



From the Pastor's Desk...

MAY 2014

Dear CUP family and friends,

Like many of you, my house has come out of this deep-freeze of a winter a little worse for the wear. One of our problems involves the back staircase on our deck, which has started to pull away from the main section. If you were to ask my wife or I two weeks ago what the problem was, we'd say, 'It's broken.'

Following a visit from a deck builder and repairman, however, I was introduced to some terms and tools. *Bottle jack. Baluster. Concentrated Load.* Fortunately, I have been given enough information and guidance to take care of the repair myself (well, with the help of a very handy neighbor.) That's a good thing, given how astronomically expensive new decks can be! Some specific information went a long way in helping me understand my problem.

The same is true with food. It doesn't take a genius to know that we need food to survive, but eating *healthy* food based on an understanding of vitamins, minerals, and calories is crucial for vibrant living.

Guess what? The same is also true with our theology. We can get along all right with the very basic terms: salvation, grace, holiness, and (of course) Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. But our ability to appreciate – and frankly, even to truly *understand* the basics – comes when we grapple and learn some additional terms that don't come up in everyday conversation. *Imputed Grace. Divine Election. Fear of God. Perseverance of the Saints. Propitiation.*

These, among others, are truths from Scripture that sharpen our understanding of God and His character, and of ourselves as well. During the month of May, we'll be taking some time in our 'Whole Faith' series to look at these terms, what they mean, and the practical application these truths have on our relationships with others.

Knowing what 'propitiation' means may not help you fix your deck - but it very well might help you fix your life!

Blessings,

Pastor Scott

Cup Church's website cupepc.org

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E-mail address for Cindy—office@cupepc.org

NOTE: The old e-mail addresses are still functioning, we can still receive messages. Some people are still having trouble accessing website through Google, try MSN Explorer.

Deep Healing Prayer Opportunities

In the wake of Gary and Kathleen Hixson's time with us, several people have seen or experienced first-hand the dramatic power and love of God that comes in what has been called 'Deep Healing' prayer. Members of the CUP prayer team will be participating in these 2 hour sessions, but **all** content from these sessions will be confidential. Typically, we will have women pray for women and men pray for men.

Sunday, May 4th

6:00-8:00pm Deep Healing Prayer Sessions

If you are interested in joining the CUP prayer team, please contact Pastor Scott.

IN NEED OF PRAYER?

Members of the prayer team are available in the library immediately following worship each Sunday.

Please join us in the library and let us pray with you. If you know of family members or others in the community who are in need of prayer, please encourage them to join us on Sundays.

Prayer request cards are now available in the blue pew pads.

If you have a written prayer request, please fill out the card and drop it in the offering plate or church office and we will pray for you.

If you are in need of prayer throughout the week: Please call the church at 724-843-1594 to speak to the pastor, to have your prayer request put on our prayer chain, or to set up a more convenient time to pray together with the prayer team or one of our elders.

Please remember that all prayer requests will remain confidential!

SHINE Spring Program

**Sunday May 18th
at 7:00pm**

'Happily Forever After'

Reception following performance in Fellowship Hall

**May 17th—9am-Noon Dress Rehearsal
12:00–1:00pm Luncheon
& Awards Ceremony**

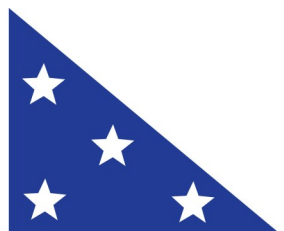


THIRSTY THURSDAY STARTS WITH HONORED

PASTOR FROM SIERRA LEONE

Friends, one of my favorite things about Summer is our annual 'Thirsty Thursday' gatherings. This is an opportunity to join together at a person's home or local park for a pot-luck dinner and either a movie or a speaker – in each case followed by discussion – or, in some cases, a volleyball or cornhole game in the yard! This year we will begin on **THURSDAY, JUNE 12** with our guest being **Rev. Samuel Sesay**, head of the Edunations ministry in Sierra Leone and an EPC pastor. Rev. Sesay and his young daughter are here for the EPC General Assembly in Knoxville later in June, as well as our 'Fore Fintonia' golf scramble June 30. You won't want to miss this wonderful man of God share stories about what your prayers and child sponsorships are doing in West Africa!

**The Newsletter is
also available online
at our website:
cupepc.org**



**MEMORIAL
DAY**

Weekly Meetings...

Monday 1:00pm **Bible Study** (Resumes in September)

Tuesday 9:00am **Breakfast Bunch**—Hot Dog Shoppe

Wednesday Youth Small Groups 7:30pm (ends May 21st)

(Youth Guys in the Youth Room, Youth Girls at the Manse)

Second Wednesday 1:00pm **Game Day** (May 14th)

Thursday Morning Woman's Small Group 9:00am (ends May 22nd)

3rd Thursday at noon **Lunch Bunch** (May 15th at Tinitique)

Saturday Morning Men's Group 7:30am (ends May 24th)



**BIG
SALE
Donations
Needed**

Have you started your
Spring Cleaning yet?
If so, remember to put
all those
“Not Needed Anymore”
things aside for our
“Big Sale” this fall –
Date TBA



SECOND ANNUAL FORE FINTONIA GOLF TOURNAMENT

JUNE 30, 2014

At Seven Oaks Country Club
Golfer and Sponsorship
Registration Forms now available

**Blackhawk High School AP Testing in Fellowship Hall on
Thursday May 8th & Friday May 9th (in the Mornings)**



Memorial Day
*Remember Those Who
Gave Their Lives*

TRUSTEES WORK DAY

**MAY 10th
9am—Noon**

*Many books can inform,
but only the Bible
can transform.*

MAY Calendar

- May 1** 6:00pm OUTREACH
May 3 8:15am Confirmation Class
Rafting Trip leaving Church
May 4 6:00pm Deep Healing Prayer
May 6 6:00pm DEACONS
7:00pm WORSHIP
7:30pm TRUSTEES
May 9-10 Youth Survival Competition
May 10 9:00am Trustees Work Day
May 14 1:00pm Game Day
May 15 12:00pm Noon Lunch Bunch
at Tinitiques
May 17 9:00am Shine Dress Rehearsal
followed by Awards Luncheon
May 18 7:00pm Shine Spring Program
May 20 7:00pm SESSION

Every Monday 1:00pm Bible Study (resumes in fall)
Every Tuesday 9:00am Breakfast Club @Hot Dog Shoppe
Every Wednesday 3:30pm "SHINE" After School
program followed by Family Dinner @6pm (ends 5/14)
7:30pm Youth Girls Small Group @ Manse
Youth Guys in Youth Room (ends 5/21)
Every Thursday 9:00am Women's Small Group (ends 5/22)
7:00pm Choir Practice/8:15pm Praise Team
Every Saturday 7:30am Men's Breakfast @ Eat-n-Park
(ends 5/24 until fall)
Every Sunday 8:45am Confirmation Classes
6:30pm Crosscurrent
2nd & 4th Sunday 6:00pm Deep Healing Prayer Sessions
(5/4 only)

CUP LIBRARY NEWS

Several books that are new to us have recently been donated and are available for checkout. The first is called “Choosing Gratitude: Your Journey to Joy” by Nancy Leigh DeMoss. According to Joni Eareckson Tada who wrote the foreword, this book will lead you through your afflictions using select scriptures and insights into a deep and profound joy that cannot be shaken. The book of nine chapters concludes with a 30-day devotional guide to help you journey closer to God in a step-by-step daily walk.

Another new addition is “Working Moms: From Survival to Satisfaction” by Miriam Neff, and is published by NavPress, ministry of the Navigators. Neff has been a counselor at a public high school and she and her husband are the parents of four children. The book addresses many of the concerns felt by moms who work outside the home, including issues of guilt, and uncertainty and gives tips on not only how to survive but also to have inner peace.

A third book you will find on the shelves is “Thorn in My Heart” a novel by best-selling author Liz Curtis Higgs. The setting is Scotland in the autumn of 1788 and blends history with masterful storytelling.

Many thanks to the folks who have given these books to our library! The library is open for use and browsing whenever the church is open (as long as there is not a meeting going on in that room). Come check us out!

CHILDREN & YOUTH

Dear Cup Church Family,

This is an exciting season for the children and youth ministries! The Shine program is about helping children grow in the 'arts' and the 'Gospel' and each week the children get to practice their dramatic and musical abilities and learn about Jesus. The 5-6th grade shared a drama on Palm Sunday about how Christ died on the Cross because He loves us and this is more important than everything; even having lots of toys in their grandparents rec. room!

I am looking forward to the Shine spring musical, Happily Forever After! The kids in the story have metaphorically run away from God and based their life on the values of the world. The Carpenter, a character representing Jesus, shows the Castle Crew that their castle (their life) is going to fall apart when the next storm comes because they have built it on sand. He then leads them on a journey of repentance that even requires the Carpenter to sacrifice himself to bring the crew back home to their Father's Shining Kingdom. This kingdom is built on the Truth that never fails and thus they are able to live 'happily forever after.' This great story reminds us of the real sacrifice that Christ made so that we can be in an eternal relationship with Him. I hope that you are able to join us for this exciting journey that will take place at 7pm on May 18th!

I hope that you are also able to join us for Confirmation and Youth Sunday on June 1st! I care deeply for the youth at CrossCurrent and I have been challenging each of them to grow deeper in relationship with God. My prayer is that their faith in Christ will remain central as God's plan for their life unfolds. In confirmation class, we have been through an overview of the Bible and the youth are working on preparing their statements of faith. As a youth group we have been in God's Word exploring God's grace for us, what it means to be transformed by his love, and how to share that with others. Small groups on Wednesdays have proven a time for continued fellowship, relationship, study of what it means to serve Jesus, and an opportunity to pray for each other.

I appreciate everyone's prayers, support, and sacrificial involvement as we seek together to minister to the children and youth of this church and beyond! I want to give a special 'Thank You' to all of the Shine and CrossCurrent volunteer leaders who sacrifice many hours and conveniences in order to serve these programs, the children, and the youth!

In Christ,

Matt Ulrich, Children & Youth Director



5-6th preparing drama



Shine Sunday- April 13th



strange snacks :)



team tallent



Batman?