

OCTOBER 2024

THE ENCOURAGER

Deep Creek Friends

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deepcreekfriends.com

It's time to show off your trunk!

See Sydney or Jean Hutchins to reserve your spot today!

The Man Who Wrestled with God

RANDY QUATE - PASTOR

I was at Billy Graham's retreat center in Asheville with several hundred pastors last fall. One night, Billy Graham's grandson shared some devotional thoughts with us all, and we were impressed. He seemed like a chip off the old block. You sensed a committed young man, passionate about Jesus Christ, and clearly gifted in ministry. You sensed that Billy's mantle had settled on his grandson.

That is quite a different comparison to a grandfather\grandson duo in the Bible, Abraham and Jacob, in the book of Genesis. Abraham was a man of tremendous faith. He became the father of the three main religions of the world, and he is credited with being the model used by Paul to explain salvation by grace, (Rom.4:13-15).

Unlike his grandfather, Jacob was most noted for his deception and manipulation of others. He seems impulsive and self-focused in his early years, and in so doing leaves a trail of tears and regret along the way. Much of his life is spent as a fugitive from his brother, Esau, whom he tricked out of their father Isaac's blessing. Jacob's life seems a far cry from his grandpas' legacy of faith.... but God still has plans for Jacob.

What use is Jacob's life to us today? Let me give you two quick suggestions:

First, like Peter in the New Testament, Jacob's faults, traits, and mistakes endear him to us, because we understand those temptations in the same way. We can identify with his wrestling match with God because we sometimes find ourselves "wrestling" with The Lord about His will and timing in our own lives. We wrestle with big questions and we may even have challenges in our faith overall. We may not be led to mimic Jacob's behavior, but we can often identify with his struggles to "fix" things our way, instead of seeking God's direction and surrendering to his will.

Secondly, Jacob's life also reflects on our Heavenly Father. The Lord would not let Jacob go, and even marked Jacob with a limp as a permanent sign of God's plan for his life and Jacob's dependence on God. It reminds us of the times during a spiritual struggle when the Lord has met with us, and we leave that experience with a limp of gratitude for His patience and grace, and with a stronger faith than we had before.

You know, if Jacob was here, what would he be like? I picture Jacob with a wild look in his eye. You can tell he is taking in everything around him in a detailed way, you just don't know his intention. You do know, when he leaves your presence, you check to see if your valuables are in place. He is not polished or poised. Jacob is neither a saint or a righteous role model early on, but God can still use him. God will use Jacob in spite of Jacob. That carries a great deal of hope for us. Despite our messes and mistakes, God can still use us!

Broken B4 God

Jacob Brendle, Trevor Collins, Destiny Ray

At our 2024 Beach Retreat, our worship time centered around brokenness, particularly being Broken B4 God. We discussed four aspects of brokenness: (1) the broken world, (2) the broken self, (3) broken relationships, and (4) brokenness used by God. In our first worship service, we briefly discussed the reality that we live in a broken and sinful world, but we spent most of our time learning that, as Christians, discussion of brokenness are unhelpful if we are unable to cultivate compassion and vulnerability. In other words, we cannot have meaningful conversations about brokenness if we are not prepared to encounter brokenness with compassion and vulnerability. In our second worship service, we discussed the ways in which brokenness impacts our lives as individuals and our relationships by manifesting physically, mentally, emotionally, and spiritually. In our final worship service, we discussed how God uses us and our brokenness to draw us closer to him, to allow us to connect with others in meaningful ways, and to further His kingdom.

We are incredibly thankful to have had the opportunity to lead worship at our beach retreat this year, and we want to leave you with some questions from worship to think through as you read this newsletter.

1. What is the role of compassion and vulnerability in our lives as Christians? Why is compassion and vulnerability important, especially considering that we are all broken? How have you seen compassion and vulnerability impact your brokenness? Is there room for improvement in your ability to be compassionate and vulnerable?
2. What are some examples of physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual brokenness? What is the role of sin in brokenness? How can we recognize brokenness in ourselves and others?
3. What are some examples of brokenness in the Bible? How does the Hope of Christ impact the way that you see brokenness in yourself and others? How is God using you right now, even though you are broken? Is God encouraging you to meet the brokenness of your friends, family, and community with compassion and vulnerability?

We ask that God continues to use us for His glory and that He uses our brokenness to draw us closer to Him. We also ask that He help us to grow in our ability to be compassionate and vulnerable Christians, and we ask that He continues to put people in our path with whom we can share the Hope of Christ.



Announcements

MEMBERSHIP CLASS

Beginning October 20th

If you are curious about what Quakers believe, this class is for you. We will study a brief history of Friends and our beliefs. We will also seek to better understand what it means to be a church member. These classes are not only informative, but they are always fun. If you have interest in becoming a member of Deep Creek Friends, or just want to understand more about Friends faith and practice then come join us!

We will begin meeting on Sunday, October 20th at 4:00pm. If you are interested, a sign-up sheet is located in front of my office.

THE MAN WHO WRESTLED WITH GOD

Beginning in October

One of the most unlikely heroes in the Bible is Jacob. His life was riddled with risky choices, shady behavior, and the manipulation of others, of which he reaped many consequences. But he was also a man God had designs for, a man with a calling. Jacob's life is a great study on the messiness of life, and the consequences of poor decisions. But it is also a study of how God can redeem any life, and how he can shape us even through our mistakes. Beginning in October, Randy will begin this series on Jacob from the Book of Genesis. This one is going to be a lot of fun!

QUAKER WOMEN

Tuesday, October 15th

Quaker Women will meet Tuesday, Oct 15 at 7:00pm with Jean Gibson as hostess. We will be talking about the Walk for Hunger to support Yadkin Christian Ministries and we will discuss our programs for November and December. All ladies are invited to join us.

LOOKING AHEAD

FRIEND DAY

November 3, 2024

Worship Service 10:30am

Covered Dish Meal 11:30am

On Sunday, November 3rd we will have our last Friend Day of the year. Please prayerfully ask those you know to come visit us at Deep Creek on this date. We will have a covered dish meal after worship in the fellowship hall to spend some time with our guests and with each other.



If you are interested in the upcoming Parent Meeting please see a member of Christian Education.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Sydney

Trunk 'N Treat is right around the corner and we are very excited for this event!

Please let me or Jean Hutchins know if you would like to have a trunk! We are looking to have 20 to 25 trunks this year!

MINISTRY LEADER EMAIL ADDRESSES

Children's: kidsministry.dcf@gmail.com

Youth: youthministry.dcf@gmail.com

YOUTH MINISTRY

Trevor

This month has been great for the youth, from the annual beach trip to spending the day together washing cars. Being able to spend such quality time with each other has been a real blessing. As we get back into our normal lives from summer I pray that we are able to keep good connections with each other and keep God at the center of everything that we do and say.

"If you are faithful in little things, you will be faithful in large ones. But if you are dishonest in little things, you won't be honest with greater responsibilities."

Luke 16:10

This verse stuck out to me because it shows that even in honesty we have to start at little things before we can grow.

WALK FOR HUNGER 2024

In Memory of Susan Steelman

Sunday, October 6th, 3:00-4:30 PM

Registration: 2:30-3:00 PM

Yadkinville Community Park

If you choose, you can walk at your Home Church

Parking at Yadkin Farmers Market

Homemade Ice Cream will be served

2024 Awards Include

Most walkers from a church or organization

Largest Dollar Amount raised by a church or organization

Random drawing for (2) \$25 gift cards



Music by "Anointed by Grace"
West Yadkin Baptist Church

Sponsored by: Deep Creek Friends and the Susan Steelman family

Yadkin Christian Ministries is supported by the people, churches, and organizations of Yadkin County to assist families in crisis times with food, medication, heat and water. The ministry seeks to do its mission in the spirit of Christ, with a nonjudgmental attitude. We request your prayers and goodwill.

**NEWSLETTER
CONTENT DUE
OCTOBER 20**

GREETERS

Don Steelman
Jay Brendle

**NURSERY:
SUNDAY SCHOOL**

- 06 - Donna Raines
- 13 - Cathy Shore
- 20 - Priscilla Shore
- 27 - Jean Hutchins

**NURSERY:
WORSHIP**

- 06 - Priscilla Shore
- 13 - Sarah Ray
- 20 - Donna Rains
- 27 - Rhonda Moran

MUSIC

- 06 - Trevor & Angie
- 13 - Choir
- 20 - Walter & Dylan
- 27 - Choir

FOOD for YOUTH

See Tracy Shore for details

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4			
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Walk for Hunger 3p			7p - Bible Study			Fellowship Hall Reserved 4 - 6p
4p - FOJ / DOGS 5p - Youth			7p - Bible Study Choir Practice 8:30p			
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Children's Church					SHS Football Team Dinner	Pumpkin Fest at Quaker Lake
5p - Youth		7p - Quaker Women	7p - Bible Study			
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
8:15a - CE Meeting Monthly Meeting FOJ Trip after Worship		Ministry & Counsel 7p			FHS Football Team Dinner	Trunk 'n Treat Kickoff at 5:30p
3p - Choir Practice 4p - DOGS 5p - Youth			7p - Bible Study			
27	28	29	30	31		
Children's Church					Looking Ahead:	
5p - Youth			7p - Bible Study		Nov. 3 - Parent Mtg. Dec. 8 - Christmas Experience	