

Did you know that it is possible to walk from Egypt to Israel without crossing water?

In youth, we have been talking about the story of the Bible and we were looking at the story of how Moses led the people of God out of Egypt and I was reminded again by this really interesting fact: There is an overland route between Egypt and the Promised Land.

Now you may be thinking, "So what? Why am I bringing this up?" Well, I guess it is because of how I always pictured the story of the Exodus. In my head it was always the people leaving Egypt and suddenly happening on this big sea that stood between them and where they were going. In my head there always was no other way around, but that actually isn't the case. There is a land route. There was a way around, and since God was leading them he could have easily led them not into the edge of the Red Sea, but around it.

So why did God do this? Why did God lead them this way?

Well for one thing we learn in Exodus 13:17 that God didn't lead them directly into the Promised land on the shortest route because the Philistines were there, and the Israelites weren't quite ready for that level of war yet. God knew if they encountered the Philistines too soon, they would turn back to Egypt.

We also learn in Exodus 14 that God still wasn't finished with Pharaoh and wanted to show his power once again so he had the Israelites look lost so that Pharaoh would come after them.

We learn at Jericho some 40 years later that the people of that great city were scared because they had heard what God had done to dry up the Red sea (Joshua 2:8-10), so we see that God's fame and renown increased. But I think that the most remarkable reason why God led his people to and ultimately through the Red Sea instead of around it is found in Exodus 15. When the people were on the other side of the water, when God had used that same water to destroy the Egyptians the Israelites and Moses let out a song of praise.

Exodus 15:1-2 (CSB)

Then Moses and the Israelites sang this song to the Lord. They said:

*I will sing to the Lord, for he is highly exalted;
he has thrown the horse and its rider into the sea.*

*²The Lord is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation.
This is my God, and I will praise him, my father's God, and I will exalt him.*

God led them not along the path of least resistance, not along the easy road, but right to the edge of the Red Sea. God led them there and the people were terrified; they were angry; they were confused as to why God would do such a thing.

And then God showed His power, and the people walked across the sea, and looking back from the other side they could see the mighty hand of God and they rejoiced.

The same happens in our lives again and again. Most of the time it is only when we are on the other side of the pain, the other side of the struggles that we are able to look back and see God's hand and rejoice.

So if you are walking through some hard times today. If you find yourself at the edge of the water with nowhere left to go, trust in God and believe that He is able to sustain you. Then when he carries you through to the other side; rejoice.

Shane



Weekly Activities

SUNDAY

Sunday School - 9:30 am
Worship - 8:15 am & 10:45 am
Evening Worship - 6:00 pm
Children's Bible Study - 6:00 pm
Youth Bible Study - 6:00 pm

WEDNESDAY

Prayer Service - 6:30 pm
Youth Bible Study - 6:30 pm
Kids Choir - 6:30 pm

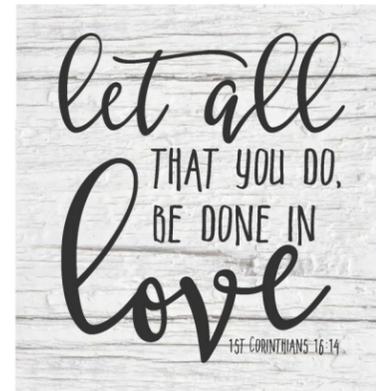
INCLEMENT WEATHER UPDATES

In case of inclement weather, we will send a text message concerning service cancellations. You may also check the Friendship Facebook page or WPSD Snowman 6 for service announcements. If you would like to be added to our text list, please contact the church office.

Welcome to our New Members

Donna Hudson

We're Glad You're Here!



Phone: 270.534.1900
www.friendshiponthenet.org
www.facebook.com/friendshiponthenet
Dr. Jason Browning, Pastor
Rev. Shane Yancey,
Minister to Students & Children
Rev. Chad Davidson,
Minister of Music & Worship

Budget Receipts

Required to Date: \$ 40,077
Received to Date: \$ 31,922

Nursery Volunteers

February 6

8:15 a.m. — Amanda Triplett
10:45 a.m. — Spencer & Melissa Hawkins

February 13

8:15 a.m. — Tori Ramsdell
10:45 a.m. — Carol Fields & Lakyn Noland
Gene & Deborah Reaney

February 20

8:15 a.m. — Nancy Bruce & Masami Smith
10:45 a.m. — Michael & Melissa Myers
Kathy Goodman & Kathy Baucum

February 27

8:15 a.m. — Craig & LeeAnn Brown
10:45 a.m. — Georgia Raffidy &
Meredith Yancey

The LINK

Friendship Baptist Church

146 S. Friendship Rd.
Paducah KY 42003

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Number 2





“... God will wipe every tear from their eyes...”
Revelation 21:4

Sports are one of many things I enjoy. I love watching basketball, baseball, football, and golf. Not only do I enjoy watching sports, but I also follow particular teams and players. Like many of you, I have my favorites and I try to stay informed of the latest news and stats.

I have a friend who is a lifelong Cleveland Browns football fan. Cleveland fans [much like University of Louisville fans] grow up knowing their share of disappointment. Despite being one of only four teams to have never appeared in a Super Bowl championship game, the Cleveland Browns have a loyal fan base that sticks with the team year in and year out. But because the fans usually end up disappointed, many of them now refer to the home stadium as the “Factory of Sadness.”

The broken world we live in can be a “factory of sadness” too. As I interact with others in our community, there seems to be an endless supply of heartache and disappointment, whether from our own choices or things beyond our control.

Yet the follower of Christ has hope! The Bible affirms that we have hope - not only in the life to come but for this very day. In John 16:33 Jesus said, “I have told you these things, so that in Me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.” Without minimizing the struggles or sadness we may experience, Christ counters them with His promises of peace, joy, and ultimate victory.

People who deal with hurt and pain – people who live in a “factory of sadness” – I have no idea how they get through these painful moments without God’s presence in their lives. Although I am not sure how they persevere, I am sure that great peace is available in Christ. God’s peace is more than enough to help us navigate whatever life throws at us.

May you experience the peace of God in a fresh way today!

God is good! All the time!

Jason



JOY Club will meet on Tuesday, February 1, 11:30 a.m. at Flamingo Row. All “seenagers” are invited to this fellowship!



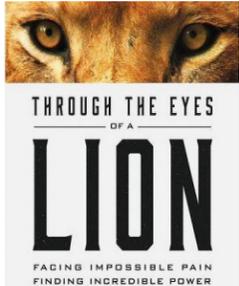
Bro. Jason & the Friendship Family express Christian love & sympathy to the family of Tom Walden.

FEBRUARY

- 1 11:30 a.m. — JOY Club
- 6:00 p.m. — Operation Andrew, Team 2
- 6 Camp Deposits Due
- 2:00 p.. — Kids Escape Room
- 8 6:00 p.m. — Operation Andrew, Team 3
- 10 6:00 p.m. — Ladies Fellowship
- 13 7:00 p.m. — Deacons
- 15 10:30 a.m. — Women on Mission
- 6:00 p.m. — Operation Andrew, Team 1
- 16 5:30 p.m. — Finance Team
- 6:30 p.m. — Business Mtg.
- 17 3:30 p.m. — Gospel Concert
- 19 6:00 p.m. — Youth Glow Night
- 20 6:00 p.m. — Small Groups Begin
- 22 6:00 p.m. — Operation Andrew, Team 2

Weekly Events:

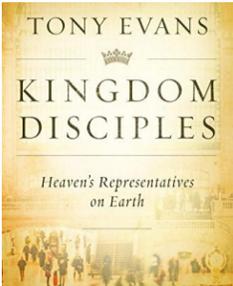
Tuesdays @ 6:30 a.m. — Men’s Prayer Group



THROUGH THE EYES OF A LION
FACING IMPOSSIBLE PAIN
FINDING INCREDIBLE POWER

SMALL GROUPS BEGIN
FEBRUARY 20
6 PM

Adults choose from the following:



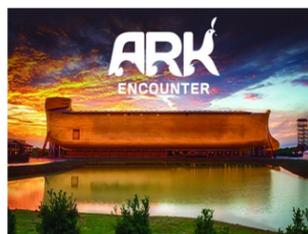
TONY EVANS
KINGDOM DISCIPLES
Heaven's Representatives on Earth

Meet in the Worship Center
No cost

Meet in Modular Unit #1
Cost: \$15



Operation Christmas Child Year Round — The item for February is Accessories: hairbows, jewelry, watches, sunglasses, etc. A box is provided in the KidZone for your donations.



DNOW (Ark Encounter Trip)

March 4-5
Cost \$30

This year for DNOW youth will be taking an overnight trip to the Ark Encounter, a life-sized replica of Noah’s ark. We will travel to a hotel on Friday night, have a Bible study, and then tour the Ark and then head back home. Your cost will cover the hotel, your ticket to the Ark and breakfast and lunch on Saturday. Details for this trip are still being finalized. Sign-up in the youth building.



Thursday, February 10, 6:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall. Soup & Dessert will be provided. Please bring the following for a ministry project for Ronald McDonald House: stuffed animals, blankets (throws or children’s blankets), or cash donations. Ladies, plan to join us for this time of fellowship.



The story behind Be Thou My Vision begins with St. Patrick. When he was just sixteen years old, pirates kidnapped Patrick and sold him into slavery in Ireland. This caused him to enter adulthood knowing the Gaelic language and Irish customs. He also became a Christian during this time. Years later, he managed to escape and return home to his family in England. While most would’ve stayed home forever, Patrick chose to go back to Ireland and become a missionary!

What does all this have to do with “Be Thou My Vision?” On Easter Sunday in 433, the local Irish king issued a decree in observation of a pagan Druid festival that prohibited anyone from lighting a flame or candle. Patrick, refusing to honor anyone but Christ, stood against the king. That morning, Patrick risked his life by climbing to the tallest hill in the area and lighting a huge fire. As the ancient Irish people woke up, they could all see Patrick’s defiance of the king. He could not hide his light. Patrick wanted to show the world that God’s light shines in darkness, and that only He deserves praise.

Years later, an unknown composer wrote a melody in honor of Patrick’s heroism. Called, “Slane,” the now-forgotten composer named it after the hill where Patrick shined his light: Slane Hill.

In 1905, nearly fifteen hundred years after Saint Patrick lit a flame on Slane Hill, the forgotten hymn re-emerged from the mists of time.

It that moment, the now-hallowed lyrics, “Be thou my vision... oh Lord of my heart” sprang from the forgotten pages of time and into the modern world. Later in 1912, an Irish woman named Eleanor Hull set the words to music. The melody she set it to was none other than “Slane,” the medieval tune written in honor of St. Patrick. The hymn became famous overnight and appeared in its first hymnal in 1919. In 2019, the world celebrated the 100th anniversary of the modern version of “Be Thou My Vision.”

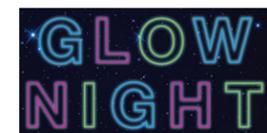
*Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart
Naught be all else to me, save that thou art
Thou my best thought, by day or by night
Waking or sleeping, thy presence my light*

*Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord
Thou my great Father, and I thy true son
Thou in me dwelling and I with thee one*

*Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise
Thou mine inheritance, now and always
Thou and thou only first in my heart
High King of heaven, my treasure thou art*

*High King of heaven, my victory won
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's sun
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall
Still be my vision, O ruler of all*

Under the Master’s Baton,
Bro. Chad



YOUTH GLOW NIGHT

Saturday February 19 | 6:00-9:00

Youth will have a whole night of “GLOW” related activities. Invite your friends for a fun night of games and Bible study.