



“The Most Beautiful Music Your Ears Will Ever Hear”

“From the lips of children and infants you, Lord, have called forth your praise.”

--Matthew 21:16

For the first seven years of Owen’s life he and I have been worshipping at different churches. Owen has been going with my wife Clair to the churches she has pastored. Now that Clair has a new job outside of parish ministry we are able to worship together as a family for the first time.

Last Sunday, as we were singing I heard Owen singing with confidence and gusto. It was the most beautiful music to my ears. There is something indescribably priceless about hearing your child sing the hymns of faith with familiarity and abandon.

As a child, my dad and I would stand and sing together every Sunday. We would share a hymnal and, jokingly, let go of it for a split second so that the other person felt as if it would fall—just for a moment. It was funny. It was fun, and the memories are... priceless. I’d imagine it meant a real awful lot to my dad as well.

It used to be that just about every family I knew went to church together. Our churches were filled with young children along with every other age group. This is no longer the case. The age groups that all churches are lacking the most are young families and children. If you are reading this, and are the parent of a young child but have not yet started bringing your family to church, you may just be missing out on some of the most beautiful music your ears will ever hear.

I hope to see you in worship.

Pastor Ken

RBUMC CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Sunday School - 9:30am
Worship 10:30am

SEPTEMBER 2022 - NEWSLETTER

MINISTRY UPDATE:

We have finished up our study on the life of Joseph and will now be looking into the life of Moses! From the baby in the basket to leading the Israelites to the Promise Land we will be learning about how God was with Moses through out it all.

We are enjoying having our second class open and being able to engage in more age appropriate conversations and lessons.



Wednesday PM

We will begin our Wednesday PM programming Sept 7th from 6pm-7pm.

PRAYER PARTNERS:

This month we will launch a prayer partnership with our preschool. Each Sunday School class will be assigned a Preschool Class to pray over for the school year. We hope that each child will be prayed for specifically by a Sunday school member and possibly connect further with cards in celebration or just offering words of encouragement.

Questions?
Contact Robin Keeling - Children's Ministry Director
(863) 221-3195 rbumkids@gmail.com



Brackett's Rackett

IS YOUR PASSION OUT OF WHACK?

“Jesus answered, ‘The most important [commandment] is, Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. And you shall love the Lord your God with all your HEART and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.’” – Mark 12:29-30

To love God with all your heart means to love God with all of your feelings, with all of your emotions and with all your passion.

Now, passion is a very hot term in our contemporary culture. People are always asking, “What’s your passion?” What they’re really asking you is what is it that really gets your heart racing? What is it that makes you excited to get up each day?

It could be a certain ideology, social cause, or politics. Perhaps it’s a passion about the theater, movies, or music. Or It could be making money, physical fitness, or watching college football. You can be passionate about a lot of things, but the number one passion of your life should be your relationship with God.

Think about your relationship with God this way: When you first came to Christ there was no problem in feeling passionate about God. You had a hunger for the Word, to be in worship, and to tell others about Christ. You were excited about it and there was a very real passion there. But as time went by and life presented its many challenges and opportunities, it became easy for other things to take a higher priority. And if we’re more passionate about anything else than our relationship with God, then our priorities are simply out of whack.

Jesus reminds us that when you give your heart to God, you want to maintain that passion and love Him with all your heart. So how’s your passion for your relationship with God?

Senior Adults/Young At Heart:

September 2022:

6 2:30 p.m. - Restaurant: Davis Wayne’s

25 10:30 a.m. - Theme: Jewish History Museum Hosts: David Brackett and Billie Hunt

Devotion:

October 2022:

13 11:00 a.m. - Restaurant: Top of the Rock

22 10:30 a.m. - Program: Pumpkin Day

Program Leader: David Brackett

Devotion: Jane Smith Hostess:

Noteworthy News



Starting September 7, choir will no longer rehearse on Wednesday evenings. Instead, we will rehearse on **Sunday mornings** and extend it by 30 minutes. This means we will meet at 8:30am and practice from 8:30am-9:30am.

If you haven't tried choir yet or have been interested, now would be the perfect time to start!!

SO...Sunday September 11, please be in the choir loft ready to roll at 8:30 sharp!

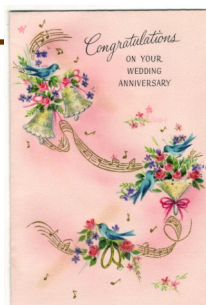
Choir
Opportunities



- 9 Joyce Beckert, Joe Guthrie, Jerry Jordan, Elizabeth Smith
- 10 Myles Smith
- 11 Joyce Knowles, Matthew Smith
- 12 Bub Gilliland, Nancy McDaniel
- 13 Joe Knowles
- 15 Serie Bland
- 16 Mel Willett, Lois Jordan
- 19 Gary Card, Roger Richie
- 21 Mike Bourne, Robert White
- 22 Peggy Clem
- 23 Audrey Smith, Stephen Owens
- 24 Sarah Jones
- 27 Don Brooks
- 29 David Trainor
- 30 Frances Farmer

There will be a **Bible study led by Stella Campbell** on Wednesday nights starting on September 14 at 6:30 pm. We will meet in the church parlor. We will be studying the book of Romans. Our text book is In view of God's mercies by Courtney Doctor. Books are \$21.99. That is pricey but includes online video access. Let Stella know if you need a book. We will walk through the book of Romans to see the glorious grace and transforming work of the gospel.

- 9 Clark and Sheila Calabrese
- 16 Don and Ethel Brooks
- 17 Bruce and Betty Owens
- 31 Bob and Carron Trainor



Faith Guided Leadership by Tom Mayberry

“Do not judge others, and you will not be judged. For you will be treated as you treat others. The standard you use in judging is the standard by which you will be judged. And why worry about a speck in your friend’s eye when you have a log in your own? How can you think of saying to your friend, ‘Let me help you get rid of that speck in your eye,’ when you can’t see past the log in your own eye? Hypocrite! First get rid of the log in your own eye; then you will see well enough to deal with the speck in your friend’s eye.” Matthew 7:1-5

Last night, one of my eyes started irritating me. I could tell there was something in it and no matter what I did, I could not get it out. I was hoping it would work its way out overnight, but I woke up and it was worse. I had a long drive to Savannah for work today and along the way, I was contemplating what I would blog about this week. Then, my eye flared up again and I felt something sitting behind my eyelid. I thought of this Bible passage, and I prepared my thoughts for the blog.

Have you ever been judged? How did it make you feel? In my annual performance review at work, my supervisor may bring up the areas I need to improve on, but I generally already know what they are, so am not offended. But what about when we are unfairly judged; when someone points out our flaws based on their perception of us or based on their standards? I do not feel that is right and I get upset about it. How about you?

Here, Jesus tells us to not worry about the speck in our friend’s eye when we have a log in ours. Jesus wants us to examine our own motives and behaviors instead of judging others. Often, the traits that bother us, we have ourselves and do not see them. It is so easy to criticize others, but so hard to take criticism ourselves. In my full-time job, I perform many audits of the performance of individuals and teams. It is easy to point out the areas needing improvement. I must watch my approach. I am not better than them, I do not know the circumstances around what has happened or what has not been completed. Jesus’ statement, “Stop judging,” is not a blanket statement to overlook wrong behavior of others but a call to be understanding, rather than negative. I have a judgmental personality and must be more aware of it all the time. I catch myself judging others and am not proud of that trait.

His statement is focused more on the kind of hypocritical, judgmental attitude that tears others down in order to build oneself up. Before criticizing someone else, think about the fact you do not know what motivates their behavior or habits that you feel are bad. An Native American aphorism says it best, “Don’t criticize another man until you’ve walked a mile in his moccasins.” If you think about it, we do not really know a lot about most of the people we associate with. We may know them well at work and how they act, but not much about the rest of their lives. What we know is only what they choose to share with us.

Look at all your Facebook friends. They are portraying a persona online; they may not even be close to the type of person they are or what their lives are like. Do not be quick to judge them or their lives. Sometimes the ones who criticize the most are the ones with the lowest self-esteem. It makes them feel better about themselves if others seem worse than they are. What motivates you to be critical of others? Be honest with yourself.

Go out and be less judgmental. Leave the judging to God. Work on building people up instead of tearing them down. And now, I need to get this log out of my eye.

Sunday, August 21 We Enjoyed Our First Church-Wide Picnic Since the Beginning of Covid







This Crew Volunteers to Make Breakfast for Our Hungry Friends at The Community Kitchen once a month. If you are interested in joining them, please call Kathy Stanfield at 423-605-0170



Discipleship:

Wednesday Night Offerings – Fall 2022 (Beginning September 7th, 6:00 p.m.) – Bring your own dinner, 6:30 p.m. – Studies beginning are:

Alpha Group – for New Members and Visitors. Led by Rev. Ken Sauer

Study of the Minor Prophets – Led by David Brackett

The Wall Program – for 6th – 12th Graders led by Caleb Lambert.

Jesus League – for Children – Led by Robin Keeling

Nursery Provided

We will have another 5th Sunday Celebration on Sunday morning October 30th. This gathering will be accompanied by a Fund Raising Breakfast. Cost: Donation

YOUTH (Grades 6-12):

Cornerstone Youth Class is meeting in the Loft they are currently studying “My Family, My Friends, My Life”

Youth Foundation Bible Study – Sunday Nights at 5:30 p.m. – They are studying the Book of James.

The Wall – Wednesday Night at 6:30 p.m. – studying various Topics as they relate to life.

September 11th – Birthday Party for Everyone at 7:00 p.m.

Youth Lock In and Locked Up – September 23rd at 9:30 p.m.

September 25th – Youth Guys and Gals Small Groups at 5:30 p.m.

Church Outdoor Work Day – **October 1 at 9:00 a.m. –** **Painting, Trimming, and other** **outdoor Projects.**

