

The Brighton Light

BRIGHTON ARP CHURCH

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AUGUST 2010: 'A HOPE FOR THE FUTURE' "For I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans of good and not evil, to give to you a future and a hope. Then you will call on Me and go and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart. I will be found by you, says the Lord of hosts." (Jeremiah 29:11-14a)

The prophet Jeremiah was ministering during a time where the false prophets outnumbered him hundreds to one. It was discouraging that the people and leaders wanted to listen to these and not to the prophet of God. If there were those who did pay any attention Jeremiah they were few and themselves discouraged.

The Bible makes it clear that there will be times when God's people get discouraged, sidetracked or just simply fail to allow the Lord to work in and through their lives. Jeremiah confronted all these issues. He even wished God had not called him to be His prophet. And he even became so discouraged that he wished he had not been born. There were many times he wanted to give up because he just felt all alone.

The Bible also makes it crystal clear that the Lord God almighty will never forsake His children, that there is no power which can snatch His children out of His hands. When it seems that everything is working against you, remember what the psalmist says; "If it had not been the Lord Who was on our side...Then the waters would have overwhelmed us, the stream would have gone over our soul; then the swollen waters would have gone over our soul." (Psalm 124:4&5)

What we also need to remember is that our Lord not only knows how to keep us, but that He wants to give us a hope for the future by assuring us that we are in His thoughts and plans. "For I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for good and not evil." (Jeremiah 29:11) You see, it is one thing to have security, but something so much more to understand God almighty will work His plans out in and through our lives.

The committee which was formed following the congregational meeting back in December 2009 has been praying, meeting and seeking direction from our Lord for a renewed direction and aspirations for our church. The men and women who have served on this committee have done a great job working and pulling together to get the appointed task accomplished. However, it will take the prayers, faith and work of us all to carry out and meet these goals (plans). It will take a trust in the Lord like Jeremiah to stay the course against the pressures which the enemy will bring against us.

It is my hope and prayer that the Holy Spirit will re-ignite the fire in our hearts, that He will grow us into the church He desires and that He will equip each of us to become more effective witnesses of the gospel of our Lord Jesus. Remember: (1) it is God's desire to work His plans in and through us; (2) He has a future for us and (3) He will equip us for this journey of faith.

My dear church family, press on to the prize set before us in Christ Jesus our Lord!

In His love, Meredith

SERMON SCRIPTURE SELECTIONS FOR THE MONTH:

August 1	Jeremiah 29:4-14 "A Future and a Hope"
August 8	Jeremiah 20:1-30 "Standing Against the Odds"
August 15	Ezekiel 2:3-11 "Standing Against the Odds 2"
August 22	Matthew 6:8-9 "Who is God?"
August 29	Matthew 6:8-10a "Seeking His Kingdom"

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES FOR THE MONTH

August 3	Mr. and Mrs. Keith Walker	August 22	Mr. and Mrs. John Tom Ruffin
August 10	Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Wylie	August 30	Mr. and Mrs. Joe Sides
August 18	Mr. and Mrs. David Templeton	August 31	Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Starnes

FLOWERS FOR THE MONTH

Mary Steele Circle

NURSERY ATTENDANTS FOR THE MONTH

August 1	Stephanie Moore	August 22	Katie Ruffin
August 8	Joe Anne Alsbrook	August 29	Vickie Hugues
August 15	Robin Gravely		

PLEASE NOTE: We need information for the Brighton Light. We would like to make the church newsletter more interesting and informative. If you have any news about you or your family or any suggestions or ideas, please contact the church secretary.

PLEASE NOTE: If you have any ideas or suggestions for the church website, please contact Chris Gravley, webmaster, at 901-372-3995 or e-mail at chris_gravley@bellsouth.net.

THE DEACON OF THE MONTH is Verlie Wells. If you have any requests for the deacons, please contact Chris at 901-603-6509.

CONGRATULATIONS: Ben Cavin. He won the Bronze Medal in his category in golf at the National Special Olympics in Lincoln Nebraska.

THE WOMEN'S MINISTRY still has cookbooks for sale. These would make wonderful gifts for any occasion. Please see Linda Clarke if you would like to purchase one (or several!).

AN ICE CREAM SOCIAL will be held on Wednesday August 4th at 7:00 p.m. Come and enjoy this time of fellowship. We will be presenting the dreams and aspirations of our Vision Committee which was formed in December 2009. This is a very important presentation for the future which our Lord has in store for us as a body of Christ. Please put this date on your calendar and make every effort to attend.

CAR WASH! There will be a Car Wash on Saturday August 7th from 9:00 to 2:00 PM to raise money for the Creation Museum Trip. Please come get your car washed and support this trip.

PROMOTION DAY "Rally Day" is Aug. 29th. Worship service will be at 10 a.m. and Sunday School at 11 a.m. There will be a Pot Luck Dinner following. *This is also Youth Sunday*

PLEASE NOTE: Help is needed for our Wednesday Night Program. If you are willing to help, teach or serve in any way please see Kenneth Boswell.

THANK YOU! The MVP Campers would like to thank you for your generosity in sponsorship and donations for our trip to French Camp. We had a wonderful time of fellowship and Bible study with other campers in our denomination. The Elementary and Jr. High group continued on from last year with a Bible Study in the Old Testament "Not by Bread Alone." The Senior High group went through "Life Applications" Keeping Christ Centered in your life. Both studies were amazing and each camper came away with something new. New friends were made and old friends united. This was truly a blessing to each and every one who attended.

PLEASE JOIN SALEM ARP CHURCH as they celebrate the opening of the Salem Cornerstone that was dedicated on September 11, 1910. This event will be on Sunday, September 12, 2010. Lunch will be served between 12:30 p.m. and 12:45 p.m. and the program will begin at 2:00 p.m.