



Moorings

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Baptist Church, Lexington, Kentucky

Issue 5

New Day Dawns with Challenges Ahead



*By Carl Peters
Senior Pastor*

Dear Anchor Family, Grace and peace to you and your family. These warmer days are surely welcome after the long cold winter. It seemed like they would never arrive. We could say the same about the pandemic that we have endured. We have waited so long for the danger to diminish and for life to regain some semblance of normalcy. Those days seem to have arrived, and we welcome them with a combination of relief and guarded optimism. The time has come to put this season behind us and move into the future God has prepared for us.

Before we focus our attention ahead, it would be good for us to reflect on God's gracious goodness to us during these difficult days. While the world was locking down, Anchor was opening up! We began to share our services with the online world. Many thousands viewed our services each month. We had people tuning in from New York to California, and from Florida to Michigan. Some even mailed an offering.

Without the lockdowns we would probably not have

streamed our services online. God has done great things during dismal days.

As the pandemic caused folks to retreat to their home, we began taking The Gospel to Every Home. So far, we have connected with 5,000 of the 11,000 homes in our zip code. At the same time, guests coming to worship has increased dramatically. We had 16 guests last Sunday! God has done great things during dismal days.

We would also do well to recognize the challenging trends God has helped us to overcome. Thom Rainer of Churchanswers.com estimates that 16 thousand churches will close this year. Financial struggles and lagging attendance are two of the main reasons. At Anchor, during two of the most difficult years in memory, we have ended those years in the black. While we are still waiting for everyone to come back, we are seeing growing numbers of worshipers, growing numbers of guests, and increases in professions of faith and baptisms, particularly with children. God is doing great things!

As we turn our attention forward, we do so relieved of the incumbrances of the last few years. Yet, there are two issues that create a challenge for us: our mortgage debt on the Anchor Resource Center (gymnasium/education building), and the fact that Trinity Academy will be departing after next school year. Each month we spend about 17 thousand dollars to service our 1.7-million-dollar mortgage. When Trinity takes up residence at their new building, we will no longer receive the 123 thousand dollars they have been paying us to rent our building. These are challenges for us, but we have seen God do great things and help us overcome.

On Wednesday, May 18, we will have a very important business meeting where the details of these challenges will be presented. We are asking all Anchor members to attend this important gathering. We want to insure that everyone is informed of our situation, and we want to spend time praying about these matters. Our hope is that you will be there as we prepare for the future. We truly believe God will, once again, do great things!

Church Family Information—May

Birthdays:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 4 Nelson Hager | 22 Connie Wooten |
| 5 Mary Cook | 27 Lynne Johnson |
| 7 Gary Shaw | 28 Madelyn Quillen
Kenneth Wells |
| 10 Damien Hart | 29 Fern Powers |
| 12 Rachel Henkle | |
| 17 Bethany Ross | |
| 18 John Webb | Anniversaries: |
| 19 Jeanie Covington
Wes Sargent | 17 Greg & Karen Ruber |
| 21 Stephen Hatfield | 18 Steve & Marilyn Melton |
| Elizabeth Shuman | 22 Gary & Marty Shaw |
| | 23 Don & Madonna Burton |
| | 30 Rolla & Betty Jo Cavanaugh |

Please contact the church office if your Birthday or Anniversary has been missed. We would like to acknowledge all of our members' special occasions!



PUT THIS on YOUR CALENDAR!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
JUNE 20-24
5:30-8:30
p.m.

Holy Week Highlights



Phileena Jackson

Bridal Shower

All the ladies of Anchor are invited to attend!
Sunday, May 1
 Following worship in the ARC. Phileena is registered at Target and Amazon. Light refreshments will be served

EASTER SUNDAY!



GOOD FRIDAY

MAUNDY THURSDAY





WMU News– Missions

It is May and the April showers have certainly brought forth May flowers. What a beautiful time of the year.....a time for renewal and hope. What is so unfortunate is that for many, no matter what time of the year it is, there seems to be little reason for hope. The Homeless have a constant battle of figuring out where that next meal is going to come from. The Central Kentucky Network of Baptists are involved in several ways with feeding programs to help address the needs of the homeless. For many years now Anchor has been directly involved with the program that is run by Grace Baptist Church located at 811 Bryan Avenue on the northside of Lexington.

How many times have you seen in our emails and bulletins a notice that “Cakes for Grace” will be picked up on Monday at 1:00? The reason for this particular time and day is that Charlie Ledford delivers the cakes to Grace Baptist Church by 1:30 on the 4th Monday of each month so that they can be cut and placed in a styrofoam container for distribution at 2:30 p.m. The cakes (or any dessert – such as cakes, cookies, brownies, muffins—from scratch or store bought) are part of the food and groceries distributed at Grace Baptist Church every Monday and Thursday

afternoon.

The “Feed the Hungry” program began in 1995 and was moved to Grace in 2000. The program consisted of a hot meal and groceries for those in need. These meals were served on Mondays but Grace was unable to continue them in April 2020 due to the Coronavirus. At that time the decision was made to distribute groceries 2 times a week along with a “sack lunch” that also contains a delicious dessert.

Steve Price is the pastor at Grace Baptist Church and the “Feed the Hungry” program is led by Trudy and David Harberson. The Harberson’s collect donated groceries from various stores around Lexington and then transport them to the church. The fruit is inspected piece by piece and expiration dates are checked on every item. This is all done prior to the 2:30 p.m. starting time. The items given out are fruits, vegetables, breads, pizza, lunch meat and the sack lunch. The average amount of groceries given to each person is approximately 10 to 15 lbs. There are approximately 115 to 130 people served per day.

Prior to the food distribution scripture is read to the persons in line

and prayer is conducted by members of Grace Baptist. The people receiving the food are treated with the utmost respect.

Charlie Ledford has been working in the “Feed the Hungry” since 2018 and finds it very rewarding. Due to Charlie being unable to work regularly in the past 5 months Lois and Bryan Bishop have picked up the slack. Prior to the pandemic there have been a number of Anchor members volunteer their time and resources.

If you are already helping with this program by providing deserts we want to say a great big THANK YOU! If you have not participated so far we would love to have you. The next 4th Monday will be May 23rd. If you are unable to help provide deserts you can participate by praying for this much needed service, both for those receiving the meals and all of those involved in the preparation.

Our next WMU meeting will be Sunday, May 15th in the Sanctuary. Our speaker will be Charlie Ledford. Charlie will share with us his first hand experiences with this wonderful mission outreach program. We are so blessed that Charlie willingly assumes this responsibility. Please join us on May 15th!

“Share your food with the hungry” Isaiah 58:7a



By Sara Sutton & Charlie Ledford on behalf of the Women’s Missionary Union



Media News

I have been a commissioned and/or an ordained Worship Pastor now since 1992. Amazingly now 30 years. I consider being a worship pastor a calling that the Lord has called me to and given me talents to lead worship in a church setting. Some in the secular world would look at me and call what I do a Profession. A google search definition for profession is a paid occupation, especially one that involves prolonged training and a formal qualification. When we make a profession of faith it is a personal and public statement of a belief or faith. I remember making a public profession of faith when I was 12 years old during the annual confirmation classes in our church for 12 year olds. I professed then to follow Jesus Christ faithfully for the rest of my life. The most interesting part of that definition of a "Profession" is that it involved training. A Profession of faith is not just a one time thing you do to satisfy your parents or a pastor or a grandma. A profession involves training as well. Yes we accept Jesus Christ by confessing with our mouth and believing in our heart that

He was raised from the dead. After that happens though we just don't stop there. We then grow and learn. The Bible calls it as iron sharpens iron. This lines up with the Word of God totally. The Disciples were disciplined and trained by Jesus. They in turn trained their minds in God's Word even after Christ ascended to Heaven to the Father. They in turn trained others to follow Jesus Christ and taught them the ways of the Cross and the ways of Jesus. Learning and training NEVER stops.

I recently started training to be a bus driver again. I have driven a school bus two different times and monitored another stint bivocationally (Pastor/Bus Driver) since 1994. This will be the third time in my life training to get my CDL license. This time I will test in London, Ky to get my Commercial Drivers License (School Bus Class B). I let my CDL lapse 18 years ago when I moved back to Kentucky from Indiana. Before that I had it in 1994-96 when I was 27 years old. Even though I passed the skills test and the pre-trip portion and passed the on road driving skills test I had forgotten most of it from so many years of not doing it. If we don't keep training and learning in whatever we are

called to do in life we will very simply not be good at it. Same goes for following Jesus Christ. We have to continue to train and be ready for action. After being in training the last three weeks the things I learned from before started to come back and the things I learned long ago had to be relearned and new things were added from the last time I took my CDL test. If I professed to be a legit bus driver this time but didn't go through the training and relearn it all over again I would simply be ineffective and probably not hireable. We as Christians should never stop "training" and learning. Jesus Christ makes us qualified to share his Gospel with the world. If we profess Jesus Christ we then can tell the world about what we have learned. We are qualified to then love as Jesus loved the world. In order to do this effectively we HAVE to keep learning to love more effectively. We do not just profess Jesus once in our life and then stop learning. May we never stop learning to grow in Jesus Christ and learning how to better love the lost in the world. It takes practice and training to do just that. Love.



*By Phil Jackson
Music and Media*

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 Rev. Phil Jackson—Associate Pastor for Music and Media
 Rev. Paul Jorgensen—Associate Pastor for Family Ministry
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 Mrs. Claire Vance—Pianist/Accompanist
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"Moorings" is a monthly publication for the members of Anchor Baptist Church to inform and encourage all who follow and support this ministry for Christ Jesus.

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