



Ivy Memorial Baptist Church
Your family ... in Coliseum Central



August
2020

The Sizzlin' Issue

Let's see if we can cool things down a little bit with an analogy of what the future may look like. Several weeks ago, a research group that focuses on churches suggested that there are three ways for churches to frame the impact of the COVID virus. The experience will be either a blizzard, a winter, or a little ice age.

Blizzards come and go and most of us have probably seen one. They may last for days and the impact may last for weeks. **Winter** is measured in terms of several months. A **little ice age** in this instance would be measured in terms of years. If what we are experiencing is like a blizzard, things will return back to normal when the blizzard is over and the sun comes back out. If we are in a cultural and economic winter, the impact will be more severe and we will have to brace for a new normal. However, if the impact proves to be more in terms of a little ice age, then we will have to reimagine church altogether.



Blizzard — Winter — Ice Age



Most of us are agreed that COVID 19 is larger than a blizzard. We may already even be beyond winter. We are most likely in a little ice age. The COVID glacier has sharp edges which have cut deeply into our social, cultural, and economic fabric. The weight of the ice easily collapses long standing institutions as if they were mere huts. This does not mean there will not be a future, but it does mean that the future won't be anything like we have known in the past.

Do not despair! God can handle the future as easily as he can the past. The church is not *our* church – it is God's church. In many ways, he is reshaping the church altogether. This is very good news. We don't have to pull a rabbit out of the hat to have a future. We just need to lay down the hat and pick up the cross. For those who are willing to follow Jesus anywhere, the future will be just fine – he's already there.



Things to remember...

- ◇ Live Streaming will continue. Please do not come if you are coughing, sneezing, running a fever or have other health risk concerns.
- ◇ Masks are required when indoors as per our state mandate.
- ◇ Families will sit together with adequate distancing on all sides.
- ◇ Please follow the arrows on the ground to help control the flow of "traffic" while indoors.
- ◇ OFFERING Plates will not be passed. Please use the white boxes or the workroom mail slot to give your tithes.
- ◇ Children of all ages will be with us in the sanctuary. Activity bags will be available at the door. Please take them home, we do not want any of the packet back.

USHERING AND CLEANING SUPPORT IS STILL NEEDED.

We need your help. Please connect with Sharon Rossman if you are willing to help. Sharon can be reached at grandmarossman@gmail.com, via Facebook, or via cell phone after 5:00pm 757-871-0549



Fall 2020 Offerings

Two classes are being offered through the Grassroots Seminary this Fall!

**** All Online ****

The Story of the Bible taught by Dr. Bruce Powers

A Fall Session (15 weeks) and a Spring Session (15 weeks).

Tuition for the entire 30 week journey is \$300.

God's story of redemption and reconciliation is the theme of the Bible. However, the Bible does not present this story in one continuous narrative from beginning to end. Many parts of the Bible focus on such things as poetry, psalm, wisdom, and prophecy. The Story will focus on the historical narrative of the Bible in chronological order so that you will be able to see the full and breath-taking panorama of God's mission in the world. Once you see the entire story, the Bible will come to life in new and fresh ways.

Disability & The Church: The Missing Marginalized Minority

A 5 Week Session taught by Michelle Munger

Offered Monday Night or Friday mornings. Tuition is \$75.

There are many people in our community that feel they cannot attend church because of challenges they see but we don't. They are the 26% of the population that have or care for someone with a disability. Right or wrong, their perception is real and it should impact how we approach ministry. We must be intentional in our discipleship of people and families dealing with a disability. To do so, you will need tools. This course is an introduction that will help equip you to move your church from exclusion of people and families with disability to belonging. Each participant will gain an understanding of who we are talking about, receive tools to support discipleship efforts, and a Scripture perspective to stand firm on the need for change.

Check out <https://grassrootsseminary.com/> for more information.



ReImagine

Regardless of how the next several months and years shape up, every church is most likely going to have to decide whether to *re-institute* or *re-imagine*. Churches that seek to re-institute will be looking back to the “good old days” to see if there might be any chance that they might

come again. This reflects a yearning that we all have to live in a world that feels more secure, more caring, and filled with far less hatred and evil. The desire to re-institute in the hopes of bringing the past back is quite understandable—**but is not at all likely.**

The reality is that churches are going to need to re-imagine. We will need to re-imagine how we do basic things like worship, fellowship, discipleship, and outreach. The truth is that even before COVID 19 became a reality, many church leaders were aware that the church needed to go through a re-imagining process. COVID simply accelerated what was already beginning to emerge.

Re-imagining feels unsettling to many people. It requires us to look at everything we do and ask simple questions like: Where is God showing up? Where do we see fruit? How does this bless the community? Are we willing to take new risks? Do we completely trust where the Spirit is leading us?

In order to engage in the process of re-imagining, we need to let God activate our imagination more fully. The global crisis demands that we have fresh imagination. This just might be the time that God is calling on his people to lead the way in creativity and innovation. After all, he did create us in his very own *image* – the place where *imagination* comes from.

Did you know there is an Ivy Memorial You Tube Channel?

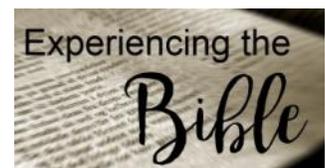
And it has a BUNCH of videos you might be interested in!

The *We are Ivy* playlist has videos from Pastor Brian Williams for us to consider what the future may look like?



The Story of God—these messages were part of Pastor Brian’s Grassroots Seminary class. Good Stuff!

Experiencing the Bible—another series of messages created for a Grassroots Seminary class. No tuition and no homework to turn in!



Search for “Ivy at Coliseum Central” in YouTube or click the You Tube link on our church website: <http://ivymemorial.org/connecting/>

The Schedule:

(Some details may change!)

Please call the Church Office, or ask for help on the Friends & Family Facebook page if there's a problem.

Sunday	10:00am	Salvation class Sunday School on Zoom Victory class Sunday School on Zoom
	11:15am	Morning Message Live on the Facebook public page AND In-Person— <i>subject to change</i>
	7:00pm	YOUTH Connection. Check Facebook for the latest on location.
Monday		Our “Ivy Family” message usually posted on You Tube
Wednesday	6:00pm	Ivy Family Discussion & Prayer on Zoom (all welcome)
	7:00pm	YOUTH Connection. Check Facebook for the latest on location.

Zoom gatherings are available for your group.

Call the Church Office to schedule a time.

The church has an account and we are scheduling it just like we would schedule a room at the church.



We are meeting IN-PERSON and over Zoom on Sundays and Wednesdays at 7:00pm

Bryan Gravely and China White are available for one-on-one support if needed.

Do not hesitate to call us!

Sharing Prayer Concerns

Do you have a prayer concern you need to share with us? Consider sending it to us via e-mail!

prayerline@ivymemorial.org

This e-mail address is monitored by the Church Office and one of the Deacons. It's a quick and easy way to be sure we know how and whom to pray for.

Giving Options

Visit www.ivymemorial.org to give online. You can even give via TEXT or by scanning this QR code.



Text **IVYATCC** to **73256** to give to the Unified Budget using your text messaging. *Standard text messaging rates may apply.* If you have questions call the Office at 838-3107.

Mailing your tithes and offerings is a great choice until we are able to gather in person once again. The Church Office is also open if you need to drop if off.

From the Church Office:

Your Church Office is still open

Monday—Thursday

9:00am—3:30pm

757-838-3107

ivymemorial@ivymemorial.org

2200 Coliseum Dr

Hampton, VA 23666

www.ivymemorial.org