

Good Tidings

October 10, 2018

From the pastors' Heart & Soul

COMING UP

October 10

Wednesday Night Dinner and Programs
Sanctuary Project Discussion

October 12-14

Couples Retreat
Lutheridge Conference Center
Arden, NC

October 13

10:30a-1:00p (New Time!)
Uptown Men's Shelter
Lunch prep and serving

October 17

Wednesday Night Dinner and Programs
Amy presents program about her trip to Tijuana, Mexico

October 18

Noon
VSP—(Very Special People)
Lunch and program for senior adults

October 19

9a – 5p
Fun Food Friday
Annual Leaf Trip

October 21

Called Church Conference following worship

Friends at Home

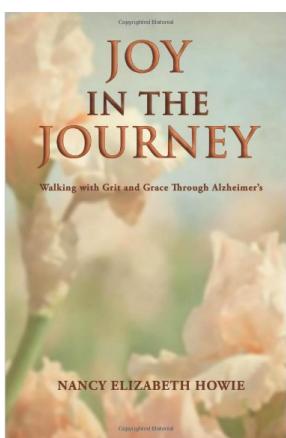
Mary Galloway
3220 Spring Valley Road
Charlotte, NC 28210
704-554-5834

Recovering at Home

Scott Bengel

PRBC Author

Nancy Howie is a long-time church member who grew up here with her brother, Dick. Joy in the Journey: Walking with Grit and Grace Through Alzheimer's is a book that she has written chronicling the caretaking journey for her mother through Alzheimer's. Nancy has donated a copy of her book to our church library "in loving memory of her mother, Mary Ann Howie."



Preparing the next phase of our Landscape Master Plan, I worked in the church yard last Friday with one of my favorite church mules, Bob Clare. It's not supposed to be 90+ degrees in October but that didn't stop us. Bob's usual work day is from "can to can't" – which is supposed to be from when the sunlight rises so you can see your work, until it sets and you can't see what you're doing any longer. On Friday, we worked from "can get it done to can't lift another finger!"

We took down one of the old cherry trees outside the church office. (After we remove the other one this week we're going to call on a few of you to help us plant four new ones, remove some grass, move some liriope, and add some mulch.) When we finished with the tree and delivered it to the city's "Compost Central," we returned to do some work to prepare for Saturday's wedding for Ashley Thornburg. (She was 8 years old when we became her pastors!) Ken Thornburg told me that Kay had noted a few grounds issues she wished could be addressed before the guests started arriving. Somehow Bob and I ended up with the "honey do" list. Go figure! (Ken did drive by a couple times, blow the horn, and give us a big, smiling "thumbs up," but that was all the work we got out of him!)

For the "honey do," we replaced a few dead shrubs and removed some overgrown ones, then I got to play "Edward Scissorhands" with the hedge trimmers and reshape a couple dozen bushes that badly needed a haircut. When I got through, Bob took the leaf-size bags and handed me a large rake, but I couldn't get the ground clean with it. Standing it up, I marveled at two-dozen long, straight plastic tines.

Noting how straight all the tines were, I asked Bob "What kind of rake is this?" He said, "A leaf rake" (as if I'd said something foolish... Have you never seen a leaf rake before?). Note for the reader: Bob and Brucie just moved, and when they left their home of 30+ years, since he doesn't need them at their beautiful new retirement community, the church became the beneficiaries of a number of Bob's tools.

"I've never seen a leaf rake like this," I said curiously, "It doesn't have any curved 'fingers' to pick up the leaves." "It used to!" said the owner who'd worked them clean off the end of the rake!

I laughed and made a couple quick notes. 1) In a world of everything disposable, **who** actually owns a leaf rake long enough to rake the curves off the tines? 2) In a world of hire-the-landscaper-to-do-the-work-for-you, **who** actually uses a plastic rake diligently enough (even if you own it long enough, theoretically speaking) to rub the fingers off it? The thought gives new meaning to the phrase "Working your fingers to the bone!"



As Bob and I finally took a break for lunch, carefully timed before either of us passed out, I said to him as we drove across the street, "I'm not sure anyone in my generation can work as hard as everyone in your generation can. I've even worked with 80 year-olds who can work circles around me!" I really mean that. When you are raised in front of a computer screen, moving from air-conditioned house to air-conditioned car to air-conditioned office, and when there are power tools that make every job, even when we decide to do it ourselves, about 10 times easier than it used to be... "I'm just not sure any of us can work like every one of you."

I'm going to buy the church a new rake – but I'm going to keep Bob's for a long time, just to be reminded all that he has taught me. Maybe we'll bury him with it, and in a few thousand years when someone disturbs that casket to rebuild for their generation, they'll muse at that box of bones and that rake and say, "That was one hard-working man!"

May it be so.

T. Rice

Upcoming Mission Opportunities

Charlotte Family Housing – Park Road will provide an evening meal for 10-12 adults and children at Elizabeth House Sunday, December 2, Tuesday, December 4 and Thursday, December 6.

Room in the Inn – A new season begins in December, and we will host 12 people for dinner and overnight stays on December 8 and 22.



Return Service Requested

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

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A Thank You Note

With All My Aloha,

For many years, the members and friends of Park Road Baptist Church have been an important part of our extended family. When Ken decided to move back to Charlotte, I sincerely believe that an important part of his decision was to return to the Church that helped him to develop into the person he became. My sincere thank you to all of you for:

- welcoming us with open arms
- supporting us through the many medical challenges Ken faced
- being with me through his final battle
- generously supporting his favorite charities through memorials

Yes, it has taken me more than five months to write this letter and for that I apologize. It was hard to leave Charlotte; however, I refuse to say goodbye to PRBC. Know that PRBC and all your efforts as a family and a strong member of a complicated society are always in my thoughts. I will continue to do the little that I can from Rhode Island, but I will miss the camaraderie of active participation. "Aloha" carries many messages --- thank you, until we meet again.

Karen Godwin
5 Belton Circle
Barrington, RI 02806
704-778-0871
kgodwin44@gmail.com

Hurricane Florence Relief Trip

Many parts of Eastern North Carolina were devastated by the recent hurricane and volunteers will be needed for a long time to assist with clean-up and recovery. To aid in this effort, Park Road will take a team from November 8 - 12 to help flood victims with mud-out and tear-out. No particular skills are needed, just a willingness to work hard and maybe get dirty. We'll leave from the church on Thursday evening, work Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and Monday and return home on Monday evening. The plan is to partner with Baptists on Mission, recognized leaders in disaster relief, who will provide meals and lodging. They are already at work in 7 different locations, and we will go wherever we are most needed on that weekend. If you're interested in going, contact Dan or Russ for more information.



Youth News

On Sunday October 14, our Youth Group plan to attend the Doctors Without Borders Forced From Home Exhibition uptown. We'll have lunch following worship then head to the exhibition which is outside the Nascar Hall of Fame. The exhibition is a free interactive event on the refugee crisis.

And upcoming . . .



Annual Cuba Mission Trip!

It's time again for us to begin planning for our visit to our partner church in Carlos Rojas. Whether you have been to Cuba multiple times or this will be your first visit, the trip promises new experiences and always a very warm welcome from our friends in Cuba! The tentative dates are March 7 or 8 until March 12 or 13. The approximate cost of the trip is \$1200 - \$1500. Deadline to sign up is November 1 so that we will have ample time to arrange flights and complete the visa process. If you are interested in going, please contact Dan.

Mission Offering Results for September: Crop Walk

In September, your generous gifts through the Sunday Mission Offering totaled \$1,184 which will be used to support the 40th Annual CROP Hunger Walk. The goal of the walk is to improve the quality of life of those suffering from hunger and poverty throughout the world.

Locally, Loaves and Fishes, Crisis Assistance Ministry, and the Second Harvest Food Bank all benefit from funds raised by CROP. If you would like to join the 4.1 mile walk, it will begin at 9:00a. at Independence Park on Saturday, October 13.

In October, our Mission Offering supports Friendship Trays, an organization that prepares and delivers healthy meals to individuals who can no longer prepare meals for themselves. Thank you for your ongoing support of missions through our regular Sunday offerings!