

The Brighton Light

BRIGHTON ARP CHURCH

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SEPTEMBER 2010: OPENED DOORS "Brethren, I do not count myself to be apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, I press toward the goal for the high prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus." Philippians 3:13&14

Do you believe that God opens doors of opportunity? What do you do when He does? I am reminded of the movie 'The Longest Day' how the allied high command kept postponing the planned invasion of Nazi occupied Europe because of bad weather. They kept waiting for those perfect conditions, which never came. A small window of, not so perfect weather presented itself, and the decision was made to go for it. The rest is history. It was the beginning of the end of Hitler's dream of the master race dominating the world.

There are times when our Lord opens doors or windows of opportunity for us. Will we spend our time thinking about these, waiting for just right time or some other reason? Or will we step out in faith and press forward. There are times when the Lord does call upon us to wait as He did when He told His disciples to wait in Jerusalem until the Holy Spirit filled them with power from on high. However, after they received the gift of the Holy Spirit, it is clear that they all were given their orders to go forward in the power of the Lord. The time of waiting had past and it was now time for putting their faith in practice.

The kingdom of Satan was shaking out fear of these Christian men and women who were now indwelt and empowered by God the Holy Spirit. These were in essence storming hell's rusty gates. The Kingdom of the most High God was being advanced like never before. These are the same disciples who were shaking in their sandals and cowering behind closed doors out of fear not too many days in the past.

Even with the advancement of Christ's Kingdom these Christians knew that without the empowering from the Holy Spirit, they would have never left square one. The Apostle Paul understood this: "Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended (arrived)... but reaching forward to those things which are ahead, I press toward the goal of the high prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus." (Philippians 3:13&14) Paul remembered that he was incapable in his own power to do what needed to be accomplished.

Along the way of our Christian experience God places these opportunities, these goals. He places them before us with the expectation for us to go forward by faith. Our Lord has chosen us for the proclamation and advancement of His eternal Kingdom. With this expectation also comes the promise that He will go before us and will equip each of us as His sons and daughters for this battle. He has given each of us everything needed to 'press toward the high prize of God in Christ Jesus.'

My dear Church family it is now time for us to step forward, to press on in faith. The time to wait has past. The time for glorious action has come. I am filled with joyful anticipation to see how our Lord is going to work His powerful work in and through us.

Your pastor, Meredith

SERMON SCRIPTURE SELECTIONS FOR THE MONTH:

September 5	Matthew 6:8-10 "His Will, Not Ours"
September 12	Psalm 37:1-16 "Godly Commitment = Rest"
September 19	Matthew 6:8-11 "The Importance and Power of Forgiveness"
September 26	Matthew 6:8-12 "He Is the Only Deliverer"

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES FOR THE MONTH

September 12	Mr. and Mrs. Richard Moore
September 17	Mr. and Mrs. Phillip Trotter
September 20	Mr. and Mrs. Harry Hugues

FLOWERS FOR THE MONTH

Harriet Linderman

NURSERY ATTENDANTS FOR THE MONTH

September 5	Stephanie Moore
September 12	Joe Anne Alsbrook
September 19	Robin Gravely
September 29	Katie Ruffin

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 Harry Hugues. If you have any requests for the deacons, please contact Harry at 901-837-4965.

RECOVERING FROM THE LOSSES OF LIFE meeting has started back. Our grief support group meets on the third Tuesday of each month at 7 P.M. in the Prayer room. We would like to invite anyone facing a loss to come and be a part of our group. A special place is waiting for you with caring people to listen and God to guide you. Many kinds of losses occur and it is important that we learn how to handle these losses successfully so we can continue life with peace, joy and confidence.

In the Love of Christ,
Laura Sanders and Ina Yarbrough

PLEASE NOTE: If you love music and can make a joyful noise the choir is recruiting for the upcoming Cantata come join us and serve the Lord with gladness.

PLEASE NOTE: Let each of us begin to pray for Rev. David Storment who will be preaching our Revival services in late October.

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!).

THE WOMEN'S MINISTRY is taking orders for sheet sets. The cost is \$20 for a 600 count sheet set and \$25 for a 1000 count set. All orders must be placed by Sunday, September 12. See Amanda Heath to place an order. You can reach her at 476-8294.

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.

PLEASE NOTE: The Special Offering for the Dunlap Retirement Center is on "Grandparent's Day" September 12.