

Show Me Your Glory

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH FAIRFIELD

July 2017

Ride Humbly

Dennis Estes first rode a Yamaha 80 motorcycle, white with yellow stripe, as a teenager. As he grew into an adult man, he graduated to a Harley Davidson. It is very likely that in the summer you will see him cruising down the road on his Harley with his doo rag covering his head. Some days, though, you might see him riding in service with the Patriot Guard Riders. The Patriot Guard Riders is a national organization that was formed to ensure dignity and respect at memorial services honoring Fallen Military Heroes, First Responders, and honorably discharged Veterans.



The riders are completely volunteer and serve out of respect for those who have served their country. The Patriot Guard motto is, “Standing for those who stood for us.”

Dennis was raised in a military family. His father was retired from the U.S. Air Force, and as a child he moved around to different bases. His uncle, brother, and nephews have also served in the different branches of service. While Dennis is not a veteran himself, he is thankful for those who have served. It is not a requirement that you be veteran to be a Patriot Guard Rider; the only requirement to be a member is respect. He joined Region 7 of the group which covers the area of southern Illinois from Interstate 64 north to 70, and Interstate 57 east to the Indiana border.

The riders go out on missions which could be a funeral, parade, memorial services, and even fund raisers for military veterans. When serving at a funeral, the riders place flags out for the veterans, they form a flag line, they escort the funeral procession, and stand at the funeral. In some cases, they also serve by filling out the ranks of a funeral of a veteran that is not well attended, even to the point of serving as pall bearers in a few situations. It is important to them that the veterans be given the respect that they deserve, “It’s not about us,” he reminds us, “it is about honoring those who served.”

The toughest missions are those that involve bringing a young soldier home to his final resting place. Dennis has been on two missions that escorted active duty soldiers from the airport all the way to the funeral home. He can only describe those missions as very humbling, knowing those young men died serving their country.

Dennis serves on missions when time allows. He has filled his vest with patches and pins of those family and friends that have served, and he wears it with honor and humility. Each mission starts with prayer for the veteran, the family, and the safety of the riders. As a church family, we should continue to keep this group in our prayers for the ministry they undertake with each mission.

He has told you, O man, what is good;
and what does the Lord require of you
but to do justice, and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with your God?

Micah 6:8



As a side note to the interview with Dennis, the issue of motorcycle safety came up.

The vast majority of vehicles on the road are not motorcycles. They're cars and vans and trucks. It's quite possible that as a driver you rarely think about motorcycles.

"When motorcycles and other vehicles collide, it is usually the other (non-motorcycle) driver who violates the motorcyclist's right of way," according to an issue statement from NHTSA. "There is a continuing need to help other motorists 'think' motorcycles and to educate motorcyclists to be aware of this problem."

Please be aware of motorcycles around you in traffic.

Love Your Neighbor Café Teacher Appreciation Lunch

August 17th
11:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.

If you are available to help with this ministry, please contact the church office.
We need people willing to make lasagna and cake.
We will also need help with serving the meal and clean up.

COMMUNITY MISSIONS

Work Out Wednesdays

For the summer, Work Out Wednesday's have been an opportunity to serve our church family and community. Our church members have gotten together to write cards of encouragement to those on our prayer list and in our hearts. We have also had numerous visits to our homebound members and prospective members. Bibles have been delivered to families that previously did not have them. It has been a great opportunity to serve and spread the love of Christ. There is still time and opportunity for you to be a part of this summer mission work. Missions start at 6 p.m. in the fellowship hall each Wednesday night.

Hope to see you there!





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U.S. POSTAGE PAID
FAIRFIELD, IL
PERMIT NO. 30

308 South First St.
Fairfield IL 62837
Phone (618) 842-3764
Fax (618) 842-3704
Bennie Tomberlin, Pastor
www.fairfieldfbc.org
fbcfairfield@gmail.com

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Sermon Broadcast on WFIW 1390 at 10:45 each Sunday

There is a Fountain
William Cowper

This hymn was probably written in 1771, as it is in Conyers's Collection of Psalms and Hymns, 1772,. It is based on Zechariah 13:1, "On that day there shall be a fountain opened for the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem to cleanse them from sin and uncleanness."

There is a fountain filled with blood
Drawn from Immanuel's veins;
And sinners, plunged beneath that flood,
Lose all their guilty stains:
Lose all their guilty stains,
Lose all their guilty stains;
And sinners, plunged beneath that flood,
Lose all their guilty stains.

The dying thief rejoiced to see
That fountain in his day;
And there may I, though vile as he,
Wash all my sins away:
Wash all my sins away,
Wash all my sins away;
And there may I, though vile as he,
Wash all my sins away.

Dear dying Lamb, Thy precious blood
Shall never lose its pow'r,
Till all the ransomed Church of God
Be saved, to sin no more:
Be saved, to sin no more,
Be saved, to sin no more;
Till all the ransomed Church of God
Be saved to sin no more.

E'er since by faith I saw the stream
Thy flowing wounds supply,
Redeeming love has been my theme,
And shall be till I die:
And shall be till I die,
And shall be till I die;
Redeeming love has been my theme,
And shall be till I die.

When this poor lisping, stamm'ring tongue
Lies silent in the grave,
Then in a nobler, sweeter song
I'll sing Thy pow'r to save:
I'll sing Thy pow'r to save,
I'll sing Thy pow'r to save;
then in a nobler, sweeter song
I'll sing Thy pow'r to save.