

PLEASANT RIDGE BAPTIST CHURCH

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God's Will: Salvation for the Perishing

The will of the Father is the salvation of men. All the leadings of God's will, down to the minutest details of the life of every hour, have their root in this great fountain of redeeming love: that not even one of the little ones should perish. Christ's coming down from Heaven, all His speaking and doing, His living and suffering and dying, it all held its unity in this: It was the revelation of God's will to save, and of Christ's surrender of Himself to do that will in saving all the Father had given Him.

When we yield ourselves to do the Father's will, must the will of God for the salvation of men be to us, as it was to Christ, the main object of our life? It must, indeed.

The life that was in Christ is the same life that is in us. The glory of the Father; the blessedness of being the channels of the Father's love; the entire surrender to the one work the Father wants done in the world—all these claim our devotion as much as they did that of Christ.

There is an infinite difference in the part He took and the part we are to take in carrying out that will, but the will itself is to be as much the joy and the aim of our life as it was of His.

So many Christians seek to know the will of God only in its minute details concerning themselves, and so they live practically under a law consisting of commandments and ordinances. Their own personal happiness is the first thing; obedience and sanctification are subordinate to these, as means to an end. They have no conception of the nobility, of the heavenly royalty of spirit that comes to the man who forgets and loses himself as he gives himself away to that will of God for the salvation of men.

Rescue the Perishing

Rescue the perishing
Care for the dying
Snatch them in pity
From sin and the grave
Weep for the errant one
Lift up the fallen
Tell them of Jesus
The Mighty to save



Though they are slighting
Him
Still He is waiting
Waiting a penitent child to
receive
Plead with them earnestly
Plead with them gently
He will forgive
If they only believe

What a change it would bring into the life of believers to know and love this will of the Father, to lose self and to sacrifice all in order to be mastered and consumed by its blessed fire! If you would thus know it, reader, and be possessed by it, you must make it a definite object of study and desire. It needs above all the indwelling of the Christ, in whom that will realized and manifested itself, to make us partakers of His own Spirit and disposition. Then we can know something of that infinite will of love working itself out through us, filling the little vessel of our will out of its own living stream, and making the will of God indeed our will.

Let us begin doing the will of God in this too, really giving ourselves to Him for this saving of the lost. There is no other way for us to have the fellowship of God but to have one will with Him.

Andrew Murray (1828-1917) was a prolific South African writer, teacher and pastor who championed Gospel missions as the chief work of the church. Adapted from "Thy Will Be Done: The Blessedness of a Life in the Will of God," by Andrew Murray. Work is in the public domain.

PRBC Homecoming!

PRBC has been in continual ministry to our community since 1907! What a testimony of God's grace and mercy to our area.

We are going to have a great day of celebration on Sunday, September 25th and want you to make plans to join us!

Sunday School Bible Study @ 9:00am.

Worship Service @ 11:00am.

Covered Dish Lunch following service.

Afternoon "Sing" following lunch.

The "Sing" is for anyone, solo or group that would like to sing or play an instrument, so get something ready, let Melinda know and we'll just have a great time praising the Lord!

God's Blessings August 7, 2022

Budget Needs:	\$7,265.61
Budget Receipt:	\$6,557.21
Cemetery Fund:	\$2,050.00
Worship Attendance	138

God's Blessings August 14, 2022

Budget Needs:	\$7,265.61
Budget Receipt:	\$11,001.00
Cemetery Fund:	\$50.00
Sunday School Attendance	95
Worship Attendance	165

God's Blessings August 21, 2022

Budget Needs:	\$7,265.61
Budget Receipt:	\$3,598.00
Baptist Men:	\$40.00
Sunday School Attendance	102
Worship Attendance	168

God's Blessings August 28, 2022

Budget Needs:	\$7,265.61
Budget Receipt:	\$4,115.00
Baptist Men:	\$40.00
In Memory of Jacob Bowen:	\$200.00
Worship Attendance	181

Tri-C for September: Canned Fruit **Ark Meal for September 20:** Melinda Cockerham

Fall Church Cleanup: Calling all Men!! Church Cleanup on Saturday, Sept. 10th at 8am. We will be pulling weeds, pressure washing, and sprucing up the grounds as we prepare for events later in the month of September. Thank you for willingness to serve!

Celebration of God's Word: The Gideons exist as an advocate for the lost, to bring them the saving knowledge of the Word through not only placing and distributing Scriptures, but also through personal witnessing and by associating together for service. Coming to PRBC on Sept. 11, join us, and let's spread the Good News.

Ladies' Conference 2022: We are pleased to announce that we will be hosting a Ladies Conference this year. Our Conference will begin on Friday night Sept. 16th with a Couple's night in the Church fellowship hall. A meal will be provided along with childcare. There is a SIGN UP SHEET in the vestibule for the Couple's event. The Ladies Conference will be the next day Sat. Sept. 17th, 8:30am with coffee & muffins. The Conference session will be from 9am -1pm and will include lunch. There will be NO charge for this event, we will accept donations only. Mrs. Phyllis Elvington will be our guest for both events. Please mark your calendars for these events. Our theme this year will be "Transformed". Please invite your family and friends. **We are now** collecting gently used cookbooks. These books will be used as part of our goody bags for the Conference. There is a collection box in the vestibule.

North Carolina Missions Offering (NCMO) is a special offering received during the **month of September** that supports the ministries of Baptists on Mission, Church Planting, mission camps, associational projects and mobilization ministry projects. Please pick up offering envelopes in the vestibule.

OPT-IN FOR TITHING ENVELOPES

Please let me know if you want to use PRBC Tithing Envelopes in 2023. There is a sign up sheet in the vestibule or call the office or email Deaston@myprbc.net.

THE DEADLINE FOR SIGNING UP IS September 18.

PRBC BUSINESS MEETING HIGHLIGHTS AUGUST

On page 3 of the Financial report was a recommendation from Church Secretary Dana Easton to have a line item for Lifeline Pregnancy Center added to the *Pass Through Funds* section. *This line item will represent donations that come through the church for Lifeline and is separate from our budgeted Lifeline support. There was discussion to get clarification on this request and Pastor John noted that this fund is a clearinghouse or pass through from the church to Lifeline. Vote to grant the request from Dana for the new line item with a motion from Terry Widener and a second from Roger Spicer.*

Youth continue to use the "Explore the Bible" curriculum that is tying in with the Wednesday PM studies on the "Chosen" series. Pastor Brandon invites youth to watch this series with their families as this will encourage Godly discussions among families. Chelsea Cockerham and Bryson Calloway are leading SLEAD 2.0 on Sunday evenings at 5 pm.

The average Sunday School attendance for July 2022 was 102.

Choir participation is about the same. The handbells are practicing monthly to work on Christmas music and a special song for the homecoming service in September.

The church letter from First Baptist Church of Alta Loma was received on behalf of Jacie, Colton, and Hunter Wallace.

The deacons are recommending that PRBC donate \$2,000 to Lifeline Pregnancy Help Center to help underwrite the cost of their fundraising banquet in September. Motion received by Mitch Callaway with a second by Melanie Davis. No discussion. Motion carried.

The fellowship hall air conditioning unit needs to be replaced. Quotes were received from Associated Heating and Air, and from Junior Collins HVAC. The quote from Junior Collins HVAC was approximately \$1,000 cheaper, at a price of \$8,225.00. The committee recommends that the church use Junior Collins HVAC to complete this work. Discussion and questions answered from the floor. After hearing the committee recommendation, a vote was taken. The recommendation passed with a vote of 17 for, 16 against. Motion carried.

The 2022-2023 budget will be presented in the October business meeting.

A handout was presented to the church by the Nominating Committee with the Proposed Officers and Teachers for the 2022-2023 Year. Highlighted changes were discussed.

The Nominating Committee is recommending a change to the constitution recommending that the committee will have the discretion to increase the number of committee members as necessary during yearly appointments (see handout). This amendment will be voted on during the September business meeting.

The election of the alternate Baptist Messengers will be accepted from the floor of the business meeting attendees. Volunteers to be alternates were Barbara Hiatt and Whitney Combs.

The Personnel Committee is preparing job descriptions and annual reviews for staff members and will plan to have these completed before October. They are looking for some assistance with employment law experts. If anyone knows of someone who can help with this, please see a committee member.

Vicki Collins provided the ARK meal for August. There were 19 people currently staying at the ARK. Please see the sign up sheet in the vestibule to help with this ministry.

We had three different churches use our decorations from VBS. One church gave a donation of \$25 which will be used to offset costs from food expenses from VBS. The budget for next year's VBS will be increased due to high food costs.

Wednesday night children have been studying various missionary families from around the world. Also, church members are working with the students on various craft projects in order to have a craft sale to raise money for the Lottie Moon Christmas offering. Be on the lookout for this project in the fall.

The seniors will be traveling to Mt. Olympus on Tuesday, August 23 for their monthly outing. See Pat Luffman for more details.

The Sisters in Christ are accepting gently used cookbooks to be used in goody bags for the ladies conference in September. There will be a collection box in the vestibule for donations. Also, do not forget to sign up for the couples night on Friday night. Childcare will be provided.

Several people have contacted PRBC requesting to borrow chairs and tables from the church. It has been previously voted on by the church that tables and chairs are not to be loaned out or removed from the church property. There are some old brown chairs located in the children's wing that are available to be loaned out. Arona Boles will be the point of contact for any loans of the brown chairs.

Pastor's Corner

In Genesis there is the account of Abram and Sari, which we know would be renamed Abraham and Sarah. God meets with Abram after 13 years of silence and having given Abram the great promise of a son that would be a blessing and multiply into a great nation. 13 years of waiting... we know he was a man of faith, but he was aging, soon to be 100 years old. Maybe God could move things along a bit, put things in our microwave technology and instantly grant the promise! Fortunately our God does not work that way, if you have been a Christ follower for any length of time we know that. God is an "on time" God and His plan comes when it is His time! The miracles surrounding the birth of "the" son, Isaac brings no other conclusion than it was of the LORD!

It was during this account in Chapter 17 that new names are given. Abram becomes Abraham, "Abram" = exalted father to "Abraham" = the father of multitudes. "Sari" = contentious becomes "Sarah" = princess. Their original names were self indulgent and better than descriptive. God changed their names, as He changed their hearts, that He would receive the honor.

If you're waiting on the LORD for answered prayer, He has not forgotten nor has He abandoned you... wait! He's working on a "God Thang"!

Blessings! Your Friend and Pastor, John Newton