

Welcome to *Faith Bible Church!*

February 17, 2019

Order of Service:

Opening Hymn: *Virginia Grosskurth*

Invocation

Scripture Reading:

Announcements

Pastoral Prayer

Hymn: *Virginia Grosskurth*

Message: *Why Should We Observe The Lord's Supper?*
(I Corinthians 10:16-22)

Announcements:

Many, many thanks to all who helped make Pastor Kurth's 40th anniversary as pastor of our church such a blessing to all. Pastor would like to thank you for all of your cards, gifts, the memorial book, and the handsome clock!

Sue Klepper has been moved to a rehabilitation home.

You're invited to a baby shower for Sarah Bilka on Sunday, March 17, here at the church after the morning service.

Midweek Bible Study: call Steve if the weather is bad.

Our offering box is located just left of the kitchen door.

Pick up today's cross reference sheet & silence your phone
II Timothy 2:15 *Pastor Kurth's 40th Anniversary Address*

I was raised Catholic, but in 1970 at age 14 a girl brought me to a grace church where I got saved and learned that the Bible must be rightly divided to be understood (II Tim. 2:15). When I realized how few pastors there were in the nation who were teaching the grace message, I decided to be one.

So I entered Pastor Farrell's pastor's training program. One of the assignments was writing out the answers to the questions in Pastor Stam's book *Things That Differ*. Thirty years later someone wrote me at BBS to ask for those answers and I learned no one had ever written them out. So I sent that person my answers, and have been doing so ever since.

I say that to brag, of course—but not about myself. I say that to brag about that little training program taught by that humble pastor, who taught a *teenager* well enough to answer questions that *adult* Christians would still be asking *30 years later*. The Jews despised their small, humble temple (Zech. 4:1), thinking God would be embarrassed to live in it. They forgot their God used to live in a *tent*. We know He *pre-ferred* to live in a tent because that's what He told Moses to make Him, and never asked for a temple (II Sam. 7:5-7). God *still* prefers small, humble churches like ours (I Cor. 1:27,28).

As a teen, I made up a flyer advertising our church, and got up early before school to leave them on doors with a gospel tract. I started a Bible study in high school to teach some unsaved classmates in my machine shop class the gospel while the teacher was out of the room. I now know I should not have gone behind his back like that, but I share that to tell you to never be afraid to serve God thinking you don't know what you're doing. God can bless and use even the *mis-takes* you make while learning to serve Him in the *right* way.

Machine shop students didn't have to take 4 years of English, *but I did* because I knew I wanted to be a pastor. If you too will base every decision in your life on how you might best serve God, He will bless and use you as He has me.

When our church's songleader left, they asked me to take over and I did, not knowing anything about music. But I'd visit the piano player's house on Saturday or meet her at the church to learn the songs she planned to play on Sunday *by rote*. My point is, it doesn't matter what you know or don't know about whatever ministry you get a chance to be part of, for God doesn't call the qualified, *He qualifies the called*.

When working in my dad's machine shop after high school I spent the time watching the machines cut memorizing Ephesians, Philippians and part of Colossians, something that came in handy when I later *taught* those books as a pastor.

Another teen and I started a youth group in our church and I began to attend the *Youth For Christ* meetings in my high school to meet Christian young people to bring to church, and many learned the grace message and joined our church.

When Pastor Farrell moved to another church, I began filling in once a month as a speaker at our church, and at two other churches that didn't have pastors. My training continued when Pastor Stam hired me to work at *Berean Bible Society*.

It was there one night I received a call to pastor *Faith Bible Church*. They knew me because one of the other churches I had been a guest speaker at was ours. I share that with you to encourage you to serve God whenever and wherever you have the opportunity to for you don't know where it will lead

When people ask why I've stayed 40 years, I tell them it is because the people here let me teach the Bible through verse by verse, something most churches wouldn't, and because of the good helpers I have here in the ministry. I once asked Thornton to help me work on the building, and

he told me of all the things he had to do at home, then added: "But the Lord comes first." He's taught Sunday School for 40 years, and Myrtle has taught Junior Church for 40 years. Ronny has been our treasurer for decades, and Rex and Bill and Ron have worked faithfully maintaining the building. Ariane started our web site and Jeremy volunteered to add a video ministry to it. Steve Schwieger and Paul Balbach are such good teachers they could be pastoring churches. And Dave Stewart helps me almost weekly with Bible questions. Because of all this, I often tell the Lord, "I am of all men most blessed."

Faith Bible Church

www.faithbiblechurch.weebly.com

February 17, 2019

Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.

Thornton Harrison, Dave Stewart

Morning Service: 10:45 a.m.

Pastor Ricky Kurth

Junior Church: 10:45 a.m.

Myrtle Harrison

Wednesday Night Bible Study: 7:00 p.m.

Assistant Pastor Steve Schwieger

Faith Bible Church

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