CEDAR GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH NEWSLETTER — SEPTEMBER 2015



PASTOR'S CORNER

I have recently read that in the church we are busy maintaining trellises and not growing the vine. That has gotten me to thinking, in church work the trellis is the programs and structure of the church. We need these things to support the vine which grows here at Cedar Grove. I believe each person needs to be asking themselves what can I do to help maintain the church that I am a part of. Doris is soliciting for people to participate on committees which will help steer the church in 2016.

Trellis work is important work and it is part of what we must have in any organization including the church to support growth and to give structure to help the vine to be heathy. There are times when some programs or committees have surpassed their usefulness and shelf life in such times we must be brave enough to shoot the dead horse and move on. By moving on I mean that there is a new piece of structure that should be added to our trellis while an old one is removed. You may have an idea about something that God can use to move Cedar Grove forward, if so share it.

That brings me to the vine. Everything we do in the church setting should be to help the vine to grow and to stay healthy. The vine does not exist for the trellis but the trellis exist for the vine's productivity. I am working through some ideas right now. I believe the church globally as a whole has ceased to grow and do what it was designed to do. We are concerned about what we can change to grow and I believe we need to be looking at what we are not doing that is prohibiting, retarding and restricting growth. I have emphasized the Great Commission from Matthew 28 before but let me just point out the action is to "make disciples". I am questioning in my mind right now at Cedar Grove are we making disciples? If yes, how can we do a better job? If no, Then Why not, if this is to be the main action of the church.

I believe I started out well with good goals but I got side tracked maintaining the trellis. We must be busy doing evangelism then taking these people and helping them to be disciples. This means taking a brother out to breakfast or lunch and talking about his life, reading the Bible with him and praying with him as well as for him. Folks I think seeing Cedar Grove grow and our community change comes down to four things. Evangelism, discipleship, prayer and commitment. More about these later.

Pastor Marty

Your Missions Opportunity for September 6 & 13 Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes Do not let this opportunity slip by.

SURPRISE











ANNIVERSARIES Mike & Tosha Franklin 18 September



BIRTHDAYS

Andrea Carter08 SeptemberSarah Bidlespacher12 SeptemberPhil Albright21 SeptemberJames Bolton29 SeptemberKerry Bidlespacher30 SeptemberTabitha Glass30 September

AN OLE FASHIONED BAPTISM-AUGUST 2015







Andrea Goes First







I know she is in there somewhere



