

August 2020 NEWSLETTER

WE EXIST TO GUIDE PEOPLE TOWARD THEIR NEXT STEP IN CHRIST.

IN THIS ISSUE: RFKC 2020 | Children's Ministry Update | 20/20 Vision | "The Cotton Patch"

Who would have thought 20 weeks ago that we would still be under restrictions with no end in sight due to COVID-19? I know that I didn't. So many ministries have been put on hold or revamped or only viewed from a screen. We didn't get to host Vacation Bible School (even though much work and planning had taken place). Children's Ministries and Student Ministries were limited to online only. We haven't been able to have Drive-thru Prayer events, Choir, Small Groups (at least in person), and the list goes on and on. The situation is starting to become a grind.

During these wearisome weeks, I am reminded of the words of Paul in Romans 12:9-13.

Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.

Remember these words, but put them into practice too. We will come out on the other side of this stronger.

Pastor Larry

Royal Family Kids Camp

Royal Family Kids Camp 2020 took on a creative spin this year. Thirty kids in the foster system of West Virginia experienced a "virtual" camp, thanks to the many volunteers who are totally devoted to these young children.

Six teams of drivers covered seven counties delivering camp goodies last month. The backpacks were filled with school supplies, birthday presents (scooters with helmets), MP3 players, and much more! The making of the virtual camp was truly a large undertaking by our team, led by Co-Directors Johnda Stambaugh and Anna/Philip Beaty. Their devotion to the children is unsurpassed! Videos were given to each camper welcoming them to virtual camp, Breakfast Club, activity time (with supplies & instructions for making crafts), campfire & smores, "glow party" items complete with music, Bible stories, and a montage of the RFKC staff singing "Happy Birthday" to each child. Each video required seven hours to render and then an additional hour to load on the USB drive. New Heights Church-Teays Valley partnered with RC3 to minister to the unique needs of abused and/or neglected children by showing them the love of Jesus in this creative way.

Johnda will pass the scepter to Anna and Philip for the 2021 RFKC season. In her own words, Johnda "prayed that God would call someone that would possess the same passion for RFK that God had put in me; I believe my prayer was answered in Anna and Philip."

Thank you for your financial contributions and many prayers for Royal Family Kids Camp. If you want to learn more about this camp for abused and/or neglected children, visit online at Huntington.royalfamilykids.org.

CHANGE PLANS

We are constantly seeking God's wisdom as we proceed with plans for ministries to

be fully functioning. We have pushed back our plan to resume Sunday School for nursery through second grade to **September 20**. This is also National Back to Church Sunday! Very fitting!

Your children can still enjoy weekly teaching videos from our Sunday School staff. Join the RC3 Kids Facebook Group to view.

We will do our best to keep you updated as we move forward in the planning process.

Hay Esperanza Ministries

We have the privilege of partnering with a daughter church of Iglesia Hay Esperanza, *There is Hope* in Colombia, South America. The financial difficulties resulting from the pandemic caused them to give up their rented facility that they were using for worship services. Weekly services have now been moved to public parks, presenting safety concerns and restrictions imposed by police impacting freedom of worship.



The church owns an undeveloped plot of land and in order to conduct services must have, at minimum, a roof and bathrooms. God has prompted our Elder Board to provide the financial means to get the construction started.

The cost to finish the building is estimated at \$5,000. This is where we can make an impact for God's Kingdom—providing the necessary funds to help this church so that they can minister to a world that needs lesus

You can be a part of this work in Colombia by giving. You can give online, send your check to RC3, or use bill pay services from your bank. Please indicate "Colombia" in the memo.



Been Watching You for Years

On the day my dad turned fifteen years old (the age you could get your Michigan driver's license in those days) he went first thing to the sheriff's office where the tests were administered.

Dad had studied the booklet of rules and regulations and knew well the information he would be tested on, but like any first-time driver test taker, was a bit apprehensive about the whole ordeal. To fail would be embarrassing.

Having grown up on the family farm several miles out in the country, Dad had been driving for years—progressing from tractors through all other types of heavy equipment, to cars and trucks and anything else with an engine and

wheels. The actual driving test itself shouldn't be a problem; if one can back a tractor trailer rig through the barn door, parallel parking isn't too hard a task.

Sheriff Brown himself was in the office when Dad walked in to take the test. The sheriff handed him the written test papers and had him sit at a table near his desk. Most of the answers came easily, but a couple of sticky questions had Dad squirming as the sheriff graded the test. After two or three of the longest minutes imaginable, the sheriff looked up from his chair.

"Congratulations, son," he said, "you passed. Just be careful out there. Let's go get your picture taken."

Dad exhaled with relief, then immediately grew puzzled.

"Don't I have to take you for a ride?" he asked.

"Glen Cotton," Sheriff Brown laughed, "I've been watching you drive for years. Why should I ride around town with you today?"

Dad had no idea that the sheriff knew about all his years on the road. He thought he'd been slick enough to avoid detection.

A couple from the pages of Scriptures thought they could go unnoticed too. Ananias and Sapphira sold some property and withheld part of the profit for themselves while presenting the remainder of the proceeds to the apostles as the entire amount (Acts 5:1-11). Because of their deceit, they were struck dead.

"Can anyone hide in secret places so that I cannot see him?" declares the Lord. "Do I not fill heaven and earth?" (Jeremiah 23:24).

Cognizance that an omnipresent God sees and hears everything we do and say should indeed be a constant deterrent to sin. If we would stop to consider whether we would do or say those things that pop into our minds if Jesus were standing next to us—because He is right there with us—our actions would undoubtedly be altered.

It would be unfortunate, however, to view God's presence solely in that light. Sheriff Brown was prepared to punish evildoers, but I prefer to consider his motivation less as vengeance and bent more toward protecting those entrusted to his watch. In the same way, our God has us in His constant watchcare.

"You have been a refuge for the poor, a refuge for the needy in his distress, a shelter from the storm and a shade from the heat. For the breath of the ruthless is like a storm driving against a wall" (Isaiah 32:2).

Delight in the knowledge that our Creator is with us always, that even when we don't think about it, He's "been watching us for years." sc



We realize that some remain hesitant to return to our campus for a variety of reasons. We understand and will welcome you back when you are ready. It is our desire to still minister to you through our online platforms. The new cameras used for our Sunday worship services have taken

us to a new level for FB Live viewing. The prayers offered from various folks in our church offer encouragement to us each week. Beth Calvert continues to serve people through the Life Skills Ministry.

Worship Service: Sundays @ 9:30 AM on Facebook Live

Prayer: Tuesdays @ Noon, Facebook & Instagram

Small Groups: Some groups are meeting with Zoom. Check with your group leader for information.

RC3 Student Ministries

Weekly online updates begin August 5. These updates include info about lesson topics & events. Fall events being planned include The Hunt, Thanksgiving Dinner, and our annual Christmas Party.

SWO 2021: Pastor B will begin taking the \$100 non-refundable deposits August 16-22 for church members & regular attenders. Registration for guests will open on August 23.



Operation Christmas Child

Shoebox Items for August: School Supplies

TOTE FOR DONATIONS IS IN CENTER FOYER @ RC3

Contact Mike or Jo Carroll for more information @ mikec41447@gmail.com.

The journey of a shoebox begins with you and results in the gospel being shared. This WORLDWIDE ministry reaches people groups that we may never meet this side of heaven, but we can have an eternal impact by sending a shoebox filled with gifts and the message of hope for a world without Jesus.

Latino Festival

-UPDATE-

Per Governor Justice's executive order, all fairs, festivals, and similar events are to be closed/cancelled until further notice. The festival planning team will continue to pray and plan so we can be ready when the time comes to partner together with Iglesia Hay Esperanza for an outreach at Ritter Park. Plans include music, food, games, and fun activities. This will be a great time to cultivate relationships with our Latino brothers and sisters and to demonstrate the unity within the body of Christ among different ethnicities and nationalities.

Our church offerings have revealed God's amazing provision through His people. Our average weekly offerings for the first six months of 2020 was \$15,537. The various RC3 ministries and our missionaries are still being funded.

Thank you for your donations to the Huntington City Mission. It was a tremendous help to fill the family food boxes that are given out each week.



Thank you for your generosity in giving to the Benevolence Fund. The Deacons prayerfully and carefully disburse these funds as needs arise in our church body and the community.

Many of you continue to reach out to others with cards, notes of encouragement, offers of help, calls, texts, and emails. Keep it up! It is always good to encourage others with our words and deeds.

Phone Live Streaming provides a live audio feed over the telephone (landline or cell) so the caller can listen to the 9:30 AM worship service without an internet connection. Only make the call one time to enroll.

- Call 304.309.9778 on Sunday @ 9:30 AM.
- 2. Listen to Greeting, then Press 1.

If you prefer to read this newsletter on our website or if you prefer to not receive this publication in the mail, please let us know by emailing mary@roundchurch.net or call the church office @ 304.736.8197.