

Maupin's Corner



MAUPIN AVENUE ARP CHURCH

Volume 4, Issue 9

September 2009

The Power of a Touch

September marks the time of change in which there will be fewer very hot days and the beginning of cooler crisp mornings with less mugginess in the air. The sky will take on a deeper blue in color, and the “touch” of that crisp cooler air will bring to the eye the pleasing many colors of fall that we so enjoy together in North Carolina.

Why on a cool sunny afternoon of fall, with the leaves turning, even a Duke fan can enjoy being outside at Wallace Wade Stadium; never mind the distinct possibility of losing again. Matter of fact, the “touch” of fall brings new hope that against the obscure or the great, Duke might, on this perfect fall day, win

again. With fall hope springs eternal.

I think of how the touch of fall translates into our reaching out and touching our family and friends with the same kind of hope, beauty and expectation that the cool air ushers in the colors of fall.

For Janet and Scott Willis, the touch that they would so desperately need well into their marriage with nine children began with their being told about how God loved them so much, thought they were so significant to Him that He sent His Son to the Cross in their place.

Separately, before they met, they came to Christ later in life because someone took the time to

“touch” them with the Gospel. They met and married and Scott became a pastor.

During their marriage, with nine children, I imagine there were many opportunities for them to grow in love for each other and Christ together. Many “touches” to each other and their family, I’m certain, were shared; touches that gave love, hope, acceptance and faith so that in times of crisis it was natural for them to reach out to one another and say God still is in control, He still loves us and will continue to.

Great moments of faithfulness come from the smaller touches that we have shared before. I am often reminded of this from spouses that

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have lost their mates many years ago, who tell me when crisis comes, they feel their loved ones' presence so completely it is if they are comforted by their touch and assured everything will be all right.

That kind of comfort is learned and given day after day, and year after year in marriage, in friendships and to our families. It is the powerful assurance we receive as believers from the Holy Spirit that we are so loved together by the same God that when we touch one another it is God's powerful hand reaching out through us to one another being "light as Christ is light."

So that when the unimaginable auto accident befell the Willis family and they lost 6 of their nine children in a fiery inferno, having been severely burned themselves, they, watching on with great sadness, received comfort from one another.

It was neither odd nor thoughtless of Scott to on that roadside turn to his wife and offer her comfort as he touched her shoulder lightly and with great tenderness said, "Janet, God has prepared us for this day."

In a news conference some time later they said, "We thank God for His preparation for this trial. We're not special people. We're sinners saved by grace. But we're not taking a short view of life; we take a long view of life. We realize that someday we'll stand before the Lord, and the things that are here will matter very little. God's grace is sufficient for everybody."

"We believe children are a heritage of the Lord. We thank God for six precious children: four rascally boys, a sweet girl, so much like her mother, and a little baby just beginning to smile and grow. We understood that they were given of the Lord, and we understood they

weren't ours. They were His, and we were stewards of those children. And so God took them back. He is the Giver and Taker of life. The depth of our pain is indescribable. We share that pain with God but know that we are not as those without hope."

"What gives us our firm foundation for our hope is the Bible. The truth of God's Word assures us that Ben, Joe, Sam, Hank, Elizabeth, and Peter are in Heaven with Jesus Christ. Our strength rests in the Word of God. The Bible is sure and gives us confidence. Everything God promises is true."

Jesus says plainly that we are to hear and do His Words. And if we do we will withstand the tragedies that are inevitable in life.

Share His touch daily with those you love and those He leads you to that when trials come, His truth will be real and welcomed

bringing confidence and assurance that God's faithfulness, mercy and goodness endures forever.

Enjoy the cool crisp touch of September that brings the promise of autumns color.

His Blessings, Randy

Miracles DO Happen-Prayers are Answered



Chandler Spry-June 4, 2009



Chandler today

We give thanks to our Lord Jesus

I was in a car accident on June 4, 2009. From the looks of the car, they tell me it's a Miracle I am here today. I have also been told prayers were prayed by many people and churches all over the United States. I am here today to say thank you, and your prayers are being answered. I am improving every day and preparing to start back to school. I know I still have a ways to go because my brain is still healing, but with your continued prayers, I will have a full recovery. My family and I thank you again for your prayers.

Love,
Chandler

Chandler is the son of:
Kathy and Chuck Kepley
Joey and Jeana Spry

Grandson of: Alice and Paul Stokes

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Women's Ministries

The 102nd Annual Meeting of Women's Ministries First Presbyterial met at the 1st ARP Church in Burlington on Saturday August 15th. The quilt is one made by the ladies of 1st ARP. It included a square for each church in our District. The individual squares are the one for Maupin.



Ladies that attended meeting.

Spiritual Life Conference

This year's conference will be held at Back Creek ARP Sept. 13th from 3:00-6:30PM. The keynote speaker is Richard Phillips and the theme will be "The Cross of Jesus Christ." There will be 7 seminars of which you can attend two. The seminars will include: The Cross and Grace; The Cross and the Old Testament; the Cross and the 1st Century; Difference is Redemption; The Cross and Islam; From Psalms to Isaac Watts to Elvis-The Music of the Cross; Christian Faith and the Civil War Soldier; and The Women's Study of Jonah.

September 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 <i>Choir Practice 7:00pm</i>	3	4	5
6 10:00am—Sunday School 11:00am—Worship 5:30pm—Youth Night	7 <i>Pastor's day off</i>	8 <i>Deacons meet 6:30pm</i>	9 <i>Dinner 5:15pm Bible Study 6:00pm Choir Practice 7:00pm</i>	10	11	12 <i>Cook-out at Foster's 5:00pm</i>
13 10:00am—Sunday School 11:00am—Worship/ Children's Church 3:00-6:30pm Spiritual Life Conference	14 <i>Circles meet 2:00pm and 7:00pm</i> <i>Pastor's day off</i>	15	16 <i>Dinner 5:15pm Bible Study 6:00pm Choir Practice 7:00pm</i>	17	18	19 <i>Yard/Hotdog sale</i>
20 10:00am—Sunday School 11:00am—Worship 5:30pm—Youth Night	21 <i>Pastor's day off</i>	22 <i>Health/Prayer teams meet 7:00pm</i>	23 <i>Dinner 5:15pm Bible Study 6:00pm Choir Practice 7:00pm</i>	24	25	26 <i>Christmas decoration work-shop 9:00am</i>
27 10:00am—Sunday School 11:00am—Worship/ Children's Church	28 <i>Pastor's day off</i>	29	30 <i>Dinner 5:15pm Bible Study 6:00pm Choir Practice 7:00pm</i>			<u><i>Next Prayer Breakfast Oct 3 at 8:00am</i></u>

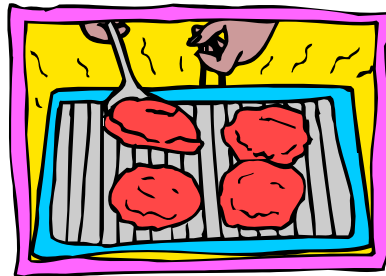


MAUPIN AVENUE ARP CHURCH

You're Invited September 12th to the Fosters at 5:00pm for a Cookout to eat, fellowship and talk about what we did well at VBS this year, what we can improve on, and how we can more effectively reach out to the youth and their parents in our community this coming fall.

Who should come? Everyone, because the youth are our future. Bring a desert or side dish if you like. Drinks, hamburgers and hotdogs and the fixings will be provided.

Directions are easy: Take I85 South to Exit 54. Turn left and follow this road till it dead ends into Weddington. Turn right onto Weddington and take the next right onto Hanson, then the next left onto Braeburn and finally the next left onto Wheaton Way. We are the 5th on the left, 1542 Wheaton Way.



<u>September Birthdays</u>	
Sept. 3	Bill Fisher
Sept. 3	Kelsey Foster
Sept. 5	Elenor Ervin
Sept. 12	Jean Phelps
Sept. 19	John Fisher
Sept. 21	Maire Mills
Sept. 28	Alice Stokes

Fall Bible Study

Fall Bible Study will begin the first Wednesday after Labor Day. We will be discussing Biblical doctrine about topics such as: *Revelation and Inspiration, The Nature of God, Man's Origin; The Person and Work of Jesus Christ; The Holy Spirit; The Plan of Salvation; The Christian Life; The Church; The Sacraments; Eschatology (what happens when we die and the Second coming.)*

As an introduction to prepare our hearts we will discuss the popular book "The Shack" that deals very well with the problem of pain, but more importantly it will open our hearts to want to learn what God says about himself and apply it to our lives so that as Paul says, "We will no longer be tossed here and there by waves and carried about by every wind of (mans) doctrine." The Biblical Doctrine Workbooks will cost \$6:00.

Health Team Notice

It has been a few months since we met and I hope everyone had a great summer and are ready to get together again to share ideas of things we can do to help spread the Good News about Jesus being alive and well at Maupin Ave. ARP Church.

Now that we have a fresh new look and some beautiful banners brightening up the sanctuary, not to mention a new sound system and projector, etc. to aid in worship, we really want to share this with as many people as we can. Think big!!! Imagine having to have a 2nd service!

We will meet on the 4th Tues. as before, starting Sept 22, 2009 at 7pm in the church office. If we have a huge crowd, which would be great, we can always move over to the fellowship hall.

Prayer team please take note too. We need to have our meetings covered up real good with prayer.

Love in Christ,

Betty Sunding