

Student Ministry, Colin Hairston Student Minister

Summer is in full swing! Our students had an incredible week at Camp Siloam last month!! God has been doing huge things through this camp for over 90 years, and He certainly showed up in a mighty way during our week there. I am praying that camp is not the high point of the students' summer, but a catalyst that leads us deeper and deeper in our relationship with Christ. Would you join me in praying this for our students?

As we move through the second half of the summer, there are a number of things going on that I'd like you to be aware of and in prayer for:

Monday Night Home Groups (6pm to 8pm) Every Monday night, that we don't have something going on, our students are gathering in homes this summer for small group Bible study. The guys are meeting at my house, and we are working through Matt Chandler's video study called "The Explicit Gospel." The ladies are gathering at Jessica Rice's home and talking about prayer, learning about prayer, and actually praying together. This is an incredible opportunity for our students to keep the momentum and grow in their relationship with Jesus, and I pray that our students will join us in this!



Magic Springs (July 11th) On Thursday, July 11th, our students will be making the trip out to Magic Springs to have a great time of fun together as a student ministry family! All students and parents are welcome to join us. The cost each ticket is \$40, and the deadline to sign up is Wednesday night, July 10th.

PraiseWorks (July 15-19) Please be in prayer July 15-19 for our group of students that will be attending Ouachita Baptist University's PraiseWorks! This will be a great week for some of our student leaders to develop a passion for worship, cultivate a specific skill, and hopefully come back and implement what is learned into our student ministry! Your prayers are very much appreciated.



YEC Arkansas (August 9-10) Lastly, in order to get geared up for the fall, our students will be attending the Youth Evangelism Conference (YEC) on August 9th and 10th at Immanuel Baptist Church in Little Rock, AR. This event is put on by the Arkansas Baptist State Convention. Top notch speakers (Alex Himaya and Brian Mills), worship (The Museum), drama (Team Wordplay), and a concert (For King and Country) will all take place throughout the weekend. This event is only \$20, and students need to sign up and pay by August 1st. This is going to be an incredible weekend event, and I hope all of our student (and their friends) are able to be a part of this!

Music Ministry, Billy Davis, Music Minister

Terry and I attended the **Lifeway** Music Conference that I mentioned in June's article...it was wonderful! We were amazed at such a great variety of music presented by the publishers...so many possibilities for our music ministry. We enjoyed several days away for vacation as well; now we're back refreshed, renewed and ready for the days ahead!

I wanted to share a word about our **Celebration Choir Kickoff** on Wednesday, July 10th @ 6pm. Please pray about this as an opportunity to invest your time and talents here in mid-summer. New music is already in place, as well as our Christmas Musical, so getting into choir at this point would be perfect timing. The break was much needed, but now it's time to fill the choir loft and lead in praise and worship.

Praise Works is a music workshop provided by our Arkansas Baptist Convention; it's a wonderful opportunity in July for young people in

Arkansas. Colin and I are both going to Ouachita Baptist University with a group of our students who will study different areas of music and media ministry for the local church. It's going to be a great time of learning and sharpening skills. If you know a student who would like to attend, please contact Colin or me for details.

Praise Works Arkansas/7/15-19/Ouachita Baptist University
Marty Collier, Camp Pastor/Church on Rush Creek, Arlington
Dr. Gary Gerber, Camp Choir Director/DBU, Arkadelphia, AR
Mr. Carter Threlkeld, Camp Praise Orchestra Dir./Bellvue Bapt., Memphis

The Gospel Project will be a unique opportunity for us this Fall. I look forward to this combined plan, as we study the same passages of scripture in Sunday School, hear the same passage preached, and then incorporate those truths in joint worship. What an exciting plan and a great team effort for our church! TO GOD BE THE GLORY! Billy

"Challenger" (PUB.#004-455) is published monthly by Central Baptist Church, 5200 Fairway Avenue, North Little Rock, Arkansas, 72116. Periodical Postage Paid at North Little Rock, Arkansas, 72114.

CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH
5200 Fairway Avenue
North Little Rock, AR 72116
Phone: 501-771-1125

Wyman Richardson, Pastor.....wyman@cbcnlr.org
Carey Jones, Administration & Education.....carey@cbcnlr.org
Laurie Milholland, Children's Director.....laurie@cbcnlr.org
Colin Hairston, Minister to Students.....colin@cbcnlr.org
Billy Davis, Minister of Music & Worship.....billy@cbcnlr.org

OFFICE HOURS
Monday through Thursday
• 8:30 am ~ 4:30 pm
Friday
• 8:30 am ~ Noon

The Challenger



July 2013

Monthly Newsletter of Central Baptist Church

Pastor: Wyman Richardson

A word from Pastor Wyman.....

Dear Central Family,

I am excited to tell you about a unified Sunday School emphasis that we will begin as a church this September. Some weeks ago we met with our Sunday School teachers and introduced them to The Gospel Project curriculum. This is a new Bible-based curriculum from LifeWay that is being used by churches across the nation to great effect. In our meeting we shared with the Sunday School teachers that we would like our entire Sunday School to come together around a common, unified teaching effort for the Fall of 2013 and Spring of 2014 using *The Gospel Project* curriculum. What this means is that every class in the church will be using the same curriculum for a year. In addition to this, I will be stopping the Exodus sermon series on Sunday nights beginning in September to use that time to preach on that morning's Sunday School lesson as well. In that way, we will be uniting around (a) a common lesson in Sunday School and (b) a further exploration of the relevant Bible passages in our Sunday evening services. So our Sundays for one year will begin and end with a common, church-wide effort. (As an aside, let me encourage you to attend Sunday nights as we further explore these passages.)

COMING
SOON!



Continued on following page...

Why are we doing this?

The reasons are many, some of which include:

Over time, we have become increasingly fragmented in our Sunday School efforts. Honestly, we are kind of all over the board in terms of what we are teaching. While we value appropriate freedom to teach and see the merits of having many options, that model, over time, can erode what should be a spirit of unity, solidarity, common purpose, and singularity in focus in the teaching ministry of the church. So, every now and again, it is good for us join together in a common effort, as we will be doing this coming Fall/Spring. This year-long unified effort will draw us all in together, bringing the Sunday School ministry of the church into a common trajectory and goal.

...draw us all together...

The staff is also responsible to ensure that our Sunday School classes are advancing in biblical, theological education. We are thankful that our teachers do this well, but this year-long effort will call us into a particular approach to biblical, theological education. *The Gospel Project* curriculum is unique in that it relates every lesson to the great, overarching story of the Bible: creation, fall, redemption, and

restoration. It is also designed to work through the whole of the Bible every three years. In joining together in this way and around this curriculum, we will be calling the church to a common journey in theological education for one year around the great themes of Scripture. The purpose of our Sunday School classes is to teach the Word of God and reach lost people for Christ. Our teachers do a wonderful job of teaching God's Word. In calling them to this task, we are calling them to a common, united teaching effort that we, the staff, feel our church needs at this time.

...calling the church to a common journey...

THE GOSPEL PROJECT

a unified church effort

Coming together as Sunday School classes in solidarity around a common teaching goal will remind us that we are *one* authentic family around the whole gospel for the glory of God and the reaching of the nations. Sunday School classes are not detached, autonomous bodies meeting in one building. Sunday School classes are the unified teaching arm of the church, assisting the vision that God has given the church, and building the body of Christ in that local congregation. Your class will still retain its unique personality and style, and your teachers are free to approach the curriculum with appropriate creativity, but we will know and be reminded, for this year, that we are together as a Sunday School in one, grand effort of education and gospel growth.

Over the next number of weeks we'll be telling you more about *The Gospel Project*. We are very excited to see what God is going to do this Fall/Spring. We will be challenging our teachers and students to reach out to the community and draw people into this unified effort. Our children have actually been using *The Gospel Project* already, and the teachers and many of the students have expressed what it means to them. In addition, one of our adult teachers shared with me that he had been hearing a lot about this, and was excited about getting to teach it for this year. As a Sunday School teacher myself, I can say that I am as well.

Please help spread the word about this excited effort, and let's join together with expectant hearts around this united, family journey in the Gospel.

Most Sincerely,

Pastor Wyman

We're excited that beginning September 1st our entire Sunday School will be studying the Bible together using a new curriculum known as *The Gospel Project*. This approach to Bible study will unite our church in God's Word and help us to truly be a church centered, "Around the Whole Gospel." This approach to Bible study will be deep, but not dry; our aim is everyone leave each session with an understanding of the lesson that results in life application and life change.

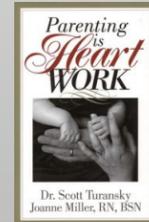
...deep, but not dry...



Men, we will begin a new session of Men's Fraternity beginning September 10th at 6:00am on Wednesday mornings. More than just a Bible study, Men's Fraternity will provide men with an encouraging process teaching them how to live lives of authentic manhood as modeled by Jesus Christ and directed by the Word of God. Men's Fraternity has been around a few years but it is still the best in developing Christ-like manhood.

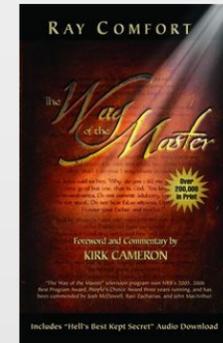


Central University classes will begin on Sunday evenings, September 15th at 4:45pm. One of the classes being offered is "Parenting is Heart Work." This class will give practical steps in positive parenting such as, turning correction times into learning experiences; equipping your children to accept responsibility for their mistakes; influence and adjust the values and beliefs your children hold; and maintain relationships with your children through love and emotional connectedness.

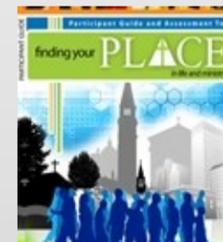


Another class we'll be offering is *GriefShare*; *GriefShare* is for people who are grieving the death of a loved one. If you've lost a spouse, child, parent or friend, you've probably found there are not many people who understand the deep hurt you feel. Each session will consist of watching a DVD and group discussion with others who are experiencing grief as well. *Grief is not a weakness, but is a necessary process towards experiencing healing.*

Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth.
2 Timothy 2:15 (ESV)



Other classes include *The Way of the Master* which prepares you to share your faith in a natural conversation approach by simply asking people some questions that avoid arguing.



You may recall our whole church going through *PLACE* for spiritual gift discovery. We will be offering a 6-week approach that is more in-depth at helping you to discover how God has gifted you for Christian ministry.



Finally, Pastor Wyman will be leading a book study on *Renovation of the Heart* by Dallas Willard. This book gives practical steps on how to "put on the character of Christ," and what it means to be transformed in the image of Christ.

Signups for these classes will begin in late July and will be little or no cost.

Carey

Children's Ministry, Laurie Milholland, Director

CHILDREN'S CAMP

Kids who have completed 3rd-6th grades won't want to miss BOGG SPRINGS CAMP!! This year the camp is July 29-August 2, with a cost of \$110 per camper.

There will be a mandatory meeting for parents and campers on Sunday, July 14 at 5:00pm. A \$20 deposit is due by this time.

Please sign up A.S.A.P. at the Ministry Booth to guarantee your child a spot!