



Coming Alongside **March, 2024**

SHUT DE DOOR, KEEP OUT DE DEVIL!



It is easy for us to personally tolerate what we might label as "lesser" sins in our lives. And it is precisely these "lesser" sins that Satan sometimes uses to discourage and defeat us.

One such sin that we minimize is the sin of worry. It seems so insignificant in comparison to some other sins that are so often condemned in Scripture. In 1 Peter 5:5-9, Peter wrote to believers who were experiencing persecution. He told them that the believers should humble themselves before the Lord, and be casting all their anxieties on God because He cares for them. That makes sense because persecution, trials, sufferings, and difficulties can cause anyone to quit trusting the Lord and as a result become stuck in a pit of discouragement.

What is interesting about this passage is Peter's connection between worry and Satan's desire to devour believers. That is very strong language! Can chronic, habitual worry result in great defeat? Yes!

I talk to pastors and leaders often about how they are doing in life and in ministry and many are more than concerned (worried) about what is going on in their churches, in their families, in our country, and more. We must not dismiss the "lesser" sin of worry because it is one of Satan's greatest temptations to lead us away from trusting in our mighty, sovereign, and faithful Lord.

As the song says, "Shut de door, keep out de devil!", because he is attempting to devour God's pastors and leaders in these difficult days. Let's be on the alert, let's be casting all our anxieties on Him because He cares for us, and let's resist all the devil's lies to us, especially the lie that it is ok to worry.

Coming alongside,
Mike

FEATURED THIS MONTH



Relational Evangelism Strategy & Resources Informational Lunch and Preview Meeting

Join us for lunch at the TBBA on April 15, 2024 to meet Pastor Artur Borges:

We are going to learn more about ShareWord Global and an incredible and free relational evangelism training that we will be hosting on June 1 at Idlewild.

April 15, 2024 (RSVP Now)

11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Tampa Bay Baptist Association

1060 W. Busch Blvd. Tampa 33612 [[map](#)]

Coming June 1, 2024 (Save the Date)

TBBA is partnering with ShareWord Global to offer a free Relational Evangelism training on June 1, 2024 for all of our churches. Come to this April luncheon for Pastors and Leaders to learn about this great ministry and how your church can benefit from the June training.

Please RSVP to Jan Jones (jjones@tbba.org) | 813-935-3839



Pastor Artur Borges is Director of International Engagement for ShareWord Global. He has served the church for more than 20 years as a pastor and leader. Most recently, Artur has successfully launched ShareWord's ministry in Brazil, bringing a great mix of leadership, international experience and passion to see God's Kingdom expanding to all nations.



ANNIE ARMSTRONG EASTER OFFERING






Plan, Promote, Participate Annie Armstrong Easter Offering

Your prayers for, and every dollar given to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering provide support for thousands of missionaries across the U.S., Canada, and more. These men and women are planting new churches in unreached communities and meeting needs through compassion ministries. Every day, lives are being impacted and transformed.

[Click here for the NAMB / Annie resources page!](#)

The Annie Armstrong Easter Offering provides 50 percent of the North American Mission Board budget!



————— *The Legacy of* —————

ANNIE ARMSTRONG

As a tireless servant of God and an advocate and supporter of missions throughout the world, Annie Armstrong was a foundational leader in uniting believers through missions to spread the gospel of Christ. Annie was one of the primary shapers of the Southern Baptist Convention and a leader in missions education.

She was also a visionary champion for raising needed funding for missions in North America and globally. When you provide for the North American Mission Board in your estate plans, you are joining Annie Armstrong in leaving your own personal missions legacy and spreading the hope of Christ.

MONTHLY EVENTS

J15 Monthly Pastors Gatherings

Pastors, join us once a month for a time in the word, earnest prayer, and encouragement and fellowship during a free lunch.





March 14 at 11:30 - FBC Tampa
Every Fourth Wednesday in Brandon

[Click here for details](#)

APRIL EVENTS



The TBBA is excited to co-sponsor and promote a great church planting conference happening at Covenant Life Church in Tampa:

April 12-14, 2024 | \$149 per person

***If you pastor a church that plants churches,
or if you pastor a church that desires to plant churches,
then this weekender is for you.***

Covenant Life Church
3511 W Bay to Bay Blvd
Tampa, FL 33629

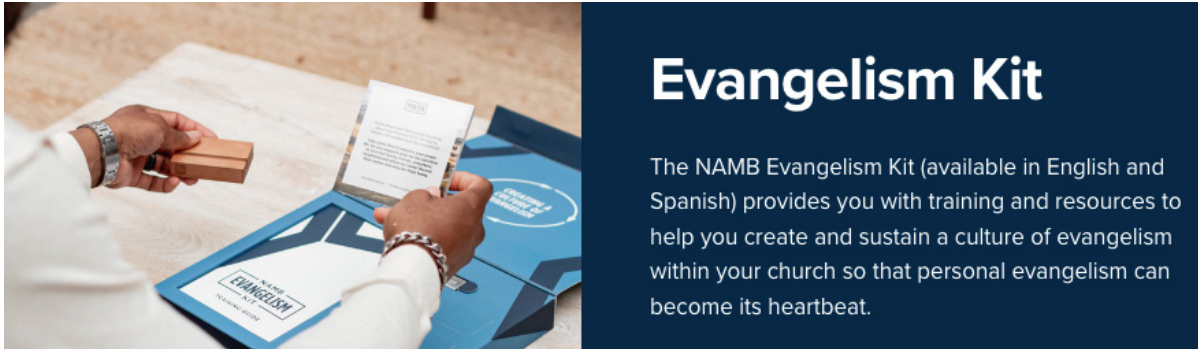
[From CLC's Website](#)

Church Planting Weekender - Sit alongside other aspiring church planters as you gain insights from church planters in the context of a church planted in Tampa, FL. The Church Planting Weekender offers a practical and insightful exploration into the nature and aim of planting churches, providing a hands-on experience that underscores the importance of the church, pastoral ministry, and the collective pursuit of knowing and enjoying Christ as a family of blood-bought believers. Come see and savor the glory of Christ as we consider the establishment of His blood-bought people. Our sincere hope is that this time together will kindle a flame within your heart, offer valuable insights to inform your mind and equip you with practical resources for your ministry.

LIMITED ATTENDANCE: To foster a more intimate and conversational setting, we are limiting this event to 45 people. Secure your spot today as we seek to honor God in the pursuit of planting churches that treasure Christ together.

Learn more about the speakers, the schedule, lodging, travel, meals, and free books (*click below*)

COVENANTLIFETAMPA.ORG/CPW



Free NAMB Evangelism Kit Training

Don't miss this incredible opportunity to deepen your evangelism focus and learn about the latest resources available to all churches.

April 22, 2024
10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

First Baptist Lake Wales
338 E Central Ave
Lake Wales, FL 33853

SPEAKERS: NAMB Evangelism Team

PRICE: Training is free

INCLUDES: NAMB Evangelism Kit, Catered Lunch

Join the North American Mission Board for this free Evangelism Kit Training designed to equip Pastors, Pastoral Staff, and Mission Leaders with the tools and resources to create an evangelism-focused culture in your church.

[REGISTER NOW: Each attendee must register separately](#)

MAY EVENTS



Joining Jesus in *His* Mission



(click above for brief video)

DON'T MISS THIS INCREDIBLE TIME WITH THE LORD!
May 16, 2024
Pastors' Rooftop Gathering & Prayer
FBC Tampa
8:30am - 11:00am

Our friend, Pastor Paul Purvis, introduced me to missionary Dennis Pethers of Rooftop Ministries last year. Mission Hill Church has partnered with Rooftop Ministries to spread the gospel in England and beyond.

Dennis has created "Rooftop Encounters" to help pastors and associations more clearly see the mission field of God in their cities. Rooftop Encounters is based on the story in Acts 10 of the Apostle Peter, where he went up on the rooftop to pray, and then God changed Peter and the Church to share the gospel with Gentiles. During our Rooftop Encounter we will spend some time on the rooftop of FBC Tampa and look out at the downtown area of Tampa. We will listen to what the Lord is saying to us through Dennis, we will pray together for the Lord to change us (as He did Peter), and then ask Him to show us what to do.

Dennis will offer twelve months of coaching for 10 - 12 pastors to help them lead their churches to more intentionally make disciples who make disciples. The Tampa Bay Baptist Foundation will be partnering with churches to underwrite some of the costs of this coaching.

Don't miss this day of encounter on May 16.
RSVP to Jan Jones at jjones@tbba.org

RECENT HIGHLIGHTS

Small Church Summit



Wow, what an incredible day of six hours of training that was specifically designed for small churches! 42 pastors and leaders attended the event and were greatly helped because everything that was taught was from a small church

perspective and could be applied to any small church. Also, each attendee received a free book about a small church topic that was written by the presenter, pastor / author Karl Vaters ([learn more about Karl here](#)).

COMMUNITY & MINISTRY

El Shaddai Baptist

- El Shaddai church is in need of a free pulpit because of termite damage to their old one. Contact Pastor Felix Walters (813) 352-8002 if you have a pulpit that you are able to give to his church.

First Baptist of Dover

- First Baptist of Dover is seeking a Director of Children's Ministries. This is a full time (30-35 hours/week) position. College degree in a relevant field; Children's ministries experience. Send resumes to: tj.francis@fbcdooverfl.com.

First Baptist of Lutz

- First Baptist of Lutz is seeking a full-time Executive Administrative Assistant. The Assistant will report directly to the Senior Pastor and will offer support to the Pastoral Staff and to the church body. The position is in the church office, with duties divided between clerical and congregational needs. Submit resume and references to FBC Lutz, Attention: Personnel Committee.

Manhattan Baptist

- Manhattan has several pianos and two organs they would like to donate. Contact Sue Turner (813) 841-4585 for more information.

Sheldon Road Baptist

- Sheldon Road Baptist is looking for a part time music leader. Does not need to be a member. Please call Pastor Mark Nunes at (813) 545-6374 for more information.

West Broad Street Baptist

- West Broad Street Baptist is seeking a P/T Bookkeeper/Secretary. Hours Tue, Wed, Thur. 9am-3pm. Experience with Microsoft Office programs required. Please send resumes or inquires to wbsbctampa@gmail.com

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