

October

2017

*Birthdays

Sundays

8:30 am Prayer Group
9:15 am Small Group Bible Study
10:30 am Morning Worship
6:00 pm CONNECT

Wednesdays

6:00 pm Mid-Week Activities
7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal
8:00 pm Band Rehearsal

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Baptism Guest Speaker: Andy Cook Stewardship—4pm Prayer Service— 5pm	2 Keenagers Noon	3 Staff Planning —Off Campus	4	5 Sr. Adult sponsored trip to Buckner's and Tanger Outlet 10:30am	6 <i>*Mary Sanders</i>	7 <i>*Don Callan</i>
← FAMILY PROMISE USING OUR FACILITY →						
8 Guest Speaker: Jason Hamlin	9 Columbus Day Office Closed	10 Ann out <i>*Carl Wood</i>	11 Ann out	12 Ann out	13 Men of Faith Camping Trip See Spencer Shugart for details	14 <i>*Patsy Knight</i>
15 Day of Generosity for Peck Adoption Communion Church Council— 3:30pm Stewardship—5pm <i>*Marvin Waters</i>	16 <i>*Ward Meyerhoeffer</i>	17 <i>*Aubrey Kegley *Mary Van Atta</i>	18 Quarterly Family Meeting—6pm <i>*Mary Brophy</i>	19 WMU—10am	20	21 <i>*Nancy Miller</i>
22 Pastor Appreciation Day	23	24 RBA Annual Meeting— FBCWR Host <i>*Debbie Pope *Paula Cook</i>	25 Fields of Faith— Perry—6pm <i>*Joyce Lanier *Linda Gibbs *Kadie Griger *Ricky Wood</i>	26 <i>*Jane Speer</i>	27	28 <i>*Barbara Lipsey</i>
29 Reformation Day CSM 5th Sunday WRHS Snack Program	30 Nick Out	31 Nick Out	1 Nick Out	2 Nick Out		
<p>Please remember to PRAY about how you can honor God in your support of the Nehemiah Project. The urgent needs of roof repair for our church is part of doing ministry. We need ALL of the faith family of FBC to be a part of this mission that is underway, that God has called us to at this time; through faith, prayer, thanksgiving, and sacrificial giving. (2 Cor. 9:7-8)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Total Collected: \$43,358.02 Current Balance: \$38,800.00</p>						

From the Worship/Youth Pastor

In the middle of September, I was apart of a conference called the Getty Music Worship Conference. Keith and Kristyn Getty, modern hymn writers whose songs we regularly sing, hosted this conference and had many influential pastors and leaders speak on the topic of singing. It was a wonderful conference and very edifying. Paul David Tripp spoke from Colossians 2:12-16. I encourage you to read these verses yourself. Verses 12-15 speak about how we are to live as believers. The apostle Paul charges the church in Colossae to be compassionate, kind, humble, meek, patient, loving and more. Many are familiar with verse 16 that says, "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching, and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God." It is easy to read this verse as a separate thought than the previous verses that refer to how we are to live. We as believers are to live in the way described in verses 12-15 and verse 16 talks about how we are to put this into practice. We, as the body of Christ, do this by letting the words of Christ dwell in us. As well, we are to teach and admonish one another in all wisdom and to sing together. **Singing is a very important part of our faith.** Tripp emphasized the necessity of singing and said the song that rules our hearts will set the agenda for our behavior, our relationships and our lives. You have probably heard the phrase "Garbage in, garbage out." We sing to teach and inform our hearts of the deep truths of our God and our lives in Christ. Music is a powerful tool that is very influential in each of our lives. In the course of your week, I encourage you to sing (literally sing) to the Lord, sing the truths of the Lord, and let Him continue to shape everything you think and do everyday. As we gather each week, know that our singing corporately has a major influence on this body of Christ. Let us sing with everything we have within us!

Nick



Rusty's Ramblings

500 years ago, on October 31, 1517, an obscure German monk and university professor nailed ninety-five theses to the door of the Castle Church in Wittenburg. He wanted to have a debate about the Roman Catholic practice of selling indulgences. Nailing the 95 Theses to the church door was the normal way of inviting such debate. This event helped to jumpstart a series of events that today we call the Reformation. Many Christians across the world have already marked the 500th anniversary of the Reformation; many others will this month.

The question may arise as to why we recognize the Reformation. What good can come out of such an observance? What's the point of it all? Questions like this can actually be really helpful. Here are a few reasons why I think it's both appropriate and beneficial for us to mark this anniversary.

- 1) Recognizing the Reformation is an act of **humility**. So much of what we assume about how to do church and how to live the Christian life comes from the Reformation. It takes humility to recognize that God has used and is using the ministry of others to bring us to where we are. Contra Simon and Garfunkle, we are not rocks, we are not islands. English Bibles, congregational worship in which lay people actually participate, the understanding of marriage as a blessing, the notion that all callings (not just that of clergy) can be holy and blessed, and, most of all, clarity about the Gospel, that Christ alone saves us by grace alone through faith alone to the glory of God alone, all stem from what God did during Reformation. It is appropriate for us to humbly recognize that we stand on the shoulders of others, that their lives were means for our blessing.
- 2) Recognizing the Reformation can be a means of **encouragement**. When we see that the grace of God saved others and proved to be sufficient for others in their trials and tribulations, our faith in God's kindness and faithfulness can be renewed. When we see the power of God at work in others' lives, our faith in God's power in our lives can be strengthened.
- 3) Recognizing the Reformation can provide an impetus for **self-examination**. This is true for both individual believers and for church bodies. While it is good to be reminded of our agreements with the Reformers, as C.S. Lewis once argued, it's good to take note of where people in the past disagree with us. Yes, they were fallible and sometimes wrong, even dreadfully so. But we are fallible and sometimes wrong, even dreadfully so. Just as their perspectives could be held captive by their cultures, we may be captive to ours. It is, however, very likely that they did not err in the same way that we have. Wrestling with our disagreements can help us examine our assumptions, attitudes, and actions. We might learn something that will help us live with greater faithfulness. Even if our self-examination does not lead to a change of opinion on a particular topic, the process of reflection will help us hold our views with greater clarity and is a discipline that can prompt humility.
- 4) Recognizing the Reformation provides an opportunity for us to express our **gratitude**. Again, we've been blessed by God through the Reformers. It is fitting for us not just to recognize the fact of the matter, but to give thanks for God's amazing kindness shown to us.

Rusty

 FBCWR church family it brings me great honor to announce a huge "Thank You" for your continued Outreach for the WRHS Snack program. Your humble support and dedication to serve our community does not go unnoticed. WRHS Teachers and Administrators keep telling me how much they appreciate our church for supporting these students. We are investing into the lives of less fortunate teenagers by displaying the Gospel. We will continue to donate these snacks the first week of every month that school is in session. Thanks again and may God richly bless you and your families this school year.

Jeff Sweatt