

April 19, 2020

"Still the Church" from David Bearden

Since I am now doing my weekly DB's Dabblings on Facebook, and there seems to be this reoccurring theme of, "We may be not be meeting at the building, but we are still the Church," I thought I would put something in our weekly Bulletin Update about ways you can see we are "Still the Church." This will be a place we can report on great things that are still going on in this church. Please send me reports about things you see going on, and we will put them in this spot. This week I want to focus on how we are still the church in the way ministries continue. Let me give you some examples:

Basic Needs continue to serve our clients every week with a drive through pick up service Thursday morning at the Family Center. Volunteers put on their masks and gloves and follow Deborah and Kathy's directions (Judy and Jaunette are wisely staying in) and we get set up. I help haul food over from BN to the FC and Wes gets the driving cones and signs in place, and clients start showing up before we are open for business. Misty and her girls have been there to help every week since we moved to the FC. We have added new clients every week. On the third Thursday of the month Basic Needs also helps with the Community Produce Distribution at the First Baptist parking lot. Again we work from 4:30 to about 8:00 (counting set up and takedown). Combined BN helped distribute to more than 300 families this Thursday.

Celebrate Recovery has become even more vital during this crisis and more individuals are seeking the emotional and spiritual support offered in this ministry. It continues to meet and offer services (although with caution and revised methods). The number of people being helped in support meetings, step studies, and daily accountability have increased during this crisis. Contact **Hughbert** for more information.

Our ministers are straying very busy! **Don and Jeannette** continue to contact our senior saints and alert our Elders of needs, even though they must do it from home.

The **Campus Ministry** continues to serve students. This may surprise you with TSU classes not meeting on campus. But there are still approximately 675 students on campus and **Taylor and Whitney** have volunteered to help them as needed. There are still some of our T4C students around and Taylor and Whitney check on them regularly and are still doing Bible studies, devotionals, and counseling with them. Taylor still has his Campus Ministry Wednesday evening service, but now it is via Zoom.

The **Youth and Family Ministry** continues. **Wes** regularly contacts students and parents and there are a number of youth and family resources available on the grahamstreetyouth.org website. He also participates in several online Bible studies with the students during the week, and hosts the weekly Wednesday night and bi-weekly Monday night youth group meetings. Wes and Nichole also provide children's resources for families on our website. Wes has been a great blessing (along with Bruce Carraway) in developing our technology to be able to do ministry online. Wes and Taylor have been a huge help to me in working together on the Sunday House Church Worship resourcew, the Passion Worship Service, and starting this week, a Wednesday afternoon Q&A Bible Study.



April 19, 2020 Page 2

UPDATE: We will not assemble at the building for worship or Bible classes through April. House Church resources are on our website (https://www.grahamstreetchurch.com). Our Sunday morning service will be on Facebook: (https://www.facebook.com/grahamstreetchurch/).

Help us make sure those who do not communicate through these means get updates. Let's watch out for the most vulnerable and those with greatest needs among us. Let the leaders know of anyone who is in special need. We are also including resources to assist in family home worship, Bible study, counseling, and giving on our website.

GPS Interactive Class Via Google Hangout: When Weekly from 9:30am to 10:15am on Sunday -

Call or email the office to get information on how to connect GPS Lessons: https://grahamstreetchurch.com/sermons

Ministry

GPS Resources/Handouts: https://grahamstreetchurch.com/gps

Chronological Bible Reading: https://www.biblestudytools.com/bible-reading-plan/

REMINDER: Please remember to keep your contribution current. Though we are not meeting at the church building each week, your continued support of our missions, ministries, and church expenses are still needed. Some ways you can contribute:

1. Mail a Check to the Church Office 2. Bank Auto-Pay 3. On-Line Donation via grahamstreetchurch.com

Ladies Wednesday Evening Class is held at 7:00 p.m. every week by Sherri Caraway on Zoom. The new link is posted weekly on the the private Facebook Group:

<u>Graham St C of C Womens Ministry. H.U.G.S. Hearts United in God's Service</u> Or call the office for the link.

Our new "Q&A Bible Study" will be on the church's Facebook at 2:00 Wednesday afternoon. Wes, Taylor and David will take questions and discuss them live. Members are encouraged to send in questions. Students are encouraged to participate and send questions to Wes and Taylor.

Larry Knowles, upcoming shoulder surgery; Mike DeMott, hip replacement; Denise Powell; Paula Busby,

Paula Oliver; Micaela Moore; Kenneth Gaines; Tabitha McClellan; Jody Caudle; James Young; Jordan Harper, son-in-law of Mark & Leah Wilson; Karen Bills; Debbie Christian; Kimberly Richardson O'Dea, who had a stroke; Lisa Rose's mom, Ruby Robertson, & granddaughter, Kinley; Nichole Wilson, lost her grandmother, Mary Lou Jones; Cynthia Price; Steve Ham.