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Berea Baptist Church

Founded 1855

Dear community friends, we have started a study in the Gospel of Luke on the questions Jesus asked. Now I know that would get your attention because we are all interested in what Jesus was captivated by. The Berea family is providing soup and a wonderful space (fellowship hall) to share a meal and look at Jesus' questions the first Wednesday's of each month. You're invited! Bring your own questions and curiosity and energy to share together in the common bond of fellowship.

Our scripture will be Luke 6:6-11 and the focus we are going to work on is "*Jesus taught that people are more important than doctrine.*" We will work to identify standards to determine when human need should take precedent over religious legalism.

Karen Zurheide, one of the contributing writers of the study, said it best, "When confronted with human need, may we be guided more by God's living Spirit than by lifeless rules and regulations.

I look forward to the experience of dialoguing with you on this question. Speaking of questions, let me leave you with a quote from the monk, Thomas Merton: "*In the progress toward religious understanding, one does not go from answer to answer but from question to question. One's questions are answered, not by clear, definitive answers, but by more pertinent and more crucial questions.*"

"A COMMUNITY OF SERVANTS SERVING OUR COMMUNITY"

January Newsletter 2014



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**Gospel Magic and
Puppetry Show
March 1 from 2-3:30**

FROM CREATION TO THE CROSS

by Richard Kochik

Kudos to Phil Mumford. He did an awesome job on Saturday sharing his own story... but woven together to tell the wonderful story of the Gospel.

Christian history from Creation to the Cross. It was obvious he spent hours preparing so we would have an understanding of Heilsgeschichte (although I still can't pronounce it correctly). I only heard very appreciative comments from the participants. Phil is an outstanding teacher of the Bible and I'd like to personally say Thank You. In addition to the teaching we also spent 30 minutes singing favorite hymns. Phil showed us that the hymns selected were sung in a particular order each telling it's

1. **This is the Day**
2. **In the Garden**
3. **What a Friend We Have in Jesus**
4. **How Great thou Art**
5. **I'd Rather Have Jesus**
6. **Old Rugged Cross**
7. **Victory in Jesus**
8. **When the Roll is Called Up Yonder**
9. **When We All Get to Heaven**
10. **Amazing Grace**

COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP MEAL **Wednesday, February 5** **Home-made Vegetable Soup Served from 6-6:30 pm,**

CHOIR SCHEDULE

Feb. 2 - 9:00 am & 6-8:00 pm
Feb. 9 - 9:00 am & 12-2:15 pm
Feb. 16-9:00 am
Feb. 23-9:00 am & 6-8:00 pm

We will be having a
Kick-Off Luncheon for our Easter Music on Sunday, February 9 from Noon to 2:15.

If you'd like to sing with the choir through the Easter season, we welcome you to join us!

MULTI-GENERATIONAL CHOIR by Judi Kochik

The choir is excited to have three new folks singing with us each Sunday...welcome to:

- Henry Watkins
- Christina Rigsbee
- Brandon Hudson.



Our choir is definitely multi-generational!!!! We span 7 decades!

METAMORPHOSIS IN ACTION AT BEREA

by Judi Kochik

What is metamorphosis? A complete transformation...like a caterpillar into a butterfly. Scripture tells us to be transformed by the renewing of our minds...and a dozen ladies of Berea have recently started an evening Bible study that will renew our minds. The "Made to Crave" study is all about satisfying our deepest desires...not with things of this world...but with God. The study is taking place in the upstairs classroom that has gone through a metamorphosis of its own...and just like any transformation, it involved many steps and a lot of time. The room was rid of debris; the walls and windows were scrubbed, patched, sanded, primed (two coats), detailed, top coated; the floor was painted; new lighting was installed; electrical plates were replaced; heat vent cover was painted...wall hangings were installed...and most importantly...the students arrived and studied the Word! From a dirty, flawed, useless room...to a place of beauty & learning! A metamorphosis...and a new beginning!

The ladies memorized Luke 9:23 on the first night: **"If anyone would come after Me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow Me."** It's 3 parts...for anyone who chooses to seek after God, he must 1) deny himself (fast; give up something that's important to him), 2) take up his cross daily (actively do something difficult every day), and 3) follow Me (let God be his guide...getting into His path.)

The ladies bought their own copies of Lysa TerKeurst's book "Made to Crave". They will be attending weekly study sessions, watching the teaching videos, and doing daily homework. Were we made to crave? Yes!!!! Not worldly pleasures...not foods & possessions...not entertainment.... but God!!!

Yes...Metamorphosis is taking place at Berea!! To God we give all praise and honor!



GOSPEL MAGIC AND PUPPETRY SHOW

by Richard Kochik

Mark your calendar for March 1st. We will be inviting Berea and the community children to our first Gospel Magic and Puppetry Show. It will be held in the fellowship hall from 2:00 to 3:30 pm. Although geared to children, everyone is welcome especially the parents and guardians of the children. The community has participated in our June carnival and Trunk or Treat in October. We are hopeful they will participate in an event where we share the Gospel through magic and puppetry.



Jesus told us to "Go into the world and preach the gospel to every creature." Magic and puppetry is using visual illustrations, optical illusions, puppets, storytelling, and other visual arts to share the gospel with everyone, especially children.

Why use magic and puppetry to teach and preach the "Good News?" Because a child will only retain a small percentage of what they hear, but if you give them visual illustrations along with the lesson, their retention factor increases greatly. Add to the illustration a mystery or surprise ending, and you lock in on their curiosity and they will long remember what they have been taught.

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Melissa Berry Evans
- 3 Erin Hamlet
- 8 Ashleigh Ellis
- 9 Todd Massey
- 11 Vivian Maynard
- 11 Craig Hutson
- 12 Dean Bledsoe
- 18 Cheryl Hamlet
- 18 Drew Massey
- 20 Jesse Smith
- 22 John Mumford
- 22 Linda Baker
- 23 Rich Kochik
- 25 Stephanie Sanseverino
- 27 Johanna Wortham
- 27 Christian Elliott

FEBRUARY NURSERY WORKERS

- 2 Amy Rigsbee
- 9 Hope Marlow
- 16 Dennis Massey
- 23 Jessica Matthews

FEBRUARY CIA/MUSIC WORKERS

- 2 Music – Youth Only
- 9 CIA – Susan Council
- 16 Music – Youth Only
- 23 CIA – Donna Massey

THANKS by Susan Council

The dinner at the Ronald McDonald House on January 12th went really well. MUCH thanks to all who helped in various ways (time, effort, cooking, funding, cleaning). We have received a lovely thank you note from the House. Hopefully, we can plan to do another dinner sometime in the future.

RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE

By Susan Council

Our **5th annual Ronald McDonald House collection will be on February 9th**, the second Sunday in February. We split the proceeds from our collection between the Durham and Chapel Hill houses. Copies of the wish list have been included on the insert in the Church bulletin the past few weeks. There are copies of the wish list available in the Church vestibule. You can also email me at scouncil620@gmail.com and I can send you one or call 919-957-8769 and I'll review the types of items for which they are "wishing". Thanks in advance for your support.

COOKBOOKS by Susan Council

Thanks to all who supported the Scholarship Fund by buying cookbooks. Please be sure to mark your payments as "for cookbooks". **There are still cookbooks available for \$12.00 if you need to purchase or get additional ones.** Send your orders to bereacookbook@gmail.com or call 919-957-8769.

NEWSLETTER AND PRAYER

Newsletter articles, prayer list concerns and updates should be emailed to the church office or can be called in Monday through Friday, 10:00 am to 2:00 pm.

919.544.7151

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