

March 15, 2017

COMING UP

Wednesday, March 15

11:30a Men's Study for Lent and Lunch at Cantina 1511
 Park Road Shopping Center
 5:30p Family Fellowship Supper And Activities

Thursday, March 16

Noon: VSP Lunch and Program

Friday, March 17

7:00p Young Adults
 Brandon and Samantha's Home

Sunday, March 19

9:30a Deacon Prayer
 Deacon of the Week: Linda Hefner
 9:45a Sunday Connection Groups
 11:00a Worship
 4:30p Youth Italian Night Fundraiser and Auction

Wednesday, March 22

11:30a Men's Study for Lent and Lunch at Charlotte Café
 5:30p Family Fellowship Supper And Activities

Sunday, March 26

9:30a Deacon Prayer
 Deacon of the Week: Allyson Neeriemer
 9:45a Sunday Connection Groups
 11:00a Worship
 5:00p Christ-centered Yoga Class

Remembering Our Friends at Home

Mrs. O'Neal Starnes
 Legacy Heights, Room D-4
 11230 Ballantyne Trace Court
 Charlotte, NC 28277

A Jewish Musician's First Trip to Israel

About a year ago, I was contacted by the Israel Organ Association to see if I would be interested in performing as part of the 2017 Israel International Organ Festival. Many of you know about my journey to, or should I say my return to Judaism, as my Italian family has Jewish roots in Vittorio Veneto.

The planning committee of this festival knew about me through my videos on YouTube but was interested in having me play since I am Jewish. The director of the Festival, Yuval Rabin, and I would be the only Jewish organists performing.



Once a date was confirmed, they asked if I would have a theme for the concert, rather than just random pieces. While I play music composed pre-Bach up to music written literally last week, my specialty has become music of black composers. Because these composers are little known and rarely heard, their compositions must be promoted.

My concert on Friday, February 24, was presented to a packed hall, and I came back for three curtain calls. People in attendance thanked me for bringing new music to them. One person said, "We always hear Bach." Most of the pieces I played were written in the 20th century but in styles from Victorian to post-Romantic.

I believe music is common to all cultures and can serve as a bridge to bring people together. It is a unifying force that we can all enjoy, and I enjoy using my talent as that bridge.

Many of you know my journey back to Judaism. As soon as I arrived in Israel, I knew I had come home. I never felt like a tourist or a visitor. Being there just seemed natural.

Several of my friends had told me that this trip would be life changing. I didn't believe them, but it was transformational!

I davened several times a day at the Wall, and every time I was there, I wept because the power was overwhelming. As I thought about the countless people who have prayed there for centuries, I couldn't help but cry. I truly felt as if Hashem heard everything I said.

I attended Shabbos morning services at the Great Synagogue in Jerusalem, on a day that their choir was singing. Shacharis was led by the cantor, and the harmonies provided by the all-male choir were mind blowing. While in Jerusalem, I had Shabbos hospitality by former Charlotteans who made Aliyah. This just made my first Shabbos in Israel even more special.

I was also able to have a personal tour guide take me to Jericho, Masada, and the Dead Sea. My final four days were spent in Tel Aviv, where I visited with several different relatives of people from Temple Israel. After Jerusalem, Tel Aviv was a radical change. To be less than an hour away, the cities are so completely different.

In Tel Aviv, I succumbed to being American and experienced kosher McDonald's and kosher Burger King. It's always fascinating to see how menus differ as you travel the globe. Those of you who follow me on Instagram or are my Facebook friends, witnessed all the amazing culinary treats I had—Israeli food, Arab food, street food, gourmet European food, and I never had to struggle to keep kosher.

I have told people before that music has taken me around the world, but this trip didn't only take me to Israel, it took me home.

Monty

... music is common to all cultures and can serve as a bridge to bring people together.





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

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Youth Italian Night Fundraiser March 19

Here are just a few of the items that will be included in the Live Auction on Sunday as part of the youth fundraiser! Be sure to plan ahead with your friends and family in order to take advantage of the dinners you will be bidding on together!

- Handmade Wooden Bowl – Russ Dean is once again hard at work on a one of a kind piece!
- Dinner and Dessert Party - Rhonda Stewart, Johnson & Wales Pastry Chef/Instructor will provide dinner and dessert for up to 6 people at the location of your choice!
- Pool Party at the Dean's new home – The Deans will provide the venue, and Amy will assist in planning the perfect pool party! Celebrate a birthday, graduation, anniversary or any other occasion, special or not!
- Indian Night with the Dowers – The Dowers will prepare and serve a delicious (and gluten free!) Indian meal for up to 12 people at their home on Saturday, April 22.
- Artwork by Ron Pelt – Don't miss an opportunity to have an original painting by this talented artist!
- Afternoon at the Lake – Enjoy an afternoon on the lake courtesy of Matt and Martha Kinney. Grab six or seven friends and drive one hour to High Rock Lake. Enjoy swimming, kayaking, snacks, drinks on the dock and a sunset boat ride!
- Live Entertainment by John G. – Local singer/musician John G. will come to your home and shower you and your friends with 2 hours of musical entertainment.
- Hornets Tickets – Joanne and Mark Stegall are offering two lower level tickets to an upcoming Hornets game! Enjoy a fun evening at the Hive!
- As always, there will be delicious desserts made by some of our more "seasoned" bakers.
- Fun evenings on a sign-up basis: Karen Burgess and the Brittains will be hosting a Cinco de Mayo party
- Another fun evening on a sign-up basis: The Bone family will be hosting an outdoor movie night at the Stocktie Drive-In (their home!).

Please join us Sunday evening for good food, fellowship and some amazing deals! Call the church office today to make your reservations!

**Another PRBC beauty
Annabelle Sage Mitchell
was born
March 10 at 5:53p.
6 lb 4 oz, 18 inches long.
Proud parents are Chelsy
and Cam Mitchell.**



Charlotte Family Housing

Park Road is hosting the week of March 19-24 at Elizabeth House. Volunteers are needed to provide evening meals on Sunday, and Thursday.

Overnight hosts are needed each night, Sunday through Thursday nights.

Please sign up on our website to help <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0945aca92da2fd0-charlotte>.

Cultivating the Past

In our first 6 years of building, growing, watering, maintaining and harvesting, the dedicated members of the Garden Team have delivered over 1800 pounds of fresh vegetables to Loaves and Fishes. This produce has gone directly to needy families in our area. As often occurs with mission efforts, our volunteer pool has dwindled for a variety of reasons. With the coming of spring and the onset of our seventh year, we are asking any of our previous gardeners and any folks new to our church community to join us.

Our first workday will be Saturday, March 18 at 9a. We will repair/replace the lumber for our 14 raised beds. Next we will clean out the weeds and prepare the garden by tilling, digging and replenishing the soil. With the arrival of warmer weather, we will sow seeds and transplant nursery stock. Then we will wait, water, weed, water and hope for another successful harvest. We can, again, help feed the hungry with your help. Come and join us and get a little dirt under your fingernails. If you have any questions or want to be on this mission team, please call Alan Eakes (704.421.5921) or Johnny Doyle (704.488.2394).