

Pastor's Perspective: He has blessed us through the difficulties



By Guest Columnist John Vaughn, Pastor, Cross Roads Baptist Church

Special to Pelahatchie News

It's official! 2020 has been a strange year! And it's not over yet. During the year, we have faced the COVID Crisis, hurricanes, wildfires, flooding, riots, killer hornets, and probably other issues that I can't think of right now. In addition, as you read this, we will have concluded a very contentious election year. Whatever the outcome of the Presidential race, about fifty percent of the population will not be happy with the results. On top of all this, every individual has had your own personal struggles and difficulties to deal with. Yes, 2020 has been a strange and challenging year.

When the COVID Crisis hit in March, we all had to shift gears and do things we had never done before. Churches, schools and many businesses closed their doors. Online activities increased and became the norm overnight. We all quickly learned what "Zoom" was. And although things are not now, and perhaps never will be back to what "normal" was before the crisis, at least most churches, schools and businesses have been able to resume activities.

Some people tend to ask things like, "So where has God been through all of this? Why did He let it all happen? Why didn't He stop it? What is He doing now?"

The answer is that God is right where He has always been. He is still sovereign and ultimately, He will prove vic-



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torious over all things that we face.

At our church, we sing the song "Way Maker," which was written by and first recorded by the Nigerian Gospel singer, Sinach, in 2015. It has since been translated into over 50 languages and has been recorded by a number of different artists in the United States. Part of the lyrics of "Way Maker" say, "You are here, moving in our midst, I

worship You, I worship You. You are here, working in this place, I worship You, I worship You. Waymaker, miracle worker, promise keeper, light in the darkness; My God, that is who You are...Even when I don't see it, You're working, Even when I can't feel it, You're working; You never stop, You

faced in 2020, we have a God who is faithful to us and will continue to work on our behalf and for our good.

Even with the problems and challenges we have encountered this year, we all know that we have also been blessed in so many ways and should do as the old hymn says and "Count our Blessings."

November is the month we celebrate Thanksgiving. It is a time for us to count our blessings and remember all the things we should be thankful for. And we should remember to give thanks to the Lord for all of those blessings we enjoy. And that's what I would like to challenge you to do this month, to be thankful!

Find a notebook or just a sheet of paper, and every day, write down at least one thing you are thankful for, or some way that God has blessed your life. You may think of several things each day, but be sure to write them all down. On Thanksgiving Day, read back over your list and be reminded of all of the things you have to be thankful for.

Year 2020 has been a difficult year, but because we know a faithful God, He has blessed us in spite of, and sometimes through, the difficulties. Be thankful for Him and to Him. And be sure to take your family to church on Sunday.



FALL SCHEDULE

Sunday Worship Service

9:00 a.m. - In Person Worship Service with Limited Seating in the Sanctuary. Overflow seating in the Fellowship Hall and Student Center. No Childcare or Sunday School. Service broadcast live on the Cross Roads Baptist Church Facebook page.

Wednesday Prayer Meeting

6:00 p.m. on the Cross Roads Baptist Church Facebook page

Morning Devotions

7:30 a.m. on the Cross Roads Baptist Church Facebook Page

"The Church has not been closed...the Church has been deployed!"  
(601) 546-2297 • [www.crossroadspel.org](http://www.crossroadspel.org)

Obituaries

| NAME                  | AGE | CITY            | DOD        | Arrangements       |
|-----------------------|-----|-----------------|------------|--------------------|
| Craig Thompson        | 60  | Forest, MS      | 9/22/2020  | Wolf Funeral Serv. |
| John Cornelison       | 64  | Pelahatchie, MS | 9/26/2020  | Wolf Funeral Serv. |
| Milton Ethridge       | 89  | Florence, MS    | 9/27/2020  | Wolf Funeral Serv. |
| Wanda Walters         | 59  | Pelahatchie, MS | 9/30/2020  | Wolf Funeral Serv. |
| Bill Jones            | 83  | Pulaski, MS     | 10/2/2020  | Wolf Funeral Serv. |
| Peggy Rawson          | 83  | Forest, MS      | 10/5/2020  | Wolf Funeral Serv. |
| Gayle Aycock          | 56  | Lena, MS        | 10/9/2020  | Wolf Funeral Serv. |
| Manuel Vera           | 58  | Morton, MS      | 10/14/2020 | Wolf Funeral Serv. |
| JoAnn Gray            | 86  | Morton, MS      | 10/17/2020 | Wolf Funeral Serv. |
| Frances Jewel Brown   | 79  | Newton, MS      | 10/18/2020 | Wolf Funeral Serv. |
| Mattie Sue Baugh      | 97  | Morton, MS      | 10/19/2020 | Wolf Funeral Serv. |
| Mary Earline Mitchell | 76  | Morton, MS      | 10/20/2020 | Wolf Funeral Serv. |
| Billy Chambers        | 77  | Newton, MS      | 10/22/2020 | Wolf Funeral Serv. |
| Betty Easterling      | 75  | Morton, MS      | 10/22/2020 | Wolf Funeral Serv. |
| Joey Trest            | 63  | Ludlow, MS      | 10/25/2020 | Wolf Funeral Serv. |



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Sunday School 9:30 am Worship 10:30 am, 6:00 pm • Wednesday Youth & Children 6:00 pm Adults 6:30 pm