

The Deer Parker

April 27, 2017



From the Pastor

Our church has been affiliated with and supported the work of the Long Run Baptist Association since our founding days nearly 112 years ago. At the January Executive Board meeting of the LRBA, the name of our Association was changed to Louisville Regional Baptist Association. In February, LRBA offices relocated to 960 South Third Street, Suite 100. After 17 years faithful service as Director of Missions, Dr. Wesley Pitts retired. Rev. Todd Robertson became the new Director of Missions on December 1. Let us continue to pray for and join hands with other Baptists on mission for Christ in our city and country.

Over the past several weeks we have focused on what makes for a fruitful congregation. Through newsletter articles, sermons, worship emphases, and a churchwide participation of reading the book, "Cultivating Fruitfulness," we have stayed strongly engaged in this dynamic process.

A Steering Committee for the "Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations" continues to review and plan how we may further involve our efforts in strengthening our work as Christ's community. The focus areas have been the following: radical hospitality, passionate worship, intentional faith development, risk-taking mission and service, and extravagant generosity (in next week's newsletter an article about the last of these will provide some practical suggestions for us to follow).

On Wednesday, May 3, the Steering Committee will meet to assess where we are in this area of our work. If you have thoughts, questions or suggestions for the committee please contact any one of them soon. The committee is comprised of Thresa Bingman, Tom Coursen, Bill Earp, Lisa or Jonathan O'Keefe, David Platt and Ron Ragsdale. They are eager to hear from you. Let's keep praying for the Lord's oversight and direction for the days just before us as we work toward being a church that bears fruit for Christ.

David Platt



Baptist World Alliance Day and Offering

Baptist World Alliance Day 2017 is the day Baptists are encouraged to worship together and pray for one another in their churches. At Deer Park, we will celebrate BWA Day on **Sunday, May 7**.

This day was originally established as "Baptist World Sunday," in 1927, when the BWA Executive Committee, meeting in London, asked President Edgar Mullins and General Secretary John Rushbrooke to prepare a "Special Statement" to express clearly the purpose of the BWA. The Statement emphasized that the BWA "seeks to express and promote unity and fellowship among the Baptists of the world."

This annual emphasis is aimed at affirming Baptist identity within the worldwide Christian family. Baptists are encouraged to pray for each other and to renew their commitment to cooperate with Baptists globally through the BWA. Resource materials will be distributed in worship on May 7. It is also the one-time each year when we collect a BWA offering for mission work throughout the world.

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Sundays

- 9:00 am - Choir Rehearsal
- 9:30 am - Bible Study
- 10:15 am - Choir Warm-up
- 10:45 am - Worship

Wednesdays

- 5:30 p.m. - Supper
- 6:15 p.m. - Midweek Prayer Service
- 7:00 p.m. - Choir Rehearsal

UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday, May 2

- 6:30 p.m. - Deacons' Meeting

Wednesday, May 3

- 5:30 p.m. Five Practices Committee

Thursday, May 4

- 10:30 a.m. - Women's Bible Study

Tuesday, May 16

- 6:30 p.m. - Church Council

Wednesday, May 24

- 6:15 p.m. - Business Meeting



SAVE THE DATE!!

VBS 2017

June 11-14

(Sun. - Wed.)

6:15-8:30pm

Age 3 through grade 6

Watch for more information and specific ways you can be a part of this exciting event!

Morocco Needs Report

The Moroccan Committee understands that there are times when appeals for financial support from several different interests are made close enough together that it makes it difficult to choose where our gift/donation will go. Recently there was a specific need reported by KBF to Deer Park with a request that we consider giving money, over and above the quarterly amount that we have pledged, to assist the pastor of the Agadir church in purchasing a used car. The committee provided articles addressing this request, but there were also several mission offerings that Deer Parkers have honored over many years being held about the same time - and we did very well in supporting these mission focuses as usual. The question now is whether or not the membership needed to choose between the mission focus and the Agadir church request; the donations for the latter have been very few and there is absolutely no reason to feel bad about making necessary choices! The committee just needs to know if additional time is needed for more donations or not. We will send what has been given soon and give the quarterly pledged amount when it is due. If you would like to express your thoughts, the committee members are: Brenda Childress, Jerry Houston, Pat Pfeiffer and David Platt.

Update on Edie Koehler

Edie Koehler has been a Deer Parker since the 1950's. She now resides at Elmcroft, 200 Gloucester Drive, in Martinsburg, WV 25401. Her son Paul sent this recent photo of a special hobby of Edie's, reading and reciting poetry from memory.



Deer Park Stats 4/23/2017

Worship	52
Sunday School	33
Budget Received	\$1,938.00 (45%)
Weekly Budget Needed	\$4,342.00
Budget Needs Y-T-D	\$190,361.00
Budget Gifts Y-T-D	\$154,177.00



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Apr. 30 - Brenda Woosley
May 2 - Norman Iler & Mary Leano
May 6 - Charles Saunders

News and Notes

- The application of the new roof over the chapel has been postponed until the first part of May. The Trustees will announce the specific start date on a Sunday morning closest to that time.
- Elise Williams, daughter of Beth Gaba, and granddaughter of Betty Jo Gaba, has been accepted into the doctoral program at Cambridge University in England. Her field of study is Medieval History and Medicine.
- Please call the office and tell us about any immediate family members who will be graduating this year so we can announce it in the Newsletter.

The Gathering Needs

The ministry of The Gathering once again wants to be able to provide fans for people without air conditioning during the warm summer months. If you have a new or gently used fan that you would like to donate, please bring it to church and place it on the stage in Centennial Hall. Fans will be distributed in June.

Deacon on Call

Mary Jane Middlebrooks serves as the Deacon on Call through Saturday, May 6. She is available to minister in Christ's name to Deer Park families and individuals.



Sunday Sermon Texts and Themes

April 30 Acts 2:42-47; 1 Peter 1:17-23
May 7 Acts 9:1-20; Psalm 30
May 14 Acts 2:14a, 36-41; Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19