

The

Beacon

May 2010

Newsletter

Important Dates

Thursday, May 6

National Day of Prayer

Sunday, May 16

9:45 Graduates Brunch

Christ's Love Leads to Unity

Dear Friends,

I have so much enjoyed our study of Romans 12-15! Over and over again Paul has called us to love one another—really love one another. From brothers and sisters in Christ, to our worst enemies, and everyone in between—we are called to love. Not love when it is convenient or love when it is reciprocated, but love exactly like that which we have received from God. If you and I really take this call seriously then you know just how impossible this truly is. I can't do it and neither can you—not in and of ourselves, but praise God for His provision.

You have to go back to the beginning of this section of Romans, in Romans 12:1 where Paul said,

Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God—this is your spiritual act of worship. (Rom 12:1 NIV)

"In view of God's mercy..." It is imperative for you and me to always keep before us the mercy of God that has been so freely and abundantly lavished upon each and every one of us. When I am fully aware of God's mercy which has been showered upon me I find that I am less judgmental of others, less harsh with others, more loving towards others, and more encouraging of others—even those who irritate me to no end.

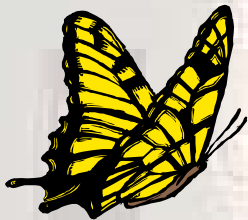
Left to my own devices I am just the opposite of those things I just listed for you. Left to my own devices I can easily justify my ill feelings towards those who mean me harm or who treat me like I am beneath them in some way. Praise God that I am not left to my own devices! His grace is doing a transforming work in our lives when we seek Him with all of our hearts. His grace is stirring a love that is no our own for those who desperately need to know the love of our Savior.

I see God's love moving in your lives and it is so exciting to me. I see it when you take a meal to those who have just gotten out of the hospital. I see it when you take time out of your schedule to volunteer at the King's Clinic, BritVil Food Pantry, Study Buddies, or the Middle School Learning Center. I see it when you volunteer to teach a Bible study or sit the children of those who are going to Bible study.

God is at work and I am grateful for each of you.

In His Steps, Mike Hays

Christ
hath
made
us
free.



Galatians 5:1

What's Going On Committee Happenings



Couples Fellowship:

We would like to invite all couples to join us Saturday, May 22nd at 5:00 p.m. for our next Couples Bible Study, as we continue in our study of *"The Five Love Languages"* by Gary Chapman. We hope you will join us. (Childcare is provided.) Contact Herman Stevenson for more information.

Education:

BCC's annual Teacher Appreciation Day will be combined with Graduate Recognition on Sunday, May 16th. If you have taught in any of the Bible Studies offered in the past 12 months, you are encouraged to attend and be introduced.

Summer Bible studies are starting soon! Watch for sign up sheets and more information about the studies.

Outreach:

The Outreach Committee on April 24, 2010, sponsored and participated with others of our church in the Loaves Ministry with our neighbors in the Britton Community. This Ministry prays with our neighbors and passes out bread to them. The Ministry is about building relationships so that God can work through us to touch them. You see they need to see God's hope.

What we saw is what most of us who participated before knew. Our neighbors are hungry, are unemployed, are abused, have dysfunctional families, are trapped in a culture most of us don't understand. Their homes are in disrepair, and it is difficult to understand how they survive the winters. Statistically, based on the last census, 80% are single parent households, their education level is at best high school, their income is below the poverty level. When was the last time you visited the neighborhood other than entry to and from church? The Committee invites you to do so and while there please STOP, LOOK and LISTEN.

Finally the Committee invites you, who are attending worship, or worship and Sunday School or worship, Sunday School and a Bible Study, but are not in service to Him through the church, to call the church office and find out what programs and ministries are available and to join one. Please be one of His helpers!

Evangelism:

The **2010 National Day of Prayer** will be held on Thursday, May 6th. BCC will observe this event with a **24-hour prayer vigil** at the church. Invite your friends to join us as we pray for our city, state, and country. We will have teams of people here at the church during every hour, from 12:00 a.m. on Thursday morning until midnight that night. If you would like to be a part of this exciting opportunity sign up in the Narthex or contact the church office.

Fellowship:

The Fellowship Committee will be SETTING UP THE GYM at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, May 1st for the all-church luncheon on May 2. We will also be SETTING UP THE GYM at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, May 15th, for the Graduation Breakfast to be held on Sunday May 16. If you would like to help with the set up we would love to have you join us.

There is no love like a Mother's love and one day to honor them is simply not enough. I am thankful for my mother and all she has done for me over the years. God has a way of giving us exactly what we need when we need it. I want to take the time to honor all of the Mothers of Britton Christian Church. This poem by Jill Lemming really speaks volumes and I hope it blesses each of you.

Because He Lives, Herman Stevenson



No Love like a Mother's Love by Jill Lemming

There is no love, like a mother's love,
no stronger bond on earth...
like the precious bond that comes from God,
to a mother, when she gives birth.

A mother's love is forever strong,
never changing for all time...
and when her children need her most,
a mother's love will shine.

God bless these special mothers,
God bless them every one...
for all the tears and heartache,
and for the special work they've done.

When her days on earth are over,
a mother's love lives on...
through many generations,
with God's blessings on each one.

Be thankful for our mothers,
for they love with a higher love...
from the power God has given,
and the strength from up above.



† Called To Serve †

Board Meeting

6:30 p.m. Monday, May 10th

Deacon & Elder Meeting

7:30 p.m. Monday, May 10th

Deacons Serving in May

Ken Appleby, Dave Bentley, Cody Bridwell, Doug Hall, Alice Johnson, Heather Meldrum, Stacie Mitchell, Dave Redburn, Jennie Rosch, Richard Sheffield, Dan Smalley, Leona Thomas, Kristin VonFeldt, Willa Waller, Harriet Weirich, Cathy Jo Wicks, Mike Wilson

Elder Serving Schedule for May

May 2	Jenny Wood & Len Cason
May 9	Lisa Curtis & Mike Curtis
May 16	Brian Geister & David Johnson
May 23	David Jackson & Mike Sullivan
May 30	Jeff Sullins & Steve Porter

Save the Day!

Sunday, May 2, 2010

Share in our Celebration of
20 years of Committed Service to BCC
with Mike & Connie Hays.
Lunch will be provided following the
Worship Service.



Join us for Worship on Sunday,
May 9th, when we will pay special
tribute to all of our Mothers.

*"Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting;
but a woman who fears the Lord is to
be praised."* Proverbs 31:30

Summer Camp Space Available

Be sure to check out the information for Shiloh Camp and Kids Across America on the Children's and Youth pages if you have children ages 8 or older. There is space available in all the camps. Contact Ryan Fisher or Dana Stevenson for more information.

2010 Graduates

All 2010 graduates will be honored at a special breakfast on Sunday, May 16th. If you or a loved one is graduating this year please notify Ryan Fisher at 848-2046 or bccyouthguy@aol.com. This includes all high school, college, graduate school or trade school graduates, including those who have graduated since June of 2009.

Recognition Breakfast Sunday, May 16th



National Day of Prayer May 6, 2010

The **2010 National Day of Prayer** is Thursday, May 6th. This year's theme is **Prayer... For Such A Time As This**. Everyone is encouraged to join us as we pray for our nation, military, community, churches, and families. Information is available in the church office if you would like a guideline of what to pray for, along with related scriptures.

This year we are planning to again conduct a **24-hour prayer vigil**, with continual prayer for a full day. Invite your friends to join us as we pray. Teams will be at the church during the entire 24-hour period, beginning at midnight Wednesday evening May 5th, and ending at midnight Thursday.

Contact the Church Office to sign up or for more information about this great event. Even if you do not sign up, you are welcome to visit the church throughout the day to pray, or to pray at your home, school or work.



*In observance of Memorial
Day, the Church Office will
be closed Monday, May 31st.*

To My BCC Family:

On behalf of my family, I would like to thank each of you for your prayers, kind words, and support during this difficult time. You have no idea how much it blesses my family to know there is a loving group of people supporting us. We all know that this season comes in the life of everyone, but it is so comforting knowing you have a family of believers lifting you up during the tough times. You are living out the words found in Romans 15:1, ***"Now we who are strong ought to bear the weaknesses of those without strength and not just please ourselves."***

I would like to say a special thank you to everyone who drove down for the home going service. It truly blessed my soul to stand in the pulpit and see my BCC family members. The Lord truly used you to help me during a difficult time. I want to encourage you to keep serving the Lord and trust Him in all you do. Keep praying for our family as we will do the same for you.

*Because He Lives,
Herman Stevenson & Family*

YOUTH GROUP NEWS



Sunday School is the place to be on Sunday mornings!

In March, Ryan will lead High School students as they look at *studies on Prayer*.

Heather Meldrum and Kim Luther will lead the Middle Schoolers in a study called *Jesus Gives*.

Plan now to be here every Sunday morning!

SHILOH SUMMER CAMP FOR YOUTH

June 7-11 - 9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Kids ages 12 to 16 (at time of camp)
Cost: \$20 per camper

Shiloh Camp applications are available for pickup in the church office. The deadline for submitting the applications along with the \$20 per camper fee is May 10th. Please come by the church office or contact Ryan Fisher at bccyouthguy@aol.com.

Crazy Love Schedule

The **High School students** will be meeting on the 2nd & 16th of May at 6:00 p.m. to finish up the **Crazy Love** study. The study will end on May 16th and we will pick up another study in the fall.

Do you want to play some basketball? On May 2nd & 16th, **high school**

boys and girls are welcome to come up to the gym and play from 3:00 – 5:30 p.m. Pizza will be served at 5:30, before we begin our study.



Calling All Graduates!

If you or a loved one is graduating this year please let us know. This includes all high school, college, graduate school or trade school graduates. Graduates will be honored at a breakfast on May 16th during the Sunday School hour.



Mission Sunday

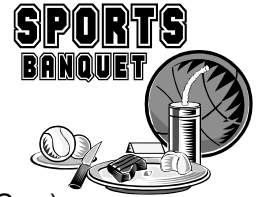
It is Mother's Day on May 9; therefore we all need to spend time with our momma's! Show your mom how much you appreciate her: write her a letter, take her out to eat, clean the kitchen, scratch her back...do *something*.

Mission Sunday will resume next month on June 13th.



Wednesday night activities will end on May 12th and will resume in September. If you would like to be in-the-know on all the other summer activities, contact Ryan and he can hook you up with a Summer Calendar.

Centennial Sports Banquet



On Thursday, May 13th Centennial Middle/High School will have their first sports banquet at 6:30 p.m. (Centennial Gym).

Come out and support the kids as we honor them for their dedication and perseverance to a sport.



New Mexico Mission Trip

On August 2-6, ten high school students will head to Farmington, NM to serve the local Domestic Violence Shelter/Indian Refuge.

We will work with the locals, we will landscape and paint, we may even shear some sheep! Please begin praying for our trip. Pray God will work and pray our youth will be transformed. The cost of the trip is \$150. Contact Ryan for more information.



KAA - June 25-July 2

Spaces are filling up fast for KAA on June 25–July 2. Students entering grades 6-12 in the fall need to contact the church ASAP if you're interested in going!



The cost per Kamper is only \$25, and the remaining fees are paid by donations. If you would like to sponsor a youth or contribute to the total cost of going to Kamp, please contact Ryan Fisher.

KidzKorner



VBS 2010

Mark the Dates: July 12th-16th

This year we will be taking a journey to Egypt with Joseph as he goes *from prison to the palace*. This fun-filled week in Egypt will take place daily from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon at Britton Christian Church. Lunch will be served daily.

Thank You one and all for your assistance with the Easter Egg Hunt. It was a blast!

God Bless, Dana



Mommy, I Love You

Mommy, I love you
For all that you do.
I'll kiss you and hug you
'Cause you love me, too.



You feed me and need me
To teach you to play,
So smile 'cause I love you
On this Mother's Day.

~© Nicholas Gordon~

Happy Mother's Day



Happy Birthday
to all the children
celebrating birthdays
in May!



Children's Ministry Summer Schedule

May 9th	Mother's Day Sunday
May 12th	Last Crosstrainers
May 12th	Last Family Dinner
June 14 th -18 th	Shiloh Summer Camp
June 25 th -July 2 nd	KAA
July 12 th -16 th	Vacation Bible School



SHILOH SUMMER CAMP

June 14-18 - 9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Children ages 8 to 11 (at time of camp)
Cost: \$20 per camper

Shiloh Summer Camp is an incredible camp where kids can experience tons of adventure while learning the word of God. This day camp is sure to have something for every child... painting, archery, basketball, horses, drumming, fish and more! Shiloh Camp runs from **Monday through Friday 9:00 am to 5:30 pm**. Children ages 8 to 11(at the time of camp) can attend. Contact Ms. Dana for more information.

Notes From the *Music* Ministry

WEEKLY REHEARSAL SCHEDULES:

- ♪ **LightHouse Choir** — The Choir has done a fantastic job of providing music in the worship services! My personal and heartfelt thanks to all my brothers and sisters who gave of their time and shared their gift of singing to be a blessing by serving in the Music Ministry! We are winding down our rehearsals this month and will begin our Summer break on Memorial Day weekend. We will resume our rehearsals in August (exact date TBA).
- ♪ **Children's Choir** — The Children's Choir is also finishing up their rehearsals for the semester. The children will be coming together this Summer to learn some great Vacation Bible School Songs to present in worship. Please check your bulletins or contact Dana Stevenson or Cheri Redburn for VBS information.
- ♪ **The Seeds of Praise Band & Singers** never take a break. That's right — never! They just keep plugging along all year long and I am so grateful for the commitment and dedication of each one of them. They rehearse on Tuesday evenings at 8:00 and are looking for a few singers to come and help lead the music for the 8:30 Sunday Services. Please contact Jennie Gardner or Karl Wilburn for more information.

BLEST BE THE TIE THAT BINDS

Blest be the tie that binds
Our hearts in Christian love;
The fellowship of kindred minds
Is like to that above.

Before our Father's throne
We pour our ardent prayers;
Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one
Our comforts and our cares.

We share each other's woes,
Our mutual burdens bear;
And often for each other flows
The sympathizing tear.



Words: John Fawcett, 1782;
Music: Johann G. Nägeli, 1828; Arr.: Lowell Mason, 1845.

"Created to Sing"

Twenty years ago this month, Mike, I, and our two little boys were packing up our belongings and getting ready to make our move to Oklahoma City. We were not leaving because we were unhappy at the First Christian Church in Plano, Texas where Mike served as Youth Pastor— in fact the opposite was true. Things were going very well...the five years that we had been in Plano were good years; it was a large church with a dynamic staff and leaders who were passionate about proclaiming and living the Word of God. Our "gripes" with the church — none - Pastor David Darnell and his wife Sarah, had been such godly mentors to Mike and me; we had many friends and the Church and Youth Ministry were going strong. Although everything was great, Mike and I both felt strongly that God was calling us to close this chapter and start living the next. We both knew, without a doubt, that the Lord was calling us to a ministry in the mission field.

Before we even knew of the existence of Britton Christian Church, we were set to move to Jamaica and work as missionaries. We had prayed that if this was God's will that He would let us know without a doubt, that Jamaica was where *He* wanted us to go. However, those plans abruptly changed as there was a devastating hurricane on the island and the denomination's Overseas Board indefinitely suspended our positions there. (Talk about an unmistakable "sign"!)

To say that we were disappointed that Jamaica did not work out is an understatement. But, little did we know that the Lord had already orchestrated a plan for us to make

the move of our lives to the "mission field" to an unassuming and little out-of-the-way church in Oklahoma City. Shortly after the Jamaica "fallout", an old friend of ours began to tell us about this church in OKC who was looking for a Pastor...

After the initial phone calls, and personal visits from Harry Myers, the BCC Search Committee Chair, and a "top secret" visit from the Search Committee to hear Mike preach at First Christian Plano; the church invited Mike, the boys and me to come visit the church. Mike preached, I sang and afterwards we headed to the Fellowship Hall for a Bean Supper. I will *never* forget my first impression of the people at BCC — they were so warm, kind and welcoming...the church's motto at that time was "The Friendly Church" and everyone we met certainly lived up to that! It was then, that Mike and I were both totally convinced that we were "home" and had found the mission field that God was calling us to. Shortly after our trip to OKC, Mike was asked to come and serve as Pastor and even though he didn't have a clue how to be a Pastor, nor I, a Pastor's wife, we enthusiastically accepted the position.

Twenty years ago — it seems like yesterday and 100 years at the same time... ***By the grace of God, and with the help, support and love of our BCC brothers and sisters, we are still here and couldn't be happier!***

Blessings and Peace, Connie

BRITTON CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Sunday Schedule

8:30 am Sunday Morning Celebration
 9:45 am Sunday School
 10:40 am Sunday Morning Celebration
 11:00 am Children's Church
 5:00 pm Sweet Hour of Prayer

Britton Christian Church May 2010

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
2 Noon - Celebration Lunch in Gym	3 9:30 Precepts - Your Kinsman Redeemer 10:00 A Mother's Heart	4 6:30am Promise Keepers 8:00 Seeds of Praise	5 5:30 Family Supper 6:00 Crosstrainers Begins 6:00 Youth Bible Studies 6:00 Adult Bible Study 7:15 LightHouse Choir	6 24-Hour House of Prayer 3:00 Study Buddies 6:00 MSLC	7	8
5:00 Precepts - Jeremiah Part II 5:30 High School Activities	10 9:30 Precepts - Your Kinsman Redeemer 10:00 A Mother's Heart 6:30 Board Meeting 7:30 Deacons & Elders Meetings	11 6:30am Promise Keepers 3:00 Study Buddies 6:00 MSLC 8:00 Seeds of Praise	12 5:30 Family Supper 6:00 Crosstrainers Begins 6:00 Youth Bible Studies 6:00 Adult Bible Study 7:15 LightHouse Choir	13 3:00 Study Buddies 6:00 MSLC	14	15
9 5:00 Precepts - Jeremiah Part II	17	18 6:30am Promise Keepers 3:00 Study Buddies End of Year Party 8:00 Seeds of Praise	19 7:15 LightHouse Choir	20	21	22
16 9:30 Graduates Brunch & Teacher Appreciation 6:00 Adult Bible Studies	24 31 Memorial Day Church Office Closed	25 6:30am Promise Keepers 8:00 Seeds of Praise	26	27	28	29 5:00 Couples Fellowship
23 6:00 Adult Bible Studies No Evening Activities	30	25 6:30am Promise Keepers 8:00 Seeds of Praise	26 7:15 LightHouse Choir	27	28	29

BRITTON CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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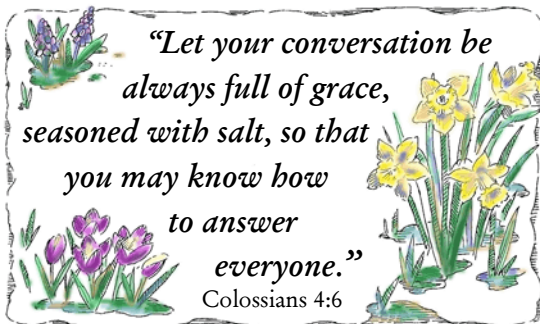
Beacon

May 2010

Newsletter

922 N.W. 91st Street
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73114

Address Service Requested



Britton Christian Church

Sunday Morning Worship Schedule

Early Celebration — 8:30 a.m.
Sunday School for All Ages — 9:45 a.m.
Morning Celebration — 10:40 a.m.

Church Office Hours

8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday-Friday
Phone: (405) 848-2046
Fax: (405) 843-7160

Church Staff

Mike Hays, Pastor
BCCPreacherman@aol.com

Herman Stevenson, Associate Pastor
BCCReverend@aol.com

Ryan Fisher, Youth Minister
BCCYouthguy@aol.com

Connie Hays, Music Minister
BCCMusicmomma@aol.com

Dana Stevenson, Children’s Minister
BCCKidz@aol.com

Kelly Sullins, Nursery Coordinator
BCCBabies@aol.com

Becky Petree, Office Manager
BCCChurchlady@aol.com



If you have email, and would like to be on The Pastor’s online mailing list, send a note to Mike Hays at bccpreacherman@aol.com.

You can get a printed copy of Pastor Mike Hays’ Sunday sermons on the church’s website. Log on to www.brittonchurch.com, where you will find the sermon archives. You can then read or print out the sermons. If you would rather *listen* to the sermon, click on the audio link next to the sermon you wish to hear.



Please be sure to keep the Church Office informed of any changes in your home mailing address and home, office, or cell phone number(s).