

BEHIND THE SCENES

Volume 7, Issue 6

April 26, 2017

FROM THE DESK OF PASTOR GREG SYKES

Reminders about Building Dedication:

This Sunday should be a very, very good day in the Lord's house. And it will also be very, very busy.

First of all, I'd love to emphasize the reality that we're still having "normal" church this Sunday. We are not about to miss the opportunity to worship and study God's Word together, even to celebrate a building.

We are grateful for our new building, of course, but it is a tool for the spread of the Gospel and for discipleship — it is not a destination.

So we want to keep that in balance. And, with that in mind, we'll still be having all three of our regularly scheduled services this Sunday, as well as our Life Groups.

But, we'll also be sprinkling in lunch on the grounds and our Building Dedication Service.

DETAILS, DETAILS:

With all of that said, let me share the scoop on how Sunday will work.

Obviously, we'll be on our regular schedule (but maybe in abbreviated mode). We'll see if I can actually still preach in under 30 minutes . . . No wagering, by the way. If you want the "full" or "normal" dose of Sunday's message, you might want to consider returning for our Third Service at 6:15 PM.



Also, for lunch, we'll be serving hamburgers and hot dogs, if you have a question about the menu.

Now, for a crucial detail: we're hoping to eat lunch "in shifts," so to speak. If you generally attend 3 or come to the first service only, we'd love for you to eat lunch between 11 AM and Noon in our Events Center.

Then, around noon, we'll be dismissing our second service and they'll head into the EC and possibly the Fellowship Hall to eat. Those who have already had lunch are welcome to fellowship in our new entry area, the Great Hall, or even in the new sanctuary.

Then, at 1 PM, we will kick off our Building Dedication Service in our new sanctuary. It is a very simple service involving congregational worship, dedicatory prayers and responsive readings.

It really is an opportunity for our church to officially "dedicate" our building to the Lord and for His glory.

All in all, the service should be less than an hour and then we're all headed home for our after-

noon nap . . . The perfect ending to the perfect day, right?

ISSUES OF FLEXIBILITY:

But please be aware of a couple of issues that will likely be a bit different on Sunday. First of all, parking is likely to again be an adventure (especially if it rains).

Because our early service folks will be staying on campus for lunch, our parking lots will not "turn over," so to speak. So, if you know about spots to the east of our campus at banks, etc., please try to use them if a little walk won't inconvenience you.

Please note, however, that we are not supposed to be parking at either law firm to the north and west of our campus!

Finally, if you attend an 11 AM Life Group, be prepared for your teacher to be brief — so you can beat the 2nd Service crowd to lunch. Trust me, you'll be thankful later. We'll see you Sunday for a special day!

This Sunday:

"The Power of Pentecost"

Acts 2:1-13

FROM THE DESK OF PASTOR GREG SYKES

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Sunday, April 30

"The Power of Pentecost," Acts 2:1-13

Week 3, "Built on the Rock," sermon series

Sunday, May 7

Graduation Recognition

Message: Justin Myrick

Sunday, May 14

"Peter at Pentecost," Sermon Spotlight #1, Part One

Acts 2:14-24

Week 4, "Built on the Rock," sermon series

Sunday, May 21

"Peter at Pentecost," Sermon Spotlight #1, Part Two

Acts 2:25-41

Week 5, "Built on the Rock," sermon series

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As I've already mentioned in this newsletter, our parking situation has been a bit crazy over the past month.

Obviously, we've had our two largest crowds in FBC history, in two out of the last three weeks. (Easter Sunday and our first Sunday in the new facility). Both weeks, we had between 1500-1600 on campus.

So, parking has been difficult. But we have some short-term and long-term solutions in view. First of all, we're going to get a few additional handicapped spots added. Also, we're going to add a few designated "Senior Adult" spots along the South parking lot closest to the Events Center.

And, in the long-term, by the Fall, we'll get our east lot (across from CenturyTel) and our alley parking back, and that will be a few more spots. Also, we're already considering if we need to add additional parking in the grassy lot behind our Hispanic facility.

It's tough to complete a building project and then immediately begin talking about adding something else . . . But what's the al-

ternative? Not reaching more folks with Gospel?

Well, you know the answer to that. God has called us to reach our community, and we're willing to do what it takes to make that happen.

And every time we grow, we increase our ability to partner with others in the Gospel to reach the nations . . . So we're not planning on stopping.

Thank you for patience as we endure this season of construction, and thank you for continuing to bring your friends, neighbors and family to worship with us — let's keep being faithful to reach out. God is doing big, big things, and I don't believe He is finished!