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Upcoming BIBLE Studies and SERMON Series

Wade Allen
Lead Pastor

As quickly as it arrived, it has gone away as well. What am I talking about? I referring to our recent study from the Book of Nehemiah. Pastor David and I were discussing just this week how quickly these studies seem to pass by. It seems like we spend months preparing for them and then the series is over in a matter of days. I know that is an exaggeration, but I am honestly sad that we won't be looking at Nehemiah again in the coming day.

Having said that, I am excited about starting a new sermon series through the Gospel of Luke. This new series will begin on November 28. At this time, our plans are to stay in Luke throughout winter and into the spring. Being one of the longer books in the New Testament, we will not be able to finish the book in that time, but we will come back to it on an annual basis to study a bit more in a similar way as to how we studied through the Book of Acts.



For those of you who would like to continue diving even deeper into the Book of Nehemiah, I have a leadership development course of study that we developed while serving on the mission field that is based primarily on this book. This study takes the principles that we learn from the life and experiences of Nehemiah and fleshes them out into real-life, modern-day issues and how we need to approach these leadership challenges.

If you are interested in joining a small group of leaders for this training, please let me know. There is no set schedule at this point. The goal is to start sometime after the first of the year, and the schedule will be determined by the availability of those interested. We may also open this training up to others in our local association.

Community Groups—Winter Session

I hope that you have enjoyed being a part of your community groups this fall! I know that I have been blessed in each of the groups that I lead/attend. As of this week, our Fall Session has come to an end. Some of our groups will choose to continue meeting weekly/periodically over the next seven weeks, but the Winter Session will not begin until the week of January 9th. Please be in prayer for Ron Simpson as he is in the process of writing our community

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Where's Your FOCUS?

John O'Connor

Pastor of Community Engagement

It's that time of the year, where time seems to go by faster. November seems like it only really has three weeks, and December is more like two weeks. Everything else is Thanksgiving and Christmas "Prep & Parties". With all of that busy work, "Prep & Parties", and general rush towards the end of the year, it's easy to think of only our tasks, our families, our burdens... only me.

As I considered what to write about for the end of the year, it brought me to Galatians 6:1-2 *"Brothers and sisters, if someone is overtaken in any wrongdoing, you who are spiritual, restore such a person with a gentle spirit, watching out for yourselves so that you also won't be tempted. Carry one another's burdens; in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ."*

In verse one, Paul is instructing us to reach out to those who have turned away from Christ. It is on us to show the love of Christ, to restore them. What better time of the year to restore a brother or sister in need.

In verse two, he tells us to carry one another's burden. Similar to what Jesus said in John 13:34 *"...As I have loved you, that you also love one another."*

Don't let the holidays consume you into focusing only on your prep and your parties. Who do you know that needs restoration? Reach out to them. Who do you know that has burdens? Ask God to reveal them to you and love on that person. Happy Thanksgiving! Merry Christmas!

An Unexpected BLESSING

Ron Fields

Pastor of Senior Adults and Care Ministries

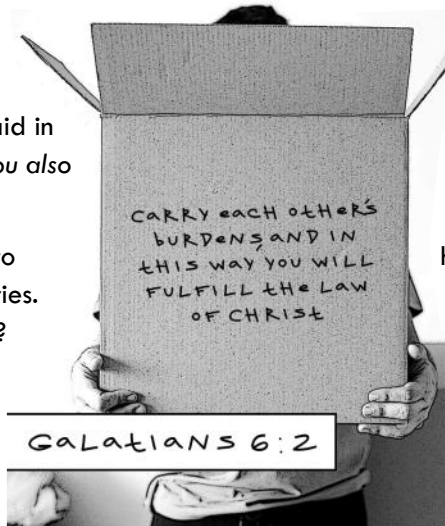
Vendor tables lined the hallways of Central Baptist College last week at the BMA of Arkansas annual meeting.

Browsing along I noticed one with materials promoting a new missionary family going to Zambia. Picking up a prayer card I was struck by the name. Since no one was at the table I asked someone close by if they knew who was normally there. They did and soon pointed out a person walking into the building.

I immediately went to him and introduced myself. I asked if he was Miceal Quillman. He said yes. Then I asked him if his grandparents were Vern and Ruby. By this time he was quite astonished. I shared with him that the Quillman family were the first people I baptized when I first began pastoring way back in 1966. As you can imagine we nearly had a celebration!

I love going to association meetings! Miceal is sponsored by Temple Baptist church of Jonesboro, Arkansas. I will certainly be keeping in touch with his family as they go to the mission field.

I truly understood how the Apostle John felt when he wrote, "I rejoiced greatly that I found of thy children walking in truth..." (2 John 4a).



Celebrating the CHRIST in Christmas

David McEuen

Pastor of Family and Worship

The holiday season has arrived! Thanksgiving is a little over a week away and Christmas is right around the corner! I have a confession to make. I love this time of year. I didn't always love it. In fact, some may have called me Grinch or Scrooge when it came to Christmas, but I've grown to love and appreciate the hustle and bustle of it all.

My favorite part of these holidays is the pause in our schedules that forces us to really BE with our family and consider some beautiful, spiritual truths. Thanksgiving allows us to pause to consider our life and examine just how blessed we really are by God and Christmas allows us to pause again to rejoice that Christ entered into His creation to secure an eternal redemption for those who are in Him. These are truly amazing holidays worth celebrating and I'm excited to tell you about a brand new resource that we're offering to be a part of your celebration!

In addition to our church's annual Thanksgiving and Christmas traditions, we are offering a 25-day Advent Devotional booklet to help you

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group studies for the Winter Session. Sign-up forms for groups in the Winter Session will be available on the Information Wall in the church foyer in the coming weeks.

If you are interested in leading or in hosting a community group in the future, please contact Pastor John O'Connor or me and we will explore



focus your thoughts on Christ's coming this season. Each day will feature a verse, devotional thought, and a question for you to think about throughout the day. Here is an excerpt from one of the devotionals:

"When we look at the story of the coming of Christ, we usually begin at the record of his birth with Mary, Joseph, and the manger. But the story actually begins earlier than this with a couple devoted to the Lord at a time when things were bleak.

Meet Zechariah, the priest, and his wife, Elizabeth..."

Our prayer is that God will use this devotional book to deepen your understanding of the Biblical record of Christ's coming and give you a greater appreciation of the wonder of Christ's appearing. Be looking for these in the foyer Sunday, November 29.

that possibility with you. It is our desire that every person touched by the ministry of Temple Baptist Church will get involved in a community group. In order for that to become a reality, we will need to train more group leaders and start new groups. Please pray about this opportunity asking God to give you direction about how you should be involved.

UPCOMING EVENTS *Mark Your Calendars*



- Nov 14** **Gideon Sunday**
- Nov 14** **Bonfire Fellowship**
5-8 PM
- Nov 21** **Church Thanksgiving Celebration**
6:00 PM
- Nov 22** **Ladies Bible Study**
6:30 PM
- Nov 25-26** **OFFICE CLOSED**
- Nov 28** **New Sermon Series—Luke**
- Dec 2** **Christian Seniors**
12:00 PM
- Dec 5** **Singing Men of Arkansas—**
Home for Christmas
3:00 PM—FUMC Springdale
Free Concert—No Ticket Required
- Dec 11** **Joanna Allen Studio Recital**
- Dec 12** **Christmas Caroling**
4:00—7:00 PM
- Dec 19** **Birthday Gifts for Jesus**
9:45 AM after abbreviated SS
- Dec 24** **Candlelight Christmas Eve Service**
5:00 PM
- Dec 24-31** **LIMITED OFFICE HOURS**
- Dec 31** **New Year's Eve Party**
7:00 PM



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