



THE STEEPLE

Fayetteville Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church
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NOVEMBER - 2017

Bryan Bult – Pastor



Friends,

What an encouragement it was to go on my second Palmer Home trip last week with our men's work team. The trip taught me a few lessons I'd like to share.

Iron Sharpens Iron

As the writer of Proverbs tells us, as iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another. I appreciate the opportunity to fellowship and study the Bible with other men (at men's breakfasts) and also to get my hands dirty with working on a common project (like Palmer Home work trips or local projects). These opportunities not only help me improve my handyman skills (which my wife likes), but also affords me unique opportunities to minister to and be ministered to by other men. I am a stronger man for it.

Christ unifies

Diversity

I noticed, while surveying the bus on the way to Columbus, Mississippi, that our work crew is a fairly diverse and eclectic bunch. We have varied interests, abilities, and backgrounds. Yet I was equally struck by how little



any of that matters. We share a common brotherhood in Christ, an unspoken but powerful camaraderie. And that is a beautiful thing.



Love Must Be Tough

Palmer Home is doing amazing things with relatively few resources in the lives of children. Part of the reason is that they provide structure, discipline, and firmness for kids that don't get it anywhere else. Children at Palmer home learn life

lessons about hard work and responsibility that they will live out the rest of their lives. The Lord loves us the same way, not by indulging us but by strengthening us through struggle and adversity.

The Body of Christ is a family

What makes Palmer Home work, more than any other factor, is the "house parents" that are called to live with, love, and disciple the children under their care. Troubled kids thrive in this environment. Pray that the Lord will raise up more of these house parents. They remind us of how our loving Heavenly Father adopts spiritual orphans like us into his family and treats us as his very own. What makes the church work is a



lot of people called out of the world to commit and be accountable to one another as we do life together. Everyone needs a spiritual family.

I am thankful for our congregation's opportunity to play a small part in the ministry of Palmer Home, and for other service opportunities like it. They have much to teach us.

Because of Christ's Love,

Bryan



NOVEMBER FLOWER COMMITTEE –

Ó give thanks unto the Lord for HE is good; HIS love endures forever. (Psalm 107:1)

Lynn Craig – Chairwoman

Teresa Brown, Janie Craig, Chanda Tallman,
Clara Taylor, Meredith Taylor, Peggy Thompson

ADVENTURES WITH TITUS 2 –

(Rebecca Parker)

Titus 2 ladies met on October 17th for a tour of the Amish Community outside of Lawrenceburg. It was a cool, crisp sunny fall day and perfect for the horse-drawn wagon tour of several producing farms in the community. We saw molasses being made, wood-working shops, woven baskets and lots of canned and baked goods.

A distinguishing Amish belief is separation, as seen in their desire to live separate from society. Families are large; 12 children are normal and some families have as many as 17



children. The children all work with their parents and are not distracted with toys, games or any electronic gadgets. Amish homes do not draw power from the electrical grid. They feel that would excessively connect them to the world. Their lives are simple and one cannot

help but respect them for their strong convictions and ability to live what they believe.

Titus 2 will not meet in November. Instead we are asking all ladies to participate in the Host of Christmas Past Bake Sale by either baking or helping to pack the goods and sell on Saturday November 11th.

Our December meeting will be December 15th. We will deliver baked goods to those in our church family that need some special attention. So, when you bake for Host of Christmas Past, please bake and freeze something extra to deliver on Dec. 15. More information will be sent via email.



MUSICAL NOTES –

(Joe Stephenson)

It's hard to believe but all of our choirs are already hard at work on music for the Christmas Season.

On Dec. 10th, after a Church luncheon our children's choirs will present our annual Christmas Pageant. All of our children will either act out a part or read scripture for the Pageant. The children are busy right now learning the traditional Christmas Carols as well as some beautiful anthems. Be sure to plan to be there.



On Sunday Dec. 3rd at 7PM our Adult Choir and friends will present the Christmas portion of *Messiah* by Handel. We will be joined by a string orchestra, organ and harpsichord. *Messiah* is one of our favorites. It is full of all the well-known selections including the "Hallelujah" chorus.

This year as a special treat we will also be presenting the Easter Portion of *Messiah* in the spring. So in one year you have the opportunity to hear almost all this immortal work which is one of the most well-known religious works in history.

Many stories abound concerning this work, from the fact that Handel completed the musical score of 259 pages of music in only 24 days, to the story that we stand for the "Hallelujah" chorus because King George II was so moved when first hearing it performed at its London premier in 1743 that he stood. Since there is no documentation that the king even attended this premier, I fear the story remains just that – a story. However, you may stand if you are so moved.



What we know for sure is that the work was a turning point in Handel's career. And we know that while Handel wrote the music, he did not write the words to this piece. That honor belongs to Charles Jennens. The idea for *Messiah* was his. He compiled the libretto (the words to a long musical composition) and offered it to Handel. Jennens himself described the work as being on a subject that "excels every other Subject. The Subject is Messiah." Jennens was a devout Protestant and believed in the fundamental truths and Divine inspiration of the Bible. He saw that in his own day, changes in culture and social mores was weakening the authority of Scripture. With words taken directly from the Bible, Jennen's work is a declaration of faith. *Messiah* remains one of the most memorable vehicles for communicating the essentials of Christian doctrine – that Jesus was the Messiah prophesied in the Old Testament through whom God offered salvation to mankind.

Please join us on December 3rd in a time-honored tradition of ushering in the season of Advent with a presentation of this memorable work.



NOVEMBER BIBLE STUDY –

November 8 – Maggie Kidd Circle will meet at 1:00 pm at the church.

November 15 – Donna Sumners will host Joy Circle at her home at 6:30 pm.

WM CHRISTMAS PARTY-

This year's Christmas party will be held on December 1 at 6:30 in the fellowship hall at the Church. All women are invited and encouraged to join us for good food and fellowship. This year Connie Powelson will give a brief introduction and slide show of pictures that she and Bill took on their visit with Rachel in Thailand earlier this year. We were hoping that Rachel would be able to join us this year at our Christmas party, but it will be February before she will be home. However, Rachel and her good friend Ester will be able to skype with us at our Christmas party and share with us their experiences and the needs of the Burmese school and children. We know that Rachel has been working hard on her thesis, a long research paper that she has to submit before she can graduate, so let's continue to keep her in our prayers.

Please call Becky Hall at 931-937-6951, or send an email to eddiehall458@gmail.com if you plan to attend so we can get a head count for the meal.

Hope to see you there.



HOST OF CHRISTMAS PAST BAKE SALE –

Once again our church will have a bake sale booth for Host of Christmas Past – November 10 and 11. Our booth is at Bagley & Bagley Insurance office. There are so many ways you may help with this project:

1. Contribute baked goods to the sale. Items that are popular are pies (chess pies, pecan pies, fudge pies), cakes (caramel cakes, pound cakes), breads (Pumpkin bread, banana bread, sourdough bread), cookie bars, mini s'mores, peppermint bark Oreos, cupcakes, and apple desserts.

(Be sure to indicate price you think your items should sell for.)

2. Meet at the church at 9 am on Friday (Nov 10th) to help wrap and ready the bake items and transport to ARP booth.

3. Sign up to work at the booth during Host.

Please email Donna Sumners at dokasu79@yahoo.com to schedule your time.



GOD'S NOT THROUGH WITH US YET!

(Teresa Brown)

What do these two ladies have in common? Kay Daniel on the left just survived 225 mph hurricane. Meanwhile Sandy on the right survived a stroke and returned to work and all her busy social events. Both ladies are survivors and have a new perspective on life.

Sandy Gates, a longtime member of ARP Church, suffered a stroke just a few weeks ago. Sandy says, "God puts the people in your path at the exact right time." Ashley, Sandy's daughter, came for dinner an hour early that particular day. Brook was already at the house. They heard their mom hit the floor. When they saw their mother they knew she had suffered a stroke. An ambulance was called and Sandy received life-altering drug that reversed the effects of her stroke. Sandy says, "I know wherever this path takes



me is where God wants me to be." Sandy is asking her friends to pray for her and to remember her on this journey.

Kay Daniel, pictured on the left, is a member of First Baptist Church. Kay Daniel, a retired teacher, and her husband Jimmy, a retired dentist survived Hurricane Irma on the island of St. Maarten. Lincoln County started a network of prayer warriors for Jimmy and Kay. Kay said, "The body of Christ is absolutely incredible. We've been so blessed by the support and encouragement we have received. We had a network of people trying to get us home. The people of St. Maarten became desperate as their island was destroyed by the hurricane." A C130 plane airlifted Kay and Jimmy Daniels along with their travel companions, Jack and Sarah Raby, to Puerto Rico. God's Grace covered these two families. Though terrified for days on end, they witnessed God's hand in bringing them back home where they were reunited with loved ones in Huntsville. Kay says, "God spared our lives and gave us a second chance at life." The families are grateful for the resourcefulness of their children in getting their parents home safely. God made a way and had a perfect plan all along. Once the two families returned home safely they found out about the prayer network at work during their darkest moments.

Both stories are very different but have a central theme. God is not yet through with Kay Daniels or Sandy Gates!

NOVEMBER VOLUNTEERS –

Children's Church:

5 – Lance and Lela Gracy
12 – Michelle Bult
19 – Chanda Tallman
26 – Catherine Bartlett

Toddler Class:

5 – Jane Beech and
Christine Sullivan
12 – Stephany Wingard
19 – Gail Fowler
26 – Abby Underwood

We GLOW Snacks:

1 – Bults
8 – Sharon Martin
15 –Thelens
22 – NO We GLOW ~ Happy
Thanksgiving!
29 – Donna Sumners

Youth Meal :

5 – Bigham Sisters
12 – Moons and Thelens
19 – Patrick and Riddle
26 – No Youth or Choirs ~ Happy
Thanksgiving!

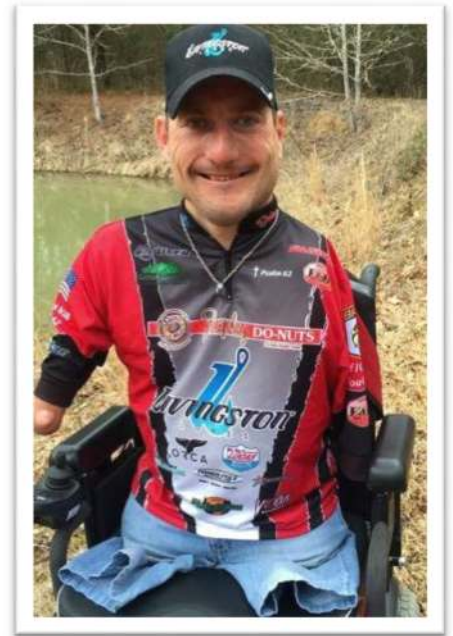


Thanks to all that have already volunteered and to those that will in the future. This is a vital part of the Youth Ministry of our church!! If you would like to volunteer in any of these ministries, please contact Gail Fowler 433-5205 or fayarp@gmail.com.

IF I CAN, YOU CAN!

(David O'Connor)

On November 14th, the Men's Fellowship in combination with the Christian Education Committee is presenting an opportunity to hear an inspirational program by a very special speaker. Clay Dyer, who was born with physical limitations that would defeat most, decided never to allow those limitations to limit him. An example of what God can do with one who chooses to live with a positive outlook and determination, Dyer will speak about his experiences in overcoming the obstacles he faced to become a professional angler who fishes in major tournaments. His television appearances have included ESPN, Fox, CNN, the Outdoor Channel, the 700 Club and CBS. Articles about him have appeared in several publications including USA Today, Newsweek, Bassmaster and more.



While this program is sponsored mainly by the Men's Fellowship, the attendance is not limited to men! All are invited – and we encourage you to invite guests as well. Please join us for a family night supper (please bring sides or desserts to share – enough for your family and guests you might bring) at 6pm on Tuesday, November 14 and stay to hear Clay Dyer speak at 7pm. I think it will be an evening that will be a blessing to you.

HANGING OF THE GREEN –

(Ginny Golden)



There is an old saying: Many hands make light work. That is especially true when it comes to decorating our church for Christmas.

On November 26th, immediately after the worship service we will have a quick luncheon for those who are willing to stay and help. Please bring a soup, Salad, or sandwiches to share.

We hope to begin decorating by 12:45. This is always a fun time of fellowship as we begin preparations for the Christmas season. Please make plans to join us on November 26th.



HOME TOUR –

Each year the Alpha Kappa Club sponsors a Home Tour during the Host of Christmas Past. This year the homes include the Barrett Home on Lees Creek Road, the Hunter Home on Rambo Road, the Blalock Home on Old Railroad Bed Road, the Carter Cabin on Alex Carter Road, and the Caudle Home on Ardmore Highway.

Proceeds from the Home Tour go to the Alpha Kappa Scholarship Fund. The club now supports six students from Lincoln County with scholarships of \$1200 per year for four years.

Tickets are \$15 each in advance and \$20 if purchased the day of the tour. They may be purchased from club members Judy Purinton, Debbie McAlister or Teresa Brown. They may also be purchased from Bagley & Bagley, Ivy Wreath or Carter's Drugs.

PACKING PARTY –

(Kristie McElyea)

All this past year we have been collecting items for Operation Christmas Child. Now it's time to box up these things and send them on their way to brighten Christmas for children in foreign lands and to remind them of the greatest gift, Jesus Christ.





So, you're invited to a Packing Party! Sunday, November 5, after the worship service. Please plan to bring a side dish or dessert to share. WM will provide chicken fingers. We will start packing shoeboxes right after lunch.

Come join us for fun, food and fellowship. There is a job for everyone!



If you have information you would like published in the Steeple, please email Deborah O'Connor at gimletgigi@gmail.com.

November 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <h2>November</h2>			1 Mike Bennett, Bd. Diaconate Meeting @ 7:00pm	2 Shirley Clark, Bd.	3 TNAL Women's Ministries annual meeting at Bethel Church, Oak Hill, AL 3-4	4 Jackie Welch, Bd. Jacob Crabtree, Bd. Martha Tallman, Bd. Book Lovers Day 
 <h3>ALL SAINTS DAY</h3>						
5  DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS Nora Kate Summers, Bd. Katie Eslick, Bd. Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Packing Party	6 Donna Summers, Bd. Jaylyn Crabtree, Bd. Bob & Lynn Chappin, An.	7 Jack Clausing, Bd. 	8 Maggie Kidd Circle 1:00pm Session Meeting @ 7:00pm	9 Shay Ulrich, Bd.	10 Jim & Roberta Kidd, An.	11 Host of Christmas Past Scott Boaz, Bd. Veterans Day 
12 Congregational Meeting Host of Christmas Past 	13 Sadie Hawkins Day 	14 Family Night Supper 6pm Program by Clay Dyer - 7pm Robert Grazy, Bd.	15 We GLOW to deliver OCC Shoeboxes Joy Circle @ 6:30pm Charles Kidd, Bd. Lonnie McKamey, Bd.	16 	17	18 Ed Brooks, Bd.
19 Matthew Allison, Bd. Gideon Speaker - Joint SS - 9:45-10:30 	20 Debbie McAlister, Bd.	21 Don & Gene Templeton, An.	22	23 HAPPY THANKSGIVING 	24 Cheri Fee, Bd. Demetra Hill, Bd.	25
26 Hanging of the Greens 	27	28	29 Jean Tanner, Bd. Andrew Martin, Bd.	30 Gail Meulemans, Bd. Brionne Bigham Towry, Bd. Carolyn Ray, Bd. Janie Craig, Bd. Thomas J. Kidd, Bd.	