

AUGUST 2022

BAYSHORE CONNECTION

Better Together



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Budget Snapshot 7/25/22

- Budget Year to Date \$482,848.00
- Giving Year to Date \$408,324.00
- Amount Under Budget \$74,524.00

August Deacon Devotional

1 Corinthians 15:9-10

9 For I am the least of the apostles and do not even deserve to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. 10 But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace to me was not without effect. No, I worked harder than all of them—yet not I, but the grace of God that was with me.

For many years, I have recited to myself the phrase "Therefore go I but by the grace of God", often and at times of fortune or thankfulness.

Many people believe it is a scripture, but it is not.

It is believed to have derived from a mid-sixteenth-century statement by John Bradford, "There but for the grace of God, goes John Bradford," in reference to a group of prisoners being led to execution.

-Tom Allyn

A Word from Pastor Scott



Rabbi Zusya, when he was an old man, said, "In the coming world, they will not ask me: 'Why were you not Moses?' They will ask me: 'Why were you not Zusya?'"

I've been reflecting on this provocative rabbinical quote for a few weeks now. In a few words it gets to the heart of one of our common issues: our vision of "success" is almost always based on another person's life. But we aren't living their life. We are living our life.

As has been long noted, a primary way we learn in life is by imitation. This is true from the beginning stages of our development. This is true in art, sports, and many fields of education. And this is true spiritually. The Apostle Paul tells the Ephesians to be "imitators of God, as beloved children, and live in love, as Christ loved us," (Eph. 5:1). He is telling us to "mimic" God, who in Christ demonstrated ultimate love.

Imitation shapes us, points us, develops us. But it can't ever fully define us. It is a means to the end of being all you were meant to be, not the end in itself. Good golfers may start imitating Tiger Wood's swing, but they must ultimately find how to hit the ball in a way that works for their body.

Ever noticed how diverse the original disciples were? Jesus encouraged us to live into our differences. Our gifts differ (some preachers, some healers, etc.) and our ethnicities differ and our genders (the list is long...), and yet we are all one in Christ. Our humanity, our status as God's beloved children, brings us together. Our differences make us beautiful.

In other words, as we imitate we don't mimeograph. As we copy, we don't photocopy. As we imitate Jesus very few of us will heal with a touch, or die on a wooden cross. The Spirit leads by working within the idiosyncrasies of our hearts. As Paulo Coehlo has written: "You will never be able to escape from your heart. So it is better to listen to what it has to say."

Scott

The Bayshore Spotlight is on Robert Wilson

If you don't know Robert Wilson, you are missing a treat! He's a wonderful young man from Barbados, and he is the son of Hetty and Robert Wilson. Robert has two brothers and one sister. He is the next to the youngest of the four children.



Robert completed his A-levels education at Queens College, one of Barbados' top schools and in 2010, when Robert was 21, he moved to Toronto, Canada. Most of Robert's career has been in various aspects of banking, but recently he started working for a consulting firm in St. Pete and was recently promoted to a Practice Administrator.

Robert met Carissa Daise-Wilson in Barbados, while she was vacationing. Over several years, they maintained a long-distance relationship, until Carissa confessed she didn't like the cold weather. In 2016, Robert moved to Florida to be with Carissa, whose hometown is Navarre, FL in the Panhandle. Carissa had been living in Tampa, having moved here to study at USF. Weeks after Robert's arrival, they were married.

The Wilsons don't have children yet, but they have a pet cat named Rajah, after the tiger in Aladdin. Rajah is a lucky boy!

When asked what he enjoys doing, he had a surprising answer! He loves to drive cross-country. So far, he's visited 27 states! They've seen most of our National Parks, but there are several more that he's looking forward to visiting. His favorite seems to be Zion National Park.

Carissa introduced Robert to Bayshore Baptist Church. She had visited Bayshore when she was in college, and she liked us. Robert's home in Barbados was a block from church, and he was very active there. He was an acolyte, sang in the youth choir, and played drums in the church band. Now he sings bass in Bayshore's choir and was on the Dawnings Committee. Lastly, Robert used his vacation time to spend the whole week volunteering with VBS!

We are so happy that Robert and Carissa chose Bayshore Baptist Church. Please be sure to introduce yourselves to them.

Shore Kids

Shore Kids has been supporting our global mission partner, Amani Sasa, with monetary donations from the items we sold at the Christmas mission market. We decided to continue that support at Vacation Bible School. We collected and sent over \$450 for Amani Sasa. We also painted beautiful canvases for them to hang at the mission. We wanted them to know their friends in Tampa care about them and want them to remember how much God loves them! We also did a really cool activity at VBS to help our children remember to pray for Amani Sasa. Each child planted a succulent in a pot and took the plant home. This “Prayer Plant” serves as a reminder to continue to pray for our friends at Amani Sasa.



***Hands on
missions and
mission
education will
continue this
fall! Join us
Wednesdays,
starting
September 14
from 6:30 -
7:30***

Youth



Passport Camp

A Parting Word from Nick

As I reflect on the 6 and a half years that I've been blessed to serve on staff at Bayshore, my soul, and eyes, well up with gratitude. Thank you, Bayshore youth, for inviting me into your lives to provide some spiritual companionship and guidance for the journey. Thank you, parents, for letting me lead your dear teenagers. Thank you, church family, for supporting me and my family in the deepest way and providing space and resources for growth. Leaving Bayshore is truly one of the hardest things I've ever done, but I know God has amazing plans for all of our futures. Taylor, Sam, and I will be praying and cheering you on from Georgia. God's blessings be upon you all! -Nick Dawson

Adults

Save the Date for the
Bayshore Women's Ministry

Summer Supper

Honoring Teachers & Education



Wednesday, August 3rd
5:30-7:00pm

Say Cheese!



We are updating the Church Directory!
Please send in your family photos to be included.

Email to: ministrysupport@bayshorebaptistchurch.com.

Dawnings

Our Dawnings Initiative Teams are forming, and first meetings have taken place. Our goal is to bring to life the initiatives with plans to add, change or remove programs to best meet the needs of our congregation. We heard from you through our surveys which allowed the initiatives to take shape, and now we welcome your input on a team. Please contact Dina Marshall at dmarshall0015@gmail.com to get plugged in!

Dawnings Initiatives

We believe God desires Bayshore Baptist to BECOME...

- More intentionally connected to and invested in each other. While we embrace being a welcoming and friendly church family, we desire to go deeper, spiritually, emotionally, and personally. When we are connected and invested, we feel valued, loved, safe and inspired to engage with others and serve our church family in addition to serving with our church family.

CONNECT

- A church that lives out and understands our open-handed identity, heritage, tradition, and alignment with CBF. Being able to confidently answer: Who are we? What's our story? Why do I want to be a part of this church? UNDERSTAND

We believe God desires Bayshore Baptist to . . .

- Join with God to prepare and continually transform our church body, starting with our youth, to become the hands and feet of Jesus by being a visible and known presence in our community and beyond. PREPARE
- Openly demonstrate a heart for our global and local community by changing the mindset of missions from transactional help to relational encounter. ENCOUNTER



Save the Date

First Nesters Informational Meeting
Sunday, Aug. 28th after worship
Koinonia Coffee Shop

Bayshore Baptist Church
3111 W. Morrison Ave.
Tampa, FL 33629