

From Dave's Laptop

Tuesday, April 9, 2013

Wow! We had a wonderful weekend of 40th anniversary celebrations, did we not? Everything seemed to go very nicely. We had lots of old friends here for the party on Saturday night, together with a very high percentage of our regular worshipers, and Sunday's worship was high energy and joyful!

The award for traveling the greatest distance to the event went to William and Annika Hauswald, who came from Germany just for the party. The award for making the greatest effort to attend went to Homer Carter, our interim Pastor prior to Bob Jordan, who had just gotten out of the hospital in Louisville two days before. His daughter, Christy, drove from Chicago to Louisville to fly here with him.

All of our former pastors and interim pastors were here, with the exception of Steve McNeely, who watched from Heaven's portals, and John Woodall, who was deeply grieved that he had made a prior commitment. John hopes to visit later this year.

I'm sure I don't know all the folk who should be thanked for the Team Effort that helped the celebration be so successful, but thanks are surely due to these folk:

Idella Anderson: Planning Team; Invitations
Ben & Janet Davis: Planning Team; Programs; Displays
Tyrone Gaines: Video recording
Donna Hawk: Hospitality & Reception
Jenetha Holmes: Planning Team; Music
Debbie McCustion-Kahl: Planning Team
Ken Ndiang: PowerPoint Management
Men in Ministry: Setups
Paul Robertson: Historical Video
Earl Sasser: Planning Team
Barrie Sims: Finances
Donna Townsend: Planning Team; Hospitality & Reception
Dan Trollinger: Planning Team; Banquet; Nametags
Nancy Wisthoff: Planning Team; Registration

The Planning Committee has two final requests to make:

1. If you have contact information for any of our former members and friends, especially updated information, please email that to Peggy Wise at cbf.md@verizon.net. We're going to try to do a better job keeping up with our "formers & friends," and we need the best contact info available!
2. If you spent any of your own money in support of some aspect of the celebration, please send that information to Ben Davis at ben.davis35@verizon.net. While we're not able to reimburse those contributions, you could probably deduct them as in-kind charitable contributions. The Planning Committee would like to know what you spent so we can develop a reasonably good estimate of how much it actually cost to put on this event.

Please note the attachments with this *Laptop*, especially the statistics on the last year of our Food Pantry. THANKS to all who help this fine ministry of compassion serve our neighbors week by week! There's also information about preparing Health Kits for various BCMD ministries.



Thanks!

Ginger Hampton gave me a brochure this week from the Pacific Garden Ministry, in which the following hope-full words appear. I pray that these may encourage your heart:

- We say, "It's impossible." God's Word says, "*the things which are impossible with men are possible with God*" (Luke 18:27).
- We say, "I'm tired." God's Word says, "*Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest*" (Matthew 11:28).
- We say, "Nobody loves me." God's Word says, "*For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life*" (John 3:16).
- We say, "I can't figure things out." God's Word says, "*Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy paths*" (Proverbs 3:5-6).
- We say, "I can't go on." God's Word says, "*My grace is sufficient for thee; for My strength is made perfect in weakness*" (2 Corinthians 12:9).
- We say, "I can't do it." God's Word says, "*I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me*" (Philippians 4:13).
- We say, "I can't forgive myself." God's Word says, "*If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness*" (1 John 1:9).
- We say, "I'm afraid." God's Word says, "*For God hath not given us the spirit of fear, but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind*" (2 Timothy 1:7).
- We say, "I'm worried and frustrated." God's Word says, "*Cast all your care upon Him, for He careth for you*" (1 Peter 5:7).
- We say, "I'm all alone." God's Word says, "*I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee*" (Hebrews 13:5).

As the Psalmist noted, "*Your word, LORD is eternal; it stands firm in the heavens. Your faithfulness continues through all generations Oh, how I love your law! I meditate on it all day long*" (Psalm 119:89-90a, 97).

Dave

Postscript: April 9 marked Pastor Neville's seventh anniversary on our staff. Please join me in expressing your gratitude to him for his faithful service among us!

