

Bring it Home

MONDAY: Exploring the Treasures of Life - - A life with God is filled with treasures, sometimes difficult to see, but most of the time giving us much satisfaction. Read Luke 3:15-29 and 21-22. Notice in verse 15 how the people were filled with expectation about the coming of the treasured Savior. What new things are you anticipating in this year? How has knowing Christ been a treasure for you? Pray today thanking God for the treasures of faith in your life.

TUESDAY: God Wades Into All of Life - - The message from Luke 3:15-19, 21-22 is that God is not some distant entity. Rather the message is that God in Jesus has chosen to wade deeply into our lives. God does not waste time waiting for us to “measure up” or “clean up our act” before the Savior would walk beside us. How has God “waded” into your life becoming real for you? Pray for a deepened sense of God’s presence in every day.

WEDNESDAY: All of Life is Holy - - Birth is blessed by the nativity (Luke 2:1-14); childhood is blessed in the temple (Luke 2:41-47); and adulthood is blessed because of Jesus’ baptism (Luke 3:15-17). Read through these passages today and ask yourself how your life has been different because of Jesus’ presence with you in these significant moments in your life. Ask the Holy Spirit to lead you in your deepening walk with Christ.

THURSDAY: Seeing God in the Simple - - Have you ever had one of those moments where God seemed especially close to you? How did that happen? In Jesus we see that all of life is holy. Read John 2:1-12. Notice that Jesus takes something as insignificant as water and changes everything-including lives! Do you see things in your life as insignificant? Ask yourself how God is able to work in those areas to bring about significance. Pray for God’s perspective.

FRIDAY: Seeing God in the Complex - - There are, no doubt, times in our lives when we are especially confounded by the complexities of life. Trouble, hardship, even death threatens to pull us apart. Complex issues challenge what we believe. We must remember, however, that the bottom line for God is always a word of grace. That doesn’t mean that the issues will easily slip away, but it does mean that God will be present in the midst of them. Pray for a willingness to follow Jesus, and the wisdom to believe that He is there with you.

SATURDAY: God Has Eternal Plans - - Look at the plants that create oxygen for us to breathe. What would happen if all of the plants disappeared? The point here is that most of what we have hangs in a delicate balance out there by our living God to sustain life. If it’s true for plants, how much more for us? Read John 14:1-7. God has a plan for you, so pray and ask God for a clear sense of God’s plan for you. Trust that God will guide you in your calling today.

SUNDAY: Choose Life - - Each day, even in insignificant ways, we have the opportunity to choose or not to choose life, often by how we treat others. Read Deuteronomy 30:15-20. Think of several ways that you can choose life today. Think about those with whom you work and play. How can you affirm the gift of life in each person? Take one of those people and call on and affirm him or her. Thank God for them for the gift that their life is to you.

Why Lay Hands?

In the second lesson from the Bible today, readers come across an interesting situation. There we see that someone – if you read before this passage, it’s the Apostle Philip – has converted and baptized many in the town of Samaria.

Now Samaria was at that time the capital of the region of Palestine that was filled with Samaritans, who were often denounced by the Jews. When the apostles in Jerusalem heard about this great event, they apparently wanted to make sure that everything was done correctly. (Acts 2:14-17) When they arrived, they found that these newly converted and baptized Samaritan Christians had not yet received the Holy Spirit. So the apostles sent Peter and John to do several things for the Samaritans in order to encourage them to receive the Holy Spirit.

Peter and John proceeded to do several things – one of which would have been very strange for me to see if it had occurred in the church where I was growing up.

First, Peter and John “prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit.” In the congregation I grew up in, the Holy Spirit was rarely if ever mentioned. No one prayed that the Holy Spirit would come upon anyone there. That’s one strange thing. Stranger still is what Paul and John did next. They then “laid their hands on” the Samaritans, who then “received the Holy Spirit.” We never laid hands on anyone in my church growing up.

Nowadays I as pastor lay my hands on newly confirmed kids – youth who have affirmed their baptism. At that time I say to God about them “Father in heaven, for Jesus’ sake, stir up in _____ the gift of Your Holy Spirit; confirm his/her faith, guide his/her life, empower him/her in his/her serving, give him/her patience in suffering, and bring him/her to everlasting life.”

I can tell you that it is a very moving experience to place my hands on the confirmands’ heads; the heat that comes from their heads to my hands – and perhaps vice-versa – is to me a sign of the even greater spiritual exchange taking place then – the further gifting of the Holy Spirit.

There are several other places where “the laying on of hands” is mentioned in the New Testament. An important example is when Paul exhorts Timothy, “Do not neglect the gift that is in you, which was given to you through prophecy with the laying on of hands by the council of elders.” (1 Tim. 4:14)

Continued following Announcements



2201 E 106th Street, Carmel IN 46032, 317-846-1555 ☎ www.kogcarmel.org

January 12-13, 2019

CONNECTIONS

Calendar

• **Sunday, January 13**

9:00 am Worship
 9:00 am Gloryland
 11:00 am Worship
 5:15 pm Sr. High Youth

• **Monday, January 14**

6:30 pm Yoga
 7:00 pm Council

• **Tuesday, January 15**

5:30 pm Pilates/Sculpt
 7:00 pm Boy Scouts

• **Wednesday, January 16**

8:00 am Men's Bible Study
 9:15 am WOW
 5:30 pm CHOW Dinner
 6:00 pm King's Kids
 6:00 pm Bible Study
 6:30 pm Glory Singers
 7:00 pm King's Chorale
 7:00 pm Friendship Bible Study

• **Thursday, January 17**

1:30 pm Bible Study
 5:30 pm Pilates/Sculpt
 7:00 pm Girl Scouts
 7:00 pm Sounds of Glory

• **Friday, January 18**

1:00 pm Cardio Dance
 7:30 pm ICCCI Dance

Council

Elders

Dick DeLor (317-816-2230)
 Donna Frazier (371-896-5378)
 Paul Retzlaff (317-843-9068)
 Kevin Wachtel (317-727-9583)
 Deann Wimer (317-846-6822)
 Pastor Hewitt (317-846-1555)

Deacons

Jeff Boldt	Brandon Hulse
Julie Hayden	Brad Johnson
Susan Kraabel	Carole Rahn
Ann Sullivan	Bob Tipsword

Announcements

WELCOME - - Please take time to introduce yourselves to the newest members of our KOG Family, Russell and Brittany Nix and their children Amelia, Charlotte and Josephine.

WOW - - Women on Wednesday begins “What Matters Most – a Study on Philippians” by Karen Ehman on Wednesdays from 9:15-11:00. Study the ever-relevant Letter of Philippians to deepen your relationship with Jesus, turn your worries into worship, and develop gospel-centered tools for navigating relational conflict. Friends and family are welcome – we love new faces. Cost will be \$15 for the book. Contact Donna Frazier (317-696-0236) or Becky Ellis (317-460-4319) if you have any questions.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY - - This Wednesday morning group has resumed. You are welcome to join the study and discussion in the Cross & Crown area from 8:00-9:00.

PASTOR'S BIBLE STUDY - - We resume this discussion based study on Thursdays from 1:30-2:30 in the Cross & Crown area. All welcome!

CHOW RESUMES - - Wednesday, January 16 our dinner and programming resume. Try something new this year! Join the choir or a Bible study! Dinner at 5:30.

HOME FOR DOG - - The family of Robert Swift is looking for a home for his dog. He is an 11 year old beagle in relatively good health but may be behind on his shots. Call the church office if you would like the contact information. Thank you.

HVAC GOAL UPDATE - - Thank you to those who have contributed to our Sanctuary HVAC goal. We are at \$4,765 of our \$29,000 goal. Installation will be the first week of April but we would like to have all the funds well before that time. Please give as you are able. Thank you!

Announcements

SAVE THE DATE - - The ever popular Chili Cook-Off and Dessert Auction will be Saturday, February 2 following the 5:01 service. This “mildly” competitive event is sponsored by our Sr. High Youth as a way for them to start to raise funds for their summer mission trip. Sign up today at the large bulletin board to enter the Chili contest as well as to attend the event!



Pastor's Column (cont.)

This is the key biblical reference to what a bishop does when she or he ordains a pastor, laying hands on that new pastor as the key action in the ordination ceremony.

What is this “laying on of hands” all about? It is a sign of a spiritual reality – key ways of thinking about our faith are “handed down” from previous Christian leaders to new Christian leaders, to their heads, where thinking takes place. Through this ceremony we dare to hope that the Spirit then transforms Christians’ thinking: “Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God.” (Rom. 12:2)

--DLH--

Prayers

MEMBERS

Becky DeWitt *ongoing elbow recovery*
Lynette Gross *upcoming brain surgery*
Camilla London *breast cancer*
Judy Naaman *recovering from knee surgery*
Tim Reeb *upcoming back surgery*
Connie Schmohe *alzheimer's disease*
Matt Wallace *broken leg*

FAMILY & FRIENDS

Jill Dietz	DJ Dillon
Marlene Eisen	Chris Excell
Karen Fethke	Chuck Lund
Jason Mellema	Kaijah Monson
Donald Ruthsatz	Tony Sandleben
Pam Sandusky	Margie Stone
Ray Strohminger	Henry Tomascycki
Sarah Wassmuth	Bill Wehrman
Kerry White	Nancy Zachary



Team Leads

Evangelism, Jeff Boldt
Fellowship, Susan Kraabel
Finance, David Baugh
Lifelong Learning, Julie Hayden
Ministry Development, Brad Johnson
Mission Support, Carole Rahn
Preschool, Sherri Hunt
Property, Bob Tipsword
Risk Management, Marty Culver
Stewardship, Brandon Hulse
Worship & Music, Ann Sullivan

Making the **CONNECTIONS** that make the difference