

CRABTREE VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH



THE VALLEY ECHO

April 20, 2020

Please mail all correspondence to: P.O. Box 30954, Raleigh, NC 27622

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Church Office hours: Monday-Thursday 9am-3pm (closed on Friday)



**That All May
Know Him**

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Fifty four years ago, this past Sunday, April 19, 1966, Gloria and I and our 21 month old son, Micky, sailed from the port of New Orleans to Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. We were going to a country we had never seen, a culture we had never known, a language we did not know and a future known only to God. We were reminded of God's call to Abraham, "Go from your country, your people and your father's household to the land I will show you." (Genesis 12:1)

The call to missions had long been on our hearts. From our earliest days God was preparing Gloria and me for that day. It started in our youth and was nourished by mission minded pastors, guest missionaries in our homes, summer camps and people chosen by God to nurture that call in us.

At Mars Hill College (1957-1959), where Gloria and I met, we sat in chapel and heard Southern Baptist Missionary to the Amazon region of Brazil, Vance Vernon, preach a powerful sermon from Ezekiel 22:30, "I looked for someone among them who would build up the wall and stand before me in the gap on behalf of the land so I would not have to destroy it, but I found no one." Over and over again, the missionary spoke of God needing "A man to stand in the gap", someone who was willing to accept God's call to be His messenger to Brazil. With that message, a seed was planted in our heart.

After Mars Hill, we got married in June 1959, moved to Greenville, SC where Gloria worked for a finance company and I enrolled in Furman University and worked part-time in a Grocery warehouse. In 1961, I enrolled at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary and was called as Pastor to Bailey Baptist Church, in Bailey, NC east of Raleigh. It was there that God sent J.J. Cowsert, retired missionary to Brazil after 40 years of service, to be our guest during a World Missions Conference. Jack Cowsert watered the missionary seed that had been planted in our hearts.

Upon Graduation from SEBTS in 1964, I accepted a call to Enon Baptist Church, Salisbury, NC. I confess that we should have applied for missionary service at that time but we were resisting God's call. At Enon, I taught a mission study from a book "Frontiers of Advance" written by my Missions Professor, Luther Copeland, that ended our resistance to God's call.

We applied for missionary service to Brazil and were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board (now IBM) on March 10, 1966 in Richmond, Va. God gave us 14 marvelous years in Brazil, preaching, teaching and establishing 10 churches. Health issues brought us back to the States where God opened doors for us to serve as Pastor of Perkinsville Baptist Church, Boone, NC, First Baptist Church Morehead City, Westwood Baptist Church, Cary, NC and after retirement in 2008, interim pastorates at First Baptist Church, Wallace, NC, First Baptist Church, Clinton, NC and Crabtree Valley Baptist Church Raleigh, which after 9 months resulted in our being called to be your pastor.

We can truly say that we are blessed beyond measure. We went out not knowing where God would lead but He has lead us every step of the way. We are testimony to His faithfulness. To God be the Glory. Thank you for allowing us to serve Him along with you.

In His Love, Charles & Gloria

Church office information:

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Prayer for a Pandemic 2020

When Pastor Charles asked me to share with you some of my thoughts during this unprecedented/anxious/fearful time in our lives, I decided to include a prayer recently published in the Raleigh Baptist Assoc. Newsletter. This prayer is humbling, thought-provoking and inspiring, particularly the last two lines.

Prayer for A Pandemic

Cameron Wiggins Bellm

*May we who are merely inconvenienced
remember those whose lives are at stake.*

*May we who have no risk factors
remember those most vulnerable.*

*May we who have the luxury of working from home
remember those who must choose between
reserving their health or making their rent.*

*May we who have the flexibility to care for our children
when their schools close*

remember those that have no options.

*May we who have to cancel our trips
remember those who have no safe place to go.*

*May we who are losing our margin money
in the tumult of the economic market
remember those who have no margin at all.*

*May we who settle in for a quarantine at home
remember those who have no home.*

As fear grips our country, let us choose love.

*During this time when we
cannot physically wrap our arms around each other,
let us yet find ways to be the loving embrace
of God to our neighbor. Amen*

Thousands of words have been and will continue to be spoken and written about this crisis and the impact it has had and will continue to be on our “lifestyles”. Depending on whom and when you ask, you will receive many responses and reactions running the gamut of emotions. Perhaps the most important question we should be asking ourselves is, “What Jesus would have us do?” We have just experienced our time of remembering the sacrifice Jesus made on the cross for our salvation. We will never experience anything that will compare to God’s love for His children. As the writer of this prayer encourages us, “let us yet find ways to be the loving embrace of God to our neighbors.”

The words of the beautiful hymn, “Share His Love”, inspire us to “Share His love by telling what the Lord has done for you. Share His love by sharing of your faith, And show the world that Jesus Christ is real to us every moment every day.”

May I suggest that we begin by sharing with our church members and church friends. Contact your deacon or Pastor Charles and ask what you can do to support and encourage one another. Perhaps this might be a good time to reach out to church members or visitors that you do not know well and get to know them better. If you are not working away from home, your ‘outreach’ can be done while you are “in place.” For those of you who continue your daily routine, your opportunities are endless. We applaud you and appreciate your sacrifices to meet our needs. My prayer is that whether we communicate by phone, mail, email, text or “six feet apart” that others see Jesus in us. This is a hurting world, and there are a lot of people who need to know and feel the love and reassurance that comes from “Knowing and believing in God.” People do need the Lord!

Reach out today – this may be your best opportunity to tell the world that you’re a Christian. Remember, God is with you - He’s got your back!

Hugs, handshakes, and blessings! Jean Glosson

worship WITH US

Virtual Worship at CVBC

Virtual Worship is working. We are pleased to announce the increase of hits on our website and youtube. More people are now participating in virtual worship than have been attending our services before Covid-19. We have received emails, text and phone calls from individuals who have been helped and encouraged by our service. To God be the Glory!

Hopefully you are getting into the routine of sitting down on Sunday morning and worshipping as if you were actually in the sanctuary. The idea is to bond together in spirit even if we cannot be together in person. Every effort is being made for you to engage in worship. We are not providing these services for entertainment or for you to watch in the sense that you watch a movie, newscast or TV. We are providing these services for genuine worship in spirit and truth. The words to the hymns are on the screen so that you can sing the songs as you would in the sanctuary with choir and congregation. Bow your head and pray as we pray. Open your Bibles to the text as scripture is read. Concentrate on the message and allow the Holy Spirit to speak to your heart. We are also providing an order of worship by email prior to the Sunday Worship. If you are unable to join in worship on Sunday morning, once the worship has been put online, you can watch it at your convenience 24/7.

<https://www.crabtreevalleybaptist.org/sermons/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XhW2gyB7cPU>



SHARE THE SONSHINE

Week of April 19-25 Anne Jenkins

Share the Sunshine is an outreach ministry. We can all be a part of this ministry by praying for these individuals, sending cards, making phone calls or a visit.



HOPE PANTRY IS ALIVE AND WELL

As the Coronavirus Crisis deepens the numbers of those who need help with food increases. We are very grateful for the strong support people are giving to our food ministry. We are also indebted to committed members of our church like Jean Glosson, Barbara Goodson, Gene Sherwood, Catherine Mullins, Whit Stallings and even friends of the pantry who are not members of our church but whose contributions and assistance keep this ministry alive. Food items can be brought to the church anytime during regular office hours, Monday – Thursday, 9am – 3pm. Contributions to Hope Pantry are welcomed anytime. Checks can be made out to CVBC and designated “Hope Pantry”.