

Thalia Lynn Baptist Church

at Town Center

The Vision

October 2019

Paul wrote: **2 Timothy 4:7 (ESV)** ⁷ I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.

Many people want that read at a loved one's funeral. Many times, the implication is a sham. The deceased didn't live for the Lord. The deceased didn't even enter the race. There was no way that he finished it. A race begins when the participants enter the race. Those who don't enter can't complete it.

On the other hand, there are many people who begin things they never complete.

Luke 14:28-30 (ESV) ²⁸ For which of you, desiring to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost, whether he has enough to complete it? ²⁹ Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it begin to mock him, ³⁰ saying, 'This man began to build and was not able to finish.'

The cost so often is not the amount of money needed to complete a project but the resolve that it must be completed. Otherwise, other things will become more interesting and the final steps will never be taken to complete the task at hand.

Over sixty years ago a group of people met and formed what they called "Thalia Lynn Baptist Church." They had a vision of making disciples of Jesus in the community around them. They did a great job and it was a great start, but their goal is not complete. There are plenty of people who need to be reached for Christ in the community.

We have a responsibility to continue the task laid down by the Lord for Thalia Lynn. In fact, we should do so with more resolve than before. Those who have gone before us have provided the property, a beautiful sanctuary and a tremendous location. They have given us a great start.

The college I went to had the largest Baptist Student Ministry in the state. That wasn't always the case. A director named Bob Burch came with the idea of making disciples through the Word of God. He started with ten students. Within a week he only had five. Those five grew to hundreds. The next director was Ron Wells. Ron told me that his ministry had never been leading Bible studies like Bob did but he continued it because that was the vision for this ministry. The ministry continued to grow because Ron picked up the mantle and carried it further.

We have the opportunity to do the same. We must introduce ourselves to people who need to know the Lord. We must involve them in what we are doing to build relationships with them. We must engage them where they are. We must equip them to be disciples of Jesus Christ and we must send them out to do the ministry. The work is not over. As far as it goes with us, let's finish the race.

Prentis McGoldrick

Mega Fellowship Breakfast ~ October 6

Its about people. Invite a friend and come join us for the fellowship!

4392 Virginia Beach Blvd., Virginia Beach, VA 23462 • 757-499-0557 • www.ThaliaLynn.com

Youth Hall Renovation - "The Upper Room"

Almost there! See it for yourself. Check it out. Be a part of completing this project by helping to fund the hall flooring. Contact Darleen Mastin for details.



Support to Mega Fellowship Sunday

Date	Class 1	Class 2
Oct 6	Adults Under Construction	Fellowship Class
Nov 3	We need <u>YOUR</u> class to sign up for <u>HERE!</u>	Bereans Class
Dec 1	Friendship Class	We need <u>YOUR</u> class to sign up for <u>HERE!</u>
Jan 5	Fishermen Class	Carpenters

The support goal for Mega Fellowship Sunday is to have a total of eight classes paired up by twos, on a four-month rotation schedule. If your class would like to add to that rotation, let the church office now.

Church Work Opportunities

The Building and Grounds Committee is compiling a listing of "projects" inside and outside the church that can be done by one or more willing persons, as they are able to find time to tackle a project or two. The church office will make that list available to you so that you can make plans on how/when to help with some church work projects. For example, door frames need to be painted. Contact Jim Clifton for more information. Jim is also coordinating a major renovation of our playground area for November.

TLBC Hosts These Groups

Alcoholics Anonymous - Weekly on Sundays at 11:30 pm (No longer meets on Fridays)

Narcotics Anonymous - Weekly on Wednesdays at 5:30 pm

AI-Anon - Weekly on Thursdays at 12:30 pm

Multiple Myeloma Support Group - Monthly on a Saturday at 9:00 am

[NEW!] Young Life (PAHS Chapter) - Weekly on Friday

Gains/Losses

Welcome to our newest members
Ryan & Sarah Anderson

Farewell to these member

In loving memory of these members

Women in the Word

Wednesdays at 1:30 pm
Room 49

Join us for a women's Bible study based on a course called *"The Progress of Redemption"*. Led by Cheryl Foster, the group will explore the unity of the Bible and how the parts "fit together" as God has acted and spoken toward His ultimate goal "that the earth may be filled with the knowledge of the glory of God as the waters cover the sea." If you have questions, please contact Sharon Walpole at 499-0557

All About the JOY Ministry

The JOY Ministry seeks to minister to adults in our “maturing years” (fifty-five and above) although the activities we sponsor are certainly not limited to that age group. We believe this time in our lives can be especially meaningful as we continue to seek Christ, to minister to family and friends, and to take care of ourselves physically, mentally, emotionally and spiritually. Our name includes the acrostic J-O-Y. Our goal is to provide opportunities in our church and community to address these three areas:

J-Jesus: Seeking a vibrant, deeper relationship with Christ through Worship, Bible Study, and Prayer.

O-Others: Fellowshiping with and ministering to others.

Y-Yourself: Implementing positive choices for our health and well-being.

As we plan, the JOY Council programs different events that highlight the focuses. We consider our relationship with JESUS to be of utmost importance. Therefore, we support our Sunday School classes, Wednesday Ladies' Bible Study, and Wednesday Discipleship Classes and Prayer Meeting.

Because we have experienced the joy to be found in Christ, we want to share Him with OTHERS. Our JOY calendar provides many opportunities for fellowship and opportunities to invite others to participate: JOY Dinners, Lunch Bunch outings, JOY trips, and so on. Our JOY Singers regularly provide sing-alongs at local retirement facilities. The Benevolence Ministry is staffed by many senior adults. As part of the Ruth Ministry, we visit home-bound members. An August churchwide event, which included all ages, was our Cookie Caper which distributed over 550 bags of cookies to local teachers, police officers, and fire fighters.

The JOY Ministry also includes opportunities to educate ourselves about this unique time in our lives with speakers about Elder Law, Medicare, Downsizing, Dementia, Nutrition, and more. We host an exercise class on Mondays and Line Dancing on Tuesdays to keep us physically moving.

As you can see, the JOY Ministry is on the move! Join us for any activities or trips; again, there is no age requirement. You will find yourself among some of the most JOY-full people at Thalia Lynn!

Sharon Walpole, Senior Adult Minister

Deacon's Corner

Our Deacon ordination service will be held on Sunday, October 20th at 4 pm.

It is a special honor to be selected to serve as a deacon. Deacons have a crucial role in the life and health of a church. Their role is to take care of the physical and logistical needs in the church and for the congregation. Christ came to earth not to serve as a king of the land, but came to serve God and others. So, too, a deacon must demonstrate Christ-like behavior, be faithful to God, be of good moral character, be mature, and have a service oriented heart that is demonstrated by their actions.

Six individuals will share their testimony and be ordained: *Angela Butler, Eddie Callis, Minnie Nery, Tonya Owens, Jim Pratscher, and Mary Swanson. Wayne Butler will also join as new TLBC deacon; he was ordained in a former church.*

Please join us for this ordination honor.

Darleen Mastin

Deacon Chair

TLBC Supports “Young Life” with A Place to Meet Each Friday

Beginning on September 20, the PAHS chapter of Young Life began meeting very, very early on Friday mornings in our Fellowship Hall. Young Life’s mission is to introduce adolescents to Jesus Christ and help them grow in their faith. Its vision is that every adolescent will have the opportunity to meet Jesus Christ and follow Him. Young Life began with a few simple ideas about sharing the truth of God’s love with adolescents and has turned those ideas into time-tested methods for reaching out to high school students in friendship and hope. Each week 20-30 high school students, along with several adult leaders will meet here to open and share the Word of God. What a great way to start the day! What a great way for TLBC to align its facilities with those seeking to know and grow in Christ! And it is happening here!

Don’t forget to make your reservations for the Wednesday night meals! Reservations are due to the church office not later than Tuesday at noon of the same week.



Publication Deadlines

Please note the following deadlines for submitting information to the church office with regards to printed publications:

Weekly Bulletin:

8:00 am on the Tuesday of the week to run

Monthly Vision and JOY Newsletter:

the 15th of the month prior

What’s Happening in the Next Several Months

October:

- 1: K21 Men’s Meeting (new session)
- 5-12: Costa Rica Mission Trip
- 5: Mega Fellowship Sunday
- 12: WINGS “Painting with Friends” Party
- 14: Youth Hang-Out Day
- 17: JOY Dinner
- 20: Deacon Ordination
- 26: Fall Festival
- 27: Costa Rica Mission Trip Report
- 31: JOY Potluck/Game Day

November:

- 3: Mega Fellowship Dinner
- 4: Ballroom Dance Class (new session)
- 9: Aragona Outreach
- 9: Planet 56 Thanksgiving Celebration
- 11: Christmas Store Dinner
- 17: Church Council & Business Meeting
- 21: JOY Dinner
- 24: Community Thanksgiving Service
- 27: No Wednesday Night Recharge
- 28: Thanksgiving Day

December:

- 1: Mega Fellowship Sunday
- 6: JOY Trip-Salem, NC
- 8: Christmas Choir Music Program
- 14: Youth Progressive Dinner
- 15: Sounds of Christmas
- 19: JOY Dinner
- 22: Kids’ Christmas Celebration
- 25: Christmas Day

**The church calendar is located online at: www.thalialynn.com*



RECHARGE is a mid-week evening opportunity for you, your family, and your friends to relax, refocus, and recharge. Come enjoy fellowship during a delicious meal—we take care of the cooking and the cleanup. After dinner, we invite you to one of our activities planned for all ages. Is your battery running weaker as the week goes forward? Then you can use a recharge!

Don't just think about it! Pray about it! Do it!

who's your **ONE?**

#WhosYour1



who's your **ONE?**

WhosYourOne.com

Every Christian is charged by Christ to share the Gospel and point others to Christ. Sharing is not always about what we do, but it is always about who we are. Ask God to lead you to your "one." Chances are, your "one" might also be your neighbor.



During our worship services on Sunday, September 29, our church commissioned ten of our own to serve as missionaries in Costa Rica. Will you be among those called in 2020? Pray about it!

On October 5, 2019, ten missionaries from Thalia Lynn Baptist Church will set off to a country they do not know to share Christ with a people they have never met. They will return different than when they left. The transformation that they themselves will experience in one week will help to define the church that we will become. Please pray for these TLBC missionaries: Rick Barron, Jim Clifton, Chris Cress, Leigh Cress, Pam Doyle, Cindy Hurd, Miki Johnson, Linda Lucas, Prentis McGoldrick, and Steve McNaughton. Pray that their experience and energies will help move us forward in what God has called our church to do at Town Center.

The XP Corner

Most of us have systems for tracking and counting things that are important to us. In the old days when I would get bank statements in the mail, I would diligently balance the checkbook so that my accounting was lined up with the bank's numbers. If you are like me, you would balance your statements to the penny, too. More recently, I just log onto my credit card accounts electronically just to see if what I charged (I rarely write checks anymore) has been recorded properly. Similarly, I look at my electricity bills and compare this month's usage to what it was last year at the same time. Same thing with the water bill. Not so much with groceries. And I'm diligent with making sure that I'm consistent with my tithes and offerings to the church. REALM has made giving to the church much easier because I have scheduled my tithe to be done automatically via the REALM app that I have on my phone. I get an e-mail each Sunday that says my tithe was received. We track lots of things. We count lots of things. We measure lots of things. We are creatures of habit. Standardizing what we do makes it easier to count and track.

It occurred to me this week that one of the things that I don't count or track is how many people I invite to church. If you are as old as I am, and have also been a Baptist "all of your life," you will probably remember a time when our offering envelopes had a place to indicate how many person we invited ("Contacts Made") to church that week, among other things that we kept track of for church records. Not any more. But, I heard someone say once that things only matter to us when we start keeping score. Maybe there is something to that line of thinking. So, if inviting people to church is important then I should probably start keeping track of those occurrences too? Hmm.

I'm going to start doing it. Here's how. I'm going to permanently set a clear 4 oz drinking glass in a very visible place in my house so that I cannot avoid seeing it when I pass by. Our kitchen table comes to mind — probably because I am in the kitchen more often than I should be. Every time I invite someone to church, I will drop a single penny in that glass. Then, on Sunday's prior to coming to church, I will empty the contents of the glass, record the number of pennies that I have placed there during the week, and place all the pennies in an unmarked envelope. Once at church, I will drop the envelope in one of the offering boxes in the Sanctuary.

The Lord does not want my pennies; nor does he need them. But, he does want me to share His Good News. And, He does want my heart not to just be willing to invite others to church but to actually *do* it. My pennies then will become not just a symbol of my willingness to do what He has asked me to do, but also a way for me to measure of how committed I *really* am to following through with what He has asked.

The clear drinking glass on the table will serve as a reminder (every day!) that I have committed to actually inviting people to church. The fact that it is clear glass will let me see and measure (every day!) the level to which I am following through with my commitment to invite others to church that week. And when I put my week's pennies in an offering box, I will be reminded that each of those invitations was also made as an offering to God. I need to do this! It is important.

David Doyle

TLBC Men's Ministry - Knights of the 21st Century
Dr. Thom Owens

"A Good Start"

We have officially begun our new Men's Ministry based on the Knights of the 21st Century curriculum. This first six weeks we are exploring the Genesis of Manhood and we are averaging more than 35 men each week. The response has been better than I hoped but not as big as I dreamed. You see, I have a God-sized dream for this ministry and its impact on our community. We can accommodate a whole lot more men. I have been bothered by the downward spiraling pop-culture attacks on men, manhood, and fathers. Always the bumbling idiot at best or the abusive bully at worst, men are rarely positively portrayed in our current consumer-driven, entertainment-based culture.



Why is this happening? It is all part of the enemy's plan. Why does it seem like the enemy is succeeding in his plans? We are letting him. We forget what we are made for, who we are and more importantly who's we are. In this confusion, we allow ourselves to be isolated and, in that isolation, we are relentlessly attacked, beat down and harassed by the enemy and his fiery darts. So, what is the answer? Community.

We are not meant to fight our battles alone. Unfortunately, the opportunities to be encouraged by, learn from and be in community with other men are few and far between. We no longer sit around campfires at the end of a hard day and celebrate our victories and share in our set-backs so that we can be strengthened, trained, and equipped to face the battles anew the next day. This is a modern-day challenge.



We are meeting that challenge head-on. We have created "campfires" for men to do just that. We listen to each other, we encourage each other, and we equip each other to do our part in the battle to be better men. This is not some touchy-feely, Dr. Phil - Kumbaya session. This is men being real and authentic with each other, building trusted relationships to support each other. Although we sometimes use sports analogies for life, this is no game. Make no mistake, this is a fight and the stakes are high. You owe it to yourself and your families to be an active participant and not a passive spectator.

I encourage you to come to a meeting on Tuesday night from 6:30-8:30 to see what this is all about. Prayerfully consider it and let the Holy Spirit guide your decision. This is a come as you are, come when you can meeting. You have not "missed" anything that cannot be made up other than the relationships we are forging in the campfires.

Plus, we feed you each week!! See you there - Thom

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www.thalialynn.com

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THALIA LYNN BAPTIST CHURCH

FALL FESTIVAL

SATURDAY
OCTOBER 26TH

**11:00
to
2:00**

4392 Virginia Beach Blvd. (Next to Princess Anne HS)

FREE ADMISSION
Inside Event

FOOD, FUN & MORE...

TRUNK OR TREAT

GAMES

PONY RIDES
PETTING ZOO

Bring your candy bucket!

