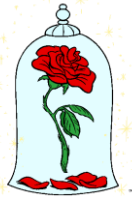




### *XYZ Potluck Luncheon*

Our monthly XYZ Potluck Luncheon will begin at noon on Tuesday, Sept. 5. This month's featured speaker will be Dr. David Cassidy, President of Baptist Seminary of Kentucky. Everyone 55 years of age and older is welcome. Meat, bread, and drinks will be provided and you're invited to bring a salad, vegetable, or dessert and enjoy the good food and warm fellowship.



### *Be Our Guest*

**Beauties and Beasts of all ages** can still get their tickets to Daddy Daughter Date Night **Saturday, Sept. 9 at 6:00**. In addition to a full course catered dinner (complete with "gray stuff"), you can have your picture made together to commemorate the experience and enjoy some light entertainment provided by Luke Sosby. **Reservations are required** for this catered event and **MUST BE MADE BEFORE SEPT. 3.** \$25 per couple and \$10 for each additional guest. (Ties and tiaras are optional.)

## **Chuck's Column**

As I am writing this Houston, Texas is experiencing unprecedented catastrophic flooding due to Hurricane Harvey that is locked in over them and barely moving. I read where someone described this as an 800 year event. This certainly will go down as the worst flooding disaster in US history. Those who believe that God micromanages our world might ask, "What did Houston do to incur God's judgment?" Ridiculous question generated by a ridiculous theology. God does not work in the world in such a direct way. God does not so curse cities or persons. And the same is true of divine blessing. One of our old hymns talks about God's "showers of blessings." These showers of blessings are indiscriminate. They are poured out on the good and evil alike.

Jesus reminded us in his quite radical teaching about loving our enemies that God makes the sun rise on the evil and the good. God sends rain (blessing) on the righteous and the unrighteous. Theologians debate how God is active in the world, but one thing that is clearly true however we try to make sense of it, is that God rarely (if ever) intervenes to stop major disasters or injustices from occurring or intervenes to bring favor on someone or some community. For whatever reason that is not how God works. God has utilized a process of

creation (evolution) that has taken billions of years. Some theologians who are advocates of Process Theology speculate that God may be evolving too. I don't know. But I do know that God doesn't directly bless and curse good and evil in this world bringing prosperity and health to the righteous, and hardship and death to the unrighteous as one ancient Hebrew (biblical) theology suggests. (One more reason biblical inerrancy is so unreasonable).

So maybe we should be careful how we toss around "blessing" language. I'm sure I have said in the past something like, "I feel so blessed." Maybe it was after a special time with grandchildren or some great enjoyment in life. Who blessed me? God? Yes, but not in any direct way. God didn't single me out for some special blessing.

What I do believe is that we are all God's children and whatever befalls us as a result of natural experiences and circumstances that God does not directly control – good or bad – God is with us and for us and in us, and in some way that I cannot explain or fully grasp God is participating in it too. God is at work for our good in ways that God can work without violating the natural order of things or creaturely freedom. Even as the rains keep coming and people in Houston are overwhelmed by this catastrophic event, God is there in the midst of it all. God doesn't give us things. God doesn't give us health and wealth. God doesn't make everything turn out the way we want. God doesn't stop hurricanes or holocausts. God doesn't give us assurances that bad things won't happen. What God gives us is God's self. What God blesses us with is God's own joy and sorrow in the midst of the good and evil, in the context of the enjoyments and hardships of life.

Grace and peace,  
*Pastor Chuck*



### **Youth Meet at Frisch's**

for breakfast on Sunday, Sept. 3. Meet at 9:15, bring your fall schedules and plan to mark some dates for our fall activities.

### **Bus Ministry**

Sept. 3 JT O'Connell  
502-545-3016

Sept. 10 Rob Laurensen  
502-382-8579

Sept. 17 Greg Lawson  
502-487-1091

## **West Point Workday**

to refresh the landscape at Morgan Chapel will be on **Wednesday, September 27**. We will meet at the church at **8:30 am**. We should be back no later than 3:00pm. An additional workday will be scheduled to stain the deck at a later time in the fall. There are sign-up sheets in the back hallway for these projects. For questions contact **Steve Dooley @ 502-226-0973**.

## **Youth Selfie Scavenger Hunt**



Our youth will be going on a "Selfie Scavenger Hunt" **Sunday evening, Sept. 10**. We'll meet at the church at **5:00**, divide into two teams, and get our selfie sheets. After the race, we'll go for pizza. There is no charge for this **and your friends are welcome to come. Just please let Lisa know you're bringing guests.**

# **WEDNESDAY EVENING FELLOWSHIP SUPPER**

6:00 p.m.

Adults: \$4.00 Children: \$3.00

Maximum per family \$10.00

September 6: chicken, fixins and dessert

September 13: Lasagna, fixins and dessert

September 20: Tacos, fixins and dessert

## **FYI.....**

Deacons' meeting has been rescheduled to Tuesday, September 5 at 6 pm.

### **Deacon of the Week Schedule:**

September 3 Steve Smith

859-583-4516

September 10 Raymond Bailey

254-366-0652

September 17 Gabrielle Gayheart

502-330-7014

## **Opportunities for IBC**

### **Sunday, September 3**

9:15 am Bible Study

10:30 am Worship

### **Monday, September 4**

#### **Office Closed**

6:00 pm Cub Scouts

### **Tuesday, September 5**

11:00 am XYZ Council

12:00 XYZ Potluck Lunch

6:00 pm Deacons' Meeting

### **Wednesday, September 6**

11:00 am After Life Study

5:30 pm Children's Music

6:00 pm Fellowship Meal

6:30 pm Prayer & Devotion/  
Children's Formation

7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir

### **Friday, September 9**

6:00 pm Daddy Daughter Date Night

### **Sunday, September 10**

9:15 am Bible Study

10:30 am Worship/Communion

### **Monday, September 11**

11:00 am CCBW

6:00 pm Cub Scouts

### **Wednesday, September 13**

11:00 am After Life Study

5:30 pm Children's Music

6:00 pm Fellowship Meal

6:30 pm Prayer & Devotion/  
Children's Formation

7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir

