

The Standard

Green Meadows Baptist Church

May 2013

A Message from the Senior Pastor

Josh Greene

This has certainly been an exciting Spring, and I am pleased to announce that our transition to the new schedule has been a great success! Attendance is up across the board at all of our regular meetings, and many people are finding new ways to use their gifts, or new opportunities to be edified by God's Word. I am so pleased that the Lord is blessing us, and the vision remains unchanged: Green Meadows is *"Changing the World for Christ."* Our focus is not solely on numbers, but on whether we are effectively reaching our community for Christ. As we reach the community, our congregation grows and our missions program can accomplish more and more worldwide.

Even though the new schedule has been a success, I am cautious because I don't want anyone to be left behind. As a family, we want to grow together continually in the Lord. Change is hard for me, too, but we all know that it is a necessary part of life. The Lord is not finished with Green Meadows yet, and we want to work diligently until He returns, growing and improving all the time. God laid on my heart, though, that there are probably some folks who are a little uncertain about what to make about the recent changes, and I want to make some promises to you about what I know the future holds for Green Meadows. Hopefully, these seven promises will help ease the fears of any longtime members of our church family that are not yet totally comfortable with where the Lord is leading us.

As long as I am the pastor at Green Meadows Baptist Church:

1. *Green Meadows will always be centered on worshiping Christ, preaching and teaching the Bible, and using our resources to win people to Christ.* This is the mission of the New Testament Church, and we couldn't call ourself a church if we were not fulfilling the Great Commission.
2. *Green Meadows will always place a strong emphasis on our own missions programs.* One of the core values that I treasure most about GMBC is that we understand that missions is not just what other people do with our money, it is what we as a church are called to do, too.
3. *Green Meadows will always have a formal Sunday morning worship service.* Additionally, we will always have a pulpit in the sanctuary.
4. *Green Meadows will always use hymns as part of our worship.* We use hymns on Sunday morning, Sunday night, and Wednesday night and we will continue to do so. We also love finding new songs to worship with! God is honored by both.
5. *Green Meadows will always have congregational church government.* Business meetings are in the Bible!
6. *Green Meadows will always work hard to effectively minister to people of all age groups, from infants to senior adults.* Nobody at GMBC should feel like the church doesn't care about their age group. Churches without senior adults are sorely lacking in wisdom and godly leadership; churches without young people are sorely lacking in vision for the future.
7. *Green Meadows will always obey the Bible and follow the leading of the Holy Spirit in all of our decisions.* We will not bend to the demands of the world around us; we will remain committed to the truth we have received from God, and we trust Him to lead us as He always has.

These are the seven things the Lord laid on my heart to reassure all of us with. I pray that as we move forward with God, we will continue to move forward together. I cherish our unity in Christ, and I love every one of you. Let's change the world for Christ together!

"Changing the World for Christ"

Youth Ministry

Sunday Night Youth Meetings

Throughout the month of May, we will be continuing our study on *The Case for Faith* by Lee Stroebel. This study deals with some “hot topic” objections to Christianity such as, “Is it Intolerant to Claim Jesus is the Only Way to God?”

In addition to our study, we will have activity and games; youth grades 6-12 are encouraged to join us!

Please note there will be no meeting on Sunday night, May 12 (Mother’s Day).

Graduate Recognition

Sunday, June 2

We will be recognizing our graduates on Sunday, June 2 during the morning worship service. If you have a student graduating from high school or college, please contact the church office with their name and where they are graduating from no later than Monday, May 27.

Graduates should bring their caps, gowns, and cords to wear during the recognition portion of the morning service on this date.

Immediately following the morning service, we will be honoring our graduates with a meal in the fellowship hall. This meal is for the graduates and their immediate families. When contacting the church office about the service, please also let the secretary know how many will be attending the meal.

Senior Adult Ministry

Reynolda Gardens/Lunch Outing

Thursday, May 23

We will leave Green Meadows at 10:00AM to go visit Reynolda Gardens and then to eat lunch at the K&W Cafeteria on Healy Drive in Winston-Salem. Each person is responsible for the cost of his/her own meal. Please sign-up in the Welcome Center if you are planning to go on this trip.

Women on Mission

The Storehouse for Jesus helps fulfill critical needs in our community. Each month they solicit specific items to help stock their pantry in order to assist those in need. Items requested for the month of May are: canned vegetables, dried beans, instant potatoes and tissues. Donations may be placed in the box located in the breezeway between the Children’s Building and the Fellowship Hall.

Upcoming WOM Meetings

WOM II Tuesday, May 7 @ 6:30 p.m.

Upcoming WOM Events

Make plans to help with our upcoming project. We will be making puppets to go in our Samaritan’s Purse Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes. Details coming soon!

Baptist Men

The Baptist Men will be going to Kentucky on May 30 to lay block for a house. This will be a short overnight trip. If you are interested in helping with this project, please contact Jimmy Bowles.

Midweek Meal & Worship

The Wednesday night suppers are off to a great new start! Thank you to everyone who has participated! If you have not yet joined us on Wednesday nights, plan to do so! There is no advance sign-up necessary and the cost of the meal is only \$4.00/person with a family maximum of \$16.00.

Supper is served from 6:00PM until 6:45PM with worship to follow at 7:00PM. For our preschool and elementary-aged children, Elevate Jr. and Elevate Kids meet during this time. A Nursery is also provided.

Join us on Wednesdays for a great time of fellowship and worship!

If you are interested in volunteering on one of our meal teams, please contact Martha Lane.

Contact the Church Office

336.998.3022 phone 336.998.2667 fax

info@greenmeadowsbc.org

Office Hours: Monday–Thursday 8:30AM - 2:30PM

Contact Pastor Josh

336.757.6578 mobile

josh@greenmeadowsbc.org

Business Meeting

Sunday, May 19 @ 6:00PM

Our first business meeting under the new quarterly schedule will be held on this date. In addition to the month of May, quarterly meetings will be held in August, November and February, and other times when needed for special purposes.

The ‘Son of So Many Tears’: A Christian Mother’s Story

Chuck Colson, BreakPoint, Thursday, May 10, 2007

Sunday is Mother’s Day. It’s the day when Americans remember and celebrate the contributions and sacrifices their moms have made on their behalf.

In honor of Mother’s Day, I’d like to tell you a story about one mother whose devotion shaped not only her son’s life, but countless others, as well.

Her name was Monica.

A Christian, she was married to a prominent man who wasn’t a believer. He was unfaithful and even beat her at times. Monica’s response was to go to church every day and pray for his conversion. She hoped that by setting a godly example, even in the midst of her mistreatment, she might win him over. And that’s exactly what happened.

The suffering and anguish caused by her husband paled before what Monica’s oldest son put her through. He lived a dissolute life, devoted to pleasure. He left one mistress and took up with another. His only son was born out-of-wedlock.

His lack of faith and rejection of Christian truth hurt Monica even more. He belittled her beliefs and seemed to go out of his way to embrace Christianity’s competitors for the hearts and, especially, minds of his contemporaries. He later

recalled how his being “dead [to] that faith and spirit which,” as he put it, “[my mother] had from you... O, Lord” made her weep.

Still, Monica never gave up. The greatest preacher of the time, knowing of her prayers and tears for her son, told her that “it is impossible that the son of so many tears should perish.”

That preacher, Bishop Ambrose of Milan, was right. At the age of 35, Monica’s son, Augustine, became a Christian and was baptized, along with his son, Adeodatus, by Ambrose. A few months later, on the way home to Hippo with Augustine and Adeodatus, Monica fell ill and died.

Monica could not have known that her prayers and devotion would affect not only the life of her son but also the course of history. Her concern was that her son believe “the truth which is in Jesus.”

This devotion to the spiritual welfare of her son is why Monica is regarded as the model for all Christian mothers. Like Susannah Wesley, her zeal for the salvation of her son had an impact far beyond anything she could have imagined.

But there’s another reason why Monica’s story should resonate with “BreakPoint” listeners and readers.

Her concern was not only that her son give up his debauchery, as important as that was. Monica was determined that he embrace the truth of Christianity. She prayed that he would renounce false worldviews and put his sharp mind to the service of Christian truth.

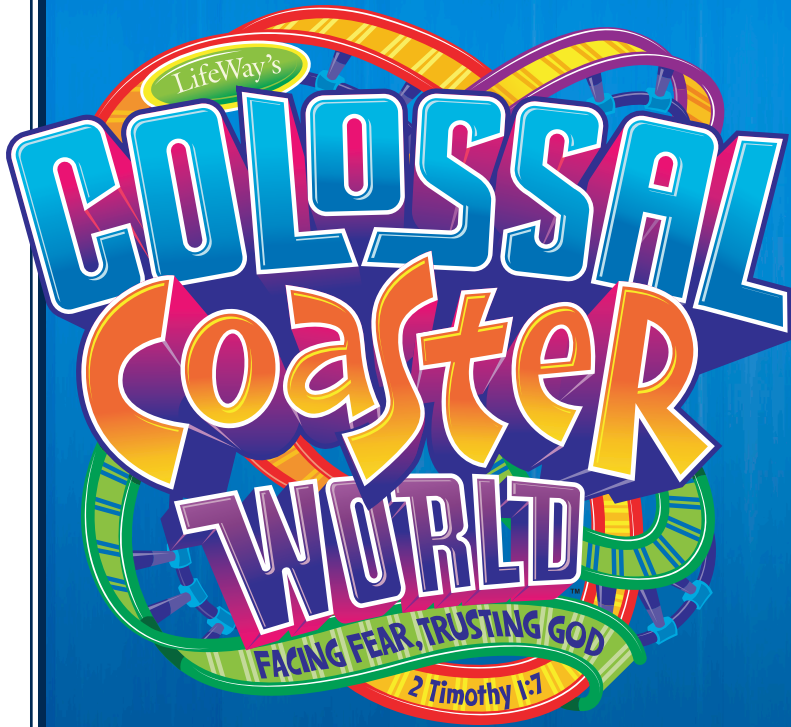
And that’s exactly what he did. Augustine championed the Christian worldview against the false alternatives of his day. Much of what Christians believe today was first and best articulated by Monica’s son. His writings, the Confessions and the City of God, are considered classics, not only of the Christian faith, but also of all of Western culture and civilization. Those books have profoundly shaped me and my ministry.

While there can be only one Monica and Augustine, every Christian mother—and father, for that matter — should be concerned with their kids’ worldviews. Praying for them and teaching them to seek after Christian truth is a solemn duty on our part and a contribution they will always remember, whether it is Mother’s Day or any other day of the year.



Thank you

Thank you to everyone who helped make this year’s golf tournament a great success through contributions, participation and prayer! This is our biggest fund raiser of the year and goes a long way toward keeping summer camp affordable for our students. Thank you!



Vacation Bible School June 17 — June 21 6:30 – 8:30PM Nightly

*Pre-registration begins soon!
Watch for forms to be available in the
Welcome Center and on our website,
greenmeadowsbc.org!*

This year's Vacation Bible School is only a few short weeks away! We still have a few positions that need to be filled:

Adult Class Teacher
Two & Three Year Olds Teachers
Snack Team
Registration

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Melinda Riddle.