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A Message from Pastor Sam

Jesus was asked, “What is the greatest commandment?” The askers of the question were trying to trick Him, but in reality they gave him the opportunity to summarize all of the laws into two commandments. He said, “The greatest commandment is to love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.” The second commandment is “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” Love! Love God & Love Others! That is what we were created to do, that is what Christ did in redeeming us, and that is what He wants us to do. Love God & Love Others!

Please look through the rest of this newsletter to find opportunities where you can Love God & Love Others!

Pastor Sam

Women's Bible Study

The Women's Bible Study meets the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month at **9:30 a.m.** at the home of Hilda Phillips. Susan Roberts is currently teaching a very interesting study called the “**Overcomer**”, which is based on the movie that the group went to see. We are blessed to have Susan and Delores Waldrop to lead us in our studies. We share prayer concerns and have wonderful fellowship as well. Our next meeting is **September 10th**.

“Back-to-Church Sunday”

“National “Back-to-Church Sunday” started as a call to action and invitation – action for the church, invitation for the world. A single-day event focused on extending the invitation of love, peace and hope to our friends and neighbors; to reclaim the true nature of Church – exactly as Christ commanded. We ask everyone to invite neighbors and friends who have not attended church in a while to come join us for our Sunday School and Worship Service on **September 15th**.

“Meals on Wheels”

We continue our “Meals on Wheels” program and average serving 50 meals per month. The meals are prepared at home by volunteers, and then packed at the church. Our next serving is planned for **September 19th**. Anyone that would like to assist with cooking, packing, and/or delivering the meals is welcome. We begin packing at **2:00 p.m.** and are ready to begin delivery between 2:30 and 3:00 p.m. If you are interested in helping, or if you know of someone that could benefit from a meal, contact Brenda Golden at 804-980-0083, or Marjorie Jimerson at 804-561-6527.

“Rise Against Hunger”

On Saturday, **October 5, 2019**, Mt. Hope will host its fifth “Rise Against Hunger” meal packaging event from 2:00 to 4:00 pm. During those two hours, volunteers will perform a variety of tasks to package and pack approximately 10,000 meals which will be sent to needy families throughout the world as well as the United States. Statistics reveal that nearly 870 million people suffer from hunger and about 25,000 people die every day of hunger or hunger-related causes. Mt. Hope was notified last year that its 10,000 meals were part of 285,120 meals shipped from Richmond to Swaziland. Since 2005, volunteers have helped “Rise Against Hunger” to distribute over 310 million meals worldwide. Their goal is to end hunger by 2030.

Youth Group

We would love to have more youth come join our Youth Group that has been organized by Adam and Stefanie Creswell and Randall and Thena Smith! The leaders have activities planned for each month and all youth, ages 10-18, are encouraged to attend. Their next activity will be to assist with the "Rise Against Hunger" event. Spread the word!

Prayer Requests

Prayer Requests to be placed in the Sunday Bulletin may be emailed to: pray@mthopebc.org.

Fall Festival

Please join us for our Fall Festival on **October 26, 2019** from 3-6 p.m. We will have games and activities for all ages, along with hot dogs and our famous Brunswick Stew made by David Waldrop. Stew will also be available for purchase at \$7.00 per quart.

"Operation Christmas Child"

It will soon be time to pack those shoeboxes! Operation Christmas Child is a ministry of Samaritan's Purse serving our Lord and "the least of these" through a beautiful act of love from people like you. By packing a shoebox full of toys, hygienic items, school supplies and more you will be giving the gift of love to a child for Christmas. You can get more information at www.samaritanspurse.org. You can also email Amy Mayo at amayo6609@gmail.com for information on packing a box, receiving materials such as a brochure and a box, and/or volunteering to collect boxes at Mt. Hope during the National Collection Week, **November 18th through 25th**. Please pray about your commitment to this ministry and pack a box to spread joy and the truth of God's love to a child at Christmas.

"King's Cadence" Concert

On **Friday, December 6, 2019 at 7:30 p.m.**, we will be having a quartet called "King's Cadence" to perform in concert. K.C. Armstrong, who has performed at Mt. Hope before with the PromisedLand Quartet, has formed this group, and the concert is sure to be a blessing to all who attend. Please pass on the word and plan to attend!

Community Candlelight Service

Please join us for our Community Candlelight Service on **December 20th at 7:30 p.m.** We will have special music and scripture provided by members of many of our community churches, as well as, an inspirational message by Pastor Sam Mayo of Mt. Hope. Come and join us in the love and fellowship of the community.

"Birthday Party for Jesus"

Our "Birthday Party for Jesus" will be **Saturday, December 21st, at 2:00 p.m.** at the church. We will have fun celebrating the birth of Jesus, and will also practice for our Christmas program. The party will be for those children ages 9 and under, with assistance from our Youth Group, ages 10-18.

Christmas Baskets and Caroling

On **December 22nd at 10:00 a.m.**, anyone that would like to participate, will assist in making Christmas Baskets that will be delivered to members of the community as we go Christmas Caroling. If you would like to bring items such as soup, crackers, raisins, fruit, etc., you may bring them to the church any time prior to this. Anyone interested in caroling and delivering the baskets, should be at the church at **3:00 p.m.** **ALL** ages are invited, so please come and join us! After caroling, we will go back to the church for refreshments.

Christmas Program

Sunday, December 22nd at 11:00 a.m., the Youth and Choir will present "The Candles of Christmas". Come and bring a friend to get into the true spirit of Christmas!

Senior Adult Sunday School Class

The Senior Adult Sunday School Class, though small in number, has donated \$540.00 this year to various charities. As of August 1st, they had donated \$90.00 to "Pre-Born", \$200.00 to the "Patrick Henry Boys and Girls Home", \$150.00 to "HopeTree Family Services", and \$50.00 each to the church in memory of Garfield Dillard and Bettye Waldrop.

Love Packages

The church is collecting Christian Literature and Bibles that will be delivered throughout the world through an organization called "**Love Packages**". The mission of Love Packages is to "glorify God through the distribution of the Word of God to hungry hearts throughout the world. If you have literature or Bibles that you would like to donate, please bring them to the church.

"Child Life Program"

The church collects toys and blankets for the Children's Hospital of Richmond at VCU Medical Center. The items must be **new** and collection boxes are in the Fellowship Hall of the Church. The donations are delivered to the hospital several times a year in memory of Isaac Guthrie who was a faithful child of our congregation.