HIGHLIGHTS



There are so many opportunities that come our way, every day, to share how much Jesus means to us! I was reminded of that this past week during an encounter I had with a lady I did not know in Baptist Hospital. I'll spare you the details, but generally people who are staring directly at their own mortality are more responsive to hearing what happens after this life (which Paul refers to simply as "mortality"). We know that life is eternal...the question is where you will spend eternity! And that is where our testimony comes in... Are we faithful to step boldly into the circumstances that God provides for us, and share what a difference Jesus has made in our lives? I know, I know, we've been conditioned to not offend anyone, but let me offer two thoughts on that:

1) The Gospel, by it's very nature, when presented correctly is not offensive ... it is life giving! It is a precious truth of eternity ... treat it as such.

2) Some people, no matter how carefully you present, will be offended by anything and anyone who threatens their self -centric approach to life.

Understand, this is the importance of building relationships that will serve as the foundation for sharing the Gospel, but there are times when opportunities arise where there is no foundational relationship, and yet Christ may call us to share the Reason for our faith! If we are new creations in Christ (and we are), then we should be different from those who are not yet believers. And if the joy of the Lord is evident in our lives, then there will be times when others may want to know the reasons why... Be ready... Be excited for the opportunity!

"The joy of the Lord is your strength."
(Nehemiah 8:10)

Blessings & Peace,
Ramon



THE WORSHIP OF GOD



February 5, 2023 11:00 a.m.

Draw Me Nearer, Blessed Lord
Sanctuary Choir

What's a Salty Christian to Do?

Matthew 5:13-20

Ramon Smith

February 19, 2023 11:00 a.m.

Just A Closer Walk with Thee
Sanctuary Choir

Well, This Is More Like It!!

Matthew 17:1-9

Ramon Smith

February 12, 2023 11:00 a.m.

As Long As I Have Breath Sanctuary Choir

God's Expectations
Psalm 119:1-8
Ramon Smith

February 26, 2023 11:00 a.m.

This Is the Day the Lord Has Made
Sanctuary Choir

The Protestant Confessional Booth Psalm 32

Ramon Smith

Our Mission...

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



The hunger for love is much more difficult to remove than the hunger for bread.

Mother Teresa

Share the love of Christ on Valentine's Day.

FEBRUARY I, 2023 VOLUME 71, NUMBER 2

A NOTE FROM MARY



We don't often talk about Epiphany in the Baptist tradition. Epiphany follows Christmas and is celebrated specifically on January 6th commemorating the visit of the Magi to the Christ Child. While Epiphany is a day and not a season like Advent or Christmas, the Sundays following Epiphany all focus on the revelation of God in Jesus. This non-season focuses on the fact that God reveals Himself to us in many ways, the most important of which is the in the sending of His Son. The focus of these weeks is on Christ's teaching and work. We celebrate the fact that God did not place us on this earth and leave us to figure it out on our own. He has not abandoned us to ourselves and our sinfulness. In sending His Son, He has given us a way to be reconciled to Him. In Christ's life and teaching, God has shown us how to live. It is significant that we approach the coming season of Lent acknowledging the teachings of Christ because in them we are reminded of how terribly we fall short. As we see how He lived and loved, we are woefully aware that our love is not like His. And only in our recognition of how miserably we fail to meet God's expectations can we truly confess our sinfulness, acknowledge our need of Christ, and realize how gracious our God has been in sending a way, The Way, to make a way for us to know Him and be in relationship with Him.



will meet on
Monday, March 6th
at 7 pm
This month's book is:
All the Little Hopes
by Leah Weiss

NC Baptist Singers and Orchestra:

Plan to join College Park as we travel to Elizabeth Baptist Church in Shelby, NC to hear the NC Baptist Singers and Orchestra.



We will travel to Shelby, eat dinner together, and then enjoy a talented group of musicians who are willing to share their amazing gifts. (You might even recognize someone singing with the group!)

Date: Monday, February 27, 2023 The bus will leave the church at 3:00 pm.

A sign-up sheet will be available in the Garden Lobby.

FOCUS ON WMU:

As we focus on WMU in February, may we be reminded that WMU's focus is on making disciples of Jesus who live on mission. We hope to begin sharing a Missions Moment during Sunday services soon to help educate, inspire, and



challenge church members to remember the Great Commission and how God's love is needed. WMU has a rich history of women who sacrificed time, talents, and resources to create WMU. Let's focus on ways God is changing lives through missions discipleship opportunities provided by WMU.

ATTENTION ALL YOUTH!!! YOUTH CAMP AT GARDEN CITY

Mark your calendars for July 10th — 14th for our Garden City Youth Camp. More details will be provided as we begin to plan for this life changing week at the beach.



CRISIS CON†ROL MINISTRY

Gift for February

~ Instant Potatoes ~

Items collected in January: 11 boxes of crackers 46 cans soup

Whatever you do for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you do for me." Matthew 25:40

Benior Adults & Family Recreation

College Parkers

February 16th @ 11:30 am

Entertainment

Sound Counsel Barbershop Quartet



Sign up at the Welcome Desk



Join us for a day-time

Grub Club February 27th 11:30 am



Super Bowl Party

Feb 12th ... 6:00 pm

Bring your Favorite
Tailgating Dish to Share!







Friday, April 14th
Sign up in the Garden Lobby

IN APPRECIATION:

A note of appreciation has been received from:

* Nancy Hurst

IN THE HOSPITAL

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

Bill Guest Coleman Hastings Nancy Hurst In Loving Memory of

Frances Williams

November 2, 1939

to

January 11, 2023

Regular Attendee of College Park since

November 2018

COLLEGE PARK BAPTIST CHURCH

1701 Polo Road Winston-Salem, NC 27106 Phone 336-768-5870 Web Site: www.collegepark.ws Ramon E. Smith, Senior Pastor Mary Keltner, Assoc. Pastor/Music & Education Matt Wilson, Minister/Senior Adults & Family Recreation Charles D. Edwards, Pastor Emeritus

WITH APPRECIATION ... DONATION ANNOUNCEMENT:

Did you hear the good news? We had a generous couple leave College Park Baptist Church in their estate. While their estate is settling, College Park has already received \$225,000 as a donation in December and may receive another portion once everything is complete. Have you planned out your estate giving yet or made a commitment this year to be more intentional about your giving back to God? Have you included College Park Baptist Church in your estate plan? We hope you will consider it and make plans to help give back just like this couple did. This donation will help us replace critical savings that can help fund projects like our sanctuary window replacement and our boiler replacement that we were able to do in 2022. The church is grateful for this timely gift.

2022 Offering for International Missions

\$20,307.56 was given for International Missions! Our churchwide goal was exceeded and our offerings will help send and support missionaries to be steadfastly present among those who have never heard the gospel and do not know the love of Christ. Thanks be to God!

Heck Jones Offering:

Our Goal: \$1,500.00

N. C. Retirement **Homes Offering:**

Our Goal: \$2,000.00

STEWARDSHIP OF SERVICE

DEACON OF THE WEEK

February 5 February 12 Nancy Hurst Ken Hatchett

February 19 February 26 Garry Crist Jim Pernell

Qualified Charitable Distribution: Is a Qualified Charitable Distribution right for you? If you are over 70½, a QCD may be a tax savings vehicle for you. QCD's must go directly to the charitable organization in order to get the tax benefit. Contact Grace Hodge or your financial advisor if you wish to take advantage of giving a QCD to College Park.

GREETERS

February 5 February 12 Jeff Stultz Dennis Palmer

February 19 February 26 **Tony Perkins** Sarah Hauser

ATTENDANCE STATISTICS

<u>1/</u>8 1/29 1/1 1/15 Re:Creation Worship 82 63 65 79 11:00 Worship 130 124 104 115 114

INFORMATION CENTER

June Crabbe

R. J. Westphal

PROPERTIES COMMITTEE

February 5 February 12 Rod Hughes Ishmael Stowe

February 19 February 26 Lee Hinesley Chris Sostaita

STEWARDSHIP OF FINANCES

Budget ~ December 2022	MTD	<u>YTD</u>
Budget	\$82,385.13	\$988,621.60
Receipts	\$88,875.99	\$895,205.15
Expenditures	\$78,029.36	\$917,293.97

Building Fund ~ December 2022

Beginning Balance	\$74,010.01	\$93,075.35
Receipts	\$6,441.60	\$154,007.29
Expenditures	\$9,609.98	\$185,819.76
Ending Balance	\$70,841.63	\$61,262.88

Loan Balance \$811,398.73