



THE VISITOR

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September 2019

Radical Generosity

Barnabas...brought the money and put it at the apostles' feet.

(Acts 4:36-37)

We know that building a church takes preaching--who can believe without hearing? We know it takes serving, organizing, and planning. But it also needs Spirit-inspired giving, God made radical generosity a key ingredient of biblical community. Our generous giving enables our church to become the spiritually alive, dynamic, and mission-minded.

In a sense, giving proves that our faith is real. In a culture oriented to collecting stuff, the sort of giving that makes your accountant shake their heads in disbelief is a work of faith. Our generosity is a sign of God's grace--to people inside and outside the church.


Churches, especially new ones, depend on radical giving. On the front lines of ministry, needs are great. Without deep giving, it's hard to imagine a new church surviving. A rent-free place to worship, a donated field, a generous check--all these can help make the difference between a community's thriving and struggling. New churches usually cannot fund themselves. They need people like Barnabas--believers like you and me.

Please be in prayer as we begin to work on the church's 2020 Budget and that God continues to grow His church, people give sacrificially, and our church stewards those resources well.

Budget Request letters will be handed out on Sunday, September 15th. Deadline to submit the requests to the church office, is due on Sunday, October 6th.

Father, some of us say, "We're not growing," and we blame our church's programs. Grow us in the grace of giving, we pray, in the name of Jesus, your great gift to us. Amen.

Budget \$ Planning



9/2 - Mary Isaacs
9/5 - Deborah Johnston
9/13 - Hank Thomas
9/14 - Piper Hoots
9/16 - Brenda Bruce
9/18 - Mike Naylor



Youth to New River Campground
Friday, Sept. 6th thru Sunday,
Sept. 8th

**Meet here at the church on
Friday, Sept. 6th at 6 p.m.**

Beloved Konnoak,

While prayerfully considering what book to focus on for the month of September I feel led, in part by a few requests, to remain in the Old Testament and focus our attention on the books of Ezra and Nehemiah.

Ezra and Nehemiah chronicled the return of the Jews back to Jerusalem after 70+ years in exile. When they return they find a city destroyed, and it is their job to rebuild. Through much sweat and tears the people rebuild their communities, their wall, and the temple of God. It was hard work, but it was work well spent.

As we prepare to study these books, pray that the Lord uses their stories to teach us boldness, faith, courage, and determination as we, like the Jews, are tasked with rebuilding a battered ministry, repairing the damaged lives in our community, and restoring the lost by sharing Christ to the dark world around us. The task ahead is not easy, but with the power of God, we can do all things.

Alex



Deacon's Meeting - Sunday, Sept. 1st at 12pm



Youth Council Meeting - Sunday, Sept. 1st at 12 pm

Search/Pulpit Committee Meeting - Sunday, Sept 8th




Colleen Hunnicutt

5th Sunday Sing
9/29/19



**Children's Bible Treasure Hunt
Sunday, Sept. 22nd
12 p.m.**



EXPLORE THE BIBLE

The children will eat lunch first in the Fellowship Hall, then a game of Bible Treasure Hunt, afterwards off for a fun time at Safari Nation.

A Prayer for a God-Honoring Work Life
Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. (Colossians 3:23-24)

Father, I come before you thankful that **you have made work a part of life** and given me the opportunity to glorify you in my work. Thank you Lord, that I can work hard and go to bed tired each day. Thank you for the good days and the difficult ones, and for the gifts you have given me to help this world be a better place through my work.

While we know work is good, we also know our work today isn't what you intended and is often hard and frustrating. We all know sin's consequences on work: toilsome labor, injustice, and trials; and also the pain of wanting work but not finding it. May these painful situations drive me to a deeper longing for the return of Christ and consummation of all things--including work. May the gospel shape my work habits, attitude, be humble and may I work in **faith** and be motivated by a love for you.

And as I work, fix my eyes on Jesus and His finished work on the cross that gave me treasure I could not earn and a living hope that will fuel me to work for the glory of God. Amen.

Down On The Farm

Youth to Down on the Farm - Saturday, 9/28/19
(Free Event)
Meet at the church at 2 p.m.