

September 5, 2018

From the pastors' Heart & Soul

COMING UP

September 5

Wednesday Night Dinner and Programs Resume.

September 9

Regular Sunday Schedule
 9:45a Connection Groups
 11:00a Worship
 Deacon Training in the Youth Building following worship Light lunch served

September 14

Fun Food Friday
 Cherub's Café, Belmont

September 16

Children's Food Event 5:00-6:30p
 Community Garden and Kitchen

Friends at Home

Robin Owen
 766 Marsh Road #1
 Charlotte, NC 28209
 704-900-6435
 robinowen@gmail.com

In the Hospital

Scott Bengel
 CMC Rehab—Pineville
 Cards and letters mailed to:
 4625 Piedmont Row Dr. Unit 515
 Charlotte, NC 28210



COUPLES RETREAT

Inviting all Couples

FOUR FOUNDATIONS OF A LASTING RELATIONSHIP

October 12-14
 Lutheridge Conference Center
 Arden, NC (Near Asheville)
 \$280 / Couple for 2 Nights & 3 Meals
 First Session 8pm Friday Night

Upcoming Fun Food Fridays

Please mark the following dates for Fun Food Fridays:

September 14 – Cherub's Café, Belmont

This wonderful local café serves good food and, as a ministry of the Catholic organization called Holy Angels, "provides vocational training and meaningful employment opportunities for the differently abled."

Oct 19 – Annual Leaf Trip to NC Mountains

November 30 – Restaurant TBD

December 21 – Restaurant TBD

One of the best things we've ever done for our marriage was to stop giving anniversary gifts. I have no idea what we gave or received for our first anniversary, and we stopped giving in year two. That list of traditional anniversary gifts never made much sense to us: 1- Paper, 2 - Cotton, 3 - Leather, 4 - Fruit (Year 4 is fruit. Really!?) We stopped when the gifts were cheap enough to afford, and that may be a good thing because we've now passed 15 - Crystal and 20 - China and -25- Silver and 30 - Pearl. We were poor seminary students when we stopped, and what we've done, instead, may have saved our marriage (which has never been in question!)

The traditional 50th anniversary gift is Gold... but we haven't had to wait. The memories we've made in all those surprises are all 14-karat.

Here was our agreement: Let's not give gifts: let's take turns planning an experience – a date, a night away, a trip, whatever we can afford. Let's set aside a little money this year : and add to it each year, whatever we can afford it, and let's enjoy surprising and being surprised.

The program hasn't been as smooth as we devised it. We haven't always had the money to "add a little to it," and this has been more true in recent years. Growing boys and college tuition have sometimes cut into the anniversary surprise, but we've had a lot of fun. I took Amy to Bardstown, KY the first year, and after a train ride and dinner through the Bernheim Forest, we took in a play and then stayed at a haunted Bed and Breakfast. (I'll tell you the full story later!) She surprised me one year with a trip to Florida and water ski lessons from one of the world's best slalom skiers. I surprised her by getting my motorcycle license and picking her up after a church Senior Adult luncheon on a purple Harley Davidson! We rode the Parkway – and years later she rented a Harley and planned a 700-mile rumble down California's Highway 1. We had church members in Paris during year 25, so I surprised Amy with plane tickets. Her convertible and our trip down the length of the Blue Ridge Parkway was a combination birthday #50 and anniversary #30. And in between the more exotic plans, we've taken the 1965 camper to the mountains, spent a weekend at my parents' lake house, and enjoyed a meal in uptown Charlotte. For this year's 32nd we were at Furman helping a son settle into his college dorm room, so we returned to our honeymoon hotel, took in dinner on Main Street, and put in a few more convertible miles in the SC mountains. The traditional 50th anniversary gift is Gold... but we haven't had to wait. The memories we've made in all those surprises are all 14-karat.

The weekend of October 12-14 we're inviting ALL COUPLES at Park Road to join us for a memorable weekend getaway. We'll be at Lutheridge Conference Center in Arden, NC. Our topic is the Four Foundations of a Lasting Relationship, and we'll talk about loving God – through our relationships – with heart, soul, mind, and strength. Before you come, please do a little Google research about date nights in the Asheville/Hendersonville area, as Saturday night will be free for you and your significant other. If the \$280 registration fee is a show-stopper for you, please send Russ or Amy a confidential email. We'll try to work something out.

Time together is better than any gift, so we hope you'll join us for some wonderful time together, time away, in October.

Russ

Back from Maternity Leave

This morning we welcomed our Financial Administrator, Allison Wieland, back to work. On June 29, Allison gave birth to a beautiful son, Webb who joins big brother Walker. We have missed Allison in the office but are grateful that Cason Maccubbin, our former Financial Administrator, could effectively fill in during Allison's maternity leave.





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

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Outreach Team Update

Did You Know That.....

- *Every Sunday about one-fourth of those in attendance are guests?
- *That every guest is contacted personally by someone other than a minister the following week (if contact information is given)?
- *Feeling welcomed is one of the biggest reasons a guest returns?
- *Park Road Baptist Church has an Outreach Team?
- *YOU can make a difference with a smile or a kind word?
- *The Outreach Team would love your help contacting guests?

Please let Ann Miles know if you would be willing to make email contacts following a guest's visit.



Monthly Meet and Greet, in the Narthex after worship, provides great time to meet new folks and to visit with friends.



Newest Sunday Morning Connection Group

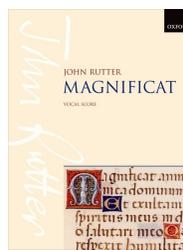
Our newest connection group is called "Meditating on the Word" and is led by Twila Broadway. This year they are using the meditations printed in the bulletin for meditation and reflection on. Currently they are small in number but hope to grow! All are invited to join. The group meets in the Youth Building, second room on the left down the hall beginning at 10:00a Sunday mornings.

Community Garden Update

We are close to our last harvest for 2018 with a total of over 220 pounds of fresh vegetables donated to Loaves and Fishes. Thanks to all the volunteers – and a special thanks, again, to Johnny Doyle and Alan Eakes who have done the lion's share! We will need help for next year, as our garden boxes need rebuilding.

Our children will help pull up the remaining garden on September 16 as a part of their "food service project."

Join the Choir for Christmas Music



Please mark your calendars for 11:00a Sunday, December 16. The Park Road Choir accompanied by members of the Charlotte Symphony Orchestra will be presenting *Magnificat* composed by John Rutter. The guest soloist will be Cantor Shira Lissek from Temple Israel.

The multi-movement work is based on the canticle of the ancient Church with text from the Gospel of Luke, where Mary proclaims her joy, following the announcement by the Archangel Gabriel, that she will bear a son, Jesus. The *Magnificat* is normally the focus of the third Sunday of Advent, known as Gaudete Sunday or "Joy Sunday."

For information about the Magnificat and Cantor Lissek, please visit the following websites:

- <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Magnificat> and
- <http://shiralissek.com/>

Singers from the congregation who are interested in joining the choir to sing for Advent and Christmas are welcome to join us for rehearsals on Wednesday evenings beginning at 7:30p in the Choir Room.

Park Road Phone Directories are READY!

Pick up a copy of your directory with all of our members and regular visitors to get the most up-to-date contact information for all of the folks involved in the life and ministry and mission of our church. Copies are available on Sundays and Wednesdays or stop by the church office to get your copy.

Cuban Vacation Bible School

Mileydis, the pastor of our partner congregation, Resurrection Baptist Church in Carlos Rojas, Cuba, sent a few pics of their summer VBS. She said it was their most successful Bible school with 52 children attending.



They studied the Psalms of David.

