

Yavapai Baptist Association

May 2009



NATURE OR NURTURE ?

People have debated the issue of nature versus nurture for sometime now. You know, is Susie a mean person because she was born a mean person or did she develop her “meanness” because of her home and surroundings? I believe both play a major role who we are.

My recent heart problems can be used as an illustration of how our sin is both something we inherit and something we choose to do.

Heart problems seem to run in my family; I have a genetic predisposition to heart problems (my mother blames herself for this). Sin is definitely something we inherit. The Bible says that we inherited a sin nature from our forefather Adam: “Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all men, because all sinned— (Romans 5:12 NIV)”.

But my heart problems are also the result of all the hamburgers, hotdogs, pizzas and other delicious fattening foods I've eaten for the last 57 years. I'm sorry to say that my problems are probably more my fault than my ancestors'. Guess what? Our sin problem is also a repeated choice we have made: “for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, (Romans 3:23 NIV)”.

Sin is a universal problem; everyone everywhere is a sinner (even your grandkids are sinners). As a result, all people everywhere need a Savior and Jesus is the Savior they need; there is no other.

They tell me that the good news about my heart problems is that they caught it in time to do something about it. Praise the Lord for that.

Recently, I read a quote that simply says: “Remember, it isn't Good News unless they hear it on time.” Everyone everywhere needs a Savior, but they need to hear the gospel of Jesus before it's too late. The theme of this year's Annie Armstrong Easter Offering was “Live with Urgency.” There is an urgency about spreading the gospel. People are dying because they have never been confronted with their sin problem or been told that they can be saved through the shed blood of Jesus.

Let's make sure they hear the Good News in time.

Your Brother,

Rik

Church Strengthening Team

April 4, 2009 YBA VBS Clinic has held at RRBC. There were 41 in attendance from 5 association churches. It was a great time of learning from each other and fellowship with other VBS workers. Music, Bible Study, Missions, Snacks, and Crafts (make and take) were available classes for Preschool thru Adult VBS. The association may have some decorations and materials available for you to use. You may contact the YBA office or Theresa Walton (928) 848-4193 for more information on these details.

March 28, 2009 Josh and Missy Hunt were guest speakers at a Team Evangelism Conference at Willow Hills. There were approximately 35 in attendance from 3 churches in the association. Materials covered were for children and adult leadership.

If you are interested in participating on the Church Strengthening Team please contact Rik Danielsen at the YBA Office or Hobby Wiles at (928) 848-3403.

Hobby Wiles



Leadership Development

Pastors - I don't know about you, but I've really benefited from our recent fellowships. These discussion times have been so good because they involve all of us (from the newest to the most senior pastor) sharing our experiences and learning one from another. What a blessing it is when brothers dwell together in unity! The LD Team has met and is in the process of working on a calendar of fellowship events - including focused prayer times, nothing-but-fun activities, and guest speakers on volunteer management and pastoring your home. Block the time on your calendar now - the next pastor's lunch is May 14 (11:30-1:00) at Robert Road Baptist Church - you'll be glad you did.

Brian LeSturgeon

Great Commission Team

... Praying 4 the Open Heart

Hearts close to the love of Christ for many reasons: busyness, grief, resentment, fear, anger, hurt, worry, and pride (to name just a few).

So the question is... how can the Lord use us to gradually open the hearts of our family, friends, and neighbors to His love?

Since relationships and trust are built one on one, we need to be able

to build the safe kind of relationship in which people can come to us

and know that they can unload their fears, faults, and struggles without being judged. That kind of trust takes time to build.

Yet listening is one of our best ways to bring Jesus into the lives of down-hearted, lonely, and hurting people. Pray the Lord would open up doors of opportunity for you to witness this month with your ears, not just your lips.

Dave Arden

CHURCH NEWS

From Pastor Harold Boldin at Clarkdale Baptist Church:

The Verde Valley BLESSED HOPE REVIVAL, featuring Evangelist Ron Hart and Music Evangelist Don Browning, will be coming to Clarkdale Baptist Church May 13 through 17. There will be evening services beginning at 7:00 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday, and a morning worship service Sunday, followed by a Victory Pot Luck Fellowship in the Fellowship immediately following the worship service.

Although this revival campaign is directed primarily to the churches and people in the Verde Valley, all of the churches in the Yavapai Baptist Association are invited as well.

From Pastor Wade Mansfield at The Ridge:

What's happening on May 16th at the Mountain Valley Park Amphitheater in Prescott Valley? Why, it's the Battle of the Bands, with out very own Sky Daddy and the Pop Rocks as the opening act! Wouldn't it be cool, if our very own Sky Daddy and the Pop Rocks won the Battle of the Bands? Well, it's all up to you, the gates open at 1pm with Sky Daddy playing at 2pm. Tickets are four dollars and you vote for the best band by putting your ticket in the ballot box. So, mark you calendars for Saturday May 16th and vote for the band that put the Cool in Cool, Sky Daddy and the Pop Rocks. By the way Sky Daddy and the Pop Rocks will also be playing for our veterans on Aug 15th at the VA Hospital. You can catch the coolest band in town at the Pony Espresso Cafe on June 13 and July 11th.

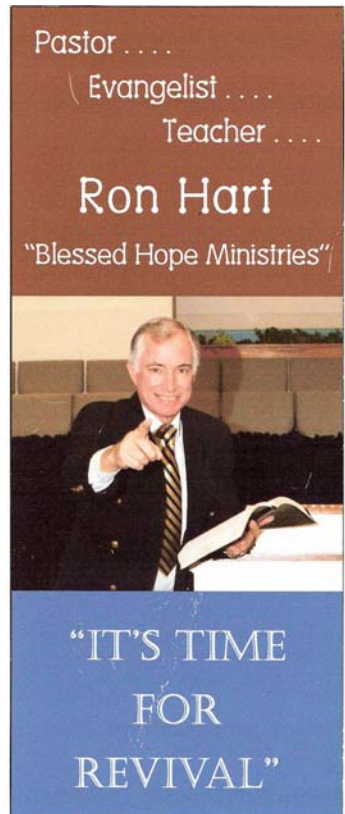
Associational Calendar:

May 14th

Pastor's Fellowship Lunch 11:30 @ Robert Road BC

May 25th

YBA office closed for Memorial Day



From Pastor Brian LeSturgeon at Camp Verde Baptist Church:

Camp Verde Baptist Church conducted an Evangelistic Yard "Sale" on April 10th. Church members gave away gently used merchandise from their own closets and conducted evangelistic surveys. Over 40 surveys were conducted with over 20 witnessing opportunities. Two people accepted Christ and two additional families attended services the following day. Praise the Lord!



Church Events

May 7th

National Day of Prayer. Hillcrest BC will be holding a prayer service 6:00 - 8:00 with a special message from Pastor Brian LeSturgeon

May 8th

Robert Road Baptist Church will be going to the Diamondbacks - Faith & Family Night with concert by Aaron Shust Call 928 772-0703 for details

May 9th

The Ridge will be having their last big landscaping party. Come enjoy the combination of camaraderie, cardio vascular exercise, fresh air, and great food. 8:00 am to 1:00 pm

May 9th

Camp Verde Baptist Church is hosting a "Mother's Day Brunch" on Sat May 9 from 10:30 to noon. Reservations are requested.

May 10th

Adult VBS Celebration 5:00 p.m. at Robert Road Baptist Church

May 17th

Cordes Lakes FSBC will be going through the book "Cast of Characters" by Max Lucado during their Sunday Evening Bible study . Call 928 632-5021 for details.

May 17th

Spaghetti Luncheon served by the Youth as a Zona Kamp Fundraiser at Robert Road Baptist Church at Noon

May 23rd

ASBC Hispanic Women's Conference. A day of training and fellowship for Hispanic women. Contact Alma Perez or Fernando Amaro, 480-945-0880 or 800-687-2431 for details.

May 25th

Annual Memorial Day Picnic (10 am - ?) at Robert Road Baptist Church. Call 928 772-0703 for details.

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