Pastor's Paragraph

Bad News/Good News

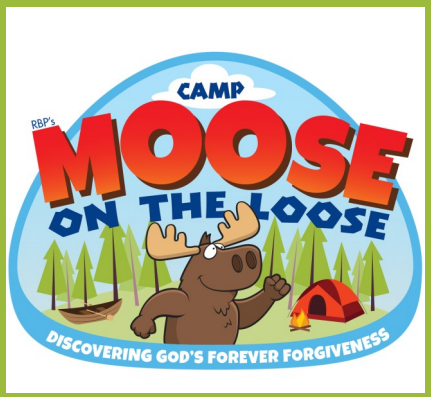
It seems like every day we hear another tragic story in the news. It is impossible to mentally and emotionally process all of the information that we are inundated with in the media. In fact, with every new story that confronts us, we tend to quickly forget the previous stories. Last Sunday, another tragedy unfolded. But this one was a little different because it had some good news. This story had a hero. At 3:30 am in Antioch, Tennessee, a deranged killer started shooting up a Waffle House with his AR-15. Four people were killed and several others were injured. After the initial burst of gunfire, there was a momentary pause (possibly to reload). It was during the pause that James Shaw Jr. rushed toward the shooter, wrestled the weapon away from him, and threw it behind the counter, ending the senseless massacre. James is a 29 year old man with a 4 year old daughter. After the horrific incident, he was taken to the hospital to be treated for minor injuries. His elbow had been grazed by a bullet, and his hand had been burned when he grabbed the hot barrel of the AR-15. After leaving the hospital, he went home to get cleaned up and go to church! James Shaw was immediately recognized as a hero. It is impossible to know how many lives he saved by his act of selfless courage. However, he humbly rejects the title of hero. He insists that he was just acting our of self-preservation. He was just trying to save himself! In fact, he used the word "selfish" to describe his actions. He demonstrates true humility. However, since the shooting, he has proven that he is definitely not selfish. He set up a GoFundMe account to help the victims' families pay for funeral expenses. He set a goal to raise $15,000 for the families, and the account has raised over $182,000. Someone else has started a GoFundMe account to honor James Shaw for his heroism. He certainly deserves it! It is refreshing to witness someone who is a genuine hero. He is a normal person who rises to the occasion during an emergency situation. He demonstrates honesty, humility, generosity, and bravery in the face of danger. What started out as yet another sad story of murder and mayhem, ends with an inspiring example of true heroism. It is good news within the bad news!

It is also a reminder of the good news (gospel!) that we have a hero who is better than James Shaw. Our Savior is the perfect example of humble obedience and selfless sacrifice. He gave His own life to save us. The fallen world in which we live is full of bad news, but Jesus entered our sinful world to save us. He is the good news within the bad news! No matter how bad our world gets, Jesus is the Savior who overcomes and gives peace. "These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world." (John 16:33) There will always be bad news, but we will always have our Hero. ~Pastor

MAY 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Deacons' Mtg 7:00 PM	2 AWANA Awards 6:30 PM	3 National Day Of Prayer	4 Men's Meat Retreat 6:00 PM	5 Trustees' Mtg 8:00 AM
6 AM Communion Graduation Potluck Lunch	7	8	9 AWANA Workers' Appreciation Meal 6:30 PM	10	11	12 Open House 2-5 PM Abigail Udd Braden Feickert
13 Baptism Service	14	15 Primary Voting/ Fellowship Center	16	17	18	19 Open House 1-4 PM Klarissa Wampler Sabrina Wampler
20 Open House 2-5 PM Mariah Valquier	21	22	23	24	25	26 Udd Wedding
27	28	29	30 VBS Workers' Meeting 6:30 PM	31		

Congratulations to our AWANA Clubbers! The AWARDS Night Ceremony is Wednesday, May 2nd, beginning at 6:30 p.m. You are all invited to attend and celebrate with us! A cookie fellowship will immediately follow!



VBS

June 4-8th Monday-Friday
9AM– Noon
Ages 4 yrs– 6th Grade
Closing Program on Friday
11:30 AM w/ Light Lunch

Congratulations to all our High School Graduates!!

Mariah Valquier
Abigail Udd
Braden Feickert
Klarissa Wampler
Sabrina Wampler
Bree Bauer

Class of 2018

whispering cedars baptist camp

Whispering Cedars Baptist Camp Pantry needs restocking for the summer camping season! Be watching for envelopes with designated amounts to be placed on the back table!

March Finances

Balance Forward 3/1/2018	
Deacon's Fund	$698.29
Designated Fund	$1,317.17
General Fund	$35,132.09
Checking Account*	$37,147.55
March Income	$12,060.57
March Expenses	$19,756.81
Net Decrease	($7,696.24)
Balance 3/31/2018	
Deacon's Fund	$634.54
Designated Fund	$1,422.49
General Fund	$27,394.28
Checking Account	$29,451.31

**Corrected Amount*