

HIGHLIGHTS

College Park Baptist Church
1701 Polo Road, Winston-Salem, NC 27106



There's been so much said about "2020" ...and much of it said tongue-in-cheek...or with a snarl! The temptation is to dismiss the difficult times in our lives, and just wish away our days, hoping for better times in the future. But what if, in doing so, we are completely missing what God is trying to teaching us in those moments...? That's how I have grown to view the events of 2020. Now, maybe that's a coping mechanism..granted...but I also think it is very biblical! As I read many of the stories in the Bible, there were ample times for celebration, but there were also plenty of stories of hardship, and how God taught His people through those times. Last time I looked, none of us have been carted off to another country to live a life in bondage (although we may have felt like prisoners in our own homes)! So, how do we balance and assimilate all of what we experienced in 2020? I'm not sure, but I suspect we will still have many of those same issues for at least part of 2021, so

the sooner we learn to cope and learn from our circumstances, the better off we will be!

One of the most common things I've heard from many of you, is how much you have enjoyed additional "family time" (whatever that looks like in your circumstances)! Do not sell that time short because it is precious! As a matter of fact those times build memories and relationships that last for eternity, whereas much of what we spent valuable time on is temporary! As I reflected on all of this, I decided to write a series of sermons that will, in a way, dovetail into the series I preached in November from 2 Chronicles. The series will be entitled **Re:Set 2021**, and will help us look at "where do we go from here?" I look forward to seeing you, or being seen by you online, during the month of January!

Blessings & Peace,
Ramon

Our Mission...
"A people gathered in Christ; nurtured in His Spirit; and sent in His name."

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THE WORSHIP OF GOD

<p style="text-align: center;">January 3, 2021 11:00 a.m. Baptism & Communion</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Re:Set 2021 (introduction) Ramon Smith</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">January 10, 2021 11:00 a.m. Deacon Ordination & Installation</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">January 17, 2021 11:00 a.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Re:Set 2021 (part 1) Ramon Smith</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">January 24, 2021 11:00 a.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Re:Set 2021 (part 2) Ramon Smith</p>

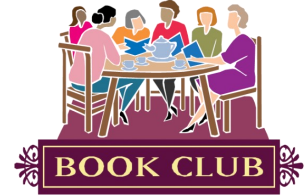
January 31, 2021
11:00 a.m.

Re:Set 2021 (part 3)
Ramon Smith

A NOTE FROM MARY



I was in the middle of a discussion with a fellow staff member today, and I commented that, while there are other people who are more long-ranged planners than I am, I don't like the feeling that I have had for the last few months that I am constantly doing things on the fly. I like lists. I like plans. I like knowing what comes next. The pandemic has not been a friend to people like me, who like things neatly laid out. I have to confess that I know that I am probably relying on God more than ever and less on having everything planned perfectly; however, it is not a comfortable feeling for me. Shortly after my discussion, as I was preparing the candles for Christmas Eve, I was struck by the thought that nearly everyone in the nativity story had their plans upended by the events of Christ's coming. Elizabeth and Zechariah, having given up hope of a child, were surprised to hear that Elizabeth would have a son. While joyful news, it changed everything (not to mention months of Zechariah's muteness!) Mary and Joseph's relationship was changed even as it began. Shepherds, comfortable in the cycles of their work, were shaken by the arrival of angels. They left their responsibilities of caring for their flocks to see a child lying in a manger. Wise men followed a star, not knowing where their travels would end. Simeon and Anna, after years of ministering and waiting, saw the fulfillment of God's promise to them. No one in the story could have predicted the events God laid out for them. Another confession: some of the greatest work God has done in my life was in the times when He upended my carefully, and what I thought were God-ordained, plans. You see, we are called to be available to God at all times, not so stuck to our own plans that we are of no usefulness to Him, too busy, too unavailable. I don't suspect that any of us expected 2020 to look like it did. And no matter what we think 2021 might be, know that God can and will work through it, whether it works out like we planned or not.



BOOK CLUB

will meet on
Monday, January 25th
at 7 pm
This month's book is:
When Silence Sings
by Sarah Loudin Thomas

IN TOUCH...with Jeff

So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness. (Colossians 2:6-7, NIV)

Letting Gratitude Guide Us

When people tell their stories about 2020, everyone will speak from their own viewpoints. These personal perspectives will tell many different facets of what this past year was like for those who experienced it. The tragic deaths of so many, the broken relationships by way of politics or cultural disagreements, and the profound sense of isolation felt by many will help provide future historians very particular assessments on this year that so many hope to soon forget.

I would propose a different idea - the story of 2020 will be written by how we face 2021. When we exit this period of pandemic, will we value our togetherness more than before? If anything is clear from this past year, we are not built for isolation. While I am certainly grateful for the technology and social media which allows us to worship and meet together, it is a shallow substitute for how God intended us to connect with one another. We were built for more.

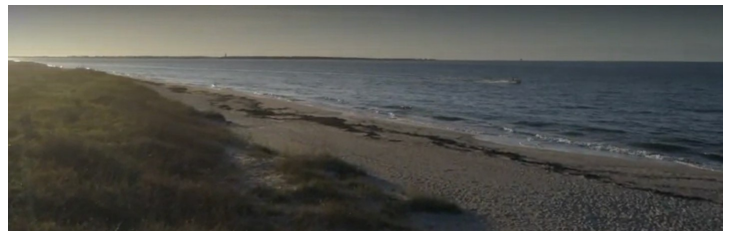
When we exit this pandemic, which will be slow and painstaking, how will we see the world around us? What will we have learned? What, or whom, will we value? What will we do about it? Certainly, there will be new, unknown hurdles in the coming days. But we can face whatever comes tomorrow with the knowledge that we made it through 2020 with God by our side. We must continue to stay "rooted" in our faith in Christ, living out of a sense of gratitude, ready to not waste 2020. If this is how we live, what a story 2021 historians will get to write! I pray that is so.

GUYS GETAWAY 2021

(Fort Caswell, March 5-7)

Come to the coast, be recharged, leave with renewed strength.

We are excited to announce a new event for the men in our congregation. We are heading to the North Carolina coast for a great weekend at Fort Caswell, near Wilmington. Caswell has been the home of life-changing retreats for decades. We will travel to this amazing location for worship, food, and fun of all kinds. Golf, fishing, cornhole, rocking on the front porch – all are possible at our guy's getaway. We invite you to save the first weekend of March for this unforgettable weekend. More details will be announced soon. We know the coronavirus may still have an impact on this trip and it may be shifted to the fall. For now, let's get excited about our Guys Getaway!



Senior Adults & Family Recreation

Gingerbread House Competition

January 27, 2021

6:30pm-8:00pm

Location: Smith Hall or Zoom

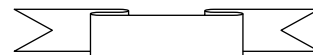
Bring your own supplies. (All supplies must be edible.)



CRISIS CONTROL MINISTRY

Gift for January

~ Beef Stew ~



Items collected in December

- 4 boxes of rice
- 7 boxes of saltine crackers
- 2 boxes of multigrain breakfast bars
- 2 jars of peanut butter

Whatever you do for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you do for me."

Matthew 25:40

In Loving Memory
of
Gerry Hayes

February 16, 1941
to
December 27, 2020

Member of College Park
since
March 2014

In Loving Memory
of
Cherry Parnell

June 26, 1923
to
December 28, 2020

Member of College Park
since
January 1955

STEWARDSHIP OF SERVICE

GREETERS

January 3
Josh Hauser
Jim Pernell

January 10
Russell Talley

January 17
Sarah Hauser
Tony Perkins

January 24
Ken Hatchett

January 31
Dennis Palmer

DEACON OF THE WEEK

January 3
Cathy Chinlund

January 10
Barry Nelson

January 17
Lori Cogdill

January 24
Sarah Talley

January 31
Michael Gruver

PROPERTIES COMMITTEE

January 3
Hutch Hutchison

January 10
Charlie Jones

January 17
Ishmael Stowe

January 24
Michael Gruver

January 31
Josh Hauser

INFORMATION CENTER

Pat Blackwell
Ron Cauble

IN THE HOSPITAL

Our prayers and support are offered to the following members of our church family who are, or have been in the hospital during the last month:

- Joan Gobin**
- Clara Langdon**
- Wayne Lewis**
- Richard Settle**

Christian sympathy is extended to:

- * Carolyn Matthews in the death of her brother and brother-in-law
- * Donna Hinson in the death of her mother
- * the family of Gerry Hayes
- * the family of Cherry Parnell

COLLEGE PARK BAPTIST CHURCH

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www.ReCreation.ws

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Ramon E. Smith, Senior Pastor
Jeff Allen, Assoc. Pastor/ Students & Families
Mary Keltner, Assoc. Pastor/Music & Education
Matt Wilson, Minister/Senior Adults &
 Family Recreation
Charles D. Edwards, Pastor Emeritus

“Jesus, teach us to love as You love, and teach us the meaning of love as Your Word defines it. Help us practice patience and kindness. Remove from us envy and pride, rudeness and selfishness, and the holding of grudges. Teach us to protect one another from harm, to trust each other without cynicism, to hope for one another’s best and to persevere even when we feel like walking away. You have taught us to overcome evil with good; teach us also to overcome hatred and indifference with Your holy, heavenly love.”

ATTENDANCE STATISTICS

	<u>12/6</u>	<u>12/13</u>	<u>12/20</u>	<u>12/27</u>
Re:Creation Worship	45	72	88	66
11:00 Worship	60	64	71	69

STEWARDSHIP OF FINANCES

<u>Budget ~ November 2020</u>	<u>MTD</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Budget	\$74,118.98	\$815,308.76
Receipts	\$49,209.57	\$859,176.96
Expenditures	\$73,626.71	\$783,327.51

<u>Building Fund ~ November 2020</u>		
Beginning Balance	\$66,555.80	\$77,984.27
Receipts	\$4,379.00	\$84,051.23
Expenditures	\$9,074.17	\$100,174.87
Ending Balance	\$61,860.63	\$61,860.63
Loan Balance	\$920,462.69	

Did you know...

you can give online at:

collegeparkbaptist.org

It is a great way to send a memorial or honorarium if you are out of town. You can even set up to give monthly from your checking account so it is automatic—no more envelopes. Or you can use our kiosk to give to the budget, building fund, or pay for camps and events like Wednesday supper.

Did you know we have an Endowment Fund at the Winston-Salem Foundation that helps fund our church missions?

If you have questions about this or are interested in learning more...please call Grace in the church office.