

the Nall Call

monthly newsletter of Nall Avenue Baptist Church

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WIDOWS & SENIOR SINGLES LUNCHEON TREATS WOMEN 'LIKE ROYALTY'



When the women walked into the CLC/gym, the deacons were ready to escort them to their seats. Elegantly adorned tables awaited. The deacons filled the women's water glasses and then sat down with them to fellowship and enjoy the catered luncheon.

This was the seventh annual Widows and Senior Single Women's Luncheon, and it took place on Sunday, June 10, at noon in the CLC/gym. The lunch, catered by Brancato's, is hosted every year by the deacons as a way to serve the older women of the congregation.

"Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to visit the orphans and widows in their affliction...." James 1:27 (ESV).

"It was a lovely luncheon, and the deacons treated us like royalty," said Mary Hale. "They are a most appreciated group of men in our church."

Other attendees agreed. "This is a wonderful event!" said Ann Coggins (top picture, far right).

For deacons like Darol Phillips, who has attended several of the luncheons, the chance to get to know the women is worth it all.

"The benefit for the deacon is that not only are you able to spend time meeting and getting to know some of the ladies you might not otherwise spend much time with, I believe the casual atmosphere of the occasion lends itself to causing some to open up and really make a connection," he said. "It is a valued time together that probably wouldn't happen under most circumstances."

All Nall widows and single women over the age of 50 are invited to the luncheon, which usually takes place in summer. This year, 26 women attended, served by 18 deacons.

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MARRIAGE LUNCH AND LEARN ADDRESSES 'TOXINS' OF UNHEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS



Criticism, defensiveness, contempt and stonewalling. These “four horsemen” are signs of a toxic marriage that will almost always lead to divorce, says research. Scripture agrees.

Dr. Burford was the guest speaker at the June 3 lunch and learn presentation titled “Making Marriage Work.” He is a licensed counselor and an ordained minister, and he uses this combination of training to help couples understand habits within their relationship that either destroy or grow the love between them.

During his presentation, Dr. Burford showed the parallels between academic research and Scripture to illustrate the signs of a disaster couple and how to build a sound relationship on the foundation of trust and commitment.

The audience of about 55 comprised couples from all stages, from engaged to married for decades. Several couples in attendance heard about the presentation through the Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) or the Bible Study Fellowship (BSF) groups that meet at Nall. Audience members also had a chance to submit questions anonymously during a Q&A session at the end of the presentation.

Handouts from the presentation are available by request. Please contact Sara Brunsvold, sara@nallave.org / 913-432-4141, for copies. To learn more about Dr. Burford and his upcoming seminars, go to www.dougburford.com.

MISSIONS WEEK PREVIEW

The Missions Committee is working closely with staff and local entities to put together a week-long focus on serving our community.

Mission Week will kick off on Sunday, July 22, with an evening of worship and prayer in the sanctuary, which will include prayer stations for the various projects for the week. An ice cream social will follow the worship service.

Several projects throughout the week will be available during the day and in the evening.

The week will feature projects for:

- City Union Mission: one morning shift in the warehouse or thrift store (downtown KC)
- City Union Mission Family Center: serving two evening meals (downtown KC)
- Santa Fe Trail Elementary: compiling baskets of school supplies for teachers (school is located at Lamar and 71st; project will take place at the church)
- Mission Adelante Thrift Store: a morning and afternoon shift working at the store (KCK)
- Mission Southside: evening shift to help sort donations in warehouse (Olathe)
- Other projects are in the process of being confirmed

The week will conclude with another evening of worship on Friday night, July 27. Watch for more information and for registration for the various events.



SNAPSHOTS



Lily and Noah White eagerly anticipate the Child Dedication on June 17. Their baby sister, Lilah, along with Cole and Ivy Unruh were dedicated during the 10:45 service. Parents are Jeff and Lacy White, and Caleb and Jo Unruh.



Caleb Unruh, chair of Personnel Committee, recognizes Kelly Jackson's five years of service as the Minister of Family Life and Operations during second service on Sunday, June 17.



Samantha Perkins leads a small group of 5th and 6th graders during the "Game On" VBS 2018, which kicked off Sunday, June 24.

Have a Nall snapshot to share? Email it to Sara Brunsvold, sara@nallave.org

BEST WISHES IN RETIREMENT, JULIE!

For seven years, if you called the church office, chances are you spoke with Julie Italiano, the administrative coordinator. She helped keep the details of church life humming in harmony and used her gift of grace to minister to everyone, familiar or unfamiliar. On June 29, Julie retired from her position at Nall. She plans to enjoy time with her husband, Donnie, and the rest of her family, as well as pursue new paths God lays before her. She will be dearly missed, and we wish her and Donnie the best. A reception for Julie will take place on Sunday, July 1, after second service in the Foyer.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Retirement Reception for Julie Italiano, July 1

Following second service, Foyer.

Summer Family Picnic, July 1

6 PM, Shelter 10, Shawnee Mission Park. Games for all ages. Potluck for sides/desserts. Bring camping chairs or blanket.

Men's Coffee, July 2

6:30 AM, HyVee at 95th and Antioch.

Church Office Closed, July 4

For Independence Day.

Ordination Council, July 8

To question new deacons. Ordained ministers/deacons invited to attend.

KC Rescue Mission, July 10

5:30 PM. Carpool from church to serve meal at men's center.

JOY Luncheon, July 12

11:30 AM, CLC/Gym. Music by The Pic & Bow. Bring potluck dish or \$4 contribution.

New Deacon Ordination, July 15

In both services.

Kids Camp, begins July 16

Kids and sponsors head to Bolivar, Mo., for CentriKid Camp. Return Friday, July 20.

Youth Camp, begins July 16

Youth head to Student Life camp in Lake of the Ozarks, Mo. Return Friday, July 20.

Missions Week, July 22-27

Local missions projects both off-site and at the church. See Page 2 for details.

Business Meeting, July 29

5 PM, Sanctuary.

Full list of all events and activities:

www.nallave.org/events.

21 NALL WOMEN WALK ACROSS AMERICA (VIRTUALLY)

Shana was just looking for a way to stay connected and motivate a friend to be active. What resulted was four teams of Nall women coming together to exercise and eat right. This past spring, 21 Nall women participated in Walk Kansas, an eight-week statewide challenge in which teams earn points for exercising and eating fruits and vegetables.

Team members log their points on the WalkKansas.org website, which converts those points to a mileage equivalent. The goal is to be the first team to earn mileage points that equal the distance across the state of Kansas. Having participated in the event previously, Shana brought the idea first to her Core Group, and then to other women at Nall. "I'm gone so much during the week and I teach a kids Core Group, so I don't feel as connected to my own group," she says of her motivation to bring up the idea. Four teams of five, plus Shana as "captain" on each one, joined the competition. Team 1, comprised of Phyllis Pelts, Judy Miller, Toni Friend, Melissa Jackson, Anelda Clancy and Shana, won "by a ton," Shana said. They finished the virtual race across Kansas in only four weeks. Phyllis was the number-one point earner, followed by Judy. Even more impressive, the four teams' combined total virtual mileage equaled the distance from Maine to California. Throughout the challenge, teams would get together to walk when they could and weekly kept in contact through email, text messages and even a Facebook group in one team's case.



At the end of the challenge, the teams gathered for a celebratory breakfast at Alice Gowler's home (pictured). Shana said in addition to being a source of accountability in health goals, the challenge helped foster relationships among women who may not have otherwise crossed paths.

NEW DEACONS TO BE ORDAINED JULY 15

At the June 10 Special Called Business Meeting, the congregation voted to approve all 11 proposed deacons. Four have been deacons previously: Neil Andersen, Ross Marshall, Richard Miller, and Steve Parke. Seven are new deacons: Ray Brainard, Byron Briggs, Sebastian McGean, Bill Rice, David Tomlinson, Brian Weese and Mark Wehmeyer. An Ordination Council will meet on Sunday, July 8, at 2 PM in D108 to question new candidates. All ordained ministers and deacons are invited to attend and be part of the questioning. New deacons will be ordained in both services on Sunday, July 15.

SUPPER 8 GROUPS CONNECT AND BLESS PARTICIPANTS

Last fall, Nall members had a chance to join a Supper 8 group for an opportunity to build relationships with people they may not otherwise have a chance to get to know. Seven groups formed and met over the course of many months, as schedules allowed. Meals took place in members' homes or at restaurants. Overall, groups leaders said in a recent follow-up survey that the experience was positive and they were "encouraged and blessed from this relationship-building opportunity," said coordinator Heidi Langford. "Everyone who responded said that they were grateful for the connections made, some with people they had not met before and others with those they only saw occasionally at church."

About Nall Call

Nall Call is the work of many hands.

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