REFLECTION VESPERS

by Cherie Smith

A one-hour Reflections Vespers will be held Friday, Dec. 20, at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary to remember loved ones we’ve lost in 2013. Sadly, our Church family have lost at least 117 loved ones this year.

All are invited to attend because just as your presence comforts friends and family during funeral and memorial services, be assured that your presence during this service will be meaningful to those who attend. Because we all experience some level of loss when our Church members die, there will be a special time dedicated to remembering the names of our Church members who have died in 2013.

It is our prayer that the music, scripture, homily and time to share memories will minister to ALL who attend the vespers – no matter how recent or long ago their loss occurred.

Plan to join us for this short but meaningful service for our Church family.

GIFTS FOR JESUS

Just as the Magi brought their gifts to the infant Jesus, so do area people of all faiths bring gifts to the Samaritan Center as Gifts for Jesus during the holiday season.

These gifts are organized and given out to people in crisis throughout the year. They provide birthday gifts for children who would otherwise have none. They provide personal hygiene products for people who cannot purchase them with food stamps. They give hope to hurting families by letting them know that someone they have never met cared enough to provide these gifts. Gifts for Jesus draws its name from scripture. “As you did it unto one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me,” Matthew 25:40. In this way, a gift for a hurting person is a Gift for Jesus.

We invite you to join this year’s drive. We will have a special time during the service to present these gifts to those in need.

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EVANGELISM 2014

by Sam Chetty

A new day is dawning in our Church; we are on the verge of hosting potentially the largest evangelistic training and a public evangelistic meeting within the Collegedale Church. This training session and public evangelism is like no other, engaging our culture in a non-threatening way. The theme is Come Search With Me, searching for the reality of God, presented by Dr Subodh Pandit.

Join us for the training session that will empower and equip you as a lay person to engage the culture, your family and friends and to share the gospel with confidence.

Our target audience for the public is the skeptic, atheist, Hindu, Muslim, Jew, Buddhist, secularist, the unchurched, and anyone who has left the church and is searching for answers.

We will be sending out 130,000 pieces of advertising to Chattanooga, with three weeks of advertising in local newspapers, and YOU are needed to extend personal invitations.

Evangelism Training: January 18-23 from 7:00-9:00 p.m.

Public Evangelism: February 1-8 (taking the 4th off) from 7:00-8:30 p.m.

We covet your prayers for this event. We are called to fish, so we are stepping out in faith knowing full well that you as a church will be behind this Spirit filled event.

Volunteers are needed in many areas. Prayerfully consider which area your gifts and talents could be used to further God's work. Contact Eliana Farley at 304-1417 or the Church office at 396-2134.

Gifts continued from page 1

December 21 worship service for you to bring your gifts to the front. Or, if you will be gone that day, gifts may be left at the Church Office or taken to the Samaritan Center.

Gift Suggestions

Men, Women, and Children always need: socks, warm pajamas, t-shirts, briefs, boxers, panties, warm slippers, handkerchiefs/bandannas, tennis shoes, insulated underwear, hats, mittens, gloves, and coats.

Personal Care Items: shampoo, lotion, soap, deodorant, women's razors, hand sanitizer, band-aids, hair brushes and combs, and sanitary products.

Babies and Toddlers: disposable diapers, stretch outfits and onesies, bottles, activity toys, books, sleepers, stuffed animals, and receiving blankets.

Children: crayons and coloring books, books, girl's camisoles/undershirts, ribbons and hair clips, combs and brushes, kids' toothpaste, school supplies, puzzles, and games.

Junior High and Teen: cologne, school supplies, hairclips...teens know best what teens need.

Adult Clothing (Especially L, XL, XXL): flannel shirts, flannel nightgowns, and sweat suits.

Other Needs: general cleaning supplies, paper towels, toilet paper, dish detergent (liquid) not dishwasher detergent, new back packs, stamps, stationery and envelopes, greeting cards, sewing kits, batteries, umbrellas, crossword puzzles, jigsaw puzzles, nail clippers, emery boards, pens, markers, boxes of tissues...something you would like yourself.

membership transfers

The following names were presented for transfer.

IN— Dorothy Abbott from Atlanta, GA; Kurt and Jeanie Allen from Apison, TN; John and Sally Appel from Frederick, MD; Yvonne Baiz from Apison, TN; Frank and Helen Burtnett from Deltona, FL; Rodney and Delise Bussey from Keene, TX; Rachel Knittel Carithers from New Market, VA; A. Ramon and Elizabeth Chow from Spencerville, MD; Mark and Bonnie Dempsey from Standifer Gap; Christopher and Jamie Frain from Grand Rapids, MI; and Argyl Pryce from Jamaica.

PROFESSION— Kathy Ferguson and William Christman.

OUT— Remy Avila to Ooltewah; Robert and Bonnie Banks to Ooltewah; Judy Bivens to Trenton, GA; Stephanie Ford to Collegedale Community; Jeff Lauritzen to Clovis, CA; Rechelle Tull to Winston-Salem, NC; Dawn Hunzelman Patterson to Knoxville, TN; and Daisy Seard to New Life Church.
SUPPORTING CAYA MISSIONS

by William Hurtado

Ever wished you could go on a mission trip, but obstacles prevented you? If you can’t go, why not help a young person who can. One dozen young people have signed up to take part in the Haiti Mission Trip scheduled for this March 2014. Would you help them raise money by hiring them during the upcoming Christmas break? Possible jobs: housecleaning, raking leaves, yard work, cleaning out your garage, computer tutoring, babysitting—the possibilities are wide open.

Hire-A-Kid

Instead of an outright donation (these are greatly encouraged and appreciated!), you are benefited by getting odd jobs done and by helping a young person experience this mission trip. Hourly rates will be “donation-inflated” with a suggested rate of $25 an hour (or more...) and a minimum of 2 hours. To hire your helper, call, text, or email Shelly Litchfield at (423) 413-1954 or shelly.litch@gmail.com.

Pasta Buffet

Enjoy the SAU Concert on December 14 and afterwards plan to dine at our all you can eat Pasta Benefit Buffet in the Fellowship Hall. You will enjoy good food and continue to support our church youth on their mission endeavor. There is a suggested $20 donation per plate.

Every dollar you give helps send your church youth to minister to Haitian orphans.
CAYA CENTRAL, our new Youth Center, is open for our young people after school (Mon-Thurs 3:00-6:00; Fri 12:30-2:00 - note new Friday closing time). If you love young people, consider volunteering an hour or two a week to hang out with young people. If you love sharing food, consider donating healthy snack items (chips and salsa, carrots and celery, peanut butter and jelly, fruit, etc.). If you have an event with leftover food, we know hungry teenagers who would not let it go to waste! Call or text Shelly at (423) 413-1954.

BEANIE BABIES WANTED: Dr. Gordon Guild is going on a medical mission trip December 27 to remote areas of El Salvador and its AIDS orphanage children. Donations of new or used Beanie Babies (or similar sized stuffed animals) are appreciated. Contact Dr. Guild at (517) 403-4704, cbaguild7@gmail.com, or leave them at the Church office by December 23.

CELEBRATE THE JOYS of the season with Southern's choirs, symphony orchestra, brass ensemble and handbells on Sabbath, Dec. 14, at 4:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. The varied concert repertoire will feature Francesco Durante's Magnificat.

CHILDCARE IS BEING OFFERED by the Collegedale Academy senior class on Saturday, Dec. 21, from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. for parents to have a night out. The event will be held in the CA gym for ages 3-12. Cost: $15 per child, $20 per 2 children, and $25 for 3 or more children from the same family.

DO YOU OR A LOVED ONE need help? My passion is to help individuals who are older and in need of help. If you need someone to clean, do yard work, sort and organize, help balance a checkbook, run errands, provide transportation, etc, call Julie at 521-6105.

SINGLE PARENTING CLASSES TO START SOON: If you would like to participate as a single parent, facilitator, mentor, or in any other way, contact Pastor Tim at (423) 309-1860 or timcross@southern.edu.

A SONRIZE 2013 DVD is available for $10 in the Church Office during office hours (add $2 to mail). All proceeds benefit SonRise.

LIKE US on Facebook at www.facebook.com/CollegedaleChurch

THE GREATER COLLEGEDALE SCHOOL SYSTEM is interested in reaching all school-aged children not currently enrolled in GCSS. As one of the constituent churches, and in support of the school system, we will be releasing contact information for qualifying members to Murray Cooper, GCSS Chief Administrative Officer, and one other person. The intent is to provide information to allow a school system recruiter to meet with families and explore the possibilities of the children attending the school system. Contact Pastor Dave with questions.