

# CRABTREE VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH



## THE VALLEY ECHO

January 23, 2023

Please mail all correspondence to: P.O. Box 30954, Raleigh, NC 27622

Church location: 4408 Lead Mine Rd Raleigh, NC 27612 Phone: (919) 781-5345

Email: [cvbc@crabtreevalleybaptist.org](mailto:cvbc@crabtreevalleybaptist.org) Website: [www.crabtreevalleybaptist.org](http://www.crabtreevalleybaptist.org)

Church Office hours: Monday-Thursday 9am-3pm (closed on Friday)



### FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 2/1 Ellian Jenkins Buck  
132 Rand Road  
27603
- 2/5 Iva Snyder  
11404 Dunleith Dr  
27614
- 2/14 Catherine Mullins  
Sunrise of Cary – Rm 316  
1206 W. Chatham St  
Cary, NC 27513
- 2/20 Elizabeth Gyori  
2620 Constitution Dr  
27615



### Mercy Instead of Sacrifice

The doctor asked his patient, you seem well. All your vital signs check out good. There is no evidence from all the tests we performed on you that indicate any problems. But you say that you are feeling not yourself and something just isn't right with you? Well, in my opinion, you are a very healthy man and certainly are not sick physically. Why did you come to me, your doctor? Maybe I am the wrong doctor you require?

Outwardly and physically this man appears to be in great shape. What could it be that's bothering him? Financially he has no worries in life. He has a great job and in fact it is a very important position with a large and successful national company. He is so successful, that he just was extended a raise along with a promotion. He sits on many boards of banks and companies. He even heads a few committees at his church. He attends his church regularly and is always there whenever needed, giving of his time and money. What could be bothering him so that he feels physically unwell when his doctor says he is fine? He knows all the right people and is in all the right circles.

Well, you see, the pastor and a newly formed outreach committee is really promoting the church as one that welcomes everyone! It's not just a slogan that sounds good, but everyone is really welcome, no matter what walk of life or journey they may be on. The door is open to everyone. Even those that appear to be undesirable. Beggars, folks that live on the street, divorcees, alcoholics, recently released incarcerated people, even those that are not from America! He's having a very hard time accepting this. Why do we have to associate with these folks he thinks. Isn't it enough that we give them money, provide them food and facilities?

The doctor he needs is Jesus. As Jesus said in our scripture passage from this past Sunday (Matthew 9:10-13), "It is not the healthy that need a doctor, but the sick, For I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners. I desire mercy, not sacrifice." He is quoting from here from Hosea 6:6 and calling the Pharisees out with a very convicting statement. They were supposed to know what this means, and he tells them to "go and learn what it means." What does this mean exactly? Jesus is saying you are to have a forgiving spirit more than legal demands or religious rites. He is after a change in your heart, not for you to just participate in sacrifices of your time and money. He wants to show mercy the way God shows mercy. God shows us undeserved mercy and we are to show that same mercy to others. It is not to just help someone with money if they need it to pay bills or eat. It is not to volunteer to help in a charitable cause, such as in a soup kitchen. These he desires for us to do of course, but it is going one step further beyond your sacrifices. It is to show mercy as he showed mercy. It is to develop relationships of love and care for those you are sacrificing for. Love instead of religion. Mercy instead of sacrifice.

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#### Church office information:

##### Guest Pastor •

Rev. Timothy Pearce

Music Director • Risa Poniros

Secretary • Peggy Utley

Youth Director • Anna Clark

Website updates/maintenance

[webmaster@crabtreevalleybaptist.org](mailto:webmaster@crabtreevalleybaptist.org)

## Weekly Church Calendar

### EACH SUNDAY

9:45am Sunday School  
11:00am Worship Service  
2:00-5:00pm Point Church (Filipino)

### EACH WEDNESDAY

9:00am-12:00pm Hope Pantry is open  
6:30pm Children and Youth Mission groups  
6:30pm Bible study & Prayer meeting

### EACH THURSDAY

7:30pm Gamblers Anonymous

### SECOND & FOURTH TUESDAY

6:30pm Tarheel Toastmasters

### MONTHLY

Young Hearts Fellowship



### **SHARE THE SONSHINE**

Share the Sonshine is an outreach ministry. We can all be a part of this ministry by praying for these individuals, sending cards or making phone calls.

### **Person of the Week for Jan 22-28**

Catherine Mullins – Rm 316  
Sunrise of Cary  
1206 W. Chatham St  
Cary, NC 27513

**Deacon for this week:** 1/15 Barbara Best

**Deacon for next week:** 1/22 Jean Glosson

**Properties for January:** Ben Best



**Together Forever:** Clara Lou Jacobs Lolley, age 90, of The Cypress of Raleigh, died peacefully on January 19, 2023. Following a private, family graveside service, Lou Lolley will be buried next to her beloved husband, Randall, in Alabama, where they both grew up. A service celebrating her life will be held at a future date.

<https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/raleigh-nc/clara-lou-lolley-11113350>

## Prayer Concerns:

### HOME

Betsy Shaw  
Frances Viano  
Sandi Robinson  
Walt Switzer  
Jane Williams  
Jetta Lewis  
Marci Phelps – (friend of Jean Glosson)

### REHAB & CARE FACILITIES:

Anne Barden – Oak Hill Asst Living in Angier  
Catherine Mullins – Sunrise of Cary

### OTHER:

Sonshine Person of the Week  
The Price family – Missionaries in Wales



### **continued: Mercy Instead of Sacrifice**

This is what we as a church are being called to do, to be a doctor to the sick, a hospital welcoming in those in need of healing, not a people of righteous indignation. We as a church are also called to seek of those in need of healing just as Jesus was doing. Just as the physician does not wait until the sick are well before going to them, Jesus did not wait for bad people to become good before ministering to them. Jesus showed there are no walls to separate us between us in the kingdom of God. We are to be inclusive, not exclusive. As Christian author Myron Ausburger wrote “we cannot win sinners to the Lord if we keep ourselves aloof from them.”

This will probably involve you having contact with people that at times may make you uncomfortable. This may require you to spend time with those that the world does not esteem highly. This may even involve you doing some things that the religious elites will frown upon. However, you can be encouraged that when you seek out sinners and bring them to Jesus, you are not only obeying Jesus, but you are modeling Jesus’ own behavior. From what I have witnessed at Crabtree Valley Baptist Church in the short time I have been here, I am godly proud and joy filled to say that we practice love instead of religion. Mercy instead of sacrifice. Blessings, Rev. Tim Pearce



### **5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Benevolent offering Sunday, January 29**

Please come prepared to give to this special offering.

*Remember to note on your check or envelope, Benevolent.*