Central Baptist Church

May 2016



CBC Courier

Pastor's Pen

Eph. 5:19, 20 "Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord, ALWAYS giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ."

Dear CBC Family,

Maybe this Pastor's Pen **may** move you and I to offer gratitude to God and all people more during this month of **May**. Will we, together offer God a portion of the unconditional love back to God, He freely gives us, with voiced thankfulness and through our actions? *I believe at CBC we do this well, however one can never overdo this easy yet monumental gift. Johannes Gaertner says, "To speak gratitude is courteous and pleasant, to enact gratitude is generous and noble, but to live gratitude is to touch Heaven."* I for one am so appreciative and thankful to God for the opportunity to pastor such wonderful people in such a serene setting.

When we lift our hearts to God for guidance, strength, peace, love or any other request through prayer, may we first begin with our own sense of gratitude and thankfulness at God's prominence in our lives and in the world.

Let us be ever mindful to offer our appreciation even during times of change and the unknowns we all face. How can we do this? First we know that God is faithful. We can trust that God will be faithful to us through our times of change and trial. And God wants the best for us showering His steadfast love on each of His creations. With loving thanksgiving we discover again the powerful Breath of the Spirit, igniting our hearts to bring us and the church to new life.

We witness newness of life sprouting all around us as we enter the month of May. Let us pray as a church family to embrace the love God provides and allow it to sprout acts of kindness to all people and all creatures in which we share this world.

I find it fascinating and captivating to find benevolence and goodness in unexpected places. Often, when we least expect it, we are given a gift of welcome or warmth in surprising places especially when it is unanticipated. When you and I encounter these

unforeseen gifts, lift your heart to Jesus in thankfulness and then pay forward that gift to another or several others.

I close this note with this cute photo and saying. I spent hours with my children growing up with Winnie the Pooh. I place it here because to me it speaks from the heart in a genuine way. Oh, if we all had a little bit of Pooh in our hearts and minds!!

I pray this month of May is filled with love, health and appreciation for all our blessings.

In Christ's love, Pastor



CBC May Forums

Sunday, May 15th -11:30 a.m. in Clarke Hall

Detective Derek Carlino, representing the Jamestown Police Department, will provide many aspects of their services that help keep the elderly safe.

Sunday, May 22nd -11:30 a.m. in Clarke Hall

Dr. Carla Vaccaro, M.D., of the Jamestown Family Practice will share her knowledge of how all of us can have the most informative and satisfactory visit with the doctor, and why it is important to have a general practitioner.

Ladies' Breakfast

Ladies Breakfast will be held on Thursday, May $5^{\rm th}$ at 9 a.m. at Slice of Heaven. All CBC ladies welcome!

CBC Annual Meeting

Our annual meeting is scheduled to begin at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday, May 15. Join us to hear reports about our congregation's work during the past year, elect leaders for the new year, and consider our annual church budget

Financial Peace University Class

Classes will be held in Clarke Hall from 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm Tuesday nights running thru to June 14. This 9-week class taught by money expert Dave Ramsey can change your financial story in a matter of weeks-and your family tree for generations to come. If you would like to take control of your money, this is the course for you. It's \$99 per household. You can sign up at daveramsey.com/findaclass or class material can be purchased from CBC by calling <u>Dave Dolce 401-374-2858</u>.

CBC Walking Party

CBC Walking Party meets Tuesday and Thursday mornings at 8 a.m. in Clarke Hall. The group is led by Kathy Merrill, MariBeth Traer, and Todd Merrill. The Party is open to members and non-members, so please come try it out and bring a friend! For questions, please contact Maribeth Traer, 423-9199.

June Festival

Saturday, June 18 9:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

CBC's largest fundraising event of the year is just around the corner. Here are some ways you can help.

Volunteer

Volunteer to work at the festival by signing up on the poster in Clarke Hall. Recruit others to work with you.

Donate Items

Begin to clear out your clutter and encourage neighbors and friends to do the same. We hope to receive donations of the following items for the sale:

- gently used household & garden items toys & games
- small wood & wicker furniture
 marine & boating items

- jewelry & vintage items
 artwork & decorative items
 small rugs & appliances

(We are *unable* to accept televisions, computers, upholstered furniture, large appliances, or entertainment centers.)

If you need help transporting items to the church, please call David Dolce at 374-2858.

Spread the Word

Post *Clear Out the Clutter* flyers in the community. (Copies are available in the church parlor.) Spread the word about our Saturday morning (9:00 a.m.-noon) donation dropoff dates: May 28, June 4, and June 11.

Get Silent Auction Items

Ask stores, salons, restaurants, and other businesses you frequent for items or gift certificates for the silent auction. A letter is available for you to present when you request an item. Also consider donating never-opened/never-returned gift items you may have.

Bake Goodies

Bake and freeze your favorite goodies for the bake sale.

Pot Plants

Pot thinned plants from your garden, and save them for the garden center.

We Noticed Some Nice Things Happening at CBC

Many thanks to:

All the board members who rotated off their committees. Your time commitment and energy was most appreciated.

Everyone who decided to join a board your interest and support are most necessary to the healthy workings of CBC. Thank you!

April's coffee coverage went well thanks to the choir and everyone who assisted with that. There was plenty of great food!

The Elderly Umbrella series for April went well with just a few hitches. Thanks to the board of Christian Ed. and the speakers for the follow thru with this project. There will be 3 more forums in May.

If you see someone "doing something nice for CBC". Please call Arlene at 401-423-1002 or by e-mail to arlenelabua123@vahoo.com. Your input is always appreciated...Thanks!!

Central Baptist Church

A church with open doors

A congregation with open minds A community with open hearts

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