



OUTLIVE YOUR LIFE

“How to OutLive Your Life”

1 Timothy 6:17-19

April 7, 2013 A.M. Service

OUR CELEBRATION

LifeGroups

- 5 New LifeGroups created since August
- 51% Increase in LifeGroup Avg. Attendance
- 4 Groups in the Office plus 2 in the Sanctuary
- 15% If we grow by that amount by the end of the year we will be averaging 212 in LifeGroups

Worship

- 25% Increase from 4th Quarter 2012 to 1st Quarter 2013
- 46% Increase in Average Worship Attendance
- 71% Increase in Extended Session for Preschool
- 20% If we grow by that amount by the end of the year we will be averaging 323 people in the building
- 170% Increase of Easter Attendance 2012 to 2013

Family Wednesday Nights

- 13% Increase in Average Attendance from 2012-2013
- 120+ Coming to Wednesday Night Family Supper

Membership

- 100 New Members Since May of 2012 (36 - Baptism)
- 23 New Members in 2013 (11 By Baptism)
- 3-5 New Guest Families/Individuals Almost Every Week

Finances

- 13% Increase in 2012 Giving over 2011 Total Giving
- 73% Increase in Giving from 1st Quarter 2012 compared to 1st Quarter 2013
- 1300% Increase of Lottie Moon 2011 to 2012 (\$1,000 to \$14,000+)

950% Increase of Annie Armstrong from 2012 to 2013 (\$694 to \$7,235)

OUR CHALLENGES

- Space** To Create More Space so we can continue to Grow – 80% Rule LifeGroups / Student Ministry / Fellowship Space / Worship Ministry / Kitchen Space / Parking / Playground Lighting & Video Updates
- Volunteers** We need more volunteers to serve particularly in our Preschool, Children, & Student Ministries due to our growth
- Staff** We need 2 additional full-time Staff Members by the end of the year to keep up with our growth
- Connecting** Getting new Guests connected to our Church and then to a LifeGroup
- Resources** To Help Complete these Projects & Pay Monthly Building Note

OUR CALL & COMMITMENT: To Grow and Give to OutLive Our Lives

Listen, Learn, Love, Lead

Involve, Invest, Invite

Focused, Faithful, Fervent, Fulfill, Follower

Eternally Minded, Evangelize (Share the Good News)

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April 7, 2013 AM Service

Greater things are yet to come, greater things are still to be done here in this Church and that reaches out into this city. These are exciting times at Petal First Baptist Church! The Lord is moving in incredible ways and we want to be sure and not miss the moments that are set before us. God is granting us favor in our community and we need to make room for those who are still yet to come...by the way you are going to here that phrase a lot this month because it's a phrase that is important to this church and one of the driving forces behind what lead this church to relocate here back in 1999 and get here in 2007 after a long journey.

I meet people who tell me they hear about Petal FBC, some of you have shared some of the stories you have heard about people talking about Petal FBC – What are they saying? What impact are we making? We want to be known as a place where God is moving, where hearts and lives are being transformed and changed by the power of the Gospel, a place that cares about its community and is involved in helping reach it every day. A place that cares about people, that welcomes any person, that is a safe place where people can be real and transparent, a place where they can make a difference with their lives – to meet the needs of our community and is doing so our needs will be met. (Let me say a side note here – if you are looking for a Church home – don't look for one that will meet your needs, look for one where you can make a difference and meet the needs of others – and in doing so your needs will be met too!)

So today we come to celebrate what the Lord has done and is doing, to talk about some of the exciting challenges that the Lord has put before us and then how we need to respond to God's call and commit our lives to seeing those greater things to come right here! **REFER TO MAILOUT**

[Read the Scripture...](#)

The Theme: OutLive Your Life

Something that will be around once you are gone either from where you are now such as moving or changing jobs, or different home, schools, or

even further when your life on earth is through, what will live on beyond you, what will be your legacy, what will people remember about you, what will you have left beyond – if people could follow your trail of how you lived your life, what you invested your life in, how you made a difference in the lives of others, what would be left?

Too often is made of stuff, that which will not last, our what we do and not who we are Ask people to share about their lives... it's usually about what they do... **ILLUS:**

Our occupation – I have learned some valuable lessons from my Dad's illness and then ultimately passing from this life to the next as I met so many people many for the first time who knew my father, who though he had been there CPA, he was much more than that...

(my dad though a great CPA and valued for what he did by so many of his clients who counted on him and depended on him and he was excellent in what he did, yet it was more than that...it was how he did his job, how he invested in people, how he did everything he did with integrity and compassion, it's how he spent his time though certainly much of it at work, he spent the other parts serving his Church in numerous capacities, his community and the hospital which eventually served him, and his family. It was also how he spent his resources in giving sacrificially and teaching us to do the same thing.

That's what will last – the intangibles, and many times a part of that is how we spend the resources that the Lord has blessed us with

So we are called to OutLive Our Lives and we will talk over the next 4 weeks of how we are called to that from 1 Timothy 6 and we add the description a Giving and Growing Emphasis.

No question this emphasis will be on the giving of financial gifts over the years to come, (and you got a wonderful packet of information about that and an overview of where we are headed) but what I do know that it is clearly as much if not more about Growing – Our own spiritual growth that will dictate how our giving will be impacted. We will give to that which we are passionate about and what we are called to do! Love=Obedience How we Grow in our daily walk with the Lord. How we grow deeper as a Church Family in knowing the Lord and listening to the call He will place on our lives and the life of this Church.

The Growth that He is sending our way and our responsibility to teach, disciple, train, and make room for in the days, months, and years to come.

Want to take time to Celebrate a little this morning and take a look back at what the Lord has done these last months as we approach our being here 1 year. It is simply astounding and just have to clearly say that this is a God things of Biblical proportions. I just sit back and so wow God, look at what YOU have done!

So these numbers are not to brag on anyone, for us to be prideful about or really share outside of this room really, but for us to see what the Lord is doing and stop and give Him the glory and praise He deserves for doing it!

Our Celebration – Growth

LifeGroups

5 New LifeGroups

51% Increase in LifeGroup Average Attendance (2012 – 2013)[121to 183]
1st Quarter

4 Groups meeting in the Office plus 2 in the Sanctuary

15% If we grow by that amount by the end of the year we will be averaging 212 in LifeGroups

Worship

25% Increase from 4th Quarter 2012 to 1st Quarter 2013

46% Increase in Average Worship Attendance (2012-2013) [184 to 269]

71% Increase in Extended Session for Preschool Ministry

20% If we grow by that amount by the end of the year we will be averaging 323 people in the building

170% Increase of Easter Worship Attendance from 2012 to 2013

Family Wednesday Nights

13% Increase in Average Attendance from 2012-2013 (147 to 167)

120+ Coming to Wednesday Night Family Supper

Membership

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23 New Members in 2013 (11 By Baptism)

3-5 New Guest Families/Individuals Almost Every Week

Finances

13% Increase in 2012 Giving over 2011 Total Giving

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Now because of that growth and really just from this Fall to this winter and headed into the Spring. We have been looking and comparing our numbers to last year and they are amazing to see, but as I begin to work on this series back in early March, I begin to realize that the we were growing in amazing ways from just the last quarter (October – December) compared to this quarter (January – March)

We have to move from a mentality of survival and maintaining to that of responding to the growth so that we don't react to the growth but are proactive and ready and prepared for the growth. (By the way that is what this building was built for – plenty of room to grow and expand and we will take about that physical space and what we need to complete in the coming months and years but also some of the wonderful opportunities that lie before us and how you can be a part. That is part of the Growing Emphasis – **refer to the Commitment Card...**

Our Challenges

Space

To Create More Space so we can continue to Grow –
80% Rule

LifeGroups / Student Ministry / Fellowship Space /
Worship Ministry / Kitchen Space / Parking / Playground
Lighting & Video Updates – See Images

- (1) Fellowship Hall
- (2) Kitchen
- (3) Choir Suite
- (4) Locker Rooms
- (5) Parking
- (6) 2nd Floor

Volunteers

We need more volunteers to serve particularly in our
Preschool, Children, & Student Ministries due to our
growth

- Staff** We need 2 additional full-time Staff Members by the end of the year to keep up with our growth
- Connecting** Getting new Guests connected to our Church and then to a LifeGroup
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Our Call & Commitment - Grow and Give to OutLive Our Lives

Listening to what the Lord will have you to do from this Emphasis,
Learning what the Lord is calling you to do, more about Himself, more about yourself and what He wants to change, move, rearrange, transform to make you more like Him, **Loving the Lord**, **L**eading step up and take a leadership role in the days to come, don't wait for someone else to do it!

Involve yourself in a LifeGroup, in the life of this Church Family...
Invest in that which will last, in other people particularly those who are lots or disconnected from Church in your neighborhood, school, ballteams, workplace, family, etc, **I**nvite **O**thers to come to Church – use special events as an easy invitation.

Focused on what matters the most – being committed and not being distracted from other things – This Church Family must be a priority!
Being **F**aithful – can't emphasize this enough – BE HERE, if you volunteer to serve, BE HERE, BE here regularly for services, for LifeGroups, for Family Wednesday Nights, 1st Super Sunday Nights, Service Opportunities etc., Fervent in Prayer, Fulfill Your Calling that the Lord has place on your Life, Be a Follower and Not a Fan

Eternally Minded, **E**vangelize – Share the Good News

What will your LEGACY be? What will ours be as a Church?

What INVESTMENT will you make? Your Time? Talents? Treasures?

What will your FOCUS be? Fan or Follower

Who will be in Heaven ETERNALY because of you?