

Anniversaries

- * Beulah and Cledis May August 3
- * Doug and Liz Bates August 18

Activities:

“Shall We Gather at the River?” A Comedy Show featuring Carl Hurley and a host of comedians, musicians and entertainers for three big shows at the Galt House Hotel on July 30-31. For more information call: 1-800-955-4746 or www.cavalcadeofcomedy.com.

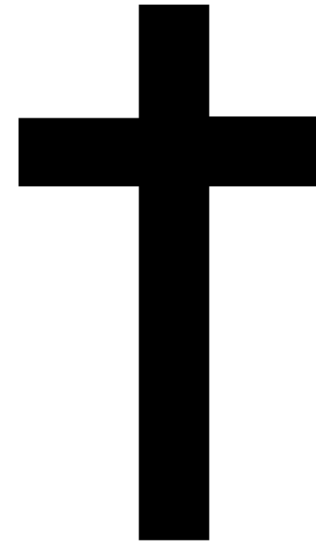
Items are Needed for New Senior Center The MUSCL Senior Wellness Center in Schnitzelburg will open its doors on Monday, August 13, 2007. The Center is still in need of items and has asked if Vine Street Baptist Church, among other churches, would help by donating these needed items. Please check out the Needed Items List by the front door of the church. Any help is much appreciated!

Take Note - new or changed contact information

Shanon Pelley
(606) 303-1781
1553 Taylor Avenue
Louisville, KY 40213
Birthday: July 23

Vine Street Baptist Church Branch Gram

Exists to exalt the Lord, evangelize His creation, and edify His church according to His Word.



August 2007

I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.
John 15:5

BRANCHGRAM AUGUST

“We engage to maintain a healthy devotional life; to educate our children in the Christian faith; to seek the salvation of our family and friends.”

Elizabeth has developed a green thumb. She has taken great pride in planting and maintaining the landscape in our front yard. In fact, three hours after she had the cyst removed from her wrist she was in the front yard pulling weeds (against doctor’s and husband’s orders ☺). She has done a fantastic job. We regularly receive compliments from our neighbors about the way our front yard looks. Part of what makes Elizabeth such a good gardener is that she consistently waters the flowers, vines, and bushes. Rarely will a day go by when those plants do not receive any water, either from a rain shower or the hose.

The fact is that without water, plants die. Their root system remains shallow and they are not able to receive the nourishment necessary to sustain life. So what does this have to do with the church covenant? Maintaining a healthy devotional life is akin to watering plants. Psalm 1 says, “Blessed is the man whose delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night. He is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither.” As we spend time meditating on God’s Word, we are allowing the roots of our life to draw more deeply from the water of life that the Lord offers. This in turn will cause us to grow, to be healthier, and to bear more fruit. It is important to maintain a healthy devotional life because it is the only way we can spiritually stay healthy and bear fruit.

If you are a member of this church, you need to take seriously your responsibility to educate your children in the Christian faith. No one can have a greater influence in a child’s life than the parents. This gives parents a prime opportunity to benevolently influence their offspring toward living for Jesus. This can be done in so many ways. Begin filling your child’s mind with the Word of God by reading to them from the Scriptures. Model for them what it means to talk to God by praying with them before they go to bed. Finally, take a page out of Jesus’ book and use life’s many opportunities to teach spiritual truth to your children. (Remember, Deut 6 says that parents are to

teach in their sitting and lying down and their walking along the way. In other words, parents should always be on call to teach.)

As a church we have covenanted to seek the salvation of our family and friends. With that in mind, did you notice the progression of Psalm 1? As we plant ourselves by the stream of water called God’s Word, we will yield our fruit in season. Elizabeth does not water the plants because she likes to pour water on things. Last time I checked she has not watered the windows or the dog house. So, she does not water the plants because of the joy she gets in pouring water on something. Rather, it is so these plants will be nourished and eventually bud or bloom. As we put our roots deep down into the Word of God, we will bear fruit. We will bear the fruit of the Spirit and we will more willingly share our faith because it has become our meditation and what is on our minds. Therefore, it is absolutely necessary that we maintain a healthy devotional life if we want to bear the fruit of seeing our family and friends saved. But this is not all. We must also pray. We can seek the salvation of our family and friends by lifting them up to the Father. “Which of you, if his son asks for bread, will give him a stone? If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask Him?” (Matt 7:9, 11)

~Pastor Michael

August Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays:

- * April WatersAugust 2
- * Bob Kelly August 3
- * Brenda Dewald August 4
- * Carol Embry August 4
- * Beulah May August 16
- * Davey Slone August 18
- * Cathy Cook August 19
- * Earl Claypool August 19
- * Ava Klein August 23
- * Angie Cook August 29