

Christ Memorial Baptist Church 1160 E. Lebanon Road Dover, DE 19901

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Connections

The monthly newsletter of Christ Memorial Baptist Church

Summer Worship Schedule May 12 - September 8

Beginning May 12 and going through September 8, we will be having a single, unified service which starts at 10:30 a.m. Sunday School will take place at 9:15.

The summer schedule begins with a celebration of "Women's Sunday" on May 12. On May 19th, the Youth will lead the worship. See more about these special Sunday services on pages 3 and 5.

SAVE THE DATE * MAY 18 8 AM TO NOON SPRING YARD SALE

(See article on page 4.)

A Call for the Business Meeting

Christ Memorial Baptist church will meet at its spring business meeting on May 22, 2019 at 6:30 PM in the fellowship hall. All members are urged to attend and act on the decisions before the church as prescribed by the church By-Laws. The primary business for this meeting is the annual election of the non-financial officers. They include the deacons, director(s) of missions, director of outreach, director of property and grounds, director of Christian education, director of fellowship, director of worship, church clerk, and moderator. A list of nominees should be published in the near future. The meeting will also feature an up to date report from each of the ministries. I look forward to seeing each of you at meeting.

Woody Curtis

National Day of Prayer Gathering: May 2nd, 6:30pm

The church will gather at 6:30pm on May 2nd, the National Day of Prayer, to join with other believers in praying for our nation.

We know that God is the only hope for our community and for our nation. And so we join together, believing in the power of prayer as God acts. God has promised: if my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land. (2 Chronicles 7:14).

The service will be brief and other believers from the South Dover churches will be invited to join us.



Spring is flying by fast and the weather is starting to get warmer. Summer is right around the corner! And CMBC will be starting one service for the Summer. What a great time of year God has given to us. A true blessing. So how can we give back to God for the many blessings he has given us through our lives? In this month's issue of the *Connections* newsletter, I would like to discuss how we can give back to God through "Tithes" and "Offerings."

First, let's define these terms. A "Tithe" simply means "a tenth." An "Offering" on the other hand is what you give to the Church beyond your "Tithe." For example, if you Tithe 10% to the Church, an Offering is a gift that you make that exceeds your Tithe.

There are many references in the Bible regarding "Tithes." In the Old Testament, the first tithe was given by Abram (Genesis 14:19-20). Jacob also offered a tithe to God (Genesis 28:20-22). Moses introduced the Tithe as law in Leviticus 27:30-34. And the Lord Almighty, in Malachi 3:9-10 NIV, states; "You are under a curse- your whole nation-because you are robbing me. Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in the house. Test me in this," says the Lord Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it."

Tithes and Offerings can be a very personal issue for many people that can test their faith. In the article Tithing in the Bible: A Short Guide to Tithes & Offering" (https://get.tithe.ly/blog/106-bible-scriptures-about-giving), the following statistics are presented:

- Only 10-25 percent of church members tithe.
- Only 5 percent of the United States population tithes
- On average, Christians give 2.5 percent of their income, which is down from 3.3% given during the great depression.

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Wednesday Night Dinners

The Wednesday Night Dinners have been a great opportunity to gather around the table and grow together as a church family. We hope you have been as blessed as we have this year.

Our last Wednesday Night dinner for the season will be on Wednesday, May 22^{nd} . Please sign up each week in the Communications Room so we can properly prepare for you.



May Menus

May 1st - Sloppy Joe's, Veggie Sticks, Chips

May 8th - Breakfast Casseroles, Fruit Salad

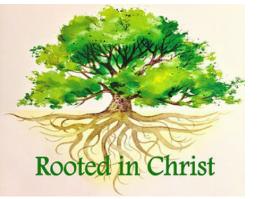
May 15th - Tuna Casserole, Jell-O salad

May 22nd – Tacos - Ice Cream Sundaes

<u>A Special Thank You</u>

I wish to thank the awesome team that helps me with the Wednesday night dinners each week. They are so faithful. Each week they come together as a team and shop, prep food, set up tables, cook, serve and cleanup. But most of all I'm grateful for the encouragement and support they offer as women of faith. Thank you for all that you do and all that you are as sisters in Christ.

Pauline



Women's Ministries

Welcome to the month of May. Meeting times for two of the groups have changed just a bit. The **Day Glow Circle** will meet on **Wednesday, May 1 at noon at Tea 4 Two** on State Street in Dover. They will enjoy lunch together at the afore mentioned establishment, which will be their last meeting until September.

The **Night Owls** will be meet at the home of the Dobrinski's, 205 Persimmon Circle, on Monday, May 6 at 6:00 p.m. for dinner. It will be their last meeting until October.

Gathering of Friends will continue to meet at their regular times twice a month. If you have any questions, contact Helen Ruiz.

There is still time to sign up for the THRIVE Conference which is June 28-29 at Altoona, PA. The cost goes up to \$95 on the first of May. The ladies from Delaware will be traveling by bus thanks to the women from Calvary Baptist in Newark who wrote for a grant to cover that cost. The last we heard...there was still room on the bus, but it was filling up. Information about the conference is on the ABCOPAD web site. Contact Mary Dobrinski about the bus information.

BIG Happenings on May 12th

It's MOTHER'S DAY! So why are the women doing the service that morning? They should be able to take it easy on their special day, RIGHT? They were given the opportunity to choose a day for Women's Sunday and decided...what better day than Mother's Day to put their abilities to work for the Lord!

COME and WORSHIP with us at 10:30 a.m. on May 12th as we begin our unified services by celebrating Women's Sunday. We will celebrate the 85th Anniversary of Love Gift, we will hear about White Cross and we will hear about a mission trip to Puerto Rico. Come hear about the work of American Baptist Women's Ministries as we move forward to THRIVE for the Lord.

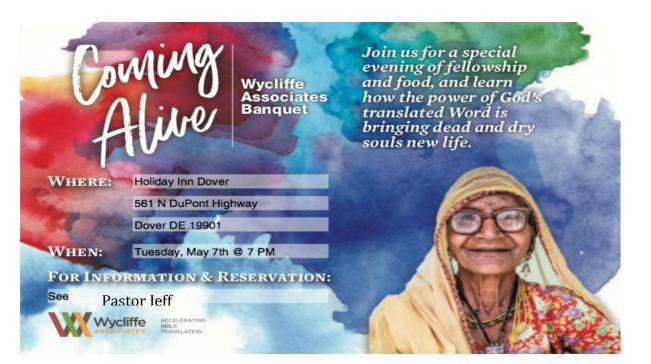




MAY 18 8AM TO NOON

Clean out your closets, basement or garage. It's a great time for fellowship and a great time to disciple customers. Tables are limited and a space will cost \$10.00, with proceeds going to purchase new banners. Sign up in the Communications Room beginning May 5.





Mission Ministry

Operation Christmas Child continues to be a year-round project of the Mission Ministry team. This month we are collecting small, sturdy plastic cups, combs and brushes, deoderant, hair ribbons and ties. We are also in need of shoe boxes (NO boot size boxes please) and your Redner's receipts which help with the cost of shipping.

The following note was received from OCC of Delmarva.

"Happy Spring! On behalf of the Delmarva Shoe box Ministry Team we would once again like to Thank You for being a part of our Shoe box Ministry. Boxes were delivered and are still being delivered around the world in order to tell the world about Jesus and the greatest gift He has for every ones life. We hope that you are having a glorious spring. Continue to keep our ministry in your prayers. Thank you"

Just checking...Have you remembered to pray for our sister church in Puerto Rico lately? That's all we are really asked to do. Our team would also like to encourage each of you to take a moment to send a note of encouragement to them as well. Blank card are in the office, so you just need to ask for them. Mary would be glad to help you out. Prayer is powerful and it binds us together in Christ.

OUR GOOD NEWS CLUB AT SIMPSON ELEMENTARY has

come to an end for this school year. We have been blessed by the children, your prayers and donations and certainly by God's love and faithfulness!

We believe that our weekly Club is a vital ministry of our church. It is an Outreach and a Mission. Many of the children do not go to church or Sunday School and the Club may be the only place they hear the Salvation Story. They learn that God loves them and wants to spend eternity with them.

We look forward to next year as we reach more children for Christ. But we need your help. We need one or two men or women (or more) to join us. Please ask yourself,

Has God been speaking to me about joining the Good News Team? OR

Have you wondered about and prayed, asking God what He wants you to do to serve him?"

WE NEED YOUR HELP. WE NEED YOU TO STEP UP AND JOIN US. There will be training in early September. Please speak to any of us on the team. We will be happy to answer your questions.

Cheryl Soyster, Jan Jacobs, Pauline Wikso (taking Carolyn Kersey's place this spring), Gene Schaller, and Thelma Schaller, lead teacher.

Moving Forward Property & Grounds



Property & Grounds would like to extend a big THANK YOU to everyone who helped with the Spring Clean-up. We accomplished a lot but still have a few items to finish up. Outside the grounds are almost completed and inside some stained ceiling tiles and light bulbs replaced. and everything has been wiped down.

Thank you again!

We are happy to inform everyone that the new boiler is in and running. The new boiler is approximately a third the size and more efficient than our old one. As with any new equipment there are still some adjustments being made.

P&G has also contacted a roofer to check out some leaks we have in our roof. More information to come in the future.

We always have openings on the Property and Grounds for people who would like to serve. Please call Carol Apito or any member of the P&G Ministry.

SERMON SCHEDULE FOR MAY 2019:

May 2 National Day of Prayer Gathering, 6:30pm

May 5, 2019 SERIES: "Fugheddaboutit!!!" Forget Religion: Encounter the Living God, Jn.17:3, PRS: Judges 6:33-40.

May 12, 2019, Mother's Day, WOMEN'S MINISTRY SUNDAY, PRS: Judges 7:1-15, <u>SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE BEGINS:</u> 10:30am Worship.

May 19, 2019 YOUTH SUNDAY, PRS: Judges 7:15-25.

May 26, 2019 Memorial Day Weekend **SERIES: "Fugheddaboutit!!!"** *Forget the Past, 2* Corinthians 5:16–21, PRS: Psalm 25:1-7.



FIRST FRIDAY IN MAY:

TEEN LIFE will be attending Band Together as a group on May 3rd. Discount tickets have been bought but there will be tickets available at the gate for \$20.

The Teen Life group will be leaving the church at 5:30 pm on May 3rd. Please send your children with spending money if you wish them to be able to buy souvenirs or if snacks are available. The concert is over at 10pm and our approximate return time to the church will be 10:45pm. There will be 5 adult chaperones and others from the church will be going with us. There may be an extra ticket or two. Contact Pam Taylor for information. We have a great group of people going - please think about joining us even if there are no discount tickets available.

YOUTH SUNDAY IS MAY 19TH!



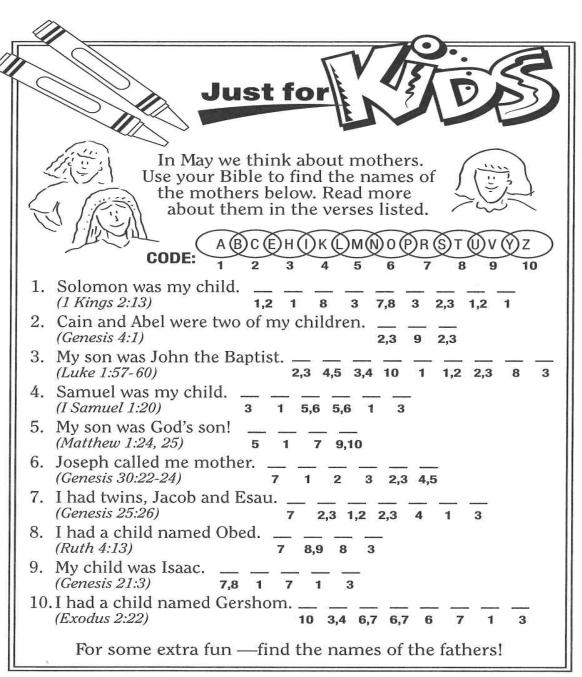
On Youth Sunday, Teen Life and our Young Adults will be leading us in praise and worship! Come meet our youth and see what they've been up to for the past year. See how they've grown and listen to the message delivered by Luis S. Figueroa!

Luis is a 22 year old bundle of talent that leads the Teen Life in praise and worship every Friday night! He is an enthusiastic follower of Jesus. He is in his own Christian band and he teaches several of our youth a couple of different instruments.

Be sure that you come on this day and meet all of our incredible young people!

A BIG THANK YOU TO BOB AND JOAN BROWN!

On April 26th they graciously hosted a bonfire for the youth. Fun was had by all and we enjoyed their hospitality! Thank you for sharing your home with us!



9. Sarah, 10. Zipporah

1. Bathsheba, 2. Eve, 3. Elizabeth, 4. Hannah, 5. Mary, 6. Rachel, 7. Rebekah, 8. Ruth,

(continued from page 7)

In Jeremiah's day, people thought that they were untouchable because they had the Temple of the Lord. But God allowed the Temple to be destroyed because the people had become apostate and turned away from God.

We're so busy nowadays... who has time for such things? When Jesus returns, I don't think any of us will regret the time we spent doing His will and proclaiming His love. We may well regret *not* having done so... even if we intended to get around to it. For, *If anyone knows the good they ought to do and doesn't do it, it is sin for them* (James 4:17).

This is not a losing battle. The battle is already won! We may not see the victory at hand, but that doesn't mean it isn't so. Therefore, *let us press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called [us] heavenward in Christ Jesus* (Philippians 3:14).

Church Statement of Faith Amendment

An amendment to article 7 of the church Statement of Faith has been approved by the Deacons and the Church Board and will be voted on at the Annual Church Business meeting in January of 2020 (Changes to the Church Constitution can only be made at an Annual Meeting). The article currently reads:

We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and all who believe in their hearts and profess genuine faith in Him are justified by His all-sufficient shed blood and righteousness.

The Statement would be changed to read:

We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and all who repent and believe, professing genuine faith in him, are justified by his all-sufficient shed blood and righteousness. (1Cor.15:3, Rom.10:9-11, Gal.2:16, Titus 3:5-7, Act 2:38 [added]).

(Finance ministry continued from page 2)

Based on these statistics, giving to the Church is on a downward trend in the United States. But what about Christ Memorial Baptist Church? At last week's Board Meeting, the following statistics were presented:

- In 2008, the average attendance at a CMBC Sunday Services was 105.96 people. In the first three months of 2019, the average attendance at CMBC Sunday Services is 65.49 people.
- The Annual Budget for CMBC Ministries is \$189,256.08. Which means that the tithes to the church must average \$3,639.54 per week in order to meet budget.
- As of 14 April 19, CMBC is \$3,550.34 under budget.

 If you attend CMBC and are currently not tithing to the o

If you attend CMBC and are currently not tithing to the church, I would ask that you think about tithing to our Church. And when thinking through whether you will tithe, consider doing the following four things:

- Study tithing in the Bible
- Pray to the Lord about it
- Seek counsel from members of the Church and our Pastor
- Serve God with a clear conscience

Making the decision to tithe can present challenges. However, there are also many valuable lessons that can be gained from tithing. If you have any questions regarding this topic or the Christ Memorial Baptist Church Financial ministry please feel free contact me. I will be happy to answer any of your questions.

In Christ, Mike Pollock.



God is Building His Church... Are You Building with Him? A Challenge from Pastor Jeff

God is building His church!!! Jesus told us that the gates of Hell would not prevail against the church. Yet, CMBC is not growing. Is it because the Gospel is no longer relevant? I would stake my life on the relevance of the Gospel for today and up until Jesus returns. People need the Lord more than ever. Our country is in trouble and I believe it is because we have turned away from God. Besides, there are many churches that are growing in leaps and bounds.

What is the difference between them and us? Is our preaching and teaching lacking? I don't think so. Besides, 1 Corinthians 1:21 tells us that *since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not know him, God was pleased through the foolishness of what was preached to save those who believe.* God can use even the foolishness of preaching to bring people to salvation. He used a monotone preacher named Jonathan Edwards to spark a national revival. It's not the greatness of the preacher (or teacher) that matters, but the greatness of our God and His grace.

But growing congregations are made up of people who are determined to reach the lost for the glory of God. They grow because *every person* believes that they have a vital part in bringing people to Jesus – from the parking lot greeters to the pastors. They grow because they persistently ask God to use them for His glory. They grow because they are willing to show up when there is an opportunity to spread the gospel. They grow because their people are looking for the chance to invite people to Christ wherever they go.

Does that describe you? Are you praying fervently for the salvation of the lost? Are you actively seeking ways to share the good news? Does your heart break to see empty pews when you go to church? Those empty seats represent people who need to know Jesus.

I believe that God blesses and uses believers who want to be effective in serving Him. I also believe that God can withdraw His blessings from a church that does not do His will. Churches close every day. It's not because God can't hold them open. It's because God allows such churches to close their doors if those doors have not been flung open to receive the world that He loves.

American Baptist Men of Pennsylvania & Delaware Celebrates 65 Years of Forging Disciples and Servants!

Retreat for Men and Young Men Friday, July 26 – Sunday, July 28, 2019



Shippensburg University; 1871 Old Main Drive, Shippensburg, PA 17257

Theme: Nothing is Impossible with God (Luke 1:37) So Let Your Light Shine for Jesus to All! (Matthew 5:16)

Keynote Speaker Rev. Michael Kelley

Director, Groups Ministry, LifeWay Christian Resources Conference & Retreat Speaker Author of 3 Books



Youth Program 4th Grade through High School

ABMen Praise BandBlended Contemporary
& Traditional Music



Workshops to Help Forge Evangelical Servants

- Racetrack Evangelism
- Seven Questions Every Man Needs to Ask
- Removing "I" from LIFE -Dethroning of King "ME"
- The Growth Curve: Practical Spiritual Formation in a Distracted Age
- Basics and Resources of Men's Discipleship
- The Purpose of a Faith-Based Community Center

Price Incentive

Adults: All who register by May 15 and send a deposit of \$125, will receive the price of \$175, same as last year's price.



Cost: \$175 by May 15 \$185 by June 15 / \$195 by July 15 \$205 after July 16 Payable at the Retreat

First-Time-Pastor Price Incentive:Contact Bob Coats or Rob McQue

Youth: \$125

Parental Consent Form Required

Early-Bird-Youth Incentive:

The First 25 Youth Will Pay Only \$75

Registration Includes 5 Meals: 2 Breakfasts / 1 Lunch / 2 Dinners

Great Sleeping Quarters: 2 Beds with Private Bath and AC / Single Room Add \$50 to Cost

Questions: Contact Bob Coats 484-459-9185 / pastorbobcoats@gmail.com or

Visit www.abmopad.org for More Info, a Registration Form and Link to 2018 Pictures

Make Checks Payable to ABMOPAD

Mail to Rob McQue: 216 Brenton Circle: Harlevsville, PA 19438



THRIVE 2019



Annual Conference Sponsored by the American Baptist Women's Ministries of Pennsylvania And Delaware



JUNE 28 - 29, 2019

BLAIR COUNTY CONVENTION

CENTER, ALTOONA, PA

Adult Conference Fee \$95*

Girls Fee \$100 (includes housing)

*Hotel not included, Look for housing info with Registration Materials early February 2019.

*Some Early Bird Discounts will be available for those registering and paying for conference prior to May 1, 2019.



Barb Roose
KEYNOTE SPEAKER



speaker and author, passionate about equipping women to win at life with Christ-

Popular

empowered strength and dignity.



Marie Monville

TESTIMONIAL SPEAKER

"When all other lights go out, He still shines!"

On October 2, 2006, Marie's life was forever changed when her then husband made the decision to hold an Amish school hostage.



Abigail Medina Betancourt

MISSION SPEAKER

Abigail is the Puerto Rico Volunteer Coordinator at the American Baptist Home Mission Society in Cantano, Puerto Rico.

THRIVE 2019 updates, as they become available, can be found on the ABCOPAD Website, Notes and News Publications, on the ABWMOPAD Facebook Page or on the THRIVE Facebook Event Page. FIND US ON FACEBOOK! A REGISTRATION BOOKLET and forms will be mailed to each church in the region in early February. Please SHARE it when it arrives in your churches mailbox!