



Family News

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St. John's Baptist Church, 300 Hawthorne Lane, Charlotte, North Carolina

Vol. 65, No. 29 – July 20, 2010

FROM LAYNE

For my birthday, our hospice chaplain daughter gave me the book, *This I Believe: The Personal Philosophies of Remarkable Men and Women*. A nice gift, that is, until I opened the cover. Inside it reads, *Dad, Happy 60th birthday! I believe you have been a great dad! I love you! Darcie* – The inscription raises two questions for me: Does the inscription mean that I am NO LONGER a good dad, even though I “have been” in the past? – and/or – Does it mean that she has talked to my physicians and I’m closer to meeting my maker than I realize? – But I digress.

In one of the brief essays in the book, author, Deirdre Sullivan writes something that resonated with me:

In my humdrum life, the daily battle hasn't been good versus evil. It's hardly so epic. Most days my real battle is doing good versus doing nothing.

My guess is that your experience is similar to mine at this point. We don't live, day by day, in some kind of epic good versus evil battle. However, it's very easy to see a need, hear a call, and just do nothing.

Truth is we either hoard our lives or we spend/invest them in small things that add up to make a difference. Fred Craddock says he always thought that his life of faith and ministry would play out like a \$100 bill. *Here it is, I'm putting it all on the table!* It took him a while, but he finally accepted that what God wanted from him was nothing extraordinary. So he took the \$100 bill to the bank and said, *Give it to me in quarters*. Now he lives out his call one ordinary quarter at a time. I believe *doing good* for you and me most likely is not doing something huge, newspaper-worthy. Rather it is doing small, good things persistently and consistently instead of doing nothing.

Which will it be for us today – good or nothing?



**HOLY GROUNDS
THIS SUNDAY
Church Lounge**
Coffee available at 9:00 am.

At 9:15 am we will watch and then discuss *This is Who I Am*, a first-person point-of-view of the so-called *Generation X*. This video attempts to explain why twenty-somethings appear so cynical and disillusioned. Discussion will be led by Layne Smith.

Freedom School Volunteers Needed!

When? August 2-5, 2010, 9 am - Noon. On Wednesday, August 4, there will be a field trip to Cane Creek Park, including a cookout. We need chaperones/volunteers for the field trip who can commit a full day. You can volunteer for one day or more than one day.

What? Volunteers needed to help teach and do crafts and activities with the Freedom School children. Age of the kids ranges from kindergarten to middle school.

Why? To check out what Freedom School is and the children that the program serves go to <http://www.freedom-schoolpartners.org/>

Who? Adults and teens who are ready and willing in spirit and body to help - no experience necessary. Please contact Lee Gray at 704.451.1309 or lee@stjohnsbaptistchurch.org or Agatha Belvin at 704.619.7388 or belvin5@bellsouth.net to volunteer or to ask questions.

HEARTLAND

A MUSICAL TRIBUTE TO THE HEART OF AMERICA
FROM THE HEART OF AMERICA

Save date: August 22nd

It's all free . . . bring the family!

Join us in celebrating our national heritage through folksongs, hymns, and other popular songs featuring the St. John's Chancel Choir plus exciting musical guests.

Ice cream social to follow!

From the Interim Steering Team

This Sunday, July 25, the proposed Mission and Vision Statements will be presented to the congregation during morning worship.

Discussion sessions are scheduled for August 1 and August 8 during Holy Grounds time (9:15 am Sunday mornings in the Lounge).

The Interim Steering Team will seek a vote of acceptance of the Mission and Vision Statements on Sunday, August 15.

Budget Receipts
July 18: \$9189.50

Calendar: July 25-31

Sunday, July 25

9:00 Holy Grounds Coffee
9:15 Holy Grounds Discussion
9:15 Sunday School
10:30 Worship

Monday, July 26

9:00 Get Growing Camp
..... Basketball Goals Camp

Tuesday, July 27

9:00 Get Growing Camp
..... Basketball Goals Camp

Wednesday, July 28

9:00 Get Growing Camp
..... Basketball Goals Camp

Thursday, July 29

9:00 Get Growing Camp
..... Basketball Goals Camp
7:30 Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Friday, July 30

9:00 Get Growing Camp
..... Basketball Goals Camp
9:30 Craft Class

Saturday, July 31

10:00 Communion Committee

Recent Illnesses

Home:
Lou Fuller
Sardis Oaks Rehab:
Bertha Taylor

Thank You

A big thank you to the **Uptown Ladies** who provided the delicious cookies for the Youth Habitat Mission Trip to John's Island, SC.
Lee Gray

In Service Sunday, July 25

Deacons: Fredda Kimball,
Todd Stillerman, Sally Young,
Kim Allen, Stephen Allred,
Jay Baucom, Jason Benton,
Phillips Bragg, Butch Branscome,
Graham Clayton

Ushers: Emory & Jerry Stephens,
Ellen Lyons

Nursery Workers: Becky & Jason
Benton, Linda Crowder, Meredith
Sorrell, Laura Sorrell, Maggie
Bond, Debora Thon

Nurse on Duty: Lib Collier

Note from the Interim Steering Team

The Interim Steering Team is presently working through the "Connections" focus point of the interim process. This developmental task involves looking at denominational and external relationships at St. John's, including an assessment of our denominational and non-denominational commitments and involvement and an examination of the history and depth of those relationships. If you would like to share ideas about this focus point directly with the IST, please contact Todd Stillerman (stillerman@me.com or 704-763-6611) by Saturday, July 31.

Youth News

• A group of our youth is at Passport Camp in Wenham, MA this week. They will return about 8:00 pm on Sunday, July 25. Parents will receive a call confirming arrival time.

Dates to Note @ SJBC

August 14

Women of the Church Vineyards Tour & Lunch

Sunday, August 22

"Heartland" a musical tribute to the heart of America from the heart of America by the Chancel Choir, followed by an ice cream social.

Saturday, September 11

All-Choir Picnic at the Swofford's

September 12

2nd Annual Women of the Church Luncheon

Sunday, September 19

Deacon Election

Sunday, October 31

CROP Walk

Opportunities for Service

Uniforms - Renaissance Academy



Yes! It's that time again! Collections for Highland school will continue through August 22. Items needed are white and navy shirts, khaki and navy pants, skirts and shorts in sizes 5-14 are needed. Place your items on the rack in the gym foyer.

Used Eyeglasses Needed

Collection boxes have been placed in the gym foyer and the Broach Hall Foyer for donations of used eyeglasses for distribution by The Urban Ministry Center.



Women of the Church Activities

August 14:

Cable Creek & Childress Vineyards Tours & Lunch - 10:00 am - 4:00 pm. Please RSVP to Ashley Maready by August 7: 704.351.2490 or ashleymaready@bellsouth.net.

August 22:

Ice Cream Social following the "Heartland" concert.

September 12:

2nd Annual Women of the Church Luncheon - "Parade of Tables"

November 5-7:

Women's Retreat - Christmont, Black Mountain, NC

Farmers' Market - A Great Success!

Your generosity far exceeded our expectations as we raised \$1,105.10 for Friendship Trays! For those who tilled the soil, watered and harvested your bountiful crops, we give great thanks. Our market would not have been possible without your hard work. The delicious baked and canned goods and plants were also appreciated and added to a beautiful display.

Your monetary donations show the generous spirit we share in helping others.

This Is What a Preacher Looks Like

by Pamela R. Durso

This new book is a collection of sermons by thirty-six Baptist women in ministry - including our own **Martha Kearse!** The book is now available in the church office (\$17). Contact Peggy to reserve a copy!

And another thing about Martha: In the July issue of *Baptists Today*, look for Martha on the Guest Commentary page. The article was adapted from a Baptist Women in Ministry blog: <http://www.bwim.info/category/martha-kearse-blog/>. A copy is also posted on the bulletin board near the Sanctuary.

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