

THE CHURCH VOICE

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Web Page: www.kensingtonbaptistchurch.org

Newsletter

SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 2019

FROM THE PASTOR “DREAMING AND DISCERNING”

Our theme, as a church, is “The Journey Continues”. We live in a world of constant transitions. We find it hard at times to adapt or keep up with all that is changing,

Transitions are a part of the journey known as life. A journey implies that while there could be a destination in mind the entire route may not be known. We go as pilgrims with our eyes fixed on God's leading. Even with eyes fixed on God's leading, adventure and surprise sneak in, as we come to crossroads and must discern which way to go.

Over the last several months the Deacons and Church Council have been seeking to faithfully listen to the KBC family. On October 11th, KBC will celebrate its 97th anniversary of mission and ministry as a church. We are not the same church as we were 50 years ago, 25 years ago or even 5 years ago. In addition, our world is far different than it was even 10 or 5 years ago. If we are honest, we are overwhelmed by the change that bombards us.

With this in mind, the Church Council and Deacons are in agreement that now is the time for KBC to redream its dream through a process of “intentional assessment, discernment, and dreaming” that will enable KBC to move forward in the coming years. “Dreaming and Discerning” will be KBC's focus for the coming church year starting October 1st. To be successful, it will need the prayers, commitment and input of everyone whether you are new to this church family or been here for better than 50 years.

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Dr Randy Millwood (a good friend of the KBC family from BCM/D) will be KBC's guide/consultant/coach on this “continuing journey”. Our guide to this process will be Dr. Robert Dale's book To Dream Again, Again!

Dr. Millwood has designed a process that will give us seasons of rest and worship (Advent and Lent) and time off in the summer to further discern. The church will have a DREAM team to help lead the process.

The goal is for KBC to have “clear dreams with accompanying beliefs and actionable goals” that will support calendaring and budgeting for its next steps on the journey in the 2020-2021 church year. The goal is to position KBC for her future appreciating her past and understanding the strengths and challenges in her present.

As your pastor, I promise to faithfully shepherd KBC through this process as we “continue the journey”. I sincerely believe God is calling KBC to discern and then act on our fundamental reason for being so that our “dreaming and discerning” will empower KBC to be all that it can be in the coming years.

As we journey together,

Pastor Bill

THOUGHTS FOR THE MONTHS AHEAD

“Congregations, like their members, fall into habits that become traditions that become ruts that become norms. Most of the time, this happens so gradually that congregations don't see deadening routines until they've already become 'the way we do things around here. It takes [discernment] for the church to step back and ask: 'Why are we here?' 'What is God calling us to be and do now?' 'Who are we in God's kingdom?’”

“Also, culture and generational tastes change fast. Ministry is always a moving target; if our churches don't take their calling to be 'contrast communities' seriously, we slide into becoming social clubs with music and forfeit our Gospel distinctives and prophetic edge.”

Robert D. Dale (interview in
Nurturing Faith Journal, 2018)

THE JOURNEY CONTINUES: LOOKING AHEAD

Highlights for September/October:

1. Free ESL/English classes will resume on September 16th. Registration begins at 6:30 pm and class will start at 7 pm. These classes will meet on most Monday evenings from 7-9 pm in the Social Hall. Fliers for distribution about the ministry can be found in the vestibule. If you are interested in providing a snack some time for these classes, please talk with Barbara Bryant (301-933-5320).
2. Choir (7:45 pm) and Handbell (9:00 pm) Rehearsals will resume on
3. September 19th and meet most Thursday evenings. If you are interested in becoming a part of one of these groups, please talk with Craig Teer.
3. Wednesday Bible Study (1st and 3rd Wednesdays) starts up again on September 18th at 10:15 am in Social Hall. All are welcome. This year we will continue studying “Apostles of Jesus”. The goal is to find what we can learn from these followers so that we can better live out our faith.
4. Coffee & Donuts Reception & Quarterly Business Meeting on September 29th at 12:10 pm. We will be voting on the church officers, trustees and deacons for the new church year as well as reports and updates on ministries and projects going on at KBC We will also be asking KBC to adopt a “Dreaming & Discernment Process” for new church year starting October 1st. Finally, we will be voting on an updated KBC Constitution that incorporates all changes made in last 30 years. (Copies of Proposed Constitution will be in September bulletin and in vestibule.)
5. The next Listen Local Concert will take place on Sunday, September 15th at 3:00 pm followed by a reception. The featured group is Amelia Ensembles featuring flute, clarinet and piano. Admission is free. Donations accepted. All are welcome.
6. Women's Care & Share Group Meetings on September 7th and October 5th in KBC Social Hall. Cost for craft materials is \$10. Sign-up sheet in vestibule. Time: 10:30 am – 12:30 pm.
7. Our next Gospel Sing Worship Service is scheduled for Sunday, August 32 (A.K.A. September 1st) at 11:00 am. This will be our last Sunday of Summer Worship in Social Hall.

8. Dr Paul Baxley (Executive Coordinator of the national Cooperative Baptist Fellowship) will be our guest preacher on Sunday, September 22nd at 11:00 am. Also, Dr. Trisha Miller-Manarin (Executive Coordinator of the Mid-Atlantic Cooperative Baptist Fellowship) will be worshipping with us and presenting special music. An After Worship Fellowship will follow. This will give the church family an opportunity to meet CBF's recently elected Executive Coordinator.
9. KBC will celebrate its 97th anniversary on Sunday, October 13th at 11:00 a.m. More details to follow.
10. Montgomery Baptist Association (MBA) Annual Meeting is scheduled for October 13th from 4:30-6:30 pm. This year's meeting will be at Ashton Baptist Church. If you are interested in serving as a messenger, please see Pastor Bill. Also, the MBA Annual Revival Meetings will start at 7:30 m at Ashton Baptist Church that evening and run through October 17th.

**THE JOURNEY INWARD:
GROWTH & RENEWAL
(IN ORDER TO GO OUT INTO THE WORLD)**

WORSHIP AND PRAISE:

Don't forget summer schedule runs through Labor Day (9/2). Our last doing things "a tad different" for summer worship will be Gospel Sing on "August 32" or better known as September 1st. We will return to the Sanctuary for our fall worship experience on September 8th with the celebration of the Lord's Supper".

Highlighted worship dates include: 1) September 22nd (Dr Paul Baxley from national CBF preaching) and October 13th (KBC's 97th Anniversary Worship)

Each Sunday we gather to give God the praise and the glory. Join us in worship as we gather together before God almighty. Come and experience anew God's wondrous love and discerning spirit at 11:00 am.

Each service is a gift to a loving Creator. We come just as we are and God uses our worship to change lives and bestow His grace as we seek to show our love through our time together. Come and bring a friend or neighbor. Help them to experience the gift of worship!

Each week the preschoolers and children have an opportunity to praise God and learn more about what it means to give God our praise and grow as disciples of Jesus. They have their own separate worship settings designed to meet their needs at 11:00 am.

AFTER WORSHIP FELLOWSHIPS (9/22 & OCTOBER (TBA))

Our next After Worship Fellowship will follow the Morning Worship Service on September 22nd. Plan to stay and visit over goodies shared by the KBC family and meet Dr. Paul Baxley (National CBF) and Dr Trisha Miller-Manarin (MABF). Each family unit is asked to bring either a snack food, finger food, or fruit. Beverage is provided by the church. Volunteer hosts/hostesses will set-up for the fellowship. See you there!

There is a sign-up sheet in the vestibule if you would like to volunteer to serve as one of the host(s) or hostess(es). Your service is a blessing.

IMPORTANT: THE RELATIONSHIP BUILDING TEAM AND CHURCH COUNCIL ASK THAT YOU BRING FOODS THAT ARE READY TO BE SERVED FOR THE FELLOWSHIP. Please don't bring food that needs to be heated or takes a lot of preparation for the hosts and hostesses. They enjoy being a part of worship.

PLEASE LIFT UP IN PRAYER THOSE WHO HAVE A BIRTHDAY OR WEDDING ANNIVERSARY IN SEPTEMBER OR OCTOBER

SEPTEMBER

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

- 2 - Mike Ray
- 16 - Kelsey Karlin
- 18 - Sydney Hutko, Marck Maienschein Julie Smith
- 20 - Andrew Pydiambo
- 21 – Ian Ambert-Gonzalez
- 22 - Gladys Djankpa
- 24 - Justin Germack
- 25 - Barbara Bryant
- 26 - Daniel Martin Suzanne Martin
- 27 - Shalom Djankpa, Sowyer Lents

28 - Rene Gomez

OCTOBER

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| 1 - Devyn Germack | <i>Ernest & Roaslind Walker, Oct. 1</i> |
| 2 - Kimberly Lents | <i>Al & Diana Del Grosso, Oct. 4</i> |
| 3 - Debbie Phillips | <i>Richard & Dianne Sutton-Bowerman, Oct 6</i> |
| 4 - Duane Toone | <i>Dewayne & Autumn Hutko, Oct. 6</i> |
| 8 - Josh-Matthys Pydiambo | <i>Al & Debbie Phillips, Oct. 24</i> |
| 9 - Sandy Jones | <i>Mark & Suzanne Martin, Oct. 24</i> |
| 16 - Sharon Hutko | |
| 20 - Ihn Ock | |
| 21 - Maria Amaya, Adriana Del Grosso, Autumn Hutko, Ollie Monger | |
| 23 - Keolani Ambert-Gonzalez | |
| 24 - Lynellyn Sappenfield | |
| 26 - Larry Carpenter | |
| 27 - Charles Smith | |

KATHRYN STARR PRAYER ROOM: It is open on Sundays from 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. On Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursdays this room is open between 10 a.m.-2 p.m. The third option is to call the pastor and schedule another time for use of the room. **The Prayer Room is located in one of the side rooms that opens off the Social Hall.**

THE JOURNEY OUTWARD: SEEING & DOING MEETING NEEDS IN CHRIST'S NAME

OUR HOMEBOUNDS: Continue to remember all those in our church family who are homebound or assisting family members who are homebound. In September, you are asked to especially remember Gloria Bennington and Michelle Lemoine, The Point Apt., 1001-D, 8715 First Avenue, Silver Spring, Md 20906. . Send a card or note to encourage these ladies during September.

In October, you are asked to especially remember Ollie and Herb Monger, Sunrise of Bethesda, Apt. 800 and 400, 4925 Battery Lane, Bethesda, MD 20814. Send a note or card to them during October. Ollie will celebrate her birthday on October 21st.

MISSIONS/OUTREACH NEWS

1) WOMEN'S SHELTER BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION: KBC is hosting the October 5th Birthday Celebration at the Taft Women's Shelter for 70 women. The sign-up sheet is out in the vestibule. If you have not signed up yet, please do so. Or, if you can't shop but would like to make a monetary contribution, please see Pastor Bill.

2) THANK YOU!: This year the KBC family gathered more than a car full (over 22 packed boxes and back packs) of school supply items that were given to “Interfaith Works” to distribute to those children in our county who cannot afford school supplies necessary to start the school year. Thank you for your faithfulness.

3) LAUNDRY DETERGENT NEEDED: Your help is needed! The Taft Court Women's Shelter off Gude Drive needs laundry detergent. Liquid or powder is acceptable. This detergent is needed so that residents will be able to have clean clothes. Won't you help us to minister to the “less fortunate” and to those who are “down and out”? We will be collecting through mid-October.

DEADLINE: OCTOBER 13th

4) THIS YEAR'S BCMD STATE MISSIONS OFFERING theme is “The Nation for Christ's Glory” and centers on Acts 1:8. Funds received will go toward special needs/disabilities ministries, collegiate ministry and missions work in Kenya. BCM/D has a three-year partnership with the Kisii Baptist Regional Convention in East Africa. Our church goal for this special offering is \$650.00.

5) Do you know someone who could benefit from English classes? KBC resumes its free English Classes (ESL) on September 16th with registration at 6:30 p.m. Classes meet most Monday nights from 7-9 p.m. Why not give a flyer to someone who might be interested in learning English? Or, pick up some flyers and post them on community bulletin boards. Your actions help show the love of Christ. Need more information, ask Barbara Bryant.

6) BETHESDA HELP FOOD PANTRY: We are always seeking to collect food for the “Food Pantry”. Requests continue to increase so there is a special need for peanut butter, jelly, tuna, canned meats and individual packets of dried food. PLEASE NO JARS THAT ARE BREAKABLE! Put items in the box under table in vestibule marked “FOOD PANTRY”.

DEACON MINISTRY

CALL ON US: Please feel free to call on your deacon if you have a need. We are willing to lend a listening ear and helping hand. Please know we are praying for you. Deacon Family Ministry lists are found on table in vestibule. Deacons presently serving include: Julie Barringer, Barbara Bryant, Di George, Sharon Hutko, Brett Jones, and Rosalind Walker.

IN HOME COMMUNION: If you are homebound and interested in receiving communion at home, please talk with Brett Jones (301 946-5305). The Deacons are glad to make a visit and serve communion.

GENERAL INFORMATION

1) LOOK FOR YOUR NEW 2019-2020 DIRECTORY! New Directories are being planned and will be available in several weeks in the sanctuary vestibule. If you know of a needed change from the current directory, please let the church office (301 942-4400) know. Thanks!

2) MAKE A DIFFERENCE THROUGH YOUR GIVING: Nothing much is conveyed through “grudge” or giving out of “obligation” only. The Bible teaches us that God wants our hearts and our love. He wants us to give with joy and “thanks” giving. Duty giving is admirable, but there is little joy or enthusiasm. Your faithful giving enables KBC to better live out its mission and ministry under God's leading.

3) HOW ARE YOU CALLED TO SERVE? God has gifted you with spiritual gifts to be used in His service through the church. Volunteers are always needed to be a part of our five ministry teams: Worship, Discipleship, Relationship Building, Mission/Outreach, and Resourcing. How is God calling you to serve in the coming church year? Truly it takes all of us working together.