



Ardmore Announcer

Announcing the Mission and Ministries of Ardmore Baptist Church, Inc., Winston-Salem, NC

February 26, 2020

Volume 63

Number 2

Ardmore BAPTIST CHURCH

Connecting People with Jesus Christ

Annual Chili Cookoff

We gathered for our annual Chili Cook-Off on January 26 and enjoyed our time together around the table. Thanks to all who contributed to the food, fun, and fellowship: cooks, judges, The Fellowship/Hospitality Team, and the Master Chefs who prepared grilled cheese sandwiches (very popular new addition).



The judges (left to right: Kirk Buckner (represented in the photo by Joanne Buckner), Aidan Dixon, Ryan and Kathryn Packett, and Andrew Elliott

More pictures on page 4.

Our Mission:

"To connect people of all ages with Jesus Christ and each other in life-changing relationships."



Ballet Magnificat!

Glorifying God Through The Art Of Dance

In a little less than a month our sanctuary will be filled with people of all ages from the Winston-Salem community and beyond who will experience Ballet Magnificat's awe-inspiring presentation of *Deliver Us!* With a kaleidoscope of movement, costumes, lights, and sound, the story of Moses and the Exodus will unfold right in our sanctuary! The Dallas Morning News describes Ballet Magnificat as "...sublime beauty...height of professionalism." The Washington Post says, "These dancers have the kind of lit-from-within presence rarely seen outside the premier companies." Singer/songwriter Twila Paris says, "They are extremely talented and gracious people who understand why they do what they do and truly offer their gifts to the Lord and to the body of Christ in ministry." Ballet Magnificat's mission is to present a visual and artistic Christian witness of the gospel of Jesus Christ through the medium of music, dance, movement, and drama. Through their highly successful School of the Arts, they also train dancers of all ages in a Christ-centered environment to use dance as a form of worship, with a mission and ministry focus. Ballet Magnificat! was founded over 30 years ago by Kathy and Keith Thibodeaux because of their longing to see the art of dance restored to the church for the glory and honor of Jesus Christ. Kathy had a vision for something totally unheard of—a touring Christian ballet troupe that would dance to the glory of God. She wanted the group to be an outreach ministry in which dancers would share the love of Christ with their audiences. Today, Ballet Magnificat! is known as America's Premier Christian Ballet Company and has performed original productions for over 12 million people around the world. I hope you will join us on March 20 at 7:00 p.m. as Ballet Magnificat! presents *Deliver Us!* as part of our Arts at Ardmore Series. There is no cost to attend the performance but a love offering will be received to help with cost. Tickets are needed for seating and are available online through the church website or at www.eventbrite.com. Tickets are going very quickly so reserve yours online today.

– David Fitzgerald



Lent: A Physical for the Spiritual Life

Not long ago, I had my annual physical. My doctor checked to make sure that my blood pressure was good, my lungs were functioning properly, and all of my other major systems were doing their jobs. A physical is not a fun experience for me. I don't like to be poked, prodded, and I am a wimp about having my blood drawn. However, I go to my physical because I know it is ultimately good for me.

Lent is the season in which we go through an annual physical of our spiritual lives. It is the season in which we need to be willing to be examined and tested to determine the health of our faith. Lent is about leading us to both the cross and the empty tomb, but we cannot skip to either one; we must walk the road of growth that leads us there.

The New Testament scholar N.T. Wright says it this way: "Lent is a time for discipline, for confession, for honesty, not because God is mean or fault-finding or finger-pointing but because he wants us to know the joy of being cleaned out, ready for all the good things he now has in store."

As we journey through Lent this season, we will be examining the question, "Who is Jesus Christ to me?" To aid us in answering this question for our own souls, we will be looking at seven times in the Gospel of John when Jesus uses a metaphor to try to teach people about his identity, his mission, and who he ultimately still is to each and every one of us:

March 1 (First Sunday of Lent) – *I Am the Bread of Life* (John 6:35-51)

March 8 (Second Sunday of Lent) – *I Am the Light of the World* (John 8:12-20)

March 15 (Third Sunday of Lent) – *I Am the Door* (John 10:1-10) & *I Am the Good Shepherd* (John 10:11-18)

March 22 (Fourth Sunday of Lent) – *I Am the Resurrection and the Life* (John 11:17-27)

March 29 (Fifth Sunday of Lent) – Youth Sunday

April 5 (Palm Sunday) – *I Am the Way, the Truth, and the Life* (John 14:1-14)

April 9 (Maundy Thursday) – *I Am the Vine* (John 15:1-17)

April 12 (Easter) – *Mary* (John 20:1-20)

Youth Visitation



Power is in presence....power is in relationships. We don't give the small things enough credit but when we are intentional in the little things, big things have a chance to thrive.

Once a month on a Wednesday night the youth visit with three different homebound people of the church. What we have found is more than we could have imagined. Students and leaders have seen that it's more than just a visit, it's a portal into someone else's life...into another world, and it's amazing. After visiting one lady, students said, "when can we go back? I want to hear more about what she did in her travels." Other students commented saying, "it's amazing to hear the love she has for her family." We have just shown up together, older adults and youth, not sure what the conversation would hold but being willing and open to share.

Our students have connected with these adults through similar life experience, learning about history through life stories, learning about different places they have seen, and so much more. One of our students was even able to connect with one lady over old cars. He is a car enthusiast and loved hearing about the old cars that were driven by her family. The time is rich and flies by each month. We look forward to the next visit and know God is doing great things in all of us. We have found that just showing up is 90% of the equation, and God works the rest out. I wonder, who needs to be visited by you, and how might they change your world?

- Dane Martin



Ardmore Snapshot



Rev. Katie Bryant serves as the Children and Outreach Minister at St. Timothy's Episcopal Church. Her church also serves as one of the overflow shelters for women through City With Dwellings (CWD). This month will be the grand opening of their Community First Center in downtown with open café style seating to host and foster engagement and relationship building during the day. Katie spoke with Amy Gallaher, our Minister of Missional Engagement. Here is part of her story:

What is your role at CWD and how did you come to serve there?

I'm a founding board member of City with Dwellings and have been a part of CWD since the very beginning in 2013. In November 2013, I accidentally ended up at a meeting about hosting an Overflow Shelter downtown. Lea Thullbery and I signed up to stay overnight on the first night, and by February 2014, there were more shelter guests than space downtown, so St. Timothy's opened our Overflow Shelter. Ardmore Baptist joined us as a partner in hospitality that first year.

What do you love about CWD?

I love that we serve the person God puts in front of us, regardless of the situation. At the Overflow Shelter, we never know who is going to come each night or what adventures each night will hold - but we do the best we can to offer hospitality and community to each person who joins us, volunteers and guests alike.

Can you share a meaningful experience for you since working with St. Timothy's overflow shelter?

Many stories come to mind, but where I've seen the clearest vision of community building (or you could call it "Kingdom building"), is through a former guest named Patricia. Patricia stayed at St. Tim's Overflow Shelter three seasons ago - and now she volunteers at the Community First Center a couple of times a week and is employed as one of our Partial Overnight Staff at the same shelter where she once was a guest. Patricia knows what our guests are experiencing, and has a gracious way of holding them accountable to their goals, but offering them a great hope!

What is the Community First Center all about?

When a person is experiencing homelessness, it's difficult to find a place where they belong. Our Community First Center is a place where every person belongs. It is a beautiful space where God's children who would not otherwise cross paths, come together in a spirit of mutual support and community for each other.

What is the biggest need that you have?

Our biggest need at City with Dwellings is to have people willing to build community with each other. We need people like you, Ardmore Baptist, to enter into shared lives with our friends who are experiencing homelessness. We believe that homelessness will only be ended in Winston-Salem when each person is known, cared for, and accepted into community - and this community only happens when all of us make ourselves vulnerable to walk together toward this goal. Our biggest need is people, housed or not, with open and willing hearts.

How can we pray for your work?

As we get closer to the end of the Overflow Shelter season (ending March 31), please pray for our guests who are anxious about where they will stay next. Pray for our volunteers who have experienced this meaningful time with our guests, and pray that they will find ways to stay connected to CWD and our ongoing work to build community and end homelessness in Winston-Salem.

ARDMORE ANNOUNCER is published monthly by Ardmore Baptist Church, Inc., 501 Miller Street, Winston-Salem, NC 27103. Publication Number USPS 545780.
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Ardmore Announcer, 501 Miller Street, W-S, NC 27103-3610.
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Gifts Have Been Given

In Memory of:

Howard Byars
Elizabeth Gordon
Ben Jackson
Robert Morris
Betty Rogers

In Honor of:

Charlie Bumgarner
Debra Norris
The Jean Phillips Group
The Joy Sunday Bible Study Class
Ardmore Baptist Church Staff



Grilled Cheese Station



Fellowship with Friends

Notes Of Gratitude

Fletcher, Raquel, and Levi Harrell

Ardmore ABCs...

The following participated in our Parent-Child-Church Covenant on Sunday, February 16:

William Levi Harrell – Parents are **Fletcher and Raquel Harrell**



2020 Chili Cookoff Winners (left to right):
Best Cornbread - Gretchen Martin; Best Non-Traditional Chili - Kathy and Mark Ernstes; Hottest Chili - Carol Spears; Best Overall - Carol Spears; Best Mild/Medium Chili - Lorna Fowler and Kara Preli.

For the Record – January 26 - February 23, 2020

ATTENDANCE				STEWARDSHIP		
DATE	SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY	MORNING WORSHIP		BUDGET RECEIPTS	YEAR-TO-DATE	
		8:15	10:45			
1/26	470	96	439	\$36,927	Needs	\$303,511
2/2	480	99	449	\$65,232	Receipts	\$266,858
2/9	446	112	433	\$31,268	Over/(Under)	\$(36,653)
2/16	463	96	476	\$17,688	Heck Jones Offering Total:	
2/23	452	110	419	\$27,975		