



THE BEACON

It is you who light my lamp; the Lord, my God, lights up my darkness. - Psalm 18:28

A NOTE FROM EMMANUEL

As I write this note the weather outside is providing for us the first taste of fall. It's cool, breezy and just has that feel that a change is coming. Many enjoy this time of the year, not only for the refreshment of the air and season, but for the settling back into a traditional, consistent way of life. You see, summer time has its excitements and times away from routines that come with work, and school. However, if we are honest, we all prefer a consistent – knowing what's coming next – way of life. Take a baby in the home. The little one settles into a routine of eat and sleep. For the most part, this happens about the same time every day and night. Then you go the grandma's for the weekend and when you get back home that schedule and routine is shot. It will take a few days and nights to get the little one back on the routine schedule – and when it happens everyone is much happier.

That's what happens in all parts of our lives when summer ends and we have to get back into what we do most of the year. Here at church, that means getting back into the routine of being at Sunday School and then attending worship service at 11:00. It means Wednesday night activities resume and everyone comes back to participating in what your age groups are doing. Singing in the choir and being in attendance at rehearsals just seems second nature. Doing all these things are what we do well and enjoy most of the year.

Sure, the first few tries to get back to doing what we traditionally and consistently do most of the year may be like trying to get the little one back on schedule after a visit to grandma's. Once we settle in we will be comfortable serving our Lord in attendance and participation and enjoy this service.

Look forward to being in this routine with you as the cool fall season brings us back to doing what we do best for our Lord.

Seeking to know and do His will

Emmanuel

Fall, 2009

September 2, 2009

CHURCHWIDE COVERED DISH DINNER

Sunday, September 13
Churchwide Covered Dish
Dinner - please contact Betty
Duke with what you would like
to bring.





NOTES FROM PATTI



So, a member of the congregation came up to me after the worship service on Sunday and said he wanted to come up during the singing of the hymns, turn to the congregation, and tell them to “Sing!” Apparently, there wasn’t much life in the hymn-singing on this particular Sunday. I want to encourage you, if you might be one to leave the singing to others you deem more capable, to realize that we are all part of God’s choir and have an awesome privilege and even responsibility to lift our voices to God in worship, even if we “can’t carry a tune in a bucket.” God desires our worship and our humble, contrite hearts and a way we can do that is through lifting our voices in song with our brothers and sisters in the worshiping congregation. If you don’t consider yourself a singer, I hope you will still at least attempt to sing as we worship together. God will be pleased with our efforts if offered to him with sincerity and a worshipful attitude!

This month our fall programs begin. At least for the month of September, **Children’s Choir** (grades K-5) will meet on Wednesday evenings from 6:30 to 7:00, followed by Kingdom Kids discipleship time. We are open to input from parents and can consider having choir on Sunday afternoons at 4:00. Discussion about scheduling will take place over the coming weeks; please let us know what you think!

Youth are invited to participate in **Handbell Choir** on Sunday afternoons at 5:00, along with our adult ringers. We will start on Sept. 20 but will not meet on Sept. 27 (I will be out of town). Please let me know if you are interested, if you haven’t already.

Chancel Choir has resumed regular Wednesday rehearsals. Sept. 2 and 9 rehearsals will begin at 7:00 p.m. When Wednesday programming begins and on church business meeting nights, rehearsals will begin at 7:45. New members are welcome; see me!

Laura Wheeler—Ordination Service, October 25, 2009 in Atlanta.

If you would like to send a recorded message of blessing to Laura as part of her home church family, the church which nourished her faith and in which her gifts for ministry were developed, I invite you come to the parlor after the picnic on Sept. 13 or following worship services on Sept. 20, Oct. 4, Oct. 11, or Oct. 18. I will have a video camera and you may record your words of blessing for Laura, just as if you were actually participating in the laying on of hands for her. The video will be presented to her on the day of her ordination, so that she might know of our support and prayers of blessing on her behalf as she enters into her calling as a minister of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Patti

Deacon Greeter/Visitor Packets

- September 13 Ellis and Teresa Wheeler
- September 20 Ed and Betty Bridger
- September 27 Vera and Gene Warren
- October 4 Carlisle and Irma Franks
- October 11 Peter and Mary Griffiths

THANK YOU NOTE

Dear Ridge Road Baptist Church,

I want to express my sincere gratitude for your prayers during my illness and treatment. By prayers, God sustained and blessed me with strength to face a difficult time. I am progressing very nicely and received a good report. Continue to remember me in prayer and may God bless each of you.

In God’s Grace,

Rebecca Smith
(Joel Perry’s sister)





Associate's Press

Wednesday Night activities will resume September 16th. YES, you read that right. We're starting back up on September 16th. The meal will be served at 5:45 PM.

On September 16th at 6:30 PM we will have our Committee Orientation. If you have been contacted about being on a committee and said, "yes," you will need to attend this session. Look for additional communication from the church office on this. Patti will lead children's choir at 6:30 PM, and they will have discipleship at 7:00 PM.

September 23rd is our next business meeting. Please be present for that. The children's program will run on its usual schedule.

September 30th, following our meal, Emmanuel will lead a Bible Study for Adults at 6:30 PM. I plan to meet with parents and youth in the Chapel at 6:30 PM. That's **parents of youth and children** by the way. We'll spend the next few Wednesday nights talking about what we want to do and where we want to go with ministry to families, children, and youth. The children's program will run on its usual schedule.

Please make your reservations for the fellowship meal. We will have a sign up sheet for reservations in the office, and on the table in the narthex on Sundays. If you make a standing reservation, please know that you will be charged for your meal if you do not show up. If you need to cancel a reservation, please notify the church office by 12:00 PM (noon) on Tuesday. Failure to cancel will result in your being charged for that meal when you attend the following week. The current meal price is \$6.00 per person age 12 and up. Age 5 - 11, meals are \$4.00. Children age 4 and under eat free.

We're looking forward to getting back into the swing of things!

Blessings,

Zach

BAPTIST MEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2009

8:30 AM

Golden Corral on Glenwood Avenue, Raleigh



Update from the Pastor Search Committee

August concludes the 5th month of work for the Pastor Search Committee. Throughout the past 5 months, we have felt your prayers of support and have enjoyed your words of encouragement. Those of us on the Pastor Search Committee believe our role is to guide our congregation through the process of calling someone to serve God at Ridge Road Baptist Church. Your continued support and involvement is critical as we continue our work. Thank you!

As you may recall from the church-wide meeting with Dr. Roger Nix back in May, we're following a very rigorous process designed to ensure we find the right individual to help fulfill the mission of our church. During his comments, Dr. Nix stressed that calling a pastor to serve is more difficult now than in past years, and that 12 to 18 months is now the average time required to call a senior pastor. Those of us on the Pastor Search Committee understand the urgency all feel given the challenges we face at Ridge Road, but we also believe the consequences of calling the wrong pastor are dire. Please trust that we are constantly balancing our sense of urgency with the need for prudent action.

We thought this would be a good time to review what we've accomplished so far and to let you know about a few key upcoming events. Over the course of the summer we have collected information from you through surveys and congregational working sessions to help us understand more about you and the traits and attributes you believe are most important in a pastor called to serve at Ridge Road. The **Membership Questionnaire** and **Church Family Conversation** will help us describe who we are at Ridge Road to potential candidates. The **Pastor Profile Questionnaire** and our **Looking to the Future** session on ministry priorities will help us with the daunting task of reviewing what will likely be hundreds of resumes. We will conclude our formal information gathering in September with the **Perspectives of Faith** survey to help us clearly describe to candidates the kind of Baptists we are and what our basic beliefs are.

We are getting close to the time when we will begin to actively solicit resumes from interested candidates. Before doing that we'd like to share with you the pastoral profile information you've provided, along with data we've gathered on Senior Pastor compensation. Given Ridge Road's financial challenges, we want to share with you what we've learned and ensure we move forward with the understanding and support of the congregation.

To accomplish this, we **will** distribute information related to the pastoral profile along with samples of some typical compensation packages **after the Worship Service on September 20th**. We will ask that you carefully review this information, then **attend the September 23rd Business Meeting** where we will present the information in detail and ask for your input and feedback. This is a critical investment of time in the future of our church, and we look forward to your participation. If you will be unable to attend, please contact the church office and we will get the information out to you.

Thanks again for your continued prayers and support. Together we will work toward ensuring an exciting and meaningful future for the ministry of Ridge Road Baptist Church.



OUR WEEKDAY PRESCHOOL

WOW! The Weekday Preschool has opened its doors for another year of fun!

The most important goal of our early childhood program is to help children become enthusiastic learners in a warm, Christian environment. We do that by having wonderful teachers who dedicate themselves to providing a top-quality preschool education!

The beautiful location and facility in which we operate is also important to the success of RRBC Weekday Preschool! We appreciate the church's support and prayers.

I like this familiar child's mealtime prayer: *"For every cup and plateful,
God make us truly grateful."* A.S.T.Fisher

It reminds me that at RRBC Weekday Preschool, our "cup" runneth over with blessings...a great staff, wonderful students, a beautiful location, supportive parents and church members, and so much more! We are so grateful!

With praise and thanksgiving to our Lord,

Ms. Penny
Weekday Preschool Director



ACC FOOTBALL CHURCH DAY

NOVEMBER 14, 2009

BB & T FIELD(FORMERLY GROVES STADIUM)

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE



Sunday Fellowship Gatherings

September 6 - Koinonia

September 13 - Fidelis

September 20 - Seekers

September 27 - Genesis/Joy

October 4 - Gibson

October 11 - Seekers

SOUND SYSTEM OPERATORS

September 6	Rolf Blizzard
September 13	Steven Lingafelt
September 20	Ellis Wheeler
September 27	Charles Lingafelt

YES, We're Doing Missions!

The Facilities Use Committee has taken a missional approach to how we approve the use of our space. The largest missional function is our weekday preschool, wherein upwards of 100 preschoolers from the surrounding neighborhood are nurtured and taught the basic skills that get them ready for elementary school, all in a Christian environment. Every Sunday the Burmese congregation meets for worship in our chapel. The United Refugees and Immigrations Service office has been invited in to lead workshops with them on dental hygiene, nutrition, and Habitat for Humanity housing services. The Facilities Use Committee also approved use of space for an ESL class that meets twice a week downstairs in the Education building.

Facilities Use has also approved building usage to outside clubs like the Raleigh Metal Detectors Club, Raleigh Coin Club, and the Raleigh Area Animated Lighting & Display Club. In addition to that we partnered with Highland Methodist and Raleigh Moravian to accommodate 600 Boy-scouts. These are all great expressions of hospitality to the surrounding community.

Thank you to Vera Warren, Margo Kirk, Kevin Parker, Carl Parker, Dulcina Corn, Mark Bednarcik, and Patricia Lynn for a job well done.

UPCOMING EVENTS

The next issue of the *Beacon* will be mailed on October 7, 2009. Deadline for information to be printed in that edition needs to be in the church office by noon on Monday, October 5.

Preschool Opens Today – September 2, 2009

Monday – September 7 – Labor Day – Office and Preschool closed

September 8 – Diaconate Meeting – 7:00 PM

September 13 – Churchwide Covered Dish Dinner - please contact Betty Duke with what you would like to bring.

September 16 - RESUME WEDNESDAY NIGHT ACTIVITIES

September 16, Committee Orientation, 6:30 PM

September Business Meeting – Wednesday, September 23, 6:30 PM.

September 26 - Baptist Men's Fellowship Breakfast - Golden Corral - Glenwood Avenue, 8 :30 AM



Ridge Road Baptist Church

Touching Lives

Sharing Faith

Offering Hope

2011 Ridge Road Raleigh, NC 27607 office@rrbch.com www.rrbch.com
Church Staff:

Emmanuel Pegram	919-844-8682	Interim Pastor
Zach Roberts	smilingotter@gmail.com	Associate Pastor (Christian Education and Discipleship)
Patti Lingafelt	patti@rrbch.com	Minister of Music
Penny Atwood	rrbchpreschool@bellsouth.net	Weekday Preschool Director
Cecilia Davis	office@rrbch.com	Administrative Assistant

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919-787-4423 - Church office
 919-571-8080 - Fax
 919-787-8823 - Dial A Prayer
 919-787-5707 - Weekday Preschool

*If you would like to contribute an announcement or article for the next Beacon, please do so by **MONDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2009***

**Ridge Road Baptist Church
2011 Ridge Road
Raleigh, NC 27607**

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**RETURN SERVICE
REQUESTED**



Senior Ramblings

In July, we stayed inside and enjoy a soup and salad lunch, then went downstairs, put our feet up and watched the movie, "Mama Mia". The movie was funny, lighthearted and featured wonderful music and beautiful scenery from the coast of Greece. We laughed and had a great time, some of us even napped a bit during the movie!

Save the Date: Thursday September 17

We will travel to Sanford where we will have lunch before going to the Temple Theatre for a matinee performance of "BINGO The Musical".

Time: 10:30 a.m.

Cost: \$25 covers ticket, fees and gas for the bus. You pay for Lunch.

Return: Before Dark

Sign up: Call the church office by September 7 to save your seat!

Save the Date: Thursday October 8

We will travel to Jamestown (near Greensboro) where a dozen or so shops and restaurants in the same block make for easy browsing and fun shopping in stores that range from a general store to an art gallery, with consignment and antiques in between. See the brochure in the church office for more details.

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Cost: Whatever you spend, plus sharing the cost of gas for the bus

Return: Before Dark

Sign up: Call the church office by September 29 to save your seat!

Where would you like to go? Please let us know and then join us!