



God's Country Tidings

Blackwater Baptist Church

www.blackwaterbaptist.org

Big Banana Peel of Life

I don't know if any of you have ever stepped on a banana peel and fallen. We all have had the image of someone walking along, minding their own business, and then unexpectedly a wayward step comes across a banana peel and PLOP, down someone goes!

While I hope that never actually physically materializes in your life, I can almost guarantee it will happen in your spiritual life. Having a relationship with Christ reduces circumstantial uncertainty in our life.

We can have what scripture calls *"a peace that passes understanding,"* when by the world's logic we should be losing it, but we don't. We can *"know that we know"* we are the children of God; we can have the assurance of forgiveness, and the knowledge of knowing we are in His hand and will spend eternity with Him. But never lose sight of the idea that believing in Jesus and following Him may actually increase uncertainty in other aspects of your life.

There is a part inside every single one of us that wants stability and clearly defined paths and patterns for our life. But when you look at the life we are called to imitate— Jesus', we see a great deal of daily uncertainty.

When you follow Jesus it's like climbing a mountain trail; there are all kinds of twists and turns, you never know what's around the corner, but you're always going up. Following

Jesus and keeping up with the leading of the Holy Spirit requires flexibility and trust. Oftentimes Jesus and His disciples didn't even know where their day would end.

Have you read Matthew, Mark, Luke and John recently? Within the gospels there is example followed by example of Jesus saying and doing what is not expected. Following Jesus faithfully means that there is never a dull moment. You don't know who you'll meet, where you'll go, or what impact you'll have.

Think about the disciples in the early part of the book of Acts. Can you imagine that a rag tag group of scaredy cats would someday stand before royalty, travel to far away places, and by following Jesus and the Holy Spirit, turn the world upside down. No, not a chance! But when we choose to follow Jesus, expect the unexpected!

Sometimes in our life things seem to spin out of control and go terribly wrong. Those are the moments when we cry out to God, *"stop the spinning, fix the problem, make it go away!"*

But wait! Before you only look for the human desired outcome, don't overlook what God wants to do in that situation.

A simple Bible story from John 2 illustrates the value of unexpected problems. Remember the wedding at

Canana? The moment they ran out of wine may very well have caused the newlyweds first marital spat. *"You were supposed to order the wine, ... DEAR!"*, *"No you were suppose to order the wine...HONEY!"* The human desire says, *"God fix it!"* The problem was temporary but God's solution continues to teach us 2000 years later. This problem created an opportunity for Jesus to perform His first miracle.



If everything had gone according to plan, then Jesus never would have changed the molecular structure of a few pots of water into wine. Bottom line is this, no problem, means no miracle!

It's natural for us to want to avoid the banana peels of life. We want everything to go as planned, but it doesn't. We intentionally step around and avoid the pitfalls, but there are times despite our efforts that we still hit them and slip.

Don't look at those experiences as an interruption to your life, but understand that it is often the element of adversity and surprise that brings miracles!

In Christ,
Pastor Greg

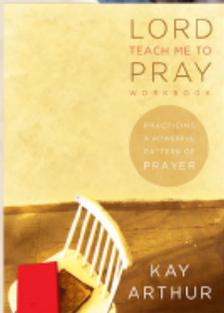


You're invited to the Church Picnic! August 18th, 4:30-5:30 p.m.

The picnic will be followed by music under the tent. Musical guests include Blackwater's Richie Keller and the Riddick family as well as Tommy and Marcia Berry from Moyock.

We would love for you to join us for food and fun! Hope to see you there!

Enrich your prayer life



NEW
from beloved Bible
teacher Kay Arthur
Lord, Teach Me to Pray

Join us for this exciting
video teaching series.

Women's Bible Study

Starts in September!
Kay Arthur's
"Lord Teach Me to Pray"

Lord Teach Me to Pray: Practicing a Powerful Pattern of Prayer. Adapted from the best-selling book, Lord, Teach me to Pray in 28 Days, this new five-session video teaching series focuses on key elements found in the Lord's Prayer. It is for any woman who may struggle with issues related to prayer, including making prayer a priority. This practical and encouraging study will lead participants to experience a richer, more fulfilling prayer life. Make plans to join us for this exciting new study.

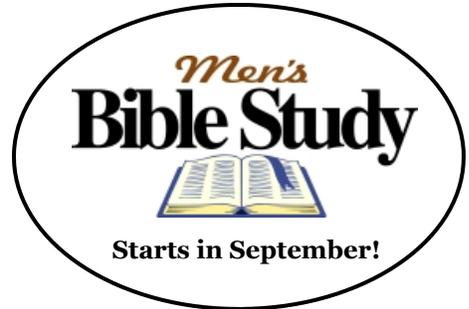
2007 Scholarship Applications

Blackwater Baptist Church Scholarship application forms are available on the hall table. Eligibility for this award is limited to members of Blackwater Baptist Church. This award is a scholarship for full or part time students currently enrolled in a college or university program. Please return your completed application to one of the Scholarship Committee members by **August 19, 2007**.

With Sympathy

Our thoughts and prayers are with Laura Tebault and family who recently lost her sister.

There will be a memorial service for George and Dorothy Baxter on Saturday, September 15th in Elizabeth City, North Carolina. Please contact Pat Washington for more details.



Luta Tebault Circle

Our July meeting was held at the home of Sandy Lugar. THANKS Sandy for hosting our group and all the GREAT FOOD! We discussed the church-wide mission that our circle is heading up to collect school supplies for Creeds Elementary and Moyock Elementary. A list of supplies needed and a collection basket are on the hall table. We will collect school supplies through August 26. Our August meeting is scheduled for August 14, 6:30 pm, at the home of Jennifer, Jena and Jessica Williams. This has become an annual event where we are served a full course dinner and desserts and we have our election of officers for the next year. This would be a GREAT time to join THE LUTA TEBAULT CIRCLE!

Send a Note

Frank Louis Pecsek is in the Army and was recently wounded in combat in Afghanistan. He is now doing much better and is based in Italy. If you would like to write to him, his email and snail mail addresses are...

frank.pecsek@yahoo.com

Frank Louis Pecsek, Jr.
CMR 427 Box 3361
APO AE 09630

August 2007

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 Marie Hughes Amos & Helen Lane	2	3 Sarah Scott	4 Danielle Scott
5 Contemp Svc: 8:45 am Sunday School: 10 am Traditional Service: 11 Susan (Highsmith) Barbee Sarah Whitehurst	6	7 Johnny & Judy Scott	8 Praise Team, 7 pm	9	10 Catherine Dailey Sherry Luchs	11
12 Contemp Svc: 8:45 am Sunday School: 10 am Traditional Service: 11 Joe Barcroft Susan Kovacs	13 Joe & Kathy Gibbs Charles & Arlene Lewis	14 Luta Tebault Circle Mtg @ the Williams', 6:30 pm Eric Keller	15 Praise Team, 7 pm	16 Shirley Falls Jay & Caroline Buffington	17 Amber Hughes	18
19 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS DUE! Contemp Svc: 8:45 am Sunday School: 10 am Traditional Service: 11 Pat Highsmith	20 Richie Sherman	21 Jay Buffington Kelly & Jennifer Williams	22 Praise Team, 7 pm Justin Creamer	23 Kenneth Jensen Norbert Landy	24 Jennifer Williams	25 Connie Bearden Sandy Wilkins
26 Contemp Svc: 8:45 am Sunday School: 10 am Traditional Service: 11 School Supply Collection Ends NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE	27	28	29 Praise Team, 7 pm Hailey Gray	30	31 P.J. & Gloria Whitehurst	

**IDENTIFICATON
STATEMENT**

**God's Country Tidings
Newsletter**

August 2007

Published monthly by:

Blackwater Baptist Church
6000 Blackwater Road
Virginia Beach, VA 23457



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