

The 222 History Corner - Hospitality and Feeding the Soul -



On October 30th, we will have another big outreach event, Trunk-or-Treat. For the past few years, people have decorated their trunks and displayed them in church parking lot. Candy, snacks and church information is passed out to the children in our community. Some people

that decorate trunks are church members and others are neighbors. Some people like to set up their trunk at the church, because they live in rural areas where they do not get many visitors. For as long as most of us can remember, the town of Bellevue trick-or-treats on Cabbage Night, October 30th. That gives children the option to trick-or-treat two nights in a row, if they go out the road on the 31st. That has created a unique opportunity for the church to make contact with neighbors who would not otherwise attend a church event. Sometimes hundreds of people crowd the church parking lot to attend this event. In addition to Trunk-or-Treat, some still go door to door around town for the traditional trick-or-treat experience. Prior to the Trunk-or-Treat years, there was an event called Door-to-Door Treats that was held in decorated rooms of the church.

Giving out treats at Trunk-or-Treat reminds me of the long tradition of hospitality in our church. The gift of hospitality seems to be passed from one generation to the next and added onto by those joining the



church. In the early days of BBC, some families walked several miles to church and carried their lunch with them each Sunday. Could this be where the tradition of hospitality and sharing meals together began? Take a look at some of the recent church activities, Kelly Elementary teacher lunches, VBS dinners, the Fish Fry, the Thanksgiving Dinner, the Men's Prayer Breakfast and the Dinner on the Grounds. Do you see what they have in common? During the summer, the pastor and others took turns preparing dinner before Wednesday evening services. It seems our church has a way of expressing the love of Christ through cooking and hospitality.



In 2025 and in the past, mission work was done by bringing our tradition of hospitality to other states and countries. I found an article about church members, Sebern Scott and Terry Shinkle, doing just that in the 1990's, the title reads: "Baptist from Kentucky Cooking up a Storm." It goes on to say, "volunteers prepare meals for flood victims and workers" and "helped with the 'massive cleanup' by pumping water out of basements, washing walls and clearing away debris." Men and women at Bellevue Baptist worked to-



*Kentucky Baptist Disaster Relief Ministry in the 1990's.
Sebern Scott (left) and Terry Shinkle (right)*



gether with the Kentucky Baptist Disaster Relief to serve after many disasters. You can still find the family members of Sebern Scott and Terry Shinkle serving at Bellevue Baptist Church.

The upcoming fall events are a great opportunity to show hospitality to our neighbors. We can use these events to sow and nurture the seeds of discipleship. The trick is not getting so wrapped up in handing out treats that we forget the most important treat, sharing Jesus with others. We should share the love of Christ by feeding the soul, and not just the body. You can join us for Trunk-or-Treat, on October 30th from 6-8pm.

Mary Casper

Trunk-or-Treat



"Cabbage Night"

Thursday, October 30

6:00 - 8:00 pm

See Elizabeth Schlemmer with questions.



And you also are joined with him and with each other by the Spirit and are part of this dwelling place of God.

Ephesians 2:22



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