

February 3, 2016

From the Pastors' Heart & Soul

COMING UP

Wednesday, February 3
 5:30p Wednesday Night Dinner
 and Activities

Sunday, February 7
 9:30a Deacon Prayer
 9:45a Sunday School/
 Connection Group Meetings
 11:00a Worship
 5:00 Youth Activities

Saturday, February 13
 PRBC hosts Room in the Inn

Sunday, February 14
 9:30a Deacon Prayer
 9:45a Sunday School/
 Connection Group Meetings
 11:00a Worship
 5:00 Youth Activities

Save the Date
 March 6 Youth Italian Night

Remember in Prayer
 Carol Pelt, Novant (Presbyterian)

Congratulations
 To Bobby Curtis on his
 marriage January 27 to Mae
 and
 Brad and Meredith Frye Harris
 on the birth of Grayson Douglas
 on January 28
 Judy Frye is the proud
 grandmother.

Remembering
Our Friends at Home
 Hilda Moulton
 3301 Chilham Place
 Charlotte, NC 28226

In my sermon a few weeks ago I said: "...the common good, today, is in no small part, in our hands – we who have been advantaged. But we'll have to decide if we are going to use our gifts and our money, our voice and our vote to keep that advantage, or will the Spirit give us a bigger vision – that sees the best good for me in the best good for all..."

Sunday we voted to approve this "Next Big Thing" we've been talking about for a few months. The opportunity we are calling "Uplift Sedgefield," is NOT ABOUT MONEY. Yes, we have agreed to allocate \$24,000 of our 2016 Mission Budget (\$51,000) – and this is a significant amount of money and a significant change in our budgeting of missions, but we won't Uplift Sedgefield by writing a big check.

The subtitle of our new project says it all: Because real change begins with US. We don't have all the answers, and our chance to work with Sedgefield isn't about "them" becoming like "us." Uplift Sedgefield will only bring about change if it changes our lives – not just our budget.

There are already several tutoring options that give us a chance to meet, face to face, with a student, who will probably not "make the grade" without a little outside help. (And these tutoring opportunities will increase as the pool of volunteers increases.) Harmony, my special student, and I meet every Wednesday morning to read together. Every week it's clear she's been anxious for me to get there. She can name the times I've been absent! It's not about the money.

It's about relationships that make children feel like they are important.

For several years, we've been packing snacks for weekend backpacks. At her tutoring session on Friday a few weeks ago, Linda Hefner's student said excitedly that he was getting his snacks for the weekend today! He didn't know Linda has been almost single-handedly responsible for our Backpack Snack program's expanding that so we now provide 100 packs every week for students who would likely be deprived of nutrition without these good snacks. It's not about the money. It's about children whose brains develop better when they are fed well.

The opportunities for US to be changed are just beginning. Thanks be to God for all the work Merilee Fellows and Carol Pelt have done in our partnership, and for Harper and Katherine Fox who have agreed to be the leaders of Uplift Sedgefield. You'll hear more from them about other opportunities for you to be involved. Right now Sedgefield needs Lunch Buddies and Room Parents, and we're considering a host of other opportunities, from an afterschool program to programs to meet the needs of the 11% of students who are homeless at Sedgefield, to an auto repair program... Do you have any ideas? Let us know.

The idea is for us to find ways that WE can use our gifts, as gifts—for the children and families of Sedgefield to benefit... but that will be extra.

The real change begins with US. May it be so!



Russ

Wednesday Night Dinners Resume

This week Tierra Ragland will speak in our "From Headlines to Heart" program and address the Non-Discrimination Ordinance, which is again before the Charlotte City Council.

On February 10, we will have our Ash Wednesday service

On February 24, our Cuba Team will give a report from their (Feb 11-15) trip to Resurrection Baptist Church.

When we resume our options for adult study, Amy will again lead her "spiritual disciplines" group, Dan will lead a Bible study on The Parables of Jesus and Russ will lead a discussion on a book by Dr. David Jordan (Providence Baptist) on *Subversive Words: Biblical Counterpoints to Conventional Wisdom*. Connection Groups will prepare some meals, Amy will cook and Russ will grill and a few nights will be catered... but the evening isn't as much about the food or the program as it is about the Fellowship.

Why don't you make it a part of your spring schedule, February through April? You'll be glad you did.



Park Road Baptist Church
3900 Park Rd.
Charlotte, NC 28209

Return Service Requested

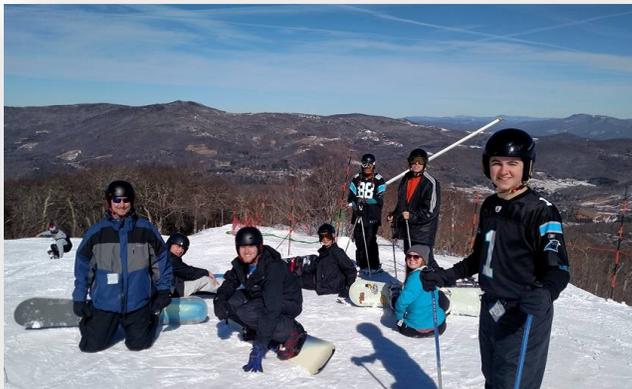
NON PROFIT
ORG
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
CLT, NC
Permit #979

Cuba Trip

Our Cuba Team leaves February 11. Items still needed:

1. Over the counter medications;
2. Craft materials for children;
3. Office materials;
4. Masks and disguises to use in activities with the children;
5. Liturgical supplies;
6. Gently used clothing for children and young adults.

We will gather on Wednesday, February 10 in the Chapel at 6:30p for our Ash Wednesday service. The service will include moments of silence interspersed with readings and then ending with the imposition of ashes. Join us as we begin the Lenten season together. Soup Supper will be served starting at 5:30p.



The Top of the World
On Saturday, January 30, our youth and their chaperones skied down the slopes of Sugar Mountain. Everyone returned home with all bones intact.



Rescheduled: Friday, February 19
6-9p Community Center
Pizza, Popcorn, Drinks, Sweets
Movie: "McFarland USA"
Make Reservations by noon, Thursday 2/18.

Youth Italian Night Dinner and Auction

Sunday, March 6 at 5p - Doors Open at 4:30p

Enjoy a fun-filled night of good food and fellowship while helping Park Road Youth raise money for their summer mission trip and Unidiversity! The Youth will be available to reserve your spot for this event on Wednesday nights in the Community Center or on Sundays before and/or after worship in the Narthex. You may also call the church office. The cost for the evening which includes dinner and entertainment is \$10 for adults, \$5 for seniors and children under 10, and free for children 2 and under.

We are also accepting donations for both the silent auction and live auction (items, dinners, services, casseroles, cakes, etc.). Please contact Gina Helt at ginahelt@gmail.com and 704-363-8965 or Margie Keith at margienkeith@gmail.com and 704-577-8529 if you would like to donate to the auction or simply sign up when you reserve your spot. We hope to see you there!

Young Adults

The Young Adults group is excited to start meeting again after a break for the winter holidays. We will begin on Tuesday, February 9 by attending the Reverend Dr. Rodney Sadler's lecture entitled "The Vision of the Black Church: Civil Rights to Moral Monday." Our regular meetings will continue every other Tuesday and we will discuss the book of Amos and social justice issues.

Dabbing the CDC Way:
The Crabs Class practice proper etiquette while doing the Dab! Notice one student is pictured coughing and sneezing into his elbow. The class has been talking about being and staying healthy.

