



...together in freedom
to care and to
reconcile in Jesus' name...



Cooperative Baptist
FELLOWSHIP

Being the presence of
Christ in the world.

"I have come to bring fire on the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled!" Luke 12:49

www.kirkwoodbaptist.org
(314) 965-2349

The Newsletter of Kirkwood Baptist Church
...together in freedom to care and to reconcile in Jesus' name...

211 North Woodlawn Ave
Kirkwood, MO 63122

Believing is Seeing Tutoring

Every Tuesday and Thursday a group of volunteers meet with local students in Meacham Park to help them with homework and give them academic support in individual areas of need. Pray for them and encourage them as they strive to be the hands and feet of Christ in our community. If you are interested in this ministry, contact Louise Duke.

- | | | | | |
|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------|----------------|
| Beth Bee | Pat Bubash | Lynette Chrenka | Louise Duke | Wil Duke |
| Becky Fox | Dorothy Hassler | Helen Killebrew | Linda Liebman | Ginny Lawson |
| Jim Layman | Ellen Maderes | Alek Maxwell | Phil Maxwell | Mauriece Smith |
| Kathy Schober | Ralph Sneed | Don Willis | Lorre Willis | |



Your Capital Campaign Committee has sent out their first newsletter. It was mailed January 11th. You can also find a copy by clicking on the logo on the front page of our web site. www.kirkwoodbaptist.org

OUR VISION

We will be the presence of Jesus Christ in our community and beyond, through participative worship, open inquiry, loving fellowship, valued diversity, genuine inclusiveness, and servant leadership - encouraging all members to exercise God's gifts and calling as we share the Gospel with the whole world and minister to the whole person.

There is
a place
for you
at
Kirkwood
Baptist
Church



**Pastoral
Kindling** By Scott Stearman

Demonization

I happened across an article written by a religious leader (Dianna Butler Bass) who argued that churches NEED to be talking about the tragic shooting in Tucson. As you undoubtedly know, Arizona Rep. Gabrielle Giffords is in stable condition (at print), but six people lost their lives and fourteen were wounded when a lone crazed gunman fired into the crowd after attempting to assassinate Giffords. Incidents like this have been on the rise, and in the article, Bass argued that there is a need for a societal/church conversation about violence and its causes. Bass stated that the Sunday after Martin Luther King was assassinated, her parents went to church heartbroken, perplexed, and worried... and the killing was never mentioned.

Sad, indeed, when the church becomes a place to hide from reality, rather than a place to gain courage for facing it. And there's no question that too often we Christians major on ethical trivialities when we live in a world calling us to face real issues of life and death. I fear that too many Southern Baptist preachers (at least in my youth) talked about "beer drinking" at the expense of real issues like systemic racism or radical poverty. Obviously alcoholism is a serious issue, but to intimate that the essence of holiness is to avoid "drinking and cussing" is to miss well over 90% of the gospel's call on our lives. When a church that has been systematically covering up the abuse of children calls the ordination of women a "moral evil," you know we're a long way from the ethics of Jesus.

That being said, we must also recognize the complexity of the conversation we need to have. On the one side we risk being overly general with moralistic banalities ("we shouldn't be violent") and on the other side we risk getting into policy discussions without solid expertise (Better regulations of handguns? A very good question, but one too complex for worship. Ditto for the minutia of Health Care Reform). On either extreme we come across as hopeless and harmless idealists or as political meddlers who are out of their depth advancing a partisan agenda. Neither of those are a "mission match." Both do little to advance the conversation which needs to happen.

A true "mission match" is our priestly and a prophetic calling. The former we exhibit as we pray and care for those within our power to do so. We are a long way from Arizona, but we can remember those hurting and pray for the families who are grieving. And prophetically there are things which we, as followers of Jesus, can say without equivocation and yet with significance. In this case, for example: no human being should ever be demonized, every human being no matter how different, demands respect. And moreover, and this is a pill we often don't like to swallow, even the opinions of those people we radically disagree with, often (albeit not always) have some kernel of truth.

(continues on page 4)

Begin Your Week with Worship

Sundays at KBC

7:45 am & 10:15 am Deacons
Pre-Service Prayers
8:00 am & 10:30 am Worship Service
9:15 am Bible Study for all ages
4:00 pm Community Gospel Choir
4:00 pm Youth Hand Bells
4:45 pm Youth Choir
4:30 pm Children's Choir
5:45pm Youth Snack Supper
6:15 pm Sunday Night Live

Upcoming Sermons

January 23 *Your Christian Name*
I Corinthians 1:10-18
January 30 *Humble Walking*
Matthew 5:1-12

January 16th

Rev Hal Morse Speaking

Deacon of the Week

Bill Crouch

Bible Openers

Emma Norton - 8:00 am
- 10:30 am

Worship Care Team Leader

Anne Serkin

Worship Care Volunteers

Keith & Michelle Mote, Trish Rikli,
Faye Johns, Tom & Rebecca Toth

Center Your Week

Wednesdays at KBC

4:45 pm Family Dinner
5:45 pm Prayer Meeting
6:00 pm Bible Study
6:00 pm Chancel Ringers, KBC Brass
7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir

Current Studies

Study led by Scott Stearman

**To those Loved and Called:
You've Got Mail!**

Romans 1:7

KBC Family Dinner

\$6/adult, \$2/child, \$16/family of 4+
Reservation/Cancellation Deadline: Noon
on Monday for the following Wednesday.
Late cancellations will be charged.

January 19—Art of Entertaining

Beef Stroganoff, Caesar Salad,
Corn, Cheesecake

January 26—Garavelli's

Roast Beef, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy,
Broccoli, Coconut Cream Pie,
Sugar Free Apple Pie

**Calendar Reminders
for the week of January 16th**

See pg. 2 for regularly scheduled Sunday & Wednesday activities.

Sunday, January 16th

12:00 pm Widows Might Luncheon
6:00 pm Parent vs Youth Competition

Monday, January 17th

MLK Day, church office closed

Tuesday, January 18th

10:00 am PrimeTimers

Wednesday, January 19th

9:00 am Friendship International
6:00 pm Friends to Family

Thursday, January 20th

9:30 am Global Women Mission Circle

Saturday, January 22nd

9:00 am CLC Retreat

Food Pantry Schedule

Friday, January 21st

Food Pickup - Team 1 (Steve Guinn, Wil Duke)

Saturday, January 22nd

Food Pantry - Team 2 (Scott & Cecelia Stearman,
Jim & Pat Bubash, Susan Kane, Janis Dickerman,
Dennis Loehrer, Webster Groves Baptist)



The church office will be closed **Monday, January 17th** in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr Day.

In Celebration Birthdays

- 1/17—Jeannie Staples
- 1/18—Ginny Lawson
- 1/19—Emma Norton, Daniel Copeland, Gerry Vaughn, Nathan McReynolds
- 1/20—Polly Lundberg, Mitzi Farrell
- 1/21—Jo Ann Trefts
- 1/22—Dean Shaw, Alyssa Shaw
- 1/23—Norma Hawkins, Helen Killebrew, Mark Harter
- 1/24—Sean Farrell
- 1/25—Kelly Clutes, Pinky Tourville, Ina Koch, Ray Killebrew
- 1/26—Marcia Thompson
- 1/27—Nancy Wamble, Bob Jaco
- 1/28—Darla Gavin, Clyde Creel
- 1/29—Theanna Zika



2011 Chili Lunch & Dessert Auction

Sunday, January 30th at 11:30 am



- ◆ Great lunch with 3 Chili Varieties and all the fixins'. (Hotdogs and Noodles for kids.)
- ◆ Cost: \$4 adults / \$2 children, 3 and under eat FREE
- ◆ Fantastic desserts auctioned whole or \$1 per dessert slice.
- ◆ Interested in providing a dessert for this year's auction? Please fill out and submit an entry card or enter online by Sunday, January 23rd. Entry forms are available in the KBC office or on the KBC website.
- ◆ All proceeds support the 2011 Youth Choir Tour & Mission Trip to Marion County, Alabama.

To those Loved and Called: You've Got Mail! (Rom. 1:7)

A discussion of Paul's Letter to the Romans
Wednesday Nights at 6 pm (1/5 to 3/2), Room 304
Led by Scott Stearman

Join us as we gather to read our mail together. There is much in Paul's letter to Rome which is as relevant to us as it was to those living in the "Eternal City" a few centuries ago. Our roads may have improved, our government slightly less tyrannical, but God's grace, human nature, and our calling to live a life of service hasn't changed in 2,000 years. Come along and join the discussion. There's no reason to leave this letter unopened.

Global Women Mission Circle

Thursday, January 20th, 9:30 am

Please join us as we learn about Operación San Andres, founded in 2003 on the outskirts of Lima, Peru. They provide medical, educational, nutritional and spiritual ministries. CBF field personnel Christopher and Vessica Rose work there and are aided by a long-term relationship with two Houston churches—South Main Baptist and Tallowood Baptist. Come and learn more!

MINISTRY PERSONNEL

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 Tom Pearce, Organist

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Krista Pyle, Hospitality Coordinator
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Linda Stephens, Financial Assistant

These are some examples of our Lay lead ministries at KBC.

Bosnian Food Pantry Louise Duke
 Counseling Services Linda Bryan

Global Women Nell Lockhart /
 Peggy Van Asdale

Friendship Int'l Norma Hawkins
 Stephen Ministry Kathryn Rogers

Councils of KBC

Spiritual Growth & Development
 Steve Guinn

Worship Arts Doug Gavin
 Ministry Debra Lueckerath

Gift ID & Development

Church Leadership Glen Calvin
 Resource Council

Giving Report 1/2/11
 Budget Receipts \$ 15,043.30
 Budget Receipts YTD \$ 15,043.30
 Budget Need YTD \$ 21,379.40

Attendance Report 1/2/11
 Bible Study 127
 Worship (8:00 -40 / 10:30 - 207) 247

All items to be included in the Kindler are due no later than the Friday before the issue you need them printed in. Submit all materials to Leigh at the church or via email lporter@kirkwoodbaptist.org



Friends to Family

Friends to Family: F2F

First Wednesday of every month, 6-7 p.m.
 (Except in January...we will meet Wed the 12th)

- Review the previous month's guest list and pray for them
- Brainstorm ways to make connections with KBC people and ministries
- Make contacts: call, email, letter, invitations to next month's events, etc.
- Extend personal and intentional invitations to Let's Do Lunch.

(Pastoral Kindling continued from page 1)

This, it seems to me, is a central issue of our day and one that can not be repeated too often or too loudly. Whether in political violence or school bullying or in the crazy extremist rhetoric we hear daily, a core temptation is the hatred based on a false sense of difference and an illegitimate perception of the views of others. Political view-points, sexual orientation, partisan affiliation, are all ancillary to the fact that to be human is to be a creature with dignity and worth.

This leads me to something closer to home. In Saint Louis we have a murder rate that baffles the imagination; young men, killing each other almost as if it were a sport. This is a moral evil, one which we "close the curtains on" almost every day. The gospel tells us that a 16 year old North City boy is as worthy of our concern as an Arizona representative. Try thinking about that a bit. It's a truth anything but banal or easy.

Again, there are no easy answers to fix the issues of violence in our own city. But we are called to speak with those who are suffering and to speak out against the mutual demonization of a generation of kids. There are those in the middle – primarily members of African American churches – who need our prayers and support. They need our "witness" for justice. One of my plans for this year is to explore how to do that more effectively than we have. As servants and followers of Jesus, let's avoid being moralistic loudmouths while giving our voice to the truth of love and the love of truth, knowing that Jesus is the only perfect expression of both. The rest of us are imperfect imitations at best. But imitations we are called to be.

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