plus years.

The reach of Spurgeon's preaching extended well beyond the 5,000 people who filled this megachurch building. They translated his sermons into 20 languages and sold approximately 20,000 copies each week. Called the "Prince of Preachers," his collected sermons have been called "the largest set of books by a single author in the history of Christianity."

Don't be misled. While the statistics make his ministry look like a breeze, it was anything but. Even outwardly fruitful ministries are not immune from the trials and suffering; in fact, often the notoriety brings additional challenges. Whatever the cause, he could have, like Paul, written about affliction "at every turn – fighting without and fears within" (2 Corinthians 7:5). He faced nearly every form of adversity imaginable in one way or another.

Despite his meteoric rise and widespread popularity, he was often the subject of public criticism and ridicule. The attacks were so prevalent that his wife was able to compile a scrapbook of them from the years 1855-56. 20 years later he remarked, "Men cannot say anything worse of me than they have said. I have been belied from head to foot, and misrepresented to the last degree."

The attacks ebbed and flowed over the years until they culminated in his withdrawal from the Baptist Union over the Downgrade Controversy in the late 1880's. He took a firm stand against associations with those who refuse to maintain doctrinal fidelity arguing that it would lead to doctrinal slippage among the orthodox. The world's most well-known preacher at the time can now be recognized as a prophet, but he could not convince his brethren. They continued down that path and even voted to censure him several months after he withdrew. Adding insult to injury, his brother seconded the Union's eventual motion to adopt a compromise doctrinal statement.

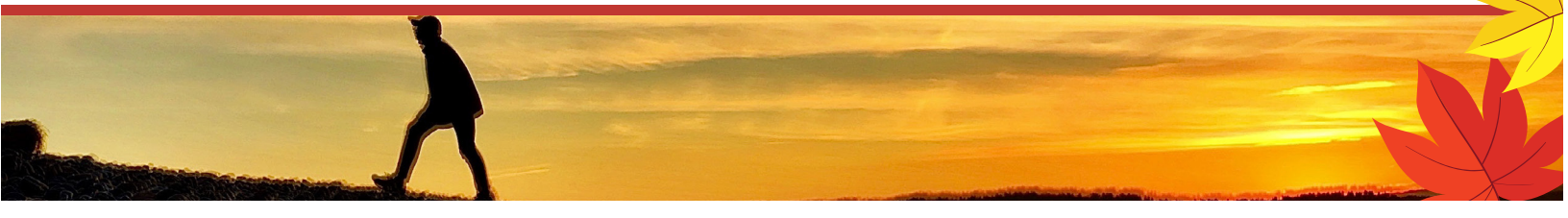
Despite the obvious difficulty in all these situations, the one event that seems to have caused him the most grief happened on October 19, 1856. As he stood to preach before more than 10,000 people in the Music Hall at Royal Surrey Gardens, someone in the crowd yelled, "fire!" In the ensuing chaos, seven people were trampled to death and dozens more injured. Many blamed him. The burden so overwhelmed him that he didn't preach for months and even considered quitting. Decades later, the haunting memory would return like post-traumatic stress along with feelings of responsibility and guilt.

Adverse life circumstances at home created burdens for Spurgeon as well. His wife, Susannah, gave birth to their twin boys in 1856, but they were not able to have more. Her health declined significantly in her mid-thirties to the point that she was rarely able to hear him during the last 25 years of his ministry.

The fighting without was matched by physical adversity within in the form of gout, rheumatism, and Bright's disease. The onset of gout came in his mid-thirties and grew worse over the years causing him to vacate his pulpit for months at a time to recover. When he died at only 57, he was in France attempting to recuperate from the ongoing maladies in his diseased and failing body. This man with a sharp mind and booming voice was no superman and reminders of his frailty were constant throughout his ministry in London.

His inward adversity was not isolated to physiological matters; however, Spurgeon also wrestled with "spiritual sorrows." As pastor of the same church for 38 years, he knew well the minor disappointments of shepherding unfaithful members and leading a large congregation. His "mental miseries" were much worse, though. The dark clouds of depression covered him first at the ripe age of 24 when he described his spirit as "sunken so low that I could weep by the hour like a child, and yet I knew not what I wept for." This battle raged throughout his life making him feel at times that God had deserted him and at others that God was smiting him.

Despite all this adversity, Spurgeon endured to the end as pastor of Metropolitan Tabernacle. A casual glance at his resume might lead to the assumption that he sailed through life untouched by the ordinary trials of life and ministry. But any such thoughts are sorely misguided. Like Spurgeon, each one of us will face adversity in many forms. And like Spurgeon, we are called to endure every form of suffering – from within and without – with joy as we rest in God and hope in His promises.



SEPT
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WMU MEETING AND POTLUCK 6:00 PM

The WMU will meet at Mary Sue Campbell's house located at 912 Autumn Ave. This event is open to all women in our church! We hope you will come!

PRAY FOR OUR PARTNERS

Prayer for our missions partners is valued and appreciated. In an effort to encourage you, we have listed a specific partner to pray for each day on the calendar below.

SEPT
9

PRESCHOOL TRAINING 9:00 AM

If you work or are considering volunteering in our preschool ministry you are required to join us for a training session, Sunday, September 9 at 9:00 am in the KidZone room.

WEDNESDAY EVENING ACTIVITIES

Fellowship Meal | 5:30 - 6:30 PM

Children's Choir | 6:00 PM

ESL Classes | 6:00 PM

Kids Activities | 6:30 PM

Youth (SWAT) | 6:30 PM

Connect4Life | 6:30 PM

Worship Team Rehearsal | 7:30 PM



UPCOMING EVENTS - SEPTEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Barren Heights Retreat Center
2 North American Mission Board No Evening Activities	3 Samaritan's Purse	4 Gideon's International WMU Meeting & Potluck 6:00 PM	5 Sunrise Children's Service Wednesday Evening 5:30 PM	6 Monica H.	7 IMB	8 Leon & Lynn Muir
9 New Life Center Preschool Training 9:00 AM NBA Youth Worship Meet @ PBC 5:00 PM	10 Practical Shepherd	11 The Church of Delmas 32, Haiti Primetimers Potluck Noon	12 Ron Sutton, IMB Ecuador Wednesday Evening 5:30 PM	13 Bluegrass Christian Academy	14 D & K Wilson	15 Hispanic Ministry
16 Bread For Life Membership Class 9:00 AM Youth Worship 6:00 PM	17 Baptist Global Response	18 Ky Baptist Convention	19 Redemption Church Missoula, MT Wednesday Evening 5:30 PM	20 Coreluev	21 Jason & Amanda Aaron	22 Bethany Haven
23 Scarlet Hope Brooks Reception Youth Worship 6:00 PM	24 20 Schemes	25 Lakes Community Church, NC	26 Petra Churches Nicaragua See You At the Pole Wednesday Evening 5:30 PM	27 Chris & Lori Hart	28 Crossing Church	29 Barren Heights Retreat Center
30 North American Mission Board						

SEPT
9

NELSON BAPTIST ASSOCIATIONAL MEETING

The 2018 Nelson Baptist Association Annual Meeting will be held at First Baptist Church Mt. Washington. The schedule will be different this year compared to previous years. To review that schedule and for more information visit, www.nelsonbaptistassociation.com

Eliza Broadus Offering

We collect for the entire month of September for the Eliza Broadus offering for Kentucky Missions. Lostness in Kentucky is critical. Even though Kentucky is considered in the Bible belt of the United States, the statistics show an extremely high level of spiritual need and the need for church plants. This reality is a wakeup call for action. Several have accepted that call to plant churches. It is also calls for personal commitment to Testify through meeting the needs of the lost.

Season of Prayer for Kentucky Missions and the Eliza Broadus Offering

Kentucky Goal:

\$1,250,000

Church Goal: **\$8,000**

TESTIFY!

State missions materials are made possible by gifts from your church through the Eliza Broadus Offering® and the Cooperative Program, and are made available by Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union and the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

Count my life of any value nor as precious to myself, if only I may finish my course and the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God." Acts 20:24 ESV



SEPTEMBER PRAYER GUIDE

And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people....Ephesians 6:18

Like Paul encourages the Ephesian church, we are to be faithful in our prayers for our church family. If you would like to be included in October's Prayer Guide, please email gretchen@parkwaybaptist.com.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Alexia Lange
Sara Crume
Stanley Shambaugh
Sarah Rogers
Jim Hilbert
Dave Miller

You Are Invited!

Please join us on September 23 immediately after morning worship as we welcome Allen Brooks to our ministry staff.



We plan to honor Allen and Michelle with a money tree, gift cards and welcome notes.

A light lunch and desserts will be provided.

MISSIONARIES SERVING AND/OR IN TRAINING

Jason and Amanda Aaron (Michigan)
Chris and Lori Hart (Wisconsin)
Monica H. (Asia)
Leon and Lynn Muir (New Zealand)

MILITARY LIST

Ryan Campoamor
Daniel Carey
Logan Crady
Scott Hunt
Clayton Richardson
Dakota Snook
Jack Whitfield

CONDOLENCES

Roger and Marsha Vittitow in the loss of Roger's mother, Regina.

Membership Class

Our next membership class will be on September 16 from 9-10:10 AM in Room F-120. Breakfast is provided. If you have recently joined Parkway or want to know more about what membership means at our church, please attend!

RSVP to 502-348-4677 by September 14.

HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT MEMBERSHIP?

Join us on September 16 at 9:00 AM in room F-120 to get all your questions answered.

WE BROKE A RECORD! THANK YOU PARKWAY!

Parkway Baptist Church has contributed over \$3500.00 to the 2018 New Life Center Baby Bottle Campaign. THANK YOU for your loyal and continual support for this ministry.

FOR THE RECORD

SUNDAY SCHOOL		WORSHIP ATTENDANCE		07/29	08/12	08/26
07/29	374	07/29	390	General Fund \$ 11,831.46	General Fund \$ 14,460.30	General Fund \$ 14,193.18
08/05	347	08/05	391	Other \$ 125.00	Other \$ 1,218.00	Other \$ 1,772.00
08/12	367	08/12	401	Total \$ 11,956.46	Total \$ 15,678.30	Total \$ 15,965.18
08/19	304	08/19	351	08/05	08/19	YTD Budget \$ 653,626.28
08/26	340	08/26	374	General Fund \$ 17,434.76	General Fund \$ 21,089.57	YTD General Offering \$ 656,727.91
				Other \$ 5,225.00	Other \$ 4,891.00	YTD Expenses \$ 628,555.72
				Total \$ 22,659.76	Total \$ 25,980.57	Weekly Required \$ 20,412.90

We saved you a seat!

Join us!

Wednesday Evenings

Fellowship Meal // 5:30 PM

Children's Choir // 6:00 PM

ESL Classes // 6:00 PM

Kids, Youth, Adult Activities // 6:30 PM

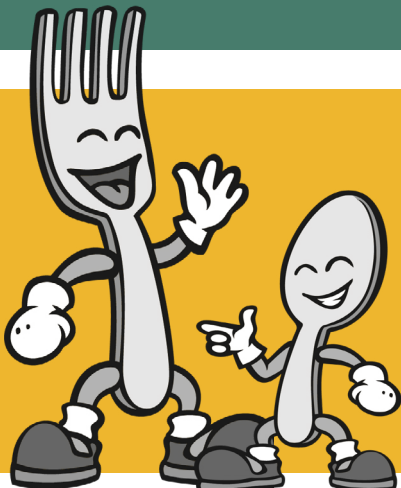
Worship Team Rehearsal // 7:30 PM

Nelson Baptist Association Annual Meeting

September 9

3:30 PM - 8:00 PM

Join us for a time of celebration and worship as we gather with area churches to fellowship with one another and thank God for all He has done through our Association over the last year.



FOOD SERVICE COORDINATOR

Parkway Baptist Church is currently seeking a Food Service Coordinator. For more information and a job description, please email adminteam@parkwaybaptist.com.