

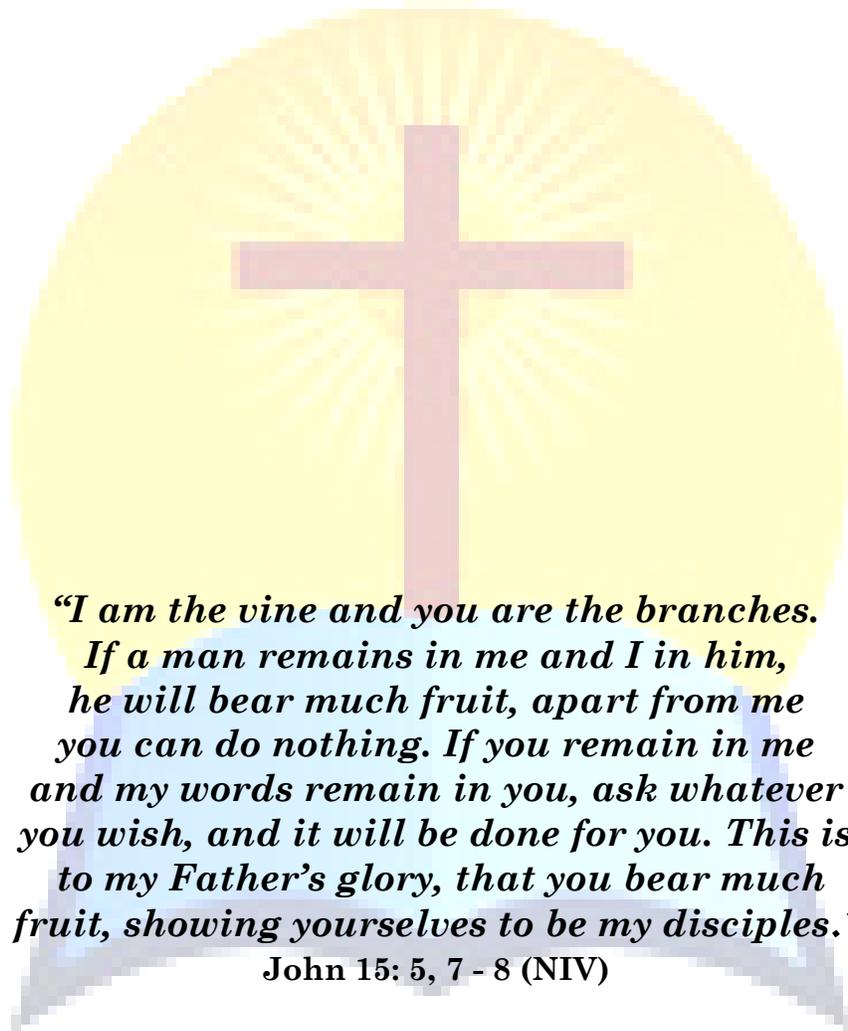
THE NEWS
of
East Washington Heights Baptist Church

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*"I am the vine and you are the branches.
If a man remains in me and I in him,
he will bear much fruit, apart from me
you can do nothing. If you remain in me
and my words remain in you, ask whatever
you wish, and it will be done for you. This is
to my Father's glory, that you bear much
fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples."*

John 15: 5, 7 - 8 (NIV)

The Pastor's Message

Getting People to Jesus

“When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the sick of the palsy, Son, thy sins be forgiven thee.” (Mark 2:5)

In the first chapter of Mark's Gospel is a story about four men who care so much about their paralyzed friend that they pick him up on a stretcher and attempt to get him to Jesus. These men just know that if they can get their friend to Jesus that he would be made whole.

However, good intentions do not suffice in this story. Although the men came together in the spirit of Christian unity and attempted to get the paralyzed man to Jesus their efforts were thwarted by a large crowd of people blocking access to Him. The men confronted a barrier. But the good news is that they didn't give up. They put their heads together and came up with a plan -- an innovative plan to climb up on top of the roof; to cut through the roof; and to lower the paralyzed man down to where Jesus was. The Bible says that when Jesus saw the men's faith in Him was so strong that they were willing to overcome the barrier, he healed the man.

In much the same way, our mission as Disciples of Christ is to get people to Jesus. However, like the four men, we also face barriers. Barriers like the generation gap, a disintegrating moral landscape, and inadequate financial resources. To help us overcome these barriers, we have a transformational church plan. This plan includes strategies for change in the areas of worship, discipleship, evangelism, children and youth ministry, church administration and missions outreach. The plan is a recipe to guide us into a vibrant future in the years ahead. I encourage you to join with us as we work to get people to Jesus and to build God's kingdom

In other news, there are many important events and activities on the horizon. Our annual Women's week will take place the week of October 18. Events include a Women's led Payer service on Wed., Oct. 21, a Women's Prayer Breakfast on Sat. Oct. 24 and our Annual Women's Day on Sun. Oct. 25. We will also designate Women's Day as our annual Pink Sunday in recognition of breast cancer awareness month.

In addition our children and youth are taking a trip to the tour the Under Ground Railroad on Saturday October 17 and we'll hold our annual harvest festival on Sat. Oct. 31 from 2 to 4pm.

In closing, let us keep the faith, because when Jesus sees our faith then He will make us and our surrounding community whole!

Pastor Kip Bernard Banks, Sr.

Happy Birthday to all who were born in October!

Happy Anniversary to all who were married in October

THE NEWS

Giving It All

A meager but meaningful donation recently made news at a church in Charlotte, North Carolina. In the collection plate one Sunday was an envelope with 18 cents and this message: “*Please don’t be mad. I don’t have much. I’m homeless. God bless.*”



Pastor Patrick Hamrick was able to locate the donor to thank him in person. But the man wanted to stay anonymous, saying the gift was between him, the church, and God.

The pastor praised the donor’s bravery, saying, “We gratefully acknowledge that this individual, out of his poverty, has given all he had to live on.” Like the widow’s mite in the New Testament (Mark 12:41-44), the 18 cents was truly a sacrificial gift.

A Group Activity

[The Greek] word for church, *ekklesia*, was used at the time of Jesus to refer to the “calling out” of citizens for a civic meeting or for battle, and is employed in one form or another in both the Old and New Testaments to refer to the people of God, assembled together. So church is, essentially, a gathering of kingdom citizens, called out — from their individuality, from their sins, from their old ways of doing things, from the world’s way of doing things — into participation in this new kingdom and community with one another.

I’m not exactly sure how all this works, but I think, ultimately, it means I can’t be a Christian on my own. Like it or not, following Jesus is a group activity, something we’re supposed to do together. **__Rachel Held Evans, *Searching for Sunday***

Do You Know Me?

Do you know me? Do I know you? How long has it been since we have talked to each other? If you are not sure about the answer to these questions, do something about it. Look in your church directory and call the persons whose names are listed before and after yours, especially if you haven’t seen them lately. If that person is not available, call the next person listed.

Unprecedented Love

Whether you understand it or not, God loves you, is present in you, lives in you, dwells in you, calls you, saves you and offers you an understanding and compassion which are like nothing you have ever found in a book or heard in a sermon.

__Thomas Merton, *The Hidden Ground of Love*

Change Of Heart

God has nothing but the best, and he offers it to us, weeds us, sustains us, and cares for us through his Son. That’s the way our hearts are changed to follow Christ. **__Martin Luther**

THE NEWS

Hidden Opposites

Self-help author Karen Salmansohn writes:

*“You gotta look for the good in the bad,
the happy in your sad,
the gain in your pain,
and what makes you grateful, not hateful.”*

As Resurrection people, we do “look for the good in the bad.” the life God raises out of death, the hope Christ offers beyond despair. But even faithful Christians can’t always expect to find happy in the sad. Our highest purpose is not in self-help, but in other-help ... serving others as Jesus did.

Earthly happiness is temporary and circumstantial, but we find joy amid pain as the Holy Spirit reassures us that God is greater than this broken world. And practicing gratefulness is surely uplifting, for ourselves and others.

The B-I-B-L-E

I have worked at the Bible, prayed over the Bible, lived by the Bible for more than 60 years, and I tell you there is no book like the Bible. It is a miracle of literature, a perennial spring of wisdom, a wonder-book of surprises, a revelation of mystery, an infallible guide of conduct, and an unspeakable source of comfort.

Give no heed to people who discredit it, for they speak without knowledge. It is the Word of God in the inspired speech of humanity. Read it for yourself. Read it thoroughly. Study it according to its own directions. Live by its principles. Believe its message. Follow its precepts.

No man is uneducated who knows the Bible, and no man is wise who is ignorant of its teachings. Every day is begun at its open page. It lies close at hand in all my work. I never go anywhere without it, and it is my chief joy. __**Samuel Chadwick**

A Simmering Idea

During a lesson on 1 Kings 18, a Sunday school teacher explained the confrontation between the prophet Elijah and the false prophets of Baal. He described how Elijah built the altar, placed wood on it, prepared the bull, laid it on the altar and instructed God’s people to pour water over the altar.

“Now,” the teacher asked, “can anyone tell me why they poured water over the animal?”

A girl eagerly raised her hand and answered, “To make the gravy!”

Please donate candies,cookies or hot dogs and buns, for the Annual Harvest Festival. Contact Dr. Mayme Nwaneri or Minister Mary Mims for more information.

THE NEWS

Your Kind of Church

If you want to have the kind of church like the kind of church you like,
You need not slip your clothes in a grip and start on a long, long hike.
You'll only find what you left behind, for there's nothing really new,
It's a knock at yourself when you knock your church,
For isn't the church - YOU?

News from Former Members of EWHBC

James C. Talbert
12204 Woodvale Court
Herndon, Virginia 20170
August 14, 2015

Dear fellow Christians,

My family has a long history with the East Washington Heights Baptist Church. It dates back to at least the 1930's. My great grandparents Lena and Albert Paul Talbert, my grandparents Dorothy and Victor Paul Talbert, my father Victor Earl Talbert, my sister Vickie Talbert Tierney, and I were all members over the years. I have fond memories of Sunday School classes, youth events in the basement, and services in the Many Chapel and the balcony of the new sanctuary. My father brought my sister and me there every Sunday until we moved out of the area in the 1960s, when I was about 10 years old. My great grandparents and grandparents were members until they each passed on.

My father recently passed away. While going through his personal belongings I found several items that have historical value to the church. I thought they should be in your possession.

This includes several bulletins from landmark events. There are two copies of bulletins from 1934 that celebrated the dedication of a new building. There's a bulletin from the funeral of my uncle George W. Purcell, who died in World War II. It is dated only February 11, the year was omitted. This bulletin also includes the morning worship service on the same date. Another bulletin is from 1944 when the church celebrated its fiftieth anniversary. It contains a brief history of the church. There's also a bulletin from the dedication ceremony of the main sanctuary that faces Branch Avenue. It is from March 4, 1956. My grandfather Victor P. Talbert is listed therein as a member of the Building Fund and Grounds Committees.

The last item I enclose is a plate that commemorates the first building which was dedicated on April 19, 1896. It was known as "the little white church on the hill." It was located on Alabama Avenue and was demolished in the 1950s to make way for a parking lot. I hope you enjoy these artifacts and can preserve and display them appropriately.

In His service,



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A note and pictures from Delores and Godfrey Baldwin, Georgetown, TX.

Godfrey and I are busy and doing well – for our age, we think. We both have minor aches and pains, but nothing serious. Godfrey still jogs and I try to go to swim aerobics three times a week. This summer that went by the wayside while Randy, Kate, Clay, and Reese came in August. Then we went to New Mexico and Colorado for about 10 days. Now we are ready to settle into Fall and get a few things accomplished.

We have started a big project – replacing our front yard grass with ground cover, flower beds, and no grass. We hope to see a difference in our water bill after the plants get established. We are not doing xeriscaping, but using drought-tolerant plants, mulch, and no water-consuming grass. We still have grass in our back yard.

We see those little geckos around here all the time. I just wish they would stay outside! __Delores Baldwin



Another Personal Milestone__ The miles are adding up more slowly now so we are not waiting for the next thousand mile mark to celebrate! This milestone seemed like a good one share.

[Also notice our front yard project.] __Godfrey Baldwin

The Beauty of Growing Old

How beautifully leaves grow old," wrote 19th-century essayist John Burroughs. "How full of light and color are their last days."

Society doesn't think highly of old age. Beauty products tout the supposed virtues of maintaining a youthful appearance. Older adults' wisdom, born of much life experience, is often disparaged, ignored, or not sought. But God says this about the righteous, whose lives are rooted in him: "In old age they still produce fruit; they are always green and full of sap, showing that the LORD is upright" (Psalm 92:14-15, NRSV).

The aging leaves of autumn can prompt us to look for beauty in the seniors among us, to notice the light and color that still abound. From all the fruit they still produce — service, prayer, love — may we learn about living faithfully until our own last days.

__Heidi Mann

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Special October Dates

- World Communion Sunday, October 4
 - Annual Homecoming Service & Ice Cream Social, Sunday October 4. 11:00AM
 - Million Man March's 20th Anniversary, Saturday, October 10, (DC)
 - Columbus Day Observance, Monday, October 12
 - Underground Railroad Experience Trail, Saturday, October 17 (RSVP, Oct. 14)
 - Women-led Prayer Meeting, Wednesday, October 21, 7:00PM
 - Women's Prayer Breakfast, Saturday, October 24, 8:30AM
 - Women's Day Worship Service, Sunday, October 25, 11:00AM
 - Reformation Sunday, Sunday, October 25
 - Reformation Day, Saturday, October 31
 - Annual Harvest Festival, Saturday, October 31, 2:00PM – 4:00PM
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Tips for All Church Members

- Look for the good in the church and you will find far more good than bad.
- Take the initiative in getting acquainted. Be friendly. Look friendly (smile), others will be friendly, too.
- Learn all you can about your church (present and past), your denomination, and other Christian groups.
- Attend as many services led by your church as you can fit into your schedule, giving special attention to the hour of worship.
- Discover whatever forms of devotional life, Bible study, and prayer best suits your needs and give time daily to it.
- Make a financial pledge to the church. Let your tithe be the minimum. Give graciously from your heart.
- Consider yourself an evangelist and work to bring others to Christ and to church.
- Accept a position of responsibility when asked to do so. If no request comes, then volunteer.
- Specialize in one phase of church work and become an expert in that field.
- Welcome guests and new members to help them feel at home. Also, introduce them to others.
- Let your life be a worthy example to anyone who may be following in your footsteps.

