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Our Wednesday Bible studies will continue to meet at 1:00pm and 7:00pm. The evening study will be led by Walt Switzer, and will focus on the book of Jude for the next 2 weeks.



During the month of March we will be collecting the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering. Envelopes are in your envelope boxes, and there are extras in the Narthex. One hundred percent of this offering is used to support North American missionaries. Our church goal is \$1000.00

Church office contact information: Secretary • Peggy Utley cvbc@crabtreevalleybaptist.org Office hours: Mon-Thurs, 9am-3pm Music Minister • Christopher Reed music@crabtreevalleybaptist.org Website updates/maintenance: webmaster@crabtreevalleybaptist.org



My takeaway from Dr. Lolley's message this past Sunday:

- •God is a really big God.
- •His plans, His blessings, and His Word are really big.
- •His talent at being 'In-Charge' is really big.
- •He has never given us any of that stuff on our own terms or timetable.
- •So we really ought not try to limit or box Him in.

These reminders are well-timed for us. Seasons of transition usually start with questions that have no apparent answers yet. Certainly we have plenty of those as we now begin seeking God's will for our next pastor.

Throughout the Old Testament, the people of Israel live in a cyclical 'pattern of transition' which they repeat over and over again: 1) they turn from the LORD, 2) He allows them to suffer the consequences of their actions, 3) they repent and turn back to God once the pain is bad enough, and 4) they begin to receive His blessings again. Unfortunately, once they become comfortable, they also become complacent and self-sufficient again - and the pattern starts to repeat itself.

Did that ever happen in your walk with the LORD? It certainly did in mine, and I'm living proof that our God will stop at nothing to bring His children back into His loving care.

The crowd who saw their efforts and actions as their saving grace were the only people for whom Jesus had harsh words. Convinced that they'd cornered the market on God's will, they were complacent and self-sufficient - just like the Israelites. Jesus threatened *every* tradition and ritual they were used to.

What does that have to do with us? Well, if we're honest, most of us have had thoughts like this:

# "I like our church just the way it is. But I'm open to trying some different things, as long as they don't affect me personally."

That's exactly where the enemy of our souls wants each of us. He knows we don't crucify people anymore, but he spurs us on at church, at home, everywhere - to argue and plot and divide against each other if anyone tries to upset the comfort of our personal apple cart. He eggs us on to gossip, which is nothing more than a polite form of murder by character assassination. Not so different, is it?

Let's encourage one another to be on guard each day, reminded that we're constantly in a state of *spiritual* warfare. After all, as Paul writes, our struggle is not against flesh and blood. Let us go forward through this week, and the coming weeks, in the spirit of Christian soldiers, "marching as to war": Weekly Church Calendar EACH SUNDAY \*9:45am Sunday School \*11:00am Worship Service \*Child care provided downstairs. 2:00-7:00pm Kenyan Fellowship **EACH MONDAY:** 9:00am-12:00pm Hope Pantry is open 12:00-1:00pm Beginner Yoga class 1:00-2:00pm Crafting with a Purpose EACH TUESDAY: 6:00-8:00pm Kenyan Fellowship **EACH WEDNESDAY:** 9:00am-12:00pm Hope Pantry is open 6:30pm Children and Youth Mission groups 1:00 and 7:00pm Bible study & Prayer 8:00pm Choir Practice **EACH THURSDAY:** 8:00pm Gamblers Anonymous EACH FRIDAY: 7:00-10:30pm Kenyan Fellowship **MONTHLY:** (4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month) 6:00pm Young Hearts (Senior Adults)

## **Calendar of Events:**

Wednesday, March 11 1:00pm and 7:00pm Bible studies Sunday, March 15 Guest Speaker: Rev. Jerry Helderman Monday, March 16 12:00 Yoga class 1:00pm Crafting class 7:00pm Deacons meeting Wednesday, March 18 1:00pm and 7:00pm Bible studies Sunday, March 22 Business meeting Sunday, March 29 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday – Benevolent offering *Palm Sunday* 

Attendance	<u>3/8</u>
Sunday School	36
Visitors	
Total	36

#### Worship Attendance: 60

Deacon for this week:	3/15	Barbara Best
<b>Deacon for next week:</b>	3/22	Walt Switzer

#### **Greeter Schedule (front entrance)**

3/15 Jim Greene 3/22 Frances Viano

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#### Properties for March 3/15 Steve Wheeler 3/22 David Jenkins 3/29 George Shore

#### Ushers for March Rudy Barden Ben Best Ed Glover Frances Viano

Ed Glover Frances Viano Alternate: Whitt Stallings

#### PRAYER CONCERNS: HOME:

Lee Snyder Ed & Cassie Glover Susan Carden – Frances Viano's daughter Jean Greene Pam Bilbro

### **REHAB & CARE FACILITIES:**

Al Coley – Sunrise at North Hills – Room 286 Wilton Harris – Heritage Woods Ret. Comm. - W-S

#### continued from front

3 For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. 4 The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. 5 We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ. 2 Cor 10:3-6

By His grace alone, may our thoughts be taken captive to the obedience of Christ each day throughout this week. I'll see you Sunday.

In His grip,

Chaist Agent



Many thanks to those who have brought supplies for The Hope Pantry! Some of the items we are still low on are:

Canned soup, green beans, mixed vegetables. Cereal and grits Plastic bottles of apple juice Canned or shelf milk Jelly Canned Ravioli, Spaghetti, etc Travel size toiletries, bar soap, toilet paper



This week: March 8-14 Bill and Johnnie Grubbs Next week: March 15-21 Lee and Iva Snyder Copies of the 2015 "Share the Sonshine" calendar are on the table in the church narthex. Let's Share the Sonshine!