

Northside News

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From the Pastor

It is now the season after Pentecost, and we are busy. We are making plans to start a new after school ministry (which will come up for a vote on Sunday, June 26). We are trying to find people to work in the garden now at the peak of the growing season. We've just finished a fantastic VBS, in which we welcomed dozens of very energetic children from our community. Some of you are now working on a project Dick Brogan started to build a relationship with a family in need of some help on their house. We are also continuing our support of the Opportunity Center ... and all this in addition to the good work we have already been doing in vital ministries like the Four C's.

Whew. That's a lot. In the midst of all that remember what time it is: It is "the season after Pentecost." That means the Spirit has come. So, remember: It's not our calling to fix the world. Our calling is to follow the Spirit. It's the Spirit of God who is already at work in our community, our neighborhood, and in our church. And our Pentecostal job is not so much to build the Kingdom of God as it is to let the Spirit work in us and let the Spirit lead us to join in what the Spirit of God yearns to do. (Read Romans 8:22-27 again, and ponder: what is God aching to do in our community?)

That may make us busy of course. And it could lead to hard work. But it ought to remind us several things:

First, we can't do Christian mission without prayer and worship. It is in prayer and worship that we discern the gentle and surprising ways of the Spirit. So, there's no separating the so-called "active" life from the more "passive" life of prayer. Together action and prayer make up "the spiritual life."

Second, the world is not our project, and the people we encounter are not our "mission." The world is God's beloved creation, which would not exist without God's continued presence, and the people are God's children. So, let's not enter these projects expecting to fix things. Let's enter in wonder and hope, expecting to learn something about God's love.

Finally, the Spirit of God is up to something big. The Spirit crosses boundaries and breaks down borders. Pentecost is a joyful season because it is through the humble, the broken, the poor, and the weak that God has chosen to work out God's purposes in the world. The Spirit will have surprises for us.

So, yes, we're busy. But don't forget to pray, worship, rest and rejoice. The Spirit of God is with us and ahead of us.

Grace and Peace,

Stan

Upcoming Youth Activities

- June 23 Mississippi Braves. Led by Cliff Johnson. Meet at Church at 6:15 p.m. Tickets are \$8.00
No Reservations Required.
- July 5-9 Older Youth Appalachian Trail Hike
- July 12 Youth House Open
7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.
John Meadors will have the youth building open for food and recreation.
- July 19 Movie Night
7:00 p.m. – 10:00 pm.
Aaron Bond will coordinate this night.
- August 13 Back to School Party (Details Coming)

Still Praying on Wednesdays

Please remember that there is a group that gathers on Wednesday mornings at 9:30 a.m. to pray. Anyone is invited to join. The prayer time usually begins with news of what is going on around the church and naming folks that have asked for prayer, as well as sharing answers that have come. Personal prayer requests and those of loved ones, neighbors and friends are shared. There are tears and laughter, singing and quiet. Sometimes the prayers are short, sometimes long, sometimes offered quietly or silently. No one is required to pray aloud. It is a place of deep meeting together, a sign of the kingdom and where we celebrate God's presence among us. Come, join us.

"God respecteth not the arithmetic of our prayers. how many they are; nor the rhetoric of our prayers. how neat they are; nor the geometry of our prayers. how long they are; but the divinity of our prayers. how heart-sprung they are" (Haines).

Cooperative Baptist Fellowship General Assembly

June 22-25, 2011
Tampa, Florida

This year's General Assembly will be a significant gathering in the Fellowship's history as Baptists from around the country and world come together for an important milestone. CBF will be celebrating its 20th anniversary and some folks from our church will be in attendance. Buddy and Sheila Wagner and John and Susan Meadors are going next Wednesday through Saturday to represent you and to hopefully bring home some good news about our Baptist family.

VBS

Did you know that at least eighty percent of children that attend our Vacation Bible School are not members of our church – they are visitors, some visitors who return every year? That makes this very important ministry we do even more significant in terms of how we connect with our neighbors in sharing the gospel. I hope you feel grateful as I do for the amazing team of people who contribute their talents to doing this ministry well.

Here is a bit about that team. It all began with our gifted and encouraging director Margaret Drummond, who in January volunteered and began writing the material which was wonderful. The theme was MOSES: *Let My People Go!* As many of you were able to see in the Fellowship Hall Lisa Edwards again worked her magic by painting murals that depicted so well the Bible story for everyday. The decorating team was Lisa Edwards, Frances Chisolm, Norma Baker, Missy Jones, Claire McEllwain, Mary Louise Meadors, Joseph Meadors, and Susan Meadors. Snacks for the children were again led by Beverly Hughey (we think for her 19th straight year!!!) who persevered in finding snacks that matched the day's theme. Mary Louise Meadors was her youth assistant. Missy Jones stepped up to provide Recreation during some really hot days; she was assisted by Evan Jones, Noah Young, and Gabe Peace. Laura Stambaugh, Frances Chisolm and youth assistant Claire McEllwain were stellar at providing outstanding crafts – the T-shirts were great. Ezekiel McCall added his particular flair to the role of Moses as our Bible storyteller each day except Monday when Roxie Parks shined in the role of Moses' mother Jochebed. Ezekiel also led the children in a new exercise routine called Moses Aerobics. Several stepped up for the morning skits including Roxie Parks, Ezekiel McCall, Grant Gilliam, Matthew Tucker, Lizzie Zarich, Joseph Meadors, Mary Louise Meadors, and Susan Meadors. Music was a real highlight this year as once again Jennifer Wilson assembled a great team and found some wonderful songs that fit our theme perfectly. She was assisted by an MC music student named Callie Bruce who was delightful. Our teachers were again exemplary: Beth Campbell and youth assistant Erin Johnson with 3 and 4 year olds; Norma Baker, Linda Livingston and youth assistant Morgan Young with Kindergarten and 5 year olds; Amy and Michael Williamson with the 1st and 2nd graders; Kitty Brogan and Susan Meadors with 3rd and 4th graders; Roxie Parks, Margaret Drummond and youth assistant Joseph Meadors with the 5th and 6th graders. We appreciated Grant Gilliam, Matthew Tucker, and Lizzie Zarich being floaters, filling in where needed. Norma Baker thrilled us with a delicious Moses cake for our closing celebration on Friday. Our pastor Stan played his guitar and led us each day during the assemblies with fun, crazy action songs that helped get us going in the morning and also helped us end each day on a high note.

Finally we are grateful for the many who brought snacks for the teachers: Norma Baker, Kay Brodbeck, Yvette Dale, Jean Hunt, Linda Livingston, Mary Lea Nations, Don Nyberg, Shannon Parham, JoAnn Pope, Rowland Roberts, Marijane Whitfield, Jackie Wright, and Judy Yates.

At the end of each day and certainly at the end of the week we had good reason to say, "Thanks be to God."

***There will be a special meeting called after the worship service June 26 to vote on the Northside Afterschool Program.**



**David Edwards
Basic Training Graduate
United States Coast Guard**

Prayer Requests

Geri Bowie, Thelma Basley's sister
Jim Bowie, Thelma Basley's brother-in-law
Evelyn Brewer, mother of David Parks
SSG Johnny Cockrell, deploys to Afghanistan in July
Howard Cohen at home, dialysis
Callie Cole, neurologic rehab therapy
Mattie Cooper, home
Jack DeYoung, Stambaugh's nephew
Emily Fokeladeh
Charles Gearhart, Greg Gearhart's father
Marjorie Gore
Nancy Hancock
Clarissa Hickman, friend of Edith Kennedy
Carolyn Hisaw, wife of Tony Hisaw
William Howard Hollman, Harold Hollman's brother
Glenda Hughes, recovering from knee surgery
Paul Jacobs Jr.
Mrs. Abby Jones, at The Orchard
Carol Meadors, mother of John Meadors
Mary Sue Nations, at home
Ruth Parker, daughter-in-law of Lynda Cook
Quentin Peterson, friend of the Brogans, cancer
Clayton Powers
Ryan Robertson, Yates' grandson
Bernice Rook, charter member, leukemia
John Sherrod, uncle of Michael Williamson
Carolyn Snell, Linda McComb's mother
Jim and Jimmie Street
Bill Strum
Sue Thayer
Freddie Weeks, cancer, friend of Graham Carner
Johney Williams, mother of Roxie Parks
Roy and Gladys Williams, grandparents of
Graham Carner

Members at Home

Wilma Cooper
Clyde Hemphill
Mrs. Margaret Hensley
Chrys Ray



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Church Staff

Frances Chisolm	Secretary
Jamie Meaders	Minister of Music
Susan Meadors	Associate Pastor
Mack Murriel	Custodian and Chef
Troy Murriel	Custodian
Jo Ann Pope	Organist
Dottie Serio	Pianist
Stan Wilson	Pastor

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