



Jacksonville News

What's New with Truth Baptist Church in Jacksonville, FL

Jan-March '10

God Gives the Increase!

When I reflect on our church, I am immediately reminded of Christ's promise to Peter in Matthew 16:18, "I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My church; and the gates of Hades will not overpower it!" Christ truly is building "His" church! I know that the growth He is bringing to Truth Baptist Church is not because of Matthew Rowley. He not only overcomes Satanic opposition, but He also overcomes my inadequacies! I truly have learned and experienced a lot over the past seven months! Here are a few firsts I can check off the list: not being able to

find my Sunday morning sermon notes when it is time to preach! (Every pastor's nightmare... thankfully I found them!), coughing and not being able to speak momentarily, cell phone ringing during sermon, just to name a few. I am also enjoying the blessing of learning from my sermon preparation. I truly feel that I have the best job in the whole world!

To God Be the Glory!
Pastor Matt Rowley



New Families!

Our last update had the same title! I am thankful to be able to repeat it! In February we saw the first fruit from our fall radio advertisement. A family from St. Augustine heard the advertisement and began checking us out through our web site and blogs. Eventually Roger contacted me and we were able to sit down and chat about our church. The Sunday evening following our conversation Roger, his wife, and five children began attending all of our services faithfully! They are traveling 45-50 minutes to come to our services! Another seasoned Christian couple visited with us for several Sunday evenings and in the last few weeks have been coming to all of our services! They have grown children including one who is on the mission field in Germany. They are traveling close to 55 minutes to come to our services! Another single man named Brent heard about our church through his mother in Virginia who saw us on the prayer letter of a man with whom I have no connection! Just over a month ago he began attending. He is passionate about the Lord and has a desire to grow and be involved! He came to our church because he heard Jen's conservative special music on our web site! He faithfully attends all the services he is able (he works Sunday evenings) and has been a great personal encouragement to me!

God Fills the Gaps

In our last letter we were praying that God would fill the gaps left through Nathan's transfer. He has done just that in the form of three different men! Will Martin, under Nathan's tutelage, has taken over the sound system ministry and is doing a wonderful job. He is taking initiative, thinking ahead, and growing through the inevitable learning curve. Roger has graciously filled the Sunday morning song leading slot that I was having to fill and is doing a tremendous job! Brent has been coming early on Sunday mornings to help Will and me with the set up. Every one has been pitching in to fill in the socializing gap Nathan left:



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Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

John 14:6

Lord, Please Teach Us!

I am grateful for the quality people God has brought to TBC! Our people have a heart to know and live God's Word! There are plenty of churches in Jacksonville (probably around 3000), but many of our people are driving long distances to come to a church where the Bible is given the opportunity to speak for itself! I enjoy the thoughtful discussions in our Sunday School series on biblical doctrine and on Wednesday evening in our study through the book of Job. Sunday mornings we are following the disciples and Sunday evenings "Living the Truth" in Titus.

Life from Jen's Viewpoint

It's amazing how much has changed since the last time I sat down to write my section of the prayer letter! I definitely feel as though my "load" is getting lighter as others are stepping in to serve. I have gone from teaching one group of kids during Sunday School and another group during the morning service, to only teaching every other Sunday during Sunday School. What a blessing it is to be in more services and be fed with the Word of God! The Lord has also brought some musical people to our church allowing for a greater variety with special music. This is a special blessing as it is getting more difficult for me to sing as my due date gets closer. (I get out of breath just going from the piano to the podium!) :)

Thank You!

We have faced some difficulties including a large painful bump on the back of my neck for a month and a half, HVAC issues, and nursery noise in our Sunday meeting place, but God's grace has been much more than sufficient. Our Sunday morning attendance has recently been in the low 40's and our offerings have been strong! Please pray for continued unity and growth, spiritual growth, a new facility with more children's space, and physical strength. Thank you for your prayers and support!

*"Do not let your heart be troubled; believe in God, believe also in Me."
John 14:1*



Brianne is doing well! We are beginning to be able to converse with her, as her vocabulary develops. She loves helping Mommy and Daddy (or at least think that she's helping), especially if it means going outside! She can now quote a Bible verse. She says, "Two Nigh. Ahbay All Tings." (Translated: 2 Corinthians 2:9 "Obey in all things.") She is truly a little blessing! :)



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- Jen's Blog: www.jensblog.tbcofax.org
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Matt, Jen, Brianne, & Baby Boy Rowley

Phone: 904-629-8541
rowleys@tbcofax.org
www.tbcofax.org