



Baptist Connection

Newsletter of Berryville Baptist Church
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FEBRUARY 2018



SOUPER BOWL OF CARING!

**SOUPER SUNDAY
FEBRUARY 4th, 2018**

**Worship 9 A.M.
Bible Study 9:45 A.M.
Worship 11 A.M.**

Followed by

**SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY LUNCHEON
TO BENEFIT PUPPET MINISTRY**

Please join our youth group as they demonstrate God's love by loving their neighbors through the ***Souper Bowl of Caring***. It's a simple, yet significant act of caring for others. Take a moment to invite someone to be your guest this Sunday.

Bring your cans of soup on Sunday, February 4th. The soup cans will be donated to FISH to help needy people in our community.

Then after the 11 am service, the Puppet/Youth Group will treat the congregation to a Soup & Sandwich luncheon with a free-will offering. All money collected during the lunch will benefit the Berryville Baptist Rascals and their upcoming mission trip.

Share with God's people who are in need. Practice hospitality. Romans 12:13



I really had several important topics that I wanted to bring to your attention, but they all got pushed away by the flu epidemic. You know how people say frequently, "This hurts my heart"? Thirty children have died so far in this nation from the flu in 2018, many of them very quickly after the diagnosis was made. My heart hurts very badly.

Please be advised that it will take two weeks AFTER you get the flu shot before your body manufactures antibodies to the virus. Also, the effectiveness of the shot this year ranges anywhere from 10-39% depending on which source you believe. One of the strains of the virus- not all of them- is the one that is killing so many adults and children. I encourage everyone to get the shot, and especially those of us over 65 who get the higher dose. One unfortunate detail that an E.R. doc pointed out was that so many Americans are walking around today with their health already compromised by COPD, hypertension, diabetes, etc, that the flu virus takes them out more easily than a healthy person who doesn't have any history. Another reason why we need to take better care of ourselves.

Please, please, PLEASE go to the dr. or the urgent care place if you have any symptoms like fever, cough, muscle aches, generally feeling crummy. Don't wait till you get short of breath or your family members say that you are acting squirrely. Some people who have waited too long have ended up on respirators. They can do a quick flu swab in the E.R. and start you on the Tamiflu right away, if necessary. PLEASE stay home and don't go to work or to school if you have been diagnosed. Another frightening detail I saw on the news was that if a sick person even breathes too close to a healthy person the virus can be spread. (This reminds me of the Spanish flu, which shut down whole towns last century). Please remember to wash your hands frequently, cough or sneeze into your elbow, and drink the fluids, unless you are on a dr.- ordered fluid restriction. Also please restrict the hugging, hand-shaking and kissing.

One more request from your faith community nurse: Please honor the restricted visiting hours posted by the hospital. If you get sick, you could kill somebody else. Yes, I am serious. When you do go to visit your loved one, please don't take up the doctor or nurse's time with stories about the old days. Nobody needs to hear how your great aunt Ethel beat the flu with a couple of shots of Jack Daniel's. Limit your conversation to what can you do to help, and how soon can your loved one come home. Then, get out of Dodge.

Judy Melton, R.N., F.C.N.
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BAPTIST RASCALS

WELCOME BACK TO PRACTICE! WE ARE STARTING ANOTHER EXCITING YEAR OF PUPPETS. WELCOME TO ALI PARKER AS A NEW MEMBER. WE WILL ALSO BE MEETING WITH THE YOUTH AND LEADERSHIP FROM CRUMS UMC IN AN EFFORT TO FORM A WORKING RELATIONSHIP WITH THEIR YOUNG PEOPLE.

WE HOPE TO SHARE A PROGRAM AT THE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL IN DC SOON AND AT THIS TIME WILL CONTINUE PRACTICES ON EVERY OTHER SUNDAY AT 4.

MISSION 2018

THIS YEAR WE WILL RETURN TO A WELL KNOWN AREA.....ROANOKE. WE WILL PLAN TO LEAVE ON FRIDAY, JULY 27 AND RETURN ON AUGUST 4 WITH YOUTH SUNDAY ON THE 5TH IF THAT IS APPROVED.

THE TEAM HAS LODGING AT WARD HAVEN, THE BAPTIST CAMPGROUND IN SALEM, VIRGINIA.

AT THIS TIME OUR SCHEDULE WILL INCLUDE PROGRAMS WITH THE VETERANS, THE SHELTERS AT ROANOKE, A NURSING HOME FOR ARTS AND CRAFTS, A VETERANS FOOD DISTRIBUTION CENTER AND HELP WITH HOUSING. I HOPE TO ARRANGE A VBS AT A HISPANIC CHURCH. MUCH OF THE PROGRAM IS KNOWN TO THE YOUNG PEOPLE SINCE WE HAVE BEEN IN THE AREA SEVERAL TIMES OVER THE YEARS.



2018 CAN YOU GIVE ONE DAY?



One Day Can Mean So Much

"OPERATION INASMUCH" is a one day mission blitz in our own community. The biblical motive for this mission is Matthew 25:40, ". . . *truly I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters, you did it to me*". Berryville Baptists will go into the community to apply God's love to those in need of hope and care. Everyone is needed, no matter your age. It is:

- A day devoted to helping people at their points of need
- Reaching out to strangers in Christian love and understanding
- Fostering harmony through working together
- Providing a surge in spiritual growth
- Establishing a mission field in our own backyard
- Accepting the Great Commission
- Strengthening Christian fellowship
- Discovering how one's own personal gifts can be used in mission work

Planning for 2018 has begun. Save the date: SATURDAY, APRIL 21st so you can be a part of one of our Teams. Watch and listen carefully for upcoming announcements as we move forward to do God's work.

CHEMO GRANNY The Faithful Followers Adult Sunday School Class is again sponsoring a "Chemo Granny" tree during the month of February. A tree will be located in the social room to place your donation of yarns of various colors. The yarn will be donated to the volunteer organization, "Chemo Granny", to crochet or knit hats for those undergoing chemotherapy. If you crochet or knit, you may wish to donate a handmade hat in lieu of the yarn. Thank you for your support.

SOUL-FUL DINNER December 28th found Berryville Baptist Church preparing, and serving a delicious lasagna dinner for the Soul-Ful Community Dinner. The Soul-Ful Community Dinner is held on the last Thursday of every month at Duncan Memorial Church. This dinner is sponsored by different churches in the Clarke County Community who prepare and serve the meal. Many thanks to all of our church members who participated. We served over eighty people and the evening was enjoyed by all.

WINCHESTER AREA TEMPORARY THERMAL SHELTER Once again, Berryville Baptist Church participated in the local W.A.T.T.S. program. Clarke County hosted 35 men and women for one week at the Ruritan building. The men and women had warm shelter for the week nights and local churches prepared meals, provided clothes, toiletries and fellowship.



Lenten
Mid-Week
Services

Ash Wednesday - February 14th

Noon service at Grace Episcopal Church / 7:30 pm at St. Mary's Church

Holy Communion & Imposition of Ashes

LENT

Each Wednesday in Lent, there will be a Service of Noonday Office at Grace Episcopal Church with guest clergy from local churches.

LENTEN LUNCHESES WILL FOLLOW WEDNESDAY SERVICE EACH WEEK IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL AT GRACE (except Ash Wednesday)



We are planning a Music Sunday on February 18th during the 11 AM Worship Service. The adult choir, handbell choir, and many other musicians will be taking part in this service. There will also be time for a few of your favorite hymns. Please join us as we worship God through music.

There will be no 9 AM Early Service

BETWEEN CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR

In front of the bank on Church Street we passed. Strangers in a somewhat small town. Our eyes met. The greeting was shared. Happy New Year. It was her reply that caught me off guard, "It can't be any worse than this past year." With a loss as to what to say, we passed on by. Conversation over.

Happy New Year, and she responded "It can't be any worse than this past year." That night the brief encounter of only a few seconds stayed with me. Her words rolled over and over in my mind as I tried to fall asleep.

I can hardly remember her appearance and would be hard pressed to pick her out of a line-up. Not young, nor was she old. Not looking for a hand out, nor was she dressed to impress. This I remember, "It can't be any worse than this past year." A momentary pause. A loss for words.

It was between Christmas and New Year. On a rational level we know each day is not different from January 1st. It's simply a marker. We flip over our calendar. Transfer dates onto our new one and tape it to the side of the fridge. Each day is no different from another. Of course they vary according to the dictates of our schedules. But the days themselves are the same. Yet this week is unique in that we walk forward from one year into the next.

If we could possibly talk, she and I. Tell me what happened. What was this past year like for you. I would listen. Words would be shared of encouragement, affirmation, hope.

Never pretend. Never presume. But don't we all. Don't pressure, push, or pull. We see a person only on the outside unless that one with whom we look at chooses to open and let us inside. It is scary and risky to open ourselves and let others inside. There is within us all the push pull of wanting to be known and to be hidden.

Maybe because we passed as strangers. Being anonymous, not a bad thing at times. We may never pass again she and I. Maybe that's why instead of hearing the words "and happy new year to you." I heard the words, "it can't be any worse than this past year."

Sheryl Sandberg, COO at Facebook and bestselling author, lost her husband Dave suddenly while on vacation in Mexico. In her new book *Option B* she writes to help others going through grief, loss, adversity. She writes the following:

"We all encounter hardships. Some we see coming; others take us by surprise. It can be as tragic as the sudden death of a child, as heartbreaking as a relationship that unravels, or as disappointing as a dream that goes unfulfilled. The question is: When these things happen, what do we do next. So many people have said to me "I can't imagine." My reply became, "I can't imagine either, but I have no choice." I had no choice but to wake up every day. No choice but to get through the shock, the grief, the survivor guilt. No choice but to try to move forward and be a good mother at home. No choice but to try to focus and be a good colleague at work.

Option A is to have Dave, my husband back. But Option A is not available. Life is not perfect. We all live some form of Option B."

Pastor Dan