

CRABTREE VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH



THE VALLEY ECHO

April 27, 2020

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

Church location: 4408 Lead Mine Rd Raleigh, NC 27612 Phone: (919) 781-5345

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



THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

I have come to the conclusion that difficulties bring out the best and the worst in human nature. Among the best, is the inspiring commitment and compassion of doctors, nurses and hospital staff that put their lives on the line every day trying to save the lives of Covid-19 patients. That also goes for the dedication of front line responders like those who work with EMS, police and fire department servants who give so unselfishly of themselves for the sake of the community.

Examples of the worst in human nature are those who live only for themselves, who put their own personal interest and desires above their concern for the impact their careless actions have upon others. They make no personal sacrifices, have no empathy or compassion for the suffering and dying and are determined to live their lives as they so desire no matter what.

Dietrich Bonhoffer, a German pastor, theologian and anti-Nazi dissident lived in the dark days of Hitler's regime. From the beginning, he was involved in protests against Hitler's attack on Jews and was part of the movement to overthrow the dictator. He, of course was arrested, put in prison and executed. But not before his powerful letters from Prison found their way into free society.

As an astute spiritual leader observing the good and bad that traumatic times bring out in human beings, Bonhoffer wrote an article on "Stupidity" that seems to fit some of what we are observing in our own traumatic day. Read and ponder his words.

"Stupidity is a more dangerous enemy of the good than malice. One may protest against evil; it can be exposed and, if need be, prevented by use of force. Evil always carries within itself the germ of its own subversion in that it leaves behind in human beings at least a sense of unease. Against stupidity we are defenseless. Neither protests nor the use of force accomplish anything here; reasons fall on deaf ears; facts that contradict one's prejudgment simply need not be believed – in such moments the stupid person even becomes critical – and when facts are irrefutable they are just pushed aside as inconsequential, as incidental. In all this the stupid person, in contrast to the malicious one, is utterly self-satisfied and, being easily irritated, becomes dangerous by going on the attack. For that reason, greater caution is called for when dealing with a stupid person than with a malicious one. Never again will we try to persuade the stupid person with reasons, for it is senseless and dangerous."

James, the brother of our Lord wrote, "If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him."

In His Love,
Charles

Church office information:

Pastor • Charles Allard Office: 919-781-5345 Home: 919-606-8360

Music Director • Risa Poniros Office: 919-781-5345

Secretary • Peggy Utley Office: 919-781-5345 cvbc@crabtreevalleybaptist.org

Website updates/maintenance webmaster@crabtreevalleybaptist.org



Passport Camp

Passport Camp in Greensboro, NC has been canceled for the summer due to the Covid -19 crisis. In lieu of the in-person camp, a virtual camp with a variety of activities will be available during June and July free of charge. CVBC Youth Director, Ashley Walker, will engage our youth in as many of these projects and activities as possible. A potential alternative plan may be a youth retreat in late August or September to Lake Gaston. Our Youth will be able to enjoy the lake and boating activities as well as Bible studies. We cannot plan anything definite due to the unpredictable duration of COVID-19. However, the hope is for the youth to be able to attend some sort of retreat since they worked very hard raising money for camp. Finding creative ways to minister in these critical times is a challenge. We deeply appreciate the extra ordinary effort of the Passport Staff to work with Church Youth Directors across the country. More information will be forth coming as summer arrives.



WHEN WILL WE WORSHIP TOGETHER AGAIN?

The old saying is “absence makes the heart grow fonder.” How true that is. We are all longing for the day when we can be together in-person in our church building at 4408 Lead Mine Rd. When will that happen? It is too early to answer that question at this time. Being a church family of 95% Senior Adults, among the most vulnerable to the coronavirus, we must proceed with caution. The safety and wellbeing of all of our church family is top priority. As soon as it is feasible, our Deacons will meet and discuss how and when we can return to our church building. In the meantime, pray without ceasing, stay home, practice all safety precautions, and do everything you can to encourage one another.

Worship with us from HOME

Virtual Worship at CVBC

Spread the word to family and friends who have an interest in Crabtree Valley Baptist Church. Anyone with internet access can worship with us.

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

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



SHARE THE SONSHINE

Week of April 26 – May 2 Mary Cain

Share the Sonshine 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

Let your heart be broken for a world in need
Feed the mouths that hunger,
soothe the wounds that bleed,
Give the cup of water and the loaf of bread
Be the hands of Jesus, serving in His stead.

The words of this great hymn by Bryan Jeffery Leech are being fulfilled by CVBC's Hope Pantry. For the month of April we have served 50 people (people that actually come to the pantry) and fed 100 people (includes all members of a family). Normally we have about half that many people each month so it is evident that this is a very needed ministry, especially during this time with so many people being out of work. We thank you for supporting our food ministry and for sharing it's availability with those in need.