

"The Roar of a Great Multitude. . ."

A few weeks ago, Debbie and I went with our daughter Amy to experience a University of Tennessee football game. Neyland Stadium is the third largest non-racing stadium in the country and the sixth largest stadium in the world. It seats over 100,000 people. As I have come to learn, Tennessee football is steeped in tradition. The fans arrive decked out in orange and white from head to toe. Many sport orange and white checkerboard bib overalls. They line up hours before the game to watch the Vol Walk, a procession of the Tennessee Volunteer football team parading in suit and tie, walking to the stadium in front of their adoring fans. A half hour later, the Pride of the Southland marching band parades down the streets near the stadium, playing the songs of the faithful, whipping up the enthusiasm of the crowd. Smokey, the hound dog mascot, runs by to the cheers of the Tennessee crowd.

Following the pre-game festivities, we entered the stadium and took our seats in the stands... ok, way up in the stands...way, way up in the stands, and scanned the great multitude, a sea of orange below us. As the announcer said, "It's Football Time in Tennessee," 100,000 fans erupted with cheers that rocked the stadium. The band formed a gigantic T on the field and the Tennessee Volunteers football team ran onto the field, as the fans went wild. Before I knew it, 100,000 partisans erupted in a chorus of "Rocky Top", a Tennessee tradition.

Honestly, I am not a fan of crowds, but this experience was like no other. You could feel the sense of pride, belonging, and the joy of young and old alike, assembled for this Fall ritual. Reflecting on the experience in the crowd, I wondered what the throng in heaven will be like. Revelation 19:1 describes "the roar of a great multitude in heaven shouting: "Hallelujah! Salvation and glory and power belong to our God..." I have heard the roar of the multitude in Knoxville, but know that the multitude in heaven will be so much greater, so much louder, and so much more moving.



It was great fun in Knoxville, but I find myself looking forward to an even greater experience. As the sound of Rocky Top fades, a new song dances through my head. . .

"Oh, when the saints go marching in... Oh, when the saints go marching in. Oh Lord I want to be in that number, when the saints go marching in!"

Pastor Jeff

Senior Pastor



October Birthdays

4 th	Judy Thompson	18 th	Mervin McDowell
6 th	Janet Abraham	22 nd	Robbie Alvis, Jack Pennington, Sandra Hurt
7 th	Jan Denson	23 rd	Brenda Strang
11 th	Gloria Harrison	25 th	Griffin Atkins
12 th	Laura Kelly	27 th	Bonnie Parker
16 th	Lyn Folk	31 st	Keith Beam
17 th	Ben Abraham & Jennifer Gray		



The Greatest Showman

Wed. Bible Study Starting Oct. 17

Watch the Movie on Sun., Oct. 14th at 6pm

Winner of 13 film awards (including a Golden Globe Award) and 28 nominations (including an Academy Award), *The Greatest Showman* is a compelling musical about the life of the consummate showman, P. T. Barnum. An ambitious dreamer who was hungry for success, Barnum opens a museum of oddities. As this venture fails to catch on, he creates a live show of the unusual and extraordinary.

The cast, led by Hugh Jackman, presents a thoroughly engaging story of family, class distinctions, and race. The themes of community/family, forgiveness, and love weigh heavily in the film. Barnum, while flawed, understands better than most that everyone wants to experience acceptance and love, and that everyone has something to offer. Barnum also shows how easy it is to lose sight of the most important aspect of his life: his family, in his quest to find acceptance.

Don't miss this opportunity to watch and discuss this movie in October! The issues in the film are Biblical ones. Join us for this creative Bible study.



Pastor Jeff and friends will entertain us at the next Ties That Bind!

This community program and luncheon will be held on Tuesday, October 9, from 11 AM to 1 PM, here at Northside. The cost of the luncheon is \$5. Please bring a food pantry item for Ashland Christian Emergency Services (ACES) and invite a friend! RSVP by Thursday, October 4, by calling our church office at 746-4952; or by calling Restoration Church at 299-3475; or by e-mailing info@restorationrva.org.



Tax Smart Charitable Giving

As we enter the last quarter of the year, many people begin to look for opportunities to reduce their tax burden. Smart charitable giving, such as to your church, can be a wonderful way to advance the Kingdom of God while at the same time ensuring that you don't pay more taxes than necessary. Beyond your normal giving, here are two additional ideas that you may want to consider.

1) Donation of appreciated stocks, bonds, mutual funds, ETFs and real estate that you have held for over a year can help you avoid capital gain taxes on the sale of those securities. Make the donation directly to Northside Baptist before selling and you will avoid the tax and be able to deduct the full value of those appreciated securities. In these days when the stock market has had significant gains, many people have portfolios that have become unbalanced, weighted more toward high performing securities. To get your portfolio back in balance, gifting appreciated assets may be a great strategy.

2) If you are 70.5 years of age or older and have an IRA, you are required to take a minimum distribution from those funds. This withdrawal, of course, will count as income and generate a tax bill. Instead, if you wish to do good and avoid paying additional taxes, you may send the minimum required distribution directly to Northside Baptist. That satisfies the requirement of the withdrawal and since it goes directly to the church, it does not count as income. Depending on your tax bracket, this can be a smart way to support your church while reducing your income tax liability.

There are a few CPAs in the church, and bright folks on our finance team that can help answer your questions and facilitate your tax smart giving.



Boxes for the Operation Christmas Child Shoe Box Ministry have been ordered. They will arrive within the next couple of weeks. We will let you know when to pick them up. Or you can provide your own box or plastic container the size of a shoe box. 119 boxes were filled last year. Let's strive to do even more this year! NOVEMBER 7th is the date the boxes must be returned to Northside.



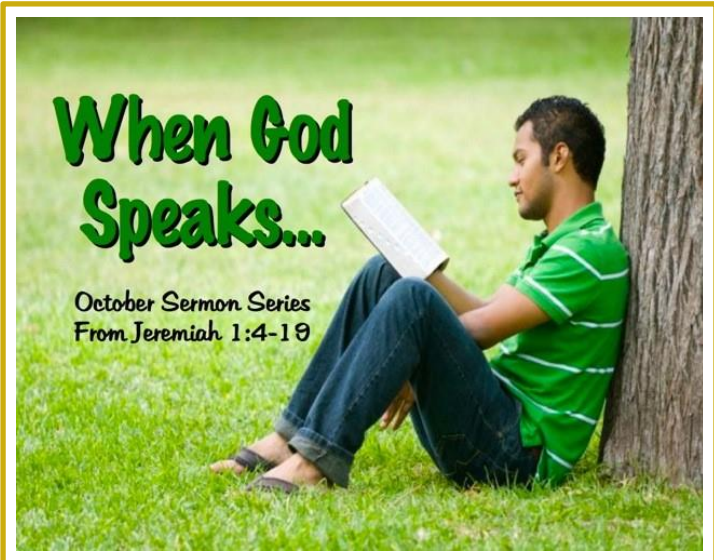
Don't forget the Caritas Furniture Drive taking place on **October 20 from 8 am – 4 pm.** Bring your items to a truck in the side parking lot. We will have volunteers to help you. We have flyers all around the church and on the Northside website that lists items that are needed and those not acceptable.



Current needs:
Toilet Paper
Pasta Sauce
Canned Pasta



The Warming Tree will again be put up in the Common Grounds area around November 1. This project will go on until after the first of the year. Hats, scarves, mittens and gloves for all ages may be put on the tree. These items will go to the Church Hill Ministry and Moments of Hope.



Notes from Nancy

What a Beautiful Name

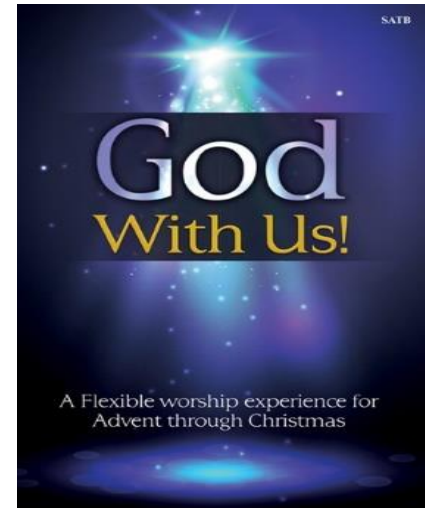
One of the most beautiful songs currently being played on Christian radio is “What a Beautiful Name”, written by Ben Fielding and Brooke Ligertwood. This song was penned in the suburbs of Sydney, Australia, over a few days in December 2015. From there, months were spent crafting the lyrics, centered around Hebrews 1:1-4 and Colossians 1:15-20, 26-27.

As I read the lyrics, I am reminded of the sovereignty of God and His desire to have a relationship with each of us, both now and throughout eternity. Since we have all sinned, it is comforting to know that there is no sin greater than the love of God. The name of Jesus, the name above all other names, is beautiful, wonderful, and powerful. If God be for us, who can be against us? Take the time to listen to the link below and give thanks for a God who loves you enough to want spend eternity with you.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FD9mky9Bq7E>



On November 18, the Sunday before Thanksgiving, we will welcome Henry & Cindy Smith to our worship service. Henry Smith is the author and composer for the song “Give Thanks”. Mark your calendars and plan to join us on November 18 and give them a wonderful Northside welcome.



Rehearsals have begun for our Christmas program entitled “God with Us” but it’s not too late to join in the fun. Christmas music rehearsals begin at 7pm on Wednesday evenings. All Christmas music is rehearsed at the beginning of each rehearsal so those desiring to only sing for Christmas, can leave at the conclusion of that portion of the rehearsal. If you have questions or would like to be involved, please contact Nancy Schneider.

Not interested in singing, perhaps you would like to narrate or be a greeter/usher for the performances. Please contact Nancy if you are willing to help.

Performance dates are:
December 15, 7pm
December 16, 7pm



The lazy days of summer have given way to the hustle and bustle of a new school year.

Two of our youth, Kayla and Rachel, have begun their collegiate studies. Pray for them as they make new friends at JMU and Longwood, and don't forget to send cards of encouragement and support. Sarah and Jakob have returned to college. Pray for them as their studies become more challenging at William and Mary and Virginia Tech. Our youth and children are back at school, some attending new schools as they enter school for the first time or move from elementary to middle school or middle to high school. Afternoons and evenings are filled with practices, performances, and sports.

Wednesday night programming has resumed for children and youth. Our children are enjoying music each week with Deana Sutton, where they are learning songs and playing bells and other instruments. In addition to music, each week the children participate in Bible study, games and activities, and crafts or Mission projects. The youth are beginning a study, *The Case for Christ*, which follows a journalist's personal investigation of the evidence for Jesus. Their mission projects include assisting our senior members with yard work, packing and delivering grocery bags to residents of Harbour Square, and assisting with various mission projects supported by the Missions team and Dover Baptist Association. Devo breakfasts have also resumed on the first and third Fridays of the month.

Plans are underway for the Fall Festival on Saturday, October 27. There will be games, a Hay Ride, Maze, Bounce House, crafts, face painting, free food, food truck options, and more! All ages are welcome. It's going to be a fun day of fellowship and outreach to our community!

I recently attended a workshop focusing on youth ministry. The discussion focused on how to keep youth, who are currently leaving the church in droves, active in church. According to statistics, only about one-quarter of 18- to 29-year-olds are practicing Christians, meaning they attend church at least once a month and strongly affirm that their religious faith is very important in their life. Overwhelming, relationships with caring adults is one of the key factors in young people staying connected to the church. 7 out of 10 of those who dropped out of church after high school did not have any close friendships with adults while 9 out of 10 never had a mentor at their church. Of those who stayed, nearly 60% did have meaningful adult relationships. It is said that every youth needs a meaningful relationship with at least five adults, besides his/her parents. Think of the impact you can have on the life of a young person, simply by investing a little time to get to know one. We have four youth in college this year. How much time would it take to send a card to one of them, with a simple note saying I'm praying for you? Could you devote a few minutes on Sunday morning to speak to one of our youth or children, and asking "How was school this week"? Do you have the resources to offer your home for a youth event, or 30-45 minutes to help supervise children on a Sunday morning or Wednesday evening, once a month? These simple gestures might have eternal consequences.

Thank you for the privilege of partnering with you, as we seek to minister to our children and youth.

Karen Mills

Our Children and Youth are Awesome!



UPCOMING EVENTS

DEVO Breakfast:

October 5th, 6:45am – 301 Burger King

DEVO Breakfast:

October 19th, 6:45am – 301 Burger King

Fall Festival:

October 27th, 2:00pm – 5:00 pm

Harbour Square:

October 28th, 11:30am – 1:30pm.



Here is an opportunity for rewarding service with very modest time commitments. For more information on serving, please see Karen Mills.

2 Sets of People to do Children's Church on Sunday in rotation. This is about 30 minutes.