**Central Baptist Church**

 **October 2016**

 **CBC Courier**

**Pastor’s Pen**

 

***One of those days Jesus went out to a mountainside to pray, and spent the night praying to God. ~ Luke 6:12***

Dear CBC family,

As October ushers in changing weather and the color of leaves, I also find CBC with a few changes taking place. The Church looks white and bright with a bleach cleaning and large bushes and trees trimmed. Deacons have eased us into the fall from the slowdown of summer months and welcoming new guests into Sunday worship. Our choir sounds as terrific as ever. The Dugout committee is working hard with plans for our downstairs kitchen and hall with updates forthcoming. C.E. is doing great work with Sunday School and adult studies and discussions. Shepherds, our invisible angels, never seem to miss someone who could use a visit or meal. A huge thank you to the Brown family as we will soon have a new church sign beautifully welcoming all who pass by. Yes changes and good things happening!!

 This may not be a change for us but I would like to suggest that we, as a congregation, start something new this month. Again, it may not be new to everyone. My idea is that each of us takes a few minutes out of our busy lives to pray for one another each day. It can be morning or evening or some other convenient time in your day. Yet I invite each of us to take a short, “prayer break”, similar to what many of us do during the day with a coffee break. Now since I am one who must have my morning coffee, I am not advocating, ‘instead of a coffee break’ but just adding a few minutes to take some time alone, in a quiet, serene place in conversation with God. Remember it is a dialogue so take the time to hear God answer you. Your prayer may consist of petitions, or simply listening for God speaking directly to your heart. Now, if you are like me, sometimes I ramble on hoping God will not close His ears to my words. These are occasions when I need to get more off my chest than other times. Sometimes though it may be simply peaceful silence. It might take place in the solitude of my study at work or home, my bedroom on bended knee, while running or some other activity or venue where I can feel God’s presence and shut out the noisiness of my world.

***"Pray without ceasing." ~ 1 Thessalonians 5:17***

When we take time to grab a cup of coffee it is usually a time when we need a break, a ‘pick me up’ or a chance to make that phone call or talk with a colleague. A prayer break is very similar in that we may be struggling with our work or some nagging problem and that alone time focused solely on God in conversation or silence may be just the key to bring us some answers or simply put a smile on our face; to help us get through the rest of the day.

***"There is not in the world a kind of life more sweet and delightful than that of a continual conversation with God." ~ Brother Lawrence***

 By the time we have reached for that second or third cup of java, we have a pretty good idea of how our day **is** going. A prayer break will help relax, enlighten or give you a few minutes of rest to calm your mind. You may even want to initiate or recruit others to join you. May this time of prayer allow you to discover a new way to ‘renew’ yourself. The gift of prayer for others may unknowingly and mysteriously help renew them as well!

Yours in Christ,

*Pastor Kurt*

**Communion Sunday Collection**

For our communion collection, Sunday, October 2nd we will be collecting grocery items to donate to the Jamestown Food Bank. The lack of food continues to be a serious problem for many in our community.

**Ladies’ Breakfast**

Ladies Breakfast will be held on Thursday, October 6th at 9 a.m. at Slice of Heaven.

All CBC ladies welcome!

**World Mission Offering**
*“Celebrating New Life in Christ: On Earth as in Heaven”* is the theme for this year's World Mission Offering, which we will collect on October 9th. This offering supports the American Baptist International Ministries' work in Cuba, where there is a great and surprising spiritual awakening that is happening in their countries Baptist Churches.

**CBC Forum**

As there was considerable interest in *"MIRACLES"* among the church family, Kurt would like to extend an invitation to a Pot Luck Luncheon on Sunday morning at 11:00 a.m. in Clarke Hall on October 16th. Kurt will lead the discussion, but would like the participants to bring their miracle story, so please come and enjoy hearing and sharing our lunch and unique tales. Questions can be directed to the Christian Education Committee: Kathy Merrill, Elizabeth Richter, and Arlene Labua.

**Bible Study**

Come join us for Bible/Adult Study on Mondays at 9:45 a.m. Enjoy a cup of coffee, tea & good company. The first six weeks we will be reading *“The Cup of Our Life”* by Joyce Rupp. She is the bestselling writer today, Joyce illustrates how the ordinary cups used each day can become sacred vessels that connect readers with life and bring them into closer union with the Divine. She explores how the cup is a rich symbol of life, with its emptiness and fullness, its brokenness and flaws, and it’s many blessings.  You may purchase the book from the church for $12.99. **\**\*\*****There will be no bible study on Columbus Day.*

**Financial Peace University**

Do you struggle with debt?  Learn how to take control of your money and get it working for you. Financial Peace University is offering a class from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Wednesday evenings through November 16th, at Central Baptist Church. Cost is $99 per household (Assistance is available).  Register on-line at daveramsey.com/findaclass or call Dave Dolce 401-374-2858. Also, call Dave with any questions or concerns.

**Warm Coats, Warm Hearts Coat Drive**

If you or anyone you know is interested in donating coats, hats, mittens, scarfs and possibly winter boots for people who are in need. Please contact Jean Britton 423-0470 or the church office 423-1651.

**CBC Walking Party**

Please join us as we walk to up-beat music in Clarke Hall on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:00a.m. to approximately 8:45a.m.  We do a warm-up, walk a couple miles, do a cool down, then a few floor exercises to tone arms, legs, abs, chest and back.  We are a fun bunch! Collectively, we’ve walked thousands of miles together!  Please join us!  Questions?  Contact MariBeth Traer or Kathy Merrill.

**Military Mission Month**

For the month of November we will be collecting items for care packages for the women and men in the military. We would like to have the packages sent before Thanksgiving. Please stay tuned for more information.

**Christian Education Topics**

As we begin this church year, the Christian Education Board would like to hear from you if you have ideas of topics you would like to have covered in Forums or classes, but also if there are topics you would like to lead/teach!  Please contact a C.E. Board member on either of these: Elizabeth Richter, Arlene LaBua, Kathy Merrill or Kurt Satherlie.

**Loving Sunday School Teachers Wanted!**

Very big thanks to Nancy Lush, Karen Lemke and Marilyn Rodriguez, who have signed up to teach Sunday School for the month of October!  We are still seeking teachers for subsequent months of the church year, asking for a pair of people to sign up for a month of Sundays.  If you want to make a commitment to just a few Sundays, please still let us know because there is always a need for substitute teachers, too, due to illness or other reasons.  Please see Kathy Merrill or Elizabeth Richter.

**Free CBC Gym Membership!**

CBC has its own gymnasium with aerobics, strength training and stretching programs.  It is open Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8a.m.-9a.m. in Clarke Hall.  Membership is FREE!  Join the dozens who have tried it and are healthier today because of it!  Also, seeking gym program facilitator for evening classes.  Please see MariBeth Traer or Kathy Merrill.

**Look Who Has Been Doing Things Happening at CBC**

Many thanks to:

The Fall Missions Day held at CBC on September 19th was a great day of sharing and was very well attended.  Ellen Greene., Elizabeth Richter, and Pastor Kurt did an excellent job serving as committee members. Also involved in the organization that day were Evelyn Parker, Karen Lemke, Peggy Burse, Susanne Vieira., Morna Bucklin, Marilyn Rodriguez and Arlene LaBua.  They assisted working in the kitchen, as greeters, and traffic control.  Kathy Merrill was in charge of the fun music for the day.  And let's not forget all the bakers who provided breakfast break foods and dessert items for lunch.  We will have many selections for treats for coffee hour in the weeks to come!

Speaking of food (which we seem to do a lot of at CBC) thanks to all who provided coffee hour goodies over the past 5 months. Those people were Sue Tiskus and Cheryl Grelle, the deacon’s board, Pam Carr., John and Pam Bush., Patti Pereira and Lynda King, Kathy and Todd Merrill, Deb Murphy., Jill and Dave Dolce, Deb Nordstrom., John Andrews., Cheryl and John Page, the board of C.E., the choir, and the pastoral review board. If I neglected to mention you please let me know.

Kathy &Todd Merrill, Elizabeth Richter and Pastor Kurt worked extra hard with the preparation and the presentation of this year’s Sunday School plan. Your efforts are appreciated. And an extra special thanks to all the people who have stepped up and volunteered to teach Sunday School and cover the nursery. The Board of C. E. cannot express how grateful they are.  It is so wonderful to see children coming in thru the doors at CBC.

The outside of the church looks just wonderful thanks to the Board of Trustees hiring a cleaning company to wash the siding.  Also noted was the trimming of some of the shrubs. We will be in great shape for our new sign!

What beautiful new table clothes we have, all matching I might add. Marilyn Rodriguez did a professional job making them all.  Many thanks to you Marilyn.

Welcome back to the choir members after the summer break. Oh how we have missed your music!

If you have something or someone you would like to have mentioned. Please call Arlene at 401-423-1002 or by e-mail to arlenelabua123@yahoo.com. . I have been away from church for a while and am still attempting to catch up with everyone.  …Thanks!!

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**Central Baptist Church**
*A church with open doors A congregation with open minds A community with open hearts*

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 **Pastor Administrative Assistant Organist & Choir Director Custodians**
 Kurt Satherlie Tanya Crowley Norman Newberry John & Jim Page