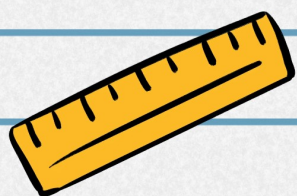




Liberty Baptist Church

August Newsletter



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Pastor's Paragraph

August 2025

"Remembering Dr. John MacArthur" (1939-2025)

As I reflect on the life and ministry of Pastor-Teacher John MacArthur, I am beyond grateful for his mark on my life. He was my role model, mentor, and esteemed teacher. I looked to him as a faithful shepherd, wise theologian, and godly example. He will be missed, yet he will continue to speak through a massive collection of recorded sermons and written works.

It was my privilege to meet him and exchange a few words at a G3 Conference in Atlanta several years ago. It's remarkable how someone can have such a lasting influence in your life when you don't know them very well. But then on the other hand, I did know him well because I shared his convictions about the truth, sensed his humble and contented demeanor, and observed his reverent attitude in worship and preaching. Since 2020, Nancy and I have watched the Lord's Day services livestreamed from Grace Community Church in Sun Valley, CA, where he pastored for 56 years. This became a treasured highlight each week for us.

On Sunday, July 13, Staff Pastor Tom Patton announced that Pastor John had contracted pneumonia and his earthly departure was imminent. Then we learned that he entered the Lord's presence on July 14. He was faithful to the finish of his race and fought the good fight of faith. Well done, dear brother and servant of the Lord. Please join millions of believers around the world in praying for his dear wife Patricia and their family and his beloved church family.

I encourage you to listen to Pastor John's teaching (gtv.org) and read his books (new and used may be found at amazon.com). Here are a few of my favorite MacArthur quotes:

(from his Personal Notes at the beginning of *The MacArthur Study Bible*): "I have always been committed to the Scriptures as inspired, inerrant, infallible, sufficient and eternal. I have always preached the Bible expositionally, verse by verse, book by book. After this enterprise, I feel even more strongly about the necessity of preaching every pure word of Scripture (Ps. 12:6).

Pastor's Paragraph

August 2025

“Remembering Dr. John MacArthur”

(1939-2025)

I have been profoundly enriched in my own life, as never before, because of the sheer force of so much truth pouring through me daily. For many months I spent eight or more hours every day working in the word, not so much because I had to, but because I could not leave the text—its riches held me captive.”

(from Iain Murray's biography, *John MacArthur: Servant of the Word and Flock*): “When I started in ministry, I committed myself to expository preaching, just explaining the Bible, because I knew that there was nothing I could say that was anywhere near as important as what God had to say. The real goal of ministry has always been to keep my own opinions out of it as much as possible. I never want to be guilty of giving people the illusion that they have heard from God when in fact they have only heard from me. When I step into the pulpit, the expectation is that I'm a messenger of God. I speak on His behalf, not my own.”

I'm thankful for our gracious God and the privilege we have to worship and serve Him!
Pastor Stan



“I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.” 2 Timothy 4:7-8

A Word from Rev. Josh Bowman

August 2025

“The Importance of Spiritual Growth”

Growth is an important topic for many different people for many different reasons. Farmers want their crops to grow so that they will have a good harvest. Christian parents want their children to grow up to be happy, healthy, and productive children of the Lord. Teachers want their students to grow in the knowledge of the subjects they are teaching. Pastors want those they shepherd to spiritually grow into the Christlike servants God's Word commands that they be. It is this last desire that I'd like to address in this article since the spiritual health of the individual members that make up the body of Christ is extremely vital to the overall health of the entire body. A healthy church body will be full of believers that are not all spiritually mature, but that are all spiritually growing. Our goal as a church must be to be as the apostle Paul said in Ephesians, “a body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.” The one and only way that we can reach this goal is to grow spiritually. In the scriptures we find several things about spiritual growth, so I'd like to point out a few.

First, we see a command to spiritually grow. Paul tells us in Ephesians 4:15, “But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, *even* Christ:” This passage is a command that comes straight from God, given through the Spirit, to the apostle Paul to write down for all Christians to obediently follow. Paul is pointing out that Christ is the end goal of our growth and we are to spiritually progress towards being like Him.

Second, we see the results of spiritual growth. In Ephesians chapter 4, Paul gives up five results of spiritual growth: 1) a unified church, 2) an intimate knowledge of Jesus Christ, 3) spiritual maturity, 4) Christlikeness, and 5) spiritual strength. Think just for a moment about how important these five results are. If a church is not unified, it's divided and unproductive. If a church only has a topical knowledge of Christ, Christ will not be special to them and supreme in their life and service. If a church is not spiritually mature, it will “be tossed to and fro by every wind of doctrine.” If a church is not Christlike, it will be worldly therefore dishonoring to God's Holy Name. If a church is not spiritually strong, the forces of darkness will wreak havoc on anything the church tries to do for the Lord. A church that is not spiritually growing is a dishonoring mess to our Lord!

A Word from Rev. Josh Bowman

August 2025

“The Importance of Spiritual Growth”

(continued)

In closing, it is imperative that each of us ask ourselves, “what am I currently doing to build each member of Liberty Baptist Church?” This should be convicting to both those who give many hours a day to edify our body of Christ and to those who give very little time to heed the call of spiritual growth, because neither group has arrived at the standard of perfection. There is one thing that I know for sure, and it is that God uses people, we are His people, and we must love Him enough to submit to His command to spiritually grow His Church. May we all grow in grace together as we help one another become more like Christ.

Your fellow grower,

Rev. Josh Bowman



“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. Amen.” 2 Peter 3:18

August Upcoming Events

01

Back to School Bash 6 PM
3rd-12th Grade

03

Adventure Club Leaders & Helpers
Luncheon 12:15 PM

03

Lord's Supper
7 PM Worship Service

04

Food Pantry 12:30 PM
Volunteers arrive at 11:30 AM

06

Adventure Club Kickoff 6 PM
ALL Students

11

Pastors Fellowship 10 AM
Brunch Provided

13

Adventure Club begins 6 PM
Adults begins 7 PM

26

Haven of Rest Service 7:30 PM
Scott Pendergrass Speaking

LIBERTY NEWS

Pray for our Students

“O Lord my God, in my learning, let me seek Your wisdom. Let me seek Your understanding. Let me see how what I am learning leads to a greater love for You. Let me first study the fear of the Lord, for the fear of You is the beginning of wisdom and knowledge. Let me be instructed by You, whatever the topic of my study is. Make me Your student. Let me never think that I have moved beyond the need to learn. Grant that by my study, I might grow in grace. I pray in Jesus’ name. Amen.” Reformation Bible College Professor of Old Testament, Dr. Ben Shaw

Homecoming Celebration

Everyone is invited to join us for our Homecoming Celebration as we celebrate our 37th year at Liberty Baptist on Sunday, September 14th. We will enjoy a potluck luncheon immediately following the morning worship service. Please mark your response form and Mary Bowman will be in contact with you.

Are You Serving and Plugged In??

Are you serving in a ministry at Liberty? Are you missing out on using your talents to serve The Lord? We offer a variety of ministries and all ministries are in need of volunteers. We would love to have you and your family involved. Please stop by the Welcome Desk to get a copy of our “LBC Ministry Interest Form.”

Are you receiving our email communications? Do you have a new phone number, address, or email? Please contact the church office so our records are up to date.

Food Pantry News

If you are interested in helping serve at our local Food Pantry each month we could use your help. Please contact Mrs. Diane Harr for further information. Many hands make light work. It is a joy to serve others in our community while serving with our church family. Also, we greatly appreciate all the generous donations for our local Food Pantry. Please watch your bulletin each week for items needed. Thank you.

Thank You!!

Thank you to everyone that served food for the families and staff at the Hospice House. We greatly appreciate your love and hospitality for the Hospice House.

Adventure Club-Student Program



Adventure Club meets during the school year on Wednesday evenings for students 2 years old-12th grade from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

This is our third year using the Adventure Club materials. Through Adventure Club children learn essential doctrine and biblical truth in a transformative way that is directly applied to their salvation and sanctification through Bible study, lessons, their handbook, snacks, and games.

Tiny Trackers – 2 year olds – Pre- K

Trackers & Scouts – Kindergarten- 2nd Grade

Trailblazers -3rd-5th Grade

Youth Group – 6th-12th Grade

Ministry Leaders – Rev. Josh & Mary Bowman

The Adventure Club curriculum takes students through a systematic study of theology in the Scriptures. Covering a broad range of topics, Adventure Club brings deep theological concepts down to a basic understanding through teaching lessons, Scripture memorization, and songs. Adventure Club is set up as a “unified curriculum” for the whole family. Every week, students in particular age ranges learn the same theological lesson in a way that is appropriate for their respective age levels. A unified curriculum enables families to discuss one topic together each week, reinforcing the lesson that students have learned in Adventure Club. Over nine years, students will come to understand all essential doctrines: The Truth about God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, The Truth about Man, Sin, and Salvation, and **The Truth about the Church, the Bible, and End Times.**

We will meet and dismiss each week from the MPC Building. The students will be taking home their books each week and we encourage parents to review and work with your student each night memorizing their Bible verses. If you have any questions, please contact Josh and Mary Bowman.

AUGUST 2025



SUNDAY

MONDAY

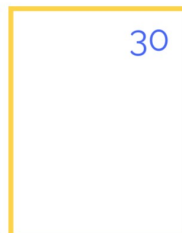
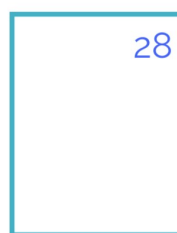
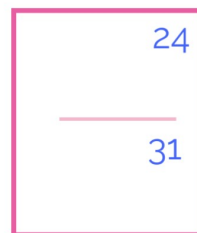
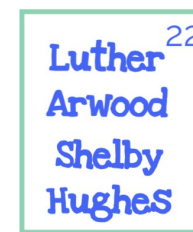
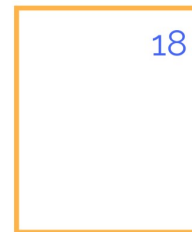
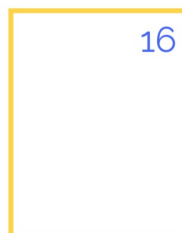
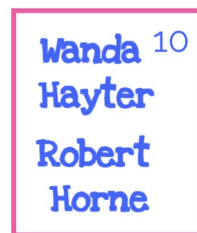
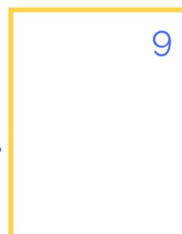
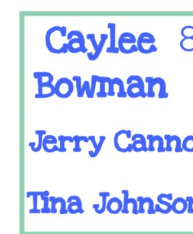
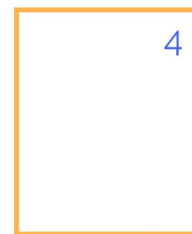
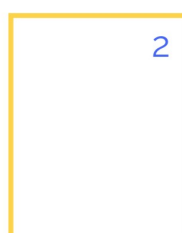
TUESDAY

WED

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY



Happy Birthday!! We Love You!!