

Blackna11

Memorial Presbyterian Church



1902 Perry Street . Durham, NC 27705 . 919-286-5586 . www.blackna11.org

July/August 2012

Letter from the Pastor

Dear Blackna11 Family,

When you get a chance, talk to one of the 18 Sr. Highs or 5 leaders who went on the Sr. High mission trip to Philadelphia. They had a remarkable trip. As part of their work on the trip they went out in groups of three to run Bible clubs, each group being assigned a city block.

Each group of three would run the Bible club with one person doing the teaching, one doing the games, and one doing the music. If you do the math then you know that means that there was not an adult leader in each group of three. What this meant is that all of our youth (and our leaders) had to step up and step out and trust God to work through them.

From all reports, that is exactly what our young people did. They stepped out. They went beyond their comfort zone and God worked through them. They risked. God showed up. Significant work happened. They worked together.

Here is the question I have been thinking about ever since I heard about their trip: When will that happen again? When will our youth be asked to risk something so that they can be used by God to do significant work for His Kingdom?

That led to another question: When are any of us asked to do that? Have we made the gospel so safe and its demands so inconsequential that we fail to capture the imagination of our young people and of ourselves? What if our young people graduated from high school knowing that they have grown up in a church where they have been invited to join in the risky adventure of incarnating and telling others about the Good News of the Kingdom?

What would that look like? Where do we risk for the gospel? Where are we asked to do something that goes beyond our capabilities so that we desperately need God to show up and we desperately need one another to make it through? Where has that happened in your life? Where is that happening now in our life together?

From all reports the Sr. Highs had a great trip. It was scary and exhilarating. It was hard and joyful. Sounds a lot like being a disciple of Jesus. Will we follow?

D.A.D.

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STAY UP-TO-DATE WITH WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

Summer Picnic

Join us **July 22, 3:30-7:00 p.m.** at the picnic shelter at West Point on the Eno (5101 North Roxboro Street, Durham, NC 27704). Bring a prize-winning pie (or volunteer to be a taster)! Blacknall will provide a main dish, bring a side to share.

Summer Gatherings for Women on Wednesday Nights

Come and bring a friend from 7 to 9 p.m. on certain Wednesdays during the summer. On July 25 and August 8, we'll be at Blacknall and childcare is available with rsvp. Questions? Contact mfrothingham@blacknall.org.

Wed., July 25, 7-9 p.m. — Meet at Blacknall with Jenniger Hagin on the topic of *Listening Prayer*. Please notify Beth Solie (bsolie@blacknall.org) by July 24 if nursery/childcare is needed.

Wed., August 1, 7-9 p.m. — Meet at Mad Hatter Bake Shop, 1802 West Main St., Durham, near Whole Foods; Donna Mutter is hosting.

Wed., August 8, 7-9 p.m. — Meet at Blacknall, details to come later.

Fall Women's Bible Study

Join us Thursday mornings, **September 13 through December 6**, for fellowship, prayer, discussion, and teaching from **9:30 to 11:30**. Childcare provided. Questions? Contact Melissa Hartemink (mhartemink@yahoo.com; 919-416-8458).

Men's Breakfast July 28

All men are invited to come to the Men's Breakfast on **Saturday, July 28, at 8:00 a.m.** in the Fellowship Hall. We will be fellowshiping with the men from St. John's Missionary Baptist and Iglesia Emanuel. Our speaker will be Pastor Eddie White, Associate Minister from First Calvary Baptist Church in Durham. Come for great food, great fellowship, and spiritual encouragement. This breakfast will also be an opportunity to be together in preparation and anticipation of our joint Men's Retreat in September.

Save the Date

Blacknall's Men's Retreat has been scheduled for **Friday – Saturday, September 14-16**, at Haw River State Park. Once again we will be retreating with the men from St. John's Missionary Baptist Church and Iglesia Emanuel. Watch the bulletin for more upcoming details.

Upcoming Volunteer Meetings

Godly Play/Children's Worship Volunteer Orientation: Sunday, August 12, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. in the Upper Room. If you serve regularly in Children's or Junior Church, please plan to attend this meeting as we get ready for the 2012-2013 school year. Contact Amy Rowell (arowell@blacknall.org) with questions.

Sunday School Volunteer Orientation: Sunday, August 19, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. in the Upper Room. Please plan to attend this meeting if you serve regularly in Sunday School. Contact Amy Rowell (arowell@blacknall.org) with questions.

Upcoming Parent Informational Meetings

Children's Worship Parent Informational Meeting: August 19, 9:45 - 10:45 a.m. If you are a parent of a rising 4-year-old 2nd grader, please come hear about the ministry of Godly Play so you can help your child gain the most from this worship experience. Contact Amy Rowell: (arowell@blacknall.org) with questions.

Promotion Sunday and Sunday School Kick-Off: August 26, 9:45 - 10:45 a.m. All children will move up to their next grade level on August 26. On this Sunday, rising 4-year-olds/Bugs will join the first part of the worship service for the first time and rising third graders will receive Bibles. Special Sunday School Kick-Off during the Sunday School hour – please plan to attend! Contact Amy Rowell (arowell@blacknall.org) with questions.

Additional Announcements

Communion Food Drive

Blacknall is resurrecting its Communion Sunday Food Drive. Each first Sunday of the month, when we celebrate the Lord's Supper, we are invited to bring non-perishable food items to share with those who are hungry in our community.

In Corinthians 11, the Apostle Paul says to the shame of the church that some go hungry while others get drunk. It is a dishonor to the Body of Christ if some of us have too much to eat while others are hungry.

Therefore, we are encouraged to bring food that we can share with those who need it. Each month the food will be collected and taken to the food bank at St. John's Missionary Baptist Church in Walltown where it will be shared with those who need it. Contact Frank DiSilvestro (fdasil@gmail.com) for more information.

LIBRARY NEWS

The Kids 2 Kids Summer Reading Program is back!

Ready to read some great books this summer?

When you read, you'll be helping another kid read too!

Here's how it works.

The Summer Reading Program runs from June 10 - August 12.

Kids from birth through high school can participate.

Kids sign up in the library and read books (or listen to someone else read to them) For every 10 books that Blacknall kids read, we'll give one book to the Reality Center, a local Durham ministry serving kids.

Stop by the Library every Sunday to get your stickers for each book you've read — and watch our total grow!

Remember: The more books you read, the more books we'll give!
You can sign up in the library to get your name on our chart.

ELECTRONIC OPTIONS

Did you know that you can use online banking at no cost to you or to Blacknall Church to make regular gifts of your tithes and offerings?

If you already have online banking in place, it will be easy!

1. Set up Blacknall as a new payee (Blacknall Presbyterian Church, 1902 Perry Street, Durham, NC 27705; phone 919-286-5586), entering the amount of each offering gift and the frequency of the payments.
2. Please put "Offering" on the memo line.
3. Email Diane Beacham and tell her you have set up an online payment to Blacknall.
4. If you have questions, call 919-286-5586 or email Diane.

THE GIFTS OF GOD FROM THE PEOPLE OF GOD...

Year to Date as of June 30, 2012

Pro-Rated Budget Plan	\$627,978	Actual Expenses	\$608,977
Tithes & Offerings	\$513,384	Tithes & Offerings	\$513,384
Excess or (Shortage)	(\$114,594)	Excess or (Shortage)	(\$95,593)

FOCUS ON MISSIONS

Exploratory Trip to the Democratic Republic of Congo

Please include in your prayers Cullen Rodgers-Gates, Betsy Poole, and David Dunderdale. Blacknall is exploring the possibility of entering into a "Deep Common Journey" with the ministry of Congo Initiative and its work in Beni, Eastern Congo (DRC).

Cullen, Betsy, and David will be in Congo July 21-31 on an exploratory trip to discern if this would be a viable partnership for our congregation. They will be staying with Dr. David Kasali and his family. Dr. Kasali preached at Blacknall last November. They will also be attending the graduation service of the Bilingual Christian University of the Congo, which is one of the core ministries of Congo Initiative.

Please pray for safe travels, good health, and clear discernment for God's purposes for them.

Blacknall Fellows in Mission

This is a new initiative by the International Missions Team beginning this summer/fall. It is intended to recruit at least four to five candidates to serve as short-term missionaries with several of our currently supported missionaries around the world. Candidates should be at least 17 years old, be Blacknall regular attenders/members and be willing to attend this year's Urbana Missionary Convention in December. Beginning in January 2013, Blacknall will provide a training program to equip these Fellows to engage in mission in summer 2013. Tuition to Urbana, as well as a financial contribution toward their support as missionaries, will be included in the program. Candidates who are interested should contact Mike Weiglein (mikeweiglein@hotmail.com) or David Dunderdale.

Apostle Build

Blacknall Presbyterian is excited to participate in the Apostle Build this fall with Habitat for Humanity of Durham. Twelve local churches are joining forces to build a new home for a family (TBD) in Durham. Work is expected to begin in late August/early September (more details later).

To date, approximately 60% of the \$50K new home sponsorship amount has been raised, including 100% of Blacknall's share of the support goal (1/12 of \$50K = \$4,167). If you have made a contribution to HFH of Durham this year, and would like that amount to count towards the upcoming Apostle Build, contact Rebecca Leonard (HFH Faith Relations Coordinator, project lead), at releopard@durhamhabitat.org or 919-682-0516, ext. 12.

If you'd like to participate in planning for this exciting community service opportunity, please contact Bo Harrison of Blacknall's Durham Ministry Team at 919-949-4030; harrisonarch@frontier.com.

Futbol Compadres

Iglesia Emanuel is a new church that has been planted by the Presbyterian Church in Durham. Its mission field is the Hispanic community in Durham and Blacknall is one of the churches that supports this young and vibrant congregation.

For two weeks in June, Iglesia Emanuel ran a soccer camp for 55 boys and girls between the ages of 5 and 12. They played soccer, enjoyed crafts, did Bible study, and went on field trips. This year Blacknall partnered in this ministry by having several of our youth serve as volunteers helping to run this program. Blacknallites helping to teach soccer skills and be a caring presence in the lives of these kids were: Joel Dahms, Abe Dunderdale, Tommy & Conner Grigg, Zoe Hausmann, My Hoover, and Mike Weiglein.

C O R N E R

A Big Thank-You to All Sunday School and Children's Worship Volunteers from 2011 - 2012 for nurturing our children's spiritual growth this year: *Sunday School:* Clarine Druckenbrod & Macy Calderon (Kindergarten); Melissa Hartemink & Rebecca Nolen (1st Grade); Kim Dunderdale, Tonya Kirk, Will & Donica Revere (2nd & 3rd grade); Lindy Norman & Lauren Holahan (4th & 5th Grade Girls) and Rich Frothingham & Peter Hausmann (4th & 5th GradeBoys). *Children's Worship:* Rachael & Sean Baker and Lou Ann Phelps (8:30 CC); Susan Wunderink & Jessica Clark (8:30 JC); Kip Coonley, Suzanne Coonley, Kristin Stults, & John Shoenfelt (11:00 CC); and Jessica & TJ Lang, Priscilla Allard & Bethany Innes (11:00 JC).

Thanks to all who served this summer in Sunday School or Children's Worship: Karen Bohn & Joe Bohn, Tommy & Mary Grimm, Bob Hoppe, Sarah Woodring, Evan Cate, Pam Pennigar, Annie & Andy Scott, Warren & Susan Kinghorn, Colleen Tully, Jan Smart, and Bethany Innes.

Our VBS: Daniel's Courage in Captivity was a huge success! Nearly 80 children spent a week in "Babylon" June 25 - 29 learning from Daniel that God is always with them, eating Babylonian food, making crafts in the Babylonian Marketplace, singing songs of God's love for them, and deepening friendships with peers and adults in the community. We raised \$750 to donate to World Vision for mosquito nets to protect about 300 children from malaria. Thanks to the nearly 100 volunteers who pulled together to make this week such a success

C O R N E R

High
School
Students
In
Philly



Youth Update

This summer has been fantastic for Blacknall Youth! We've been spending our Sunday evenings studying scripture and fellowshiping together. Our high school folks have been studying Jonah while our middle school students have been studying 1 Thessalonians.

In addition to our weekly Bible studies, we have been on some pretty exciting trips. Twenty-three of our high school students and leaders spent the first week of July in Philadelphia working with food banks, rescue missions, and other local ministries. We also led sidewalk Bible clubs in neighborhoods and had more than 170 kids come out for games, singing, and Bible stories.

Our middle school group will go on their annual trip to The Great Escape in Florida July 25-31. Twenty-three students and leaders will spend a week worshipping together, playing together, and being discipled. Please pray that this would be both a fun trip and one that strengthens our students' faith.

We Need Your Help

The heart of our youth ministry is our volunteer leaders. Our hope is that teenagers will see the Gospel lived out in adults who care about them and are consistently in their lives. Currently we are looking for two men and two women to join our team. If you have a couple of extra hours a week and love Christ and teenagers, then being a volunteer leader may be perfect for you! If you are interested in serving as a youth leader, please contact Brad at bturname@blacknall.org or call him at 336-302-6123.

Visit www.youth.blacknall.org for more information about Blacknall Youth, including weekly announcements.