

April/May
2024

Boyd Avenue Baptist Church



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But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity.
2 Peter 3:18

Boyd Avenue News

VBS Is Coming June 3-7

Kids, get ready for an awesome week. You'll be having an ocean of fun while examining the difference between God's truth and the lies the world tries to tell.

VBS meets from 9:00-noon, Monday through Friday, for kids age 4 through those entering 6th grade.

Don't forget the advance fun at our VBS Kickoff on Saturday, June 1, noon-2:00 p.m. And then, there's the VBS Family Night, Wednesday, June 5, at 6:30.

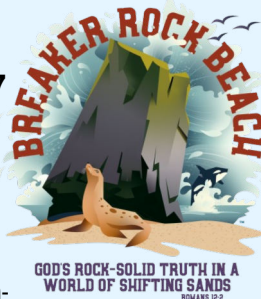
Baby Dedications on Mother's Day

Once again this Mother's Day, Sunday May 12, we will give families the opportunity to dedicate their young ones to the Lord. Please contact the church office with your child's information, if you want to take part in the special portion of our 10:30 am worship service that day.

Picnic & CORE End of Year Celebration



Plans are in the works for a great finale to our Wednesday night school year activities. On Wednesday evening, May 29th, we will have a church picnic with



fellowship and games. And we will also celebrate the accomplishments of our CORE kids. Look for more details soon.

Missions Yard Sale

It is almost that time of year once again to begin making a pile of goodies to donate to the Yard Sale. This fantastic event is being held a week earlier than normal on May 30th-June 1st. We will begin collecting items after the 2nd service on May 26th and will be around all week accepting donations in the MPAC building. Come and shop the sale and support the missions fund.

Kid's Camp & Summit



Kids 3rd - 6th grade are invited to a week's worth of God's interactive wonders on Casper Mountain. MTBA Kids Camp offers a week filled with diverse kid-centered activities, July 8-12, 2024.

\$115 will cover the cost of the overnight camp, food and lodging. For more information and to find registration forms go to <http://www.mountaintopcamp.com/kids-camp.html> or Contact Dawn Highum BABCkids@gmail.com.

And youth, mark your calendars as Summit 2024 is coming up July 15th-20th. Open to all students who have completed 6th grade-12th grade. The cost is \$165 a student, and there are scholarships available if needed. Invite your friends and come experience all that Summit has to offer! See Pastor Steven for more information and to register.

Church Business Meeting & Ministry Celebration

Nothing gets church people excited like a good church business meeting. However, there is much value in the time we spend together to do church business and to hear all that God is doing in our church. Plan on joining us May 19th as we share a potluck meal together and celebrate God's work in our church.

Exciting Ministry Happenings

Another Upward basketball season has come to an end. Partnering with College Heights Baptist Church we have over 350 participants this year. Every Saturday the two gyms at College Heights and our gym were full of children and their families. So thankful for our partnership with College Heights in this amazing ministry.

Now we are on to a spring and summer filled with opportunities to share the love of Jesus with our community. Easter egg hunts are happening. Men's and women's events and VBS are all right around the corner. Pray for these and other ministries as we strive to be the salt and light in our community, state, nation and world.

Praise the Lord for His provision! The MPAC building is being used for ministry.



We need at least \$120,000 in building fund offerings in 2024. Let's remain faithful in giving.

CUTTING THE DEBT IN 2024

"From when the whole body being fitted and held together by what every joint supplies, according to the proper working of each individual part, causes the growth of the body (see the building up of itself in love)." Ephesians 4:16



April is our month to show extra support for our Wyoming Southern Baptist Mission Network.

Youth Evangelism Conference at Boyd

The Youth Evangelism Conference is fast approaching and will be held here at Boyd Avenue on April 19th-20th. For 6th-12th grade students. Tickets are \$10. The theme this year is "True Worship", and Pastor Ed Tharp is the speaker. Join with youth around the state for live music, breakouts, food, a t-shirt, and a fun afterhours event Friday night! See Pastor Steven for a registration form.

Women's Tea April 27

Melody Taylor is this year's speaker at the Women's Tea, April 27th, 10:30 a.m. in the MPAC building. Melody is the wife

of Rondie Taylor our state Wyoming Southern Baptist Mission Network missionary. Come enjoy a great time of fellowship and worship with other women, as well as the coffee, tea and homemade finger foods. Tickets (\$15) are available from Alice Anderson, Amy Remington or Sasha Snidow.

APRIL	DATE
VBS CLINIC @ MTN. VIEW	5-6
MEN'S LOW COUNTRY BOIL	6
YOUTH EVANGELISM CONFERENCE	19-20
DEACONS' MEETING	21
GATEWAY DENVER GRADUATION	27
WOMEN'S TEA	27

Outdoorsman's Bash

Guys, don't miss this year's Outdoorsman's Bash. It's coming Saturday, May 18. There will be a time for shooting at the Platte River Gun Club, followed by a dinner and raffles in our MPAC Building. The Bash is for men 12 years old and up. Tickets will go on sale soon.

MAY	DATE
MOTHER'S DAY	12
OUTDOORSMEN'S BASH	18
DEACONS' MEETING	19
POTLUCK/QUARTERLY BUS. MTG.	19
CORE END OF YEAR CELEBRATION	29
YOUTH YARD SALE	5/30-6/1

NOTES FROM PASTOR ED THARP & PASTOR STEVEN SCHALL

Why Do We Have Church?

There are so many things about being the pastor of Boyd Avenue Baptist Church that I love. I love the people I worship with every Sunday. I love our heart for ministry as we strive to live out the Great Commission. I love to teach and preach God's Word. I love walking along side each of you as we serve together.

I am thankful that we are a church that seeks to make a difference in the lives of people. By the church, I am speaking of the body of individuals who make up the church. We need to meet the needs of people both as a body and as individuals. We need to provide a worship experience that is practical and brings people into an encounter with God. Regardless of personal interest or style, the main focus of our worship should be God. Church should provide opportunities for individuals to be involved in studying God's word in ways that will impact their lives. Church should provide Christian fellowship that is encouraging and challenging. We need to provide people with a place and opportunities to use their gifts and talents in serving our God.

This is one of the reasons I am excited about how we use our facilities in ministry. Our MPAC building has opened new ministries to connect people to the Body of Christ and to God Himself. New ministries mean new opportunities. I am excited about facilities that are not just used a couple of days a week, but almost every day. A place where more of us can use our talents and gifts in serving God in reaching our community.

This takes us. Ministry only happens when we use our gifts together to accomplish His purposes. We can have all the tools that there are available, but they are useless without someone using them. God's Word calls us to function together as the Body of Christ. Each of us doing our part.

There is also a financial element to using our facilities. We still hold a mortgage of just over one million dollars on our MPAC building. As we strive to do ministry, we also need to care for the responsibilities of the building we own. With a smile on my face, I am reminded that these are nothing that time and money won't take care of. As we know, those are things that can sometimes be limited. This is a challenge before us. I believe that we sought God as we built our MPAC building. I believe that we are being faithful in using our facilities for ministry. I am confident that God will provide what is needed financially. I am also confident that we need to be faithful ourselves. Join me in praying, planning, and giving to take care of the building upkeep and in paying down our debt. We are a church called to minister together and this is part of where we are as a ministry. As the human side of me doesn't enjoy this part of the job and causes me stress I am constantly reminded of the faithfulness of God and His people.

We have a good church. God is doing great things here. My desire is that we don't rest in who we are but strive to be more. We need to continue to do whatever is necessary to be relevant and impact the lives of people. This is why we have a church and why we need each other.

– Pastor Ed

The Challenge of Change

I recently got a text message from a good friend of mine sharing that their baby girl was born on February 29th and baby and mom were both doing well. He then asked after Alyssa and me. I was able to send him some photos of Ryker Beau born on February 24th. We exchanged some pleasantries, and some well wishes, and we sent photos back and forth before wrapping up our conversations to no doubt go and change a diaper or two. One of the biggest things that we talked about was the change that our little respective gifts from heaven are already making in our lives. It was not unexpected change...we had plenty of time to reconcile ourselves with the change that was coming our way, and yet, change is still difficult.

I tend to be a creature of habit when I can be...for instance if you name a restaurant, I can probably tell you that what I will be eating from that restaurant as I almost never order anything different. At Johnny J's I always get the chicken cordon bleu with a cherry Mt. Dew no ice, and if we are celebrating a chocolate, peanut butter, Oreo shake with no whip cream or cherry. At HQ BBQ I enjoy a Chicken sandwich without the set-up, a side of epic mac & cheese and some sweet BBQ sauce for the sandwich.

Recently at youth group I challenged our youth to enact change in their relationship with God. We were discussing a passage in Hebrews 5 where the writer is reprimanding his readers for not growing in their faith. His readers were caught between reverting to Judaism and committing to Christianity.

Verses 12-14 read *"¹² For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you have need again for someone to teach you the elementary principles of the actual words of God, and you have come to need milk and not solid food. ¹³ For everyone who partakes only of milk is unacquainted with the word of righteousness, for he is an infant. ¹⁴ But solid food is for the mature, who because of practice have their senses trained to distinguish between good and evil."*

These people were reluctant to change...it was safe in Judaism. It was culturally appropriate and recommended. To follow Christ was to put aside their history and their traditions. They struggled to change even though the change was the kind of life change that led to repentance and eternity with Jesus Christ! Change doesn't get any better than that! Yet, they hesitated.

Do we hesitate to truly give God everything in our life? Let me extend that same challenge to all of us: Will we grow and mature in our faith to the point where we no longer need to rely on milk for we are able to feed ourselves through the Word of God? Chicken Cordon Bleu and Chicken Sandwiches are a lot more fulfilling than 2%.

– Pastor Steven