



Covenant Partner News

Sunday, March 17, 2024

Volume 4

Issue 11

Message From Evangelistic Outreach

(Excerpt from *Our Daily Bread*, by Patricia Raybon, January 29, 2024)

“Sharing by Caring”

Letting the Holy Spirit lead us is the best way to tell others about Jesus. He told His disciples, “But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you; and you shall be My witnesses...” (Acts 1:8)

The fruit of the Spirit “is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control...” (Galatians 5:22-23). Living under the Spirit’s control, we can put into practice what Peter instructed: “But sanctify the LORD God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear.” 1 Peter 3:15).

Even if we suffer for believing in Christ, our words can show the world that His Spirit leads us. Then our walk will draw others to Him.

What’s your communication style when telling others about Jesus? How would letting the Holy Spirit lead make your talks more effective?

BETHESDA ATTENDANCE REPORT FOR WEEK OF MARCH 10, 2024		
Sunday School	Prayer Meeting	Bible Study
Men (7)	Tuesday (31)	Tuesday (33)
Women (16)	<i>Prayer Focus</i> 1) <i>Pray for the success of our March 24 tract blitz. With our eyes and hearts open, pray that we will listen closely and pay attention to the noticing signs of hope and signs of needs</i> 2) <i>Pray for the success of our Good Friday Service. Let us remember Jesus who died on a cross to show love for all the world and bring hope to every situation. Help us to share that love and hope with our family and friends.</i> 3) <i>Pray for our Resurrection Sunday Service thanking God and, remembering he died on the cross for our sins.</i> 4) <i>Pray for the bereaved families of Bethesda: families of Brothers Arnold Green, Brothers Brian Bell and Sisters Alice Bowman, Terri Burrell, and Elizabeth Dozier. Pray for all others who may be grieving the loss of a loved one.</i> 5) <i>Pray for Bethesda’s sick & shut-in and those asking for prayers and other expressions of compassion and comfort.</i>	Thursday (22)
Phone (12)		
Children (2)		

On Prayer by James Banks

(A Pastor and Writer for the Daily Bread)

Now sometimes we might mistakenly think that prayer has something to do with skill. Sometimes you hear someone who is very well meaning say “I don’t have the Spiritual gift of prayer.” But did you know that of all the spiritual gifts listed in Scripture, prayer is not among them? And there’s an excellent reason for that. Prayer is meant for all of us. “Why Pray?” “Because you prayed!” “Bend down, O LORD, and listen!” Isaiah 36 and 37. That doesn’t mean things will go our way every time we pray, but if we learn to pray proactively---making prayer our “first resort” and not “a last resort” ---we will or may see God do breathtaking things. He wants us to help us lift our eyes above our circumstances so that we can catch a glimpse of His goodness and love. He wants us to pray so that we will get to know Him---and that really is the best part about prayer. True prayer is about so much more than just request or answers---it’s about a relationship with the One who will love and sustain us even when the answers don’t seem to come.

ODBU.org/SF120 is worth reading on prayer. Listen to his lecture on “Why Pray” by James Banks.

- Why Pray
 - Why Not Ask?
 - When You Don’t know What to Say
 - Obstacles to Prayer
 - Praying for Others
 - Prayer and Fasting
 - What about “Unanswered” Prayer
 - Persevering in Prayer
 - Living a Prayer-Filled Life
- (Course Completion)

RECURRING EVENTS

Hour of Power & Bible Study

Each Tuesday at 6:00pm followed by
Bible Study at 7:00pm via *ZOOM:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83096366206?pwd=J7wZ8bwAcBA1snP5SgRuYhW4E2DsU.1>

Meeting ID: 830 9636 6206

Passcode: 199366

To use your cell phone or land line, *please dial: 1. 301. 715. 8592

Meeting ID: 830 9636 6206#; Passcode: 199366#

We encourage all members to submit prayer requests as the Holy Spirit leads by 12:00 Noon on Monday.

Open Praise Forum & Bible Study

Every Tuesday leading up to Communion Sunday at 6:00pm followed by
Bible Study at 7:00pm via ZOOM and on conference line referenced above. *

Men's Prayer Hour

Each Wednesday at 10:00pm via conference call:
1.717.908.1972; Access 875378#

Women's Prayer Hour

Each 4th Saturday at 9:00am via conference call:
1.605.313.5143; Access code 654522#

Questions and Answers

Held each 4th Sunday at 6:00pm via conference call:
1.717.908.1972; Access code 875378#

Please submit your questions *today* by email to: SoulCare@Bethesdaweb.org or in Q&A box located on the table outside of the church office.

Bible Study

Each Thursday at 12:00 Noon via conference call:
1.717.908.1972; Access code 875378#

THIS WEEK EVENTS

Monday, March 18

7:00pm Women's Ministry Planning Meeting via conference call:
1.605.313.5143; Access code 654522#

Friday, March 22

6:00pm Good News Club, Rooms 120 and 118

Saturday, March 23

9:00am Vacation Bible School (VBS) and Vulnerable Population Policy Trainings

10:00am Flower Guild Ministry Meeting (in-person)

11:30am Combined Choir Rehearsal, Room 120

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL (VBS)

VBS is quickly approaching. We need volunteers to serve. Pray how the Lord can use you in this outreach effort. The first introductory training session will be held on **Saturday, March 23rd** at 9:00 am. The volunteer form is on the table near the church office.

VULNERABLE POPULATION POLICY (VPOP)

Vulnerable Population Policy (VPOP) trainings and screenings will be held on the following dates:

Saturday, March 23rd, 9 am*

Saturday, April 13th, 9 am*

Saturday, April 27th, 10 am

Saturday, May 11th, 9am*

Saturday, May 25th, 10 am

(*in conjunction with VBS Training)

MARCH 24 TRACT BLITZ:

Please make plans to join us after Sunday School on March 24 as we evangelize the community. Our geographic area of concentration will be Trinidad. Our goal is for 100% participation. In other words, if you come to worship that day, please prepare to come to Sunday School and join us for the tract blitz. For those who are not physically able to pass out tracts, we are asking you to remain at church and pray for those who are going out. Therefore, everyone will have a specific assignment on the 24th. Lastly, don't forget to bring comfortable shoes and a snack.

ATTENTION: ALL BETHESDA BAPTIST CHURCH MINISTRIES!

The Doris Jordan Bowman Library Team is waiting for the 2023 Archival Library Reports. Our church history is incomplete without your 2023 Submissions. The deadline has been extended until **Sunday, March 24, 2024.**

Thank you for your cooperation!

BRING A FAMILY MEMBER TO CHURCH ON RESURRECTION DAY:

Don't forget to pray over the names of unchurched and unsaved family members at 3:15 each day. Synchronize your watches and cell phones to receive a reminder at the appointed time. Then extend an invitation for them to come with you to church on March 31, Resurrection Day and watch God work!

On the church office table are some family prayer cards; list their names on the prayer sheets and pray for them every day.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED:

RESURRECTION SUNDAY SCHOOL PROGRAM

Please join us on Sunday March 31 after worship for our annual Resurrection Sunday school program.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY BIBLICAL WOMAN HIGHLIGHT:

This week we feature Ruth who served as a model of friendship and sisterhood. Ruth is known for marrying Boaz and giving birth to Obed who **was an ancestor of David and consequently Jesus**. According to Ruth 1:14, Ruth, a Moabite widow made a choice to stay attached to her Israelite mother-in-law. The relationship between Ruth and Naomi was a courageous unique one after the husband of Ruth (Naomi's son) died. The future was uncertain. There was no guarantee that if Ruth returned to her home that she would be accepted because she had married an Israelite.

Ruth's decision to stay with Naomi opened new doors for her when they returned to Bethlehem. Ruth won the love of Boaz as she toiled in the fields. Boaz bought the estate of Naomi and married Ruth.

This Biblical story is a gift to us about the importance of love, trust, friendship, collaboration and cooperation as we seek to do God's work in our various ministries.

ADMINISTRATIVE CORNER

MINISTRY ACTION PLAN

Ministry Leaders, this is a reminder to complete the Ministry Action Plan Special Event Form for any major events six (6) months in advance of the planned activity for approval. The objective of this process is to help ministries of our church plan activities prior to committing resources to them. Please see the church office if you are in need of a form. The pastor will meet with each leader to review the proposed activity. Thank you.

ROOF REPLACEMENT FUND

We have established a goal of raising \$62,000 over the next 12-months for replacement of the church's roof Section M. We are asking each member to give an extra \$62 per month or \$15.50 per week to the church's Building Maintenance Fund. If 100 members do this on a regular monthly basis over the course of 1-year, we will raise the \$62,000 necessary to finance the first phase of roof repairs. Please use the special "Roof Replacement" envelopes found outside of the church office and Sanctuary vestibule. Thank you in advance for your faithful giving, Bethesda!

"With men it is impossible, but not with God; for with God all things are possible." Mark 10:27

IT SUPPORT MINISTRY

Dear Ministry Leaders,

As we continue to promote our church events, we want to make sure that we are doing so in the most effective and efficient way possible. To help us achieve this, we are introducing a new form that will allow you to upload flyers for your events and have them posted on our social media platforms. Please use the following form to submit your promotional materials:

<https://form.jotform.com/bbcitsupport/ministry-submit-form>

Please ensure that you submit any promotional flyers at least one week in advance of your event to allow enough time for us to post them.

Thank you for your cooperation in helping us spread the word about our events. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to us. Sincerely,

BBC IT Support Ministry

ADMINISTRATIVE CORNER CONTINUED:

MINISTRY LEADERS

If you would like to hold your ministry meetings or events on Zoom, please contact Sister Bobbie Taylor at 202.635.2883 or submit your request by email: btaylor@bethesda-web.org

MINISTRY MAILBOX

All ministry heads or secretaries, please remember to check your mailbox.