

October 4, 2017

From a pastor's Heart & Soul

COMING UP



Dinner: 5:30p; Children, Youth and Adult Programs 6:30p; Choir Rehearsal 7:30p
Call for reservations by TUESDAY.

Sunday, October 7

"Meet and Greet" in the Narthex following worship
 5:00p: Youth Activities

October 14

CROP Walk 9:00a
 Uptown Men's Shelter Lunch 10:30a

Remembering Our Friends at Home

Ann Norton
 7803 Teakwood Road
 Indian Trail, NC 28079
 704-882-0829

Sympathy is extended to the family of Pat Sigmon. A service to celebrate Pat's life will be held October 7 at 1:00 pm in the Chapel followed by a brief service in the Columbarium and a visitation in the Narthex.

I'm pretty sure last Sunday was a glimpse into the Kingdom of Heaven—you know that Kingdom we pray about each and every week . . . *Thy Kingdom come, on earth as it is in heaven.* Our Burmese friends from Chin Bethel Baptist Church bumped up their normal worship time in our Chapel to worship with us for World Communion Sunday. We heard their language in our ears. We listened to their beautiful music. Our choir, joined by several of our Jewish friends, added their music. We offered four communion stations representing the four corners of the world, and we all came forward together to hear the words we most need to hear: "Welcome to the Table. Christ heals all divisions."

And then worship moved from Sanctuary to Community Center where we broke bread together. We shared tables with people who may speak a different language but share the same God of love. The table was full of wonderful food with everything from Bar-B-Que to kosher cake to spicy, Burmese home-cooking. In those moments around those tables, World Communion really came to life.

I left church feeling that we had been church that day. Church isn't something we go to. Church is something that we are. I often feel this way. It's not like last Sunday was unique. I often leave the place we call church and realize that it wasn't just a place, but rather it was a moment where all the connections between all that is holy meets all that is human, and that moment is always Divine. I just noticed it especially last Sunday.

And we need those moments in this world where division is strong. We need those moments in this world where after a Sunday like we had last week we still can wake up to news of yet another mass shooting. We are left speechless, and yet there is so much to say. We are left stunned, and yet there is so much to do. We are left numb, and yet there is so much to feel.

I need Sundays like last Sunday to help me live through the Mondays that come our way. Because on Sundays, and a lot of days in between, all that is holy meets all that is human, and I need to be there for those Divine moments.

Amy





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

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Young Adult Connection Group

The Park Road Young Adults Connection Group will meet this Sunday, October 8, after worship. They will meet in the Youth Building for lunch and to begin their bi-weekly group discussion of James Chapter 1. Contact Chelsy Mitchell to sign up for a lunch item to bring. See you there!

Wednesday Nights . . .

Look a little like this! They also include food and fellowship and studying and praying and discussing and learning and sharing our lives together. **Join us when you can on Wednesday nights.** And feel free to join Andra and bring your own “show and tell” to let us in on what’s happening in your life!



Crop Walk 39

Come and walk with us on Saturday morning, October 14. The walk begins at 9:00a at Independence Park. Meet in the church parking lot at 8:15a to carpool. Charlotte’s walk is the largest one in the world. The goal this year is \$350,000. The money is used to alleviate world hunger.



Our October mission offering supports the Crop Walk.

Men’s Shelter Lunch, 14 of October

This is a wonderful family-friendly mission opportunity. Let Dan know if you can help serve.



Community Garden Update:

ATTENTION: Workday on Saturday, October 7 at 8:00 am. We need to weed, water and thin out the young turnips and carrots. Our total harvest so far this year is 160 pounds. This brings our seven year total to ONE TON! Thanks be to God and dedicated volunteers.

Reading Buddies at Sedgefield

Love to read? Share that love with a child at Sedgefield Elementary. Myers Park UMC has sponsored a program (“For the Love of Reading”) for several years now. It is very simple – you are paired with a second grader for a session each week.

The child reads to you a little, then you read to the child a little. Books at the appropriate level are provided at the appropriate level. There is no preparation and no expectation, except to share your love of reading with kids who are not the best readers. You will make a friend and help a child gain experience and confidence in reading.

The times for the 2017-2018 school year are Tuesday and Thursday morning from 7:15 to 8:15 (actual reading time is 7:30-8:10). If you are interested, please contact Beth Gage from MPUMC at bethgage@me.com.

Peace Poles

Our youth have worked hard in designing and painting these Peace Poles. And now they have been planted next to our Community Garden.



Thanks to Joey and the youth for leading the way to Peace. These poles stand as a reminder of our calling and our responsibility as followers of Jesus to be Peacemakers in all times and all situations.

And a Note to Youth:

Don’t forget The annual retreat will be November 17-18 at Camp Rockmont. Fifty dollars is due October 15.

