

## Preschool and Children's Pastor—Julie Ipock

### Are You WEARY?

Friends, let me tell you: I am getting weary! Can you feel it? I am not sure what your pressures look like but I am feeling the pressures of *all* the things!

ALL... THE... THINGS!

Working from home, homeschooling, taking care of children, trying not to get “sick,” being a wife, keeping my house clean, cooking every meal, trying to keep on track with my diet and exercise, being a “good” friend, reaching out to those isolated and alone, having to watch *one more* thing online, not being able to see family, vacations being canceled, attitudes of the children in the house or the fighting between siblings, grocery shopping (can I just cry?), my hair and *all the grey* (no, really), trying to find a new normal when I have to go back to the office full-time with my school-aged child, and then to top it all off this *virus*... IT'S NOT EVEN GONE YET.

So now that I have exploded with words, I can just hear some of you saying, “Julie, get over yourself! It's fine. It could be so much worse!” I agree and I have said that to myself at least a thousand times. Or you are saying to me, “Julie, I'm right there with you! I totally agree! I'm so over this season!”

Well, friends, let me try to bring us all a little hope today...

### **The Lord has been and will continue to be faithful!**

This season will not last forever. It's just that—a season. Seasons come and seasons go. I'm so thankful. I love the picture of a season because we can see it with our eyes and even feel it with our senses. We see seasons come and go four times a year and we know they will not last. Even if it is your favorite season, it must come, last a period of time and then a new season arrives. Just like different “seasons” in our lives. I'm so thankful that God allows different circumstances, even when they are hard, to come into our lives, shape us into who we are and help us become stronger in our faith and in our walk with the Lord.

The Lord is not asking us to go through these seasons without Him. I think we forget that sometimes. We are his children and He longs to provide us with His comfort and His strength. Matthew 11:28 says it perfectly, “Come to me, all you who are weary. And burdened, and I will give you rest.”

Some of you are asking, “What does that look like? How can I “allow” him to give me rest?”

I have to admit, this is the hard part. For me it looks like capturing my own thoughts and replacing them with HIS thoughts and His promises! Every time I get caught up in my own thoughts, I capture them and I replace them with what the Lord has said to be true. For example, when I feel like I am not good enough, I capture that thought because it is *not* of the Lord. The Lord tells me, “For he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world that WE may be holy and unblemished in his sight.” (Ephesians 1:4) The Lord calls us holy and unblemished. So when I feel otherwise, it is not of the Lord and that thought needs to be captured so it can be replaced with what is true! This is something on which I work daily.

I'm praying that you will not become weary during this season but that you will be able to focus on what the Lord says is true and allow him to give you rest!

Blessings,  
Julie



## Discipleship and Family Pastor—David Stone

In the fall of 2001, Jenny and I led the planting of a church in Christian County called The Church at Finley Crossings. It was an amazing journey of faith for us! We saw God do things that we never imagined were possible. One of the first things we began praying about purchasing were stackable chairs for our new sanctuary. We got a bid and we started praying for the resources to purchase the chairs. The total bid was going to be \$3600.

I got a call from a member here at FBC Springfield. He had heard about our little church plant and wanted to help out. He said, “I know this sounds odd, but I have a 1963 Corvair that I would like to donate to your church.” What were we going to do with a 1963 Corvair? Well, we decided it would “live” in front of my house for a while until we figured out what to do.

I have a friend of a friend of a friend that buys and sells classic cars, so he helped us sell that car at a classic car auction for (you guessed it) exactly \$1300. Not even close to \$3600, but a good start. Here's where my faith began to grow! The auctioneer must have felt sorry for the bid ending so low and leaned over to my friend and said, “You said this is for a church, right? I'll match the final bid as a gift to the church. Good luck, guys!” We sold the car for the exact amount we needed for the chair order to be completed!

Just a few months later, we began praying for a projector and screen. We thought that God would simply drop another gift in our lap from someone we knew personally. That is the way we thought things would go—with our faith building, classic car episode! About a week after we had been praying about the projector and screen, I got a call from our church planting representative. He said that *the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering raised money for startup funds for things like sound systems and video projectors and screens for our new church plants*. I thought to myself, “Of course they do!” God encouraged our small team of believers again with His faithfulness. It really grew my faith as a young church planter, too!

Great story, right? Here's the thing—you can be a part of blessing North American missionaries through giving to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering campaign. As a former NAMB missionary, I know firsthand of the benefits of this offering to our missionary families. Will you give above and beyond your tithe to AAEO? You can give online through our website, mail a check, or text ‘ANNIE’ to (417) 308-0350 to give.

Let's make a difference through the AAEO this year!

## Music Pastor—Tim Burgher

### Putting my HOPE in God

I am continually amazed how God's word speaks strongly in every situation of life including this mounting crisis that seems to be endless. It is good to know that God knows the pain of our hearts. He reveals His glory to touch our heart where we need His power most.

Music has a way of communicating our deepest feelings and emotions. It is good for us to sing together our praise to God. When we join our voices in worship, we express our love for a God who knows us best and provides for our every spiritual need, as well as our physical and emotional needs. God's word reveals God's character that we need to rely upon and to emulate.

As we sing and as we read God's word, scripture and song take on new meaning. We are trusting God to carry us through the trials of life, and God speaks through the lyrics to strengthen our hope in Him. A wonderful truth such as we read in Hebrews 7:25 takes a deeper meaning when we trust in the one “who is able ... to save those who come to God through him (Jesus). He lives forever to intercede with God on (our) behalf.”

In the same way, scripture that is sung sticks in our heart and stays in our mind for times of stress and trouble. Valerie Pfeil will be singing a song from the Psalms you need to learn. “I Will Wait for You (Psalm 130)” is a song drawn from the writer of that Psalm. Listen to it on YouTube and sing it with us in virtual worship this Sunday.

Hoping in my God,  
Tim Burgher



### THE RECORD SPEAKS

	Jan.	Feb.	March
AVG. ATTENDANCE	N/A	N/A	N/A
YEARLY TITHES TO DATE			\$226,263.58
YEARLY BUDGET TO DATE			\$316,000.00
YEARLY EXPENSES TO DATE			\$304,125.21

### YOUR CHURCH STAFF

SENIOR PASTOR	MICHAEL OVERTON
DISCIPLESHIP/FAMILY PASTOR	DAVID STONE
WORSHIP PASTOR	TIMOTHY BURGHER
PRESCHOOL/CHILDREN'S MINISTER	JULIE IPOCK
ADMINISTRATOR	KEN MCCLURE
YOUTH MINISTER	AARON IPOCK
ADMINISTRATION/DISCIPLESHIP SECRETARY	VALERIE PFEIL
RECEPTIONIST/OFFICE ASSISTANT	BRITTANY THOMPSON
MUSIC SECRETARY/PASTOR'S SECRETARY	BETTY AUSTIN
MEDIA DIRECTOR	CHRIS WASSAM
FINANCIAL	CELYNDA BLACKBURN
ORGANIST	BLYE MOORE
PIANIST	JANICE BRANDENBURGH
MAINTENANCE	DOUG MCKINNEY
CUSTODIANS	DAVID LAUGHLIN, ISREAL REEL
CONTRACT CLEANING	JIM SMITH

### CHURCH INFORMATION

Worship with us at 10:45 am & 6:00 pm Sundays,  
6:00 pm Wednesdays  
Friday Night Freeway @ First meal 6:00 pm, service 6:30 pm  
Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00 am - 5:00 pm  
Telephone: 417.866.7202, Fax: 417.862.4925  
Check us out on the web at [www.fbcspringfield.com](http://www.fbcspringfield.com)

The First Edition is a monthly publication of the First Baptist Church of Springfield, Missouri



[www.fbcspringfield.com](http://www.fbcspringfield.com)

525 South Avenue  
Springfield, MO 65806



### From the Pastor's Heart

Dear FBC Springfield Family & Friends,

“God often does His best work in a crisis.” These words by Richard Blackaby recently caught my eye in the midst of many questions. We are in a crisis and have so many questions! What is the Lord up to? What will be the health of the church when we are able to return? How long before we return? What does that look like? So many questions and I hear these words, “God often does His best work in a crisis.”

The psalmist wrote in 42:8, “By day the LORD directs His love, at night His song is with me – a prayer to the God of my life.” This verse is in the midst of a crisis. In verse 6, “My soul is downcast within me;” verse 9, “Why have you forgotten me? Why must I go about mourning...” MacArthur says about verse 8, “This statement of confidence interrupts his laments providing a few gracious gulps of divine ‘air’ under the cascading inundations of his trials and tormentors.”

Lamenting is our response when we ask God a ‘why’ question and do not get an answer. We are lamenting. Lamenting is the appropriate response in the midst of our crisis. Yet even in the night, the Lord gives us a song. Perhaps our song is that God is about to do a great work!

Reflect with me for a moment about some of the great works of God at night (literally). Let’s begin with God’s promise to Abraham in Genesis 15: “Look up at the sky and count the stars--if indeed you can count them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your offspring be.” Jacob’s ladder during his dream in Genesis 28. Daniel’s night in the lion’s den in chapter 6. The shepherds watching over their flock at night and the angelic choir in Bethlehem found in Luke 2. You get the point. God often gives us a song in the night (figuratively). God often does His best work in a crisis.

What if God is about to do a great work in the life of His church? What if God is in the midst of reviving His church for something spectacular? What if God is in the midst of revitalizing His church for something amazing? Those questions excite me! On the other side of this storm, I believe we will have a brief window of opportunity to proclaim the reason for the hope that we have in Christ Jesus. Let’s use this time now to prepare ourselves spiritually. Let’s get these spiritual roots deeper and our lives holy as God is holy. Let’s be prayerful, let’s be pure, let’s be filled with faith and the Holy Spirit.

In Christ,  
*Michael*