



Goblins & Grub October 29

Everyone is invited to stay after the worship service on Sunday, October 29, for a light lunch and watch the children enjoy the trek of games and stations sponsored by our members and Bible Study classes. In addition to “Frankenstein’s Nose,” the “Pumpkin Punch,” and “Hat Toss,” we’ll add a Cake Walk and Pumpkin Patch to this year’s event! Please don’t wait to let Lisa know how you’re willing to help out. This will be something all children can enjoy, as well as an outreach ministry to neighbors and prospective families who are visiting our church. This is an opportunity for some of you who have been here a long time to connect with some of our newer and younger families.

Children's Harvest Happening October 21



Children will enjoy an afternoon of the great outdoors on the farm of Rob and Susan Laursen Saturday afternoon, Oct. 21, from 1:00 – 3:00. We’ll go on a scavenger hunt, play some games and make something fun and delicious! Parents are welcome to come along, too! We’ll leave the church at 12:45 by bus and return at 3:15. It’s not required, but it will help us prepare if you let Lisa know your child plans to come!

Chuck’s Column

In my sermon this past Sunday I said (by the way, anyone interested in reading this sermon or any previous sermon can access them at <http://www.afreshperspective-chuck.blogspot.com/> or you can find links on my facebook page):

“I have no idea what God’s judgment in the future state of our souls will look like. But I’m convinced that whatever form it takes it will be for our good, because God is good. God is not going to torture anyone. I’m not saying that divine judgment will not be painful; it might be very painful, but it will be ultimately for our good. I can imagine lives being terminated if no redemption is possible, but I can’t imagine the God of Jesus torturing anyone. We are the ones who want vengeance, not God. However, we may have to live through some hells in order to get to heaven (I’m using “hell” and “heaven” figuratively, just the way we should interpret them in our scriptures), but the hells are of our own making.

I was writing about this via social media and a minister friend responded by saying, “I believe in hell because I have lived in hell before.” He went on to define hell as separation from love, as well as self and others. That’s a good example of taking the Bible seriously, but not literally. It has been my passion in ministry to help people do this. If we could just understand and accept that all scriptural language is symbolical, figurative, metaphorical, and hyperbolic language, I have no doubt some of us would have a much healthier image of God. One of my great passions in ministry has been (and still is) helping people nurture healthier images of God.”

The reason I have such a passion for helping people nurture healthier images of God is because in my youth and in the

early days of my ministry I had a very unhealthy image of God. My image of God was shaped by my biases and my narrow view of truth. At some point in my journey a crack in my soul broke open and a fresh ray of light illumined me to other possibilities. And of course, once you begin that journey there is no going back. I had to make a decision not too long after that in terms of my

ministry. I would either keep my growing, expanding faith and understanding of God to myself, and just teach and preach what most would consider "safe," or I would let my parishioners in on my own journey and just endure the "fall out." Obviously, I chose the

latter. Thankfully, many of you have come to participate in a journey of "living the questions" with me, which makes our congregation a very unique Baptist congregation. Of course, we are by no means alone. There are a growing number of Baptist congregations like ours. None of them are Southern Baptist of course. They, like us, affiliate with either the Alliance of Baptists, the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, or some other more moderate to progressive group of churches.

In the course of my journey I have come to realize that our own personal transformation is to varying degrees dependent upon developing healthy images/beliefs/understandings of God. In one sense what we believe about God is not that important. What matters is how well we pursue (social/restorative) justice, mercy, and humility. As I said in my sermon Sunday, these are the fruits of the kingdom on the basis of which we are judged. But what I have discovered is that we tend to live "up" or "down" to our beliefs. Healthier images of God usually result in the pursuit of justice, mercy, and humility. So helping others nurture a healthy image of God has been an important aspect of my preaching, teaching, and writing.

In a wonderful little book called *Good Goats: Healing Our Image of God* the authors make this simple, but truly profound statement (it's a statement to spend some time reflecting on): "Karl Rahner and other theologians suggest that free will is the capacity to choose in a God-like way. Thus a truly free person paradoxically, like God, can only choose the good. Saying 'No' to God is not a sign of free will but rather of how a person still needs healing in order to become free. Once healed and truly free, that person, like Jesus, can only say 'Yes' to God."

Grace and peace, Pastor Chuck

XYZ Lunch Outing

Beaumont Inn Harrodsburg, KY
Thursday, Oct 19,
Meet at the church at 10:30am



WEDNESDAY EVENING FELLOWSHIP SUPPER

6:00 p.m.

Adults: \$4.00 Children: \$3.00

Maximum per family \$10.00

October 18: Lasagna, fixins and dessert

October 25: Pizza, fixins and dessert

November 1: Chicken, fixins and dessert

Deacon of the Week Schedule:

October 15 Mike Hatcher

502-223-3676

October 22 Kay Osborne

502-875-2194

October 29 Meredith Shouse

502-320-6740



XYZ Collecting Treats & Trinkets for Goblins and Grub

Our senior adults are doing their part to support our Goblins and Grub event. A collection box is in Fellowship Hall for sacks of treats, pencils, stickers, and small trinkets that will be distributed among the children who visit the booths. Feel free to drop in a contribution of fruit gels, fruit roll-ups, or bite-sized snack treats if you're not able to attend the event.

A Huge Thanks..... Susan and Chuck Wolfe and family express sincere appreciation for the many cards, calls and prayers following the death of Susan's father, Kenneth M. Hughes, of Ironton, Ohio.



Youth to Fright Night

Our youth are invited to bring their friends to **Fright Night at Jacobson Park in Lexington on**

Sat. Oct. 21. We'll meet at the church at 5:30 and go by bus to the park and tour each of the three "houses of horror." Those who make it out alive will join us for dinner before returning to the church at 9:00 p.m. Cost for each person is \$10. Please let Lisa know you're coming.

Global Ministries

Container Challenge: Thanks to Jane Brake, Anna Mayne, Andrew Tippett, and Cheryl Dooley for their help Friday packing the shipping container with items collected to date. We are over half way there in filling the container. Items packed include books, educational materials, tools, John boats, trolling motors, chain saws, bicycles, work gloves, sports equipment, etc. Your continued support for this project is needed and appreciated as we work to completely fill the container for shipment in the next several months. Donations will be used to buy items on the container list. Also you can bring any items on the list to the church (fellowship hall) and we will make sure they get transported to the container. The list of needed items can be obtained in the church office.

West Point Work Projects: Thanks to Doug Henley, Curtis Smoot, and Anna Mayne for going to West Point and completing the landscape refresh project. We are planning to go back the week of October 16 to stain the chapel deck. If you can help with this project please sign up in the entry hall or let Steve Dooley (695-2819) know.

Opportunities for IBC

Sunday, October 15

9:15 am Bible Study
10:30 am Worship

Monday, October 16

9:30 am CCRTA
6:00 pm Cub Scouts

Wednesday, October 18

5:30 pm Children's Music
6:00 pm Fellowship Meal
6:30 pm Prayer & Devotion/Children's Formation
7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir

Thursday, October 19

10:30 am XYZ to Beaumont Inn
5:30 pm Berryhill HOA meeting

Saturday, October 21

12:45 pm Children's Harvest Happening
5:30 pm Fright Night for Youth

Sunday, October 22

9:15 am Bible Study
10:30 am Worship

Monday, October 23

6:00 pm Cub Scouts

Tuesday, October 24

5:00 pm Bunko for Cancer research

Wednesday, October 25

5:30 pm Children's Music
6:00 pm Fellowship Meal
6:30 pm Prayer & Devotion/
Children's Formation
7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir

Bus Ministry

October 15 Rob Laurenson
502-382-8579
October 22 Greg Lawson
502-487-1091
October 29 Bruce Dungan
502-320-1687