

KETTERING HERALD

NEWSLETTER OF KETTERING BAPTIST CHURCH LEGACY CENTER

Ministry in the Spirit of Excellence

July 2018

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SUFFER THE LITTLE CHILDREN TO COME UNTO ME



In the gospel of Matthew, chapter nineteen, many little children were brought to Jesus that He might lay His hands on them and pray for them; however, His disciples assuming it was a bother to Jesus

or that He did not have the time to be praying for the children, rebuked them for doing so. Jesus surprises them and says, "Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of heaven." He took the time with them to touch them and pray for them. He was not too busy nor irritated by the opportunity to do so. What a beautiful picture of the love of God towards His children. It says to me that children are not a bother to God, but rather of great significance in that they are of the fiber of the make-up of the kingdom of heaven.

Most recently, my heart has been wrenched to see the children of this world be brushed off and rebuked by a disintegrating, grinding system of politics, injustice, social confusion, economic depravity, moral degeneracy, and spiritual impoverishment. Are we too busy to attend to their needs? Are we so lofty that they are an interruption to our plans? Are they not worth us taking a moment to touch them and pray for them? I wonder if we have forgotten that we too were once helpless children in need of the grace of adults to guide and protect us. Now It seems that we have grown older and laid target on the innocent children, by abandoning them in their time of need and instead of protecting them, we are leaving them to the wolves of society to devour them.

As I watched and listened to the cries and pleas of small children separated from their parents and like dogs, locked behind cages and given thermal blankets to keep warm while a news host suggested it was like summer camp, I wondered what have we, as human beings, have become. As I watched children shot down in the streets like rabid animals by police, who have no compassion or acceptance of their responsibility, I wondered to myself, what is happening here on earth? When I keep hearing of abusive scenarios of children, some in families, some by family members, some being sold like shoes on craigslist, I had to ask God, "What is it going to take for us to wake up and or rebel against the status quo?"

Should we all just go to Zara and get a jacket that expresses our lack of feelings or should we, like the disciples, rebuke them? I must confess I have found it extremely difficult to see the children being ignored and abused by adults who should know better. In my deepest moment of feeling hopeless, I heard the Father saying, "I care. Suffer the little children to come to me and forbid them not." He is not too busy. He has His hands on them and is praying for them. If my heart and your heart grieves, imagine how He feels. I want to plead with all the adults and responsible teens not to rebuke the children, but rather take the time to protect them, to speak for those who have no voice, to pray for those who need God's favor, and to understand the value of children to the Kingdom of God.

Loving My Sheep,

Pastor Bucas Sterling, III



Numbers 33: 50-56 "...when you have crossed the Jordan, you shall dispossess...the inhabitants of the land and dwell in it, for I have given you the land to possess..."

Claiming the Corridor for Christ





KBC NEW MEMBERS FELLOWSHIP

Claiming the Corridor for Christ



By Sis. Brenda Brown

The KBC New Members Fellowship was held June 16 from 12-2:30 pm. The Fellowship Hall was beautifully decorated by the Gifted Hands Ministry and the tables were lined with lots of food and beverages provided by the Fellowship Committee.

We at Kettering are blessed to have 51 new members joining us in our fellowship! What a blessing to have so many.

The Opening Prayer and Welcome were given by Pastor Sterling, followed by a Bible Bingo Icebreaker presented by Sis. Sylvester. New member Vincent Heflin won the Icebreaker.

Next on the agenda was the Introduction of the New Members along with Ministry Leaders/Members joining in the introductions so everyone could get to know a little about everyone. We all had to:

- Introduce ourselves;
- Indicate how long you've been a KBC member;
- State the ministry you were representing, and
- Indicate what summer means to you.

After the introductions, there was the Blessing of the Food, then Lunch.

Games were then played, and the Family Care Leaders were introduced. There was one final game to see which new member remembered the most names of members, and Brittany Murray was the winner of this game.

Pastor Sterling gave the closing remarks and then pictures were taken of the new members that were present. It was a wonderful fellowship that took place on a beautiful afternoon and everyone in attendance had a great time.

We welcome our new members to Kettering and we thank God for their presence!



Pastor

Bucas Sterling III

The Newsletter Ministry Members

Sis. Brenda Brown

Sis. Jaime Eley McDowney

Sis. Debbie Mosby

Sis. Tamara Tisdale

Bro. Kenneth Trass

Our Mission Statement

To lift up the name of Jesus Christ, that all men may be drawn to Him. To inform, edify, and encourage the members and ministries of Kettering Baptist Church. To inform and encourage our community.

Article deadline: 25th day of the previous month

Please send articles to: KetteringNews@ketteringministries.org

The Newsletter Ministry kindly reserves the right to edit or alter all submissions for publication. The Pastor has the final authority on publication.



WOMEN'S REVIVAL

Claiming the Corridor for Christ



By Sis. Tamara Tisdale

The Women's revival was amazing. The women were revived, refreshed and blessed in word and song. The women came out to fellowship with one another and get inspired, and inspired they were. The guest speakers on both evenings shared the Word from their own experiences.

Preceding the speakers, the women were ministered to in song. Kettering Baptist Church's own Praise Team sang on the first evening. On the following evening, the guest soloist, Tiera Furby, sang from her heart.

Dr. Jasmine Sculark, also known as Dr. Jazz, is the pastor of Victory Grace Center. Dr. Jazz is also an author. Her first book, "Dancing With Broken Bones", is a guide to life's challenges. Dr. Jazz's second book, "Finally Me, From Pieces to Piece", "takes the reader through an exploration of scripture and real life application of her analysis to bring them to a more enlightened approach to their own lives". Dr. Jazz's DVD, "Shame 2 Gain", shares a powerful message, "Be encouraged, Be Blessed".

Dr. Valeria Carter believes that "God created women to be doers". She believes that followers of Christ through missions and ministries should share the gospel at home and around the world. Dr. Carter shared that she has been following Jesus since her youth and how she had to experience some opposition because of her love for Jesus. Dr. Carter challenged the women to serve and to go to places where others do not want to be to share God's Word.

Both speakers reminded the women to stay busy working at building bridges through missions and ministry. Sister Sterling ended the revival by challenging us to stay focused on what was shared. Dr. Jazz told us to grow up from the "little girl" into who God wants us to be. Dr. Carter told us that we need to serve beyond the church walls, going into the trenches to reach the lost and forgotten.

As we "Claim the Corridor for Christ...the women will grow spiritually and seek out others to do the same.





WOMEN'S DAY Claiming the Corridor for Christ



By Sis. Brenda Brown

Women's Day 2018 began with our KBC Women's Choir not only favoring us with their melodic voices, but providing us with a visual palette of colors, as they were all arrayed in various shades of pink looking absolutely beautiful. Seventy-three ladies sang during the 8:00 am service and 77 gave their voices for the 11:00 am service.

Some of the songs sung by the Choir were "We Adore You", "We Praise Your Name", "Pressed Down, Shaken Together & Running Over" and "Release." However, the song the ladies "showed up and showed out" was their very powerful rendition of "Omnipotent He's Great our Lord!" I'm sure all in attendance can say with me they let the Lord use them in a mighty way on that song!

The Choir was able to sing so magnificently due to the direction of the Guest Director, Sis. Robin Winfield. Sis. Winfield is the Associate Pastor of Music & Evangelism at Revival Temple Full Gospel Church located at 2431 Shannon Place, SE in Washington, DC. During the 8:00 am service, Pastor Sterling complimented Sister Winfield on her gift of directing the choir by saying "directing a choir is a fading craft." Not only was Sis. Winfield talented, I was told our KBC Women's Choir members enjoyed working with her as there was a sister connection during rehearsals with her, which carried over during the entire Women's Day Service. In addition, we were blessed to have Sis Winfield's mother, sister, Godmother, and sister's friend in our midst, as they accompanied her and added to the sister connection.

The Women's Day sermon was taken from Ephesians 2:1, with the title being "The Value of Dirt."

Pastor had visuals for us which he purchased from his favorite store, Lowes. He let us know he spent a lot of time in Lowe's and was astonished to discover the cost of dirt. One 40 lb. bag of dirt costs \$1.65 and other smaller sized bags of dirt cost even more based on the variables which were added to the dirt.

Pastor Sterling then indicated for us to get more understanding of the value of dirt and how it relates to us, we need to go to the scripture, and the best place to find out how this relates to us is in the beginning of the Bible, which is in Genesis. As stated in Genesis 2:7, *And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.* This passage of scripture refers to us, as we were created from dirt.

Pastor indicated people are messed up based on who they think they are, but truth be told, we are all just dirt...that's how we began our journey. Men can put on nice suits and ladies can wear nice dresses and add other variables, but these variables don't add to our value...we are still dirt and bad dirt at that. Dirt is dirt and we need to know who we really are. Pastor gave us a visual by picking up one of his bags of dirt and



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WOMEN'S DAY Claiming the Corridor for Christ



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asked us to imagine dressing the bag up by putting lipstick on it or some cuff links, and how silly the bag would look, but in addition to all of that, the bag would still end up being a bag of dirt. He reiterated being dirt doesn't give us authority to talk about others, because its just one dirt talking about another dirt!

Every child of God is dirt that God scooped up and made into a living being. When he breathed into us, he gave us value and made us valuable, but sin came along, corrupted us as dirt, and made us worthless and having no value. We think of ourselves as good dirt, but we shouldn't think of ourselves in that manner. Romans 12:3 tells us quite the opposite.

Pastor Sterling gave us some insight about the land the church is occupying to bring the lesson home to us.

The 27 acres of land the church is built on was tested after it was purchased and was found to be not that good, meaning it contained items such as silt and other non-valuable items that were not conducive for placing the church structure upon it. To rectify the problem, the dirt could be dug up, put on trucks, and replaced with good dirt; however, this option would have been very costly for us and was not chosen. The other option was to put nutrients and other miracle nutrient items in the dirt to add value to it, and to do this would have been at a significantly lower cost than the first option. So, this is the option the church went with.

The Pastor then gave us another visual showing a bag of good dirt which had the miracle nutrients in it that made it appear darker and richer looking than the other bag of bad dirt which was gray, dull, and lackluster in appearance. In other words, God did the same thing with us. He put the right stuff in us to make us valuable. He was crucified for the dirt. He died for the dirt. He arose for the dirt. He ascended into Heaven for the dirt and he did all of this for us because we are valuable to Him! It doesn't matter what the cost was, God paid EVERYTHING to make us alive, because we were dead and worthless at one time when we were bad dirt. During that time when we were dead and worthless, we loved dead things and we hung out in graveyards doing dead things like drinking, hanging out with bad people, and having no sense of direction. Some of us may still be stuck and dead, but God made us alive. Don't forget our past is our past and we shouldn't let our past predict our future.



The message closed with we are valuable to the King and we shouldn't let the sins of our past affect us today. God was rich in mercy and he sent his mercy our way, even amidst our past sins. He brought us out from our sins, he died, and he gave us value. *Romans 5:8*

Going forward, whenever we see dirt, our minds should take us back to today's lesson and we shouldn't look at the dirt as just plain dirt, we should remember "The Value of Dirt!"



WOMEN'S DAY

Claiming the Corridor for Christ





CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Claiming the Corridor for Christ



Pearls of Purpose

This one year program is for girls ages 13-18. It is designed to create a venue where they can be exposed to and cultivated by distinguished women of God and other professionals into becoming precious pearls of distinction, and empowered through the teaching of Godly principles. The program begins in September and the cost is \$200 (with a \$50 non-refundable deposit). You may register online through Saturday, July 14th or in person on Sunday, July 8th. POC: Chenere Evans at 301-452-4545

Women's Retreat

Ladies, join us for our 2018 Women's Retreat, Thursday, November 1st through Saturday, November 3rd, at the Turf Valley Resort in Ellicott City, MD. The cost is \$250 per person (requires a \$50 non-refundable deposit) and includes transportation, lodging, meals, and retreat materials. In house registration will be held every second Sunday through September. POC: Millicent Williams at 301-499-6964

Bible Study

During the month of July there will be no Evening or Daytime Bible Study.

Summer Casual

We are designating Sundays, except 1st Sundays for July and August as summer casual dress Sundays. We encourage everyone to dress comfortably and respectfully as this is the house of God.

Men's Retreat

Men of Kettering, it's time to start making arrangements for our 2018 Men's Retreat. This year's theme is "Men Claiming the Corridor for Christ." We are planning for an empowering retreat at the Skycroft Conference Center, Wednesday, September 12th through Friday, September 14th. The cost of the retreat is \$150. The non-refundable deposit of \$75 is due by Sunday, July 1st. In-person payments can be made after each service on the following Sundays: July 1st, July 15th, July 29th, and August 5th. Online payments can be made through Sunday, August 5th. Sign up soon; this retreat is sure to fill up fast!

Summer Tithing

Please don't take the holy tithes on vacation with you; mail it in, pay through e-Giving, e-Texting, or through direct deposit by setting it up through our Accountant, Thella Mae Jones at 301-627-9500.

The Calling all married couples!! Please join us for a fun-filled night!



Game Night 2018

Friday, July 27th at 7pm!
KBC Legacy Center

Come enjoy great food and fellowship while showing off your game skills.
Please register > in the Fellowship Hall immediately after service.

Youth and Children's Ministries

HERSHEYPARK July 7th



This is a church-wide event open to everyone!

Saturday July 7th
bus leaves promptly at 8am

The non-refundable cost of \$50.00 includes transportation, admission, and a meal ticket.



Spiritual Check and Car Show
including health checks
Volunteers are needed

KETTERING BAPTIST CHURCH PRESENTS

2018 NEW YEAR'S EVE BALL



Monday, Dec. 31st
9p.m. - 1a.m.

Legacy Center

Black Tie | Valet Parking | Coat Check | RED Carpet | Childcare additional \$25
Tickets go on Sale June 17th @ \$110 per person (after Nov. 1st \$150)
PURCHASE TICKETS @ www.ketteringministries.org
For additional information contact: legacyball@ketteringministries.org
KETTERING BAPTIST CHURCH LEGACY CENTER • 6909 CRAIN HIGHWAY • UPPER MARLBORO MD 20772 • (301) 627-9500 • BUCAS STERLING III, SENIOR PASTOR




CALENDAR

Claiming the Corridor for Christ



July 2018

Kettering Baptist Church Legacy
Center
www.ketteringministries.org

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3 7pm Prayer Walk	4 8am Feed My Sheep Outreach  Independence Day	5	6	7 10am Circle of Comfort
8	9 E.K. Bailey Conference	10 E.K. Bailey Conference	11 E.K. Bailey Conference	12 E.K. Bailey Conference	13 E.K. Bailey Conference	14 10am-6pm Missions/Young Adults at Lake Arbor Jazz Festival
15 4pm Pastor Preaching at Colonial Baptist Church in Baltimore	16 Black Church Leadership Conference	17 Black Church Leadership Conference	18 12pm Worship Service Black Church Leadership Conference	19 Black Church Leadership Conference	20 Black Church Leadership Conference	21 10am Church Council Meeting 1pm Men's Bowling
22	23	24 Missions Trip to Baltimore	25 12pm Seniors Seminar on Caregiving Missions Trip to Baltimore	26 Missions Trip to Baltimore	27 7pm Marriage Ministry Game Night Missions Trip to Baltimore	28 8am-5pm Church-wide Missions Outreach at Baltimore Community Festival
29	30	31				

