

THE ILLUMINATOR

A WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

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JANUARY 29, 2012

“A Conversation with a Paralytic”

Mark 2:1-12

OUR CHURCH PURPOSE

To actively proclaim the way of salvation and to nurture a community of faith through worship, evangelism, education and ministry in the name of Christ.

FROM OUR ASSOCIATE PASTOR

CBF OF GEORGIA REPORT

As a member for the next three years of the Coordinating Council of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of Georgia, it is my privilege to be involved on the Missions Team. We have identified some areas on which we will be concentrating. They are:

- New church starts;
- Care for the troops (in particular, veterans);
- Continuation of the summer camp “Touching Taliaferro with Love.”

MERGER DEBRIEFING COMING UP SUNDAY

Our merger exploration process is on track. The BBC Merger Team has performed yeoman service on behalf of all of us, empowered as they have been to explore this issue by our November, 2011 vote.

When our teams met on January 22, I sensed great excitement on the part of all concerned, and a feeling of eager anticipation of that which lies ahead for us all. It seems to me that we are all looking forward to a renewed, reinvigorated, re-energized future. Dr. Larry McSwain, who has been advising the joint merger team, is the closest we Baptists have to a “wise old man” about church mergers. I have known Larry for over twenty years and have a deep respect for him and his profound love for the church - as well as his intimate knowledge of what makes church tick. He is that compassionate outside observer that sees us better than we see ourselves. His administration of our joint meeting left no uncertainty as to his desire for our church to be strong and to continue to do the work of the Lord for many years to come.

Coming back from Macon on Tuesday, I met with Bill Hardee, Pastor at Vineville Baptist in Macon when Cross Keys Baptist merged with them. That merger has the reputation of being perfectly done. When I related the story of our merger process so far, as I best understand it, he told me that nothing I had said to him raised any red flags whatsoever, or perhaps to paraphrase Andy Griffith, “Merger Team, you’ve done good! You’ve done EXTRA good!”

We will have a somewhat abbreviated worship service this week, so as to make time to debrief about last Sunday’s meeting. There will be microphones set up for your use should you want to ask a question or make a comment.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Covered Dish Luncheon

Sunday, February 12

Please bring a large dish to share. The church will provide drinks. Our guests will be the members of Scott Boulevard Baptist Church.

GRASSHOPPER BASKETBALL LEAGUE KEEPS HOPPING



Our new Grasshopper Basketball League for children continues to grow. We now have a total of 35 children registered - 22 from the local community and 13 sponsored by Whirlwind Missions at Huntington Terrace Apartments on Buford Highway. The Saturday activities are divided into three sessions: 1st through 3rd grade

community children play from 9:00 - 10:30, 4th and 5th grade community children from 10:30 until noon, and Whirlwind Missions children from noon until 1:30 p.m. Our church provides round-trip transportation on our church van for the Whirlwind Missions children. We welcome contributions to the scholarship fund for these Whirlwind Missions children.

The basketball players proudly wore their new team t-shirts last Saturday. Charles Akins', a professional graphic designer and former member of this church, donated the wonderful logo used on the shirts. We greatly appreciate Charles' contribution to this exciting new ministry here at our church!



It is not too late for children to come and join in on the fun! Call the church office or come any Saturday morning to sign your child up.

ILLUMINATOR CHANGE

Please remember that beginning on February 26, *The Illuminator* and the Sunday worship bulletin will be combining into one publication. You will be able to pick it up on Sunday mornings or receive it via e-mail prior to Sundays. Please contact the church if you would like to be added to the e-mail list or need to continue to receive it by regular "snail" mail.

CONGRATULATIONS AND THANK YOU TO CINDY MARSHALL!



This Sunday, we will be celebrating the 10th anniversary of Cindy Marshall's service at Briarcliff Baptist Church. Not only has she brought professionalism to her post, but she has also brought sensitivity and creativity. She also brings the intangible gift of thinking about music, in most cases, the way I do. When Sunday comes around, I hope you will take the opportunity to express your appreciation to Cindy.

I hope there will be many more years to come!

-Marc

WINTER IS HERE!

Remember, our Clothes Closet needs clothing, shoes, boots, coats and jackets for the winter season - especially men's & children's! You can bring your donations to the church office on Sundays or Monday through Thursday from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. Ask your friends and family if they have anything they can donate as well. There are lots of people in need. What you might consider a cast-off might be exactly what someone else needs!



DID YOU KNOW?



Did you know that the church maintains a list of church members who for one reason or another are considered homebound or shut-in? The church has a group of very dedicated members who try to stay in close touch with this group of folks. These members call, visit, or send cards at least once a month to these folks. There are currently over 40 people/households on this homebound/shut-in list. The group could use your assistance! Do you have just a couple of hours a month that you could call, visit or send a card to these homebound members? Please contact the church office if you can help out.

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

If you would like to provide flowers for the church on a specific Sunday during 2012, there are lots of dates still available. The flowers are sometimes a memorial to a loved one or given to honor a friend or relative on a special occasion. The cost for the flowers is \$75. Please call the church office at 404-633-6103 to check on the availability of the date you are interested in.



PRAYER CORNER

Be still and know that I am God. (Psalm 46:10)

“Lord, it’s at times like this that I need You most.

Yet you seem so far away.

Why, Lord? Where have You gone?

Then I hear it, the quiet voice . . .

. . . be still and know that I am God.”

You are near. You have been all the time.

-Eddie Askew, *A Silence and a Shouting*

DATELINE

SUNDAY, JANUARY 29

8:45 - 9:30 am Chapel Open for Prayer
9:15 - 10:45 am Library Open
9:45 am Sunday School
11:00 am Morning Worship
5:00 pm Praise Band Rehearsal
6:00 pm Youth Snack Supper, Bible Study & Fellowship

MONDAY, JANUARY 30

9:00 am LZ Aerobics
12:00 pm - 2:00 pm Spanish Language Class

TUESDAY, JANUARY 31

9:00 am - 3:00 pm Food Pantry Open (while supplies last)

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1

9:00 am LZ Aerobics
9:00 am - 3:00 pm Food Pantry Open (while supplies last)
12:00 pm - 2:00 pm Spanish Language Class
6:00 pm Inreach/Outreach Team Meeting
7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2

9:30 am - 12:30 pm Ceramics
12:00 - 2:00 pm Clothes Closet Open

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3

9:00 am LZ Aerobics
Church Office Closed

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4

9:00 am - 1:30 pm Grasshopper Basketball

FIFTH SUNDAY - JANUARY 29, 2012

EXTENDED SESSION WORKERS

Marc & Laura Rodgers

USHERS

Any Available Ushers



AS OF JANUARY 12, WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPERS AND PRAYER MEETING HAVE BEEN TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED. WE WILL RE-EXAMINE OUR WEDNESDAY EVENING SCHEDULE IN THE SPRING.



BRIARCLIFF BAPTIST CHURCH
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THE SANCTUARY FLOWERS

on Sunday, January 29
are given to the glory of
God in recognition of
Cindy Marshall and her ten years
of service as the church organist
at Briarcliff Baptist Church.
They are given with love and
gratitude by the Sanctuary Choir.

as of 1/25/12



Gwinnett Medical:
Chandoeun Keo's
mother, Reth Ouk.

CHURCH STAFF

Associate Pastor	Marc Burcham
Church Office	Helyn Kesler
Interim Pastor	Dock Hollingsworth
Organist	Cindy Marshall
Pastor Emeritus	Glen Waldrop
Finance (Tuesdays Only)	Diane Neuman
Custodian	Sammy Skinner

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Vital Signs

Through Sunday, January 22, 2012

Offering for the Week	\$4,457
Offering to Date	\$20,821

Bible Study	92
Worship Attendance	122