



## News from Melbourne Heights for March 2017

### Upcoming Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26 9:15 Sun School 10:30 Worship 11:45 Handbells 6p FPU 6p Youth 7p Young Adult Study	27 10:30 Mission Monday 1p Art Ministry 4:15p TOPS 6:30p Deacon's Mtg	28 10 Staff Mtg. 6:30p Private Event	Mar 1 6p Bible Study 7p Choir	2 8:45 S.E.A.M. Volunteers 6:30p Private Event	3	4
5 9:15 Sun School 10:30 Worship 11:45 Handbells 6p FPU 6p Youth 7p Young Adult Study	6 10:30 Mission Monday 1p Art Ministry 4:15p TOPS	7 10 Sr. Adults 10 Staff Mtg. 6:30p Private Event	8 6p Bible Study 7p Choir	9 8:45 S.E.A.M. Volunteers 6:30p Private Event	10	11
12 9:15 Sun School 10:30 Worship 11:45 Handbells 6p FPU 6p Youth 7p Young Adult Study	13 10:30 Mission Monday 1p Art Ministry 4:15p TOPS	14 10 Staff Mtg. 6:30p Private Event	15 6p Bible Study 7p Choir	16 8:45 S.E.A.M. Volunteers 6:30p Private Event	17	18
19 9:15 Sun School 10:30 Worship 11:45 Handbells 6p Youth 7p Young Adult Study	20 10:30 Mission Monday 1p Art Ministry 4:15p TOPS 6:30p Leadership Team	21 10 Staff Mtg. 6:30p Private Event	22 6p Bible Study 7p Choir	23 8:45 S.E.A.M. Volunteers 11 Private Event 6:30p Private Event	24	25
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### From the Pastor

by Adam Schell

More than a year ago, a group in our church - our Planning Team, as we now call it - was tasked with looking to the future of Melbourne Heights. After taking a long hard look at where we were as a church at the time, this group quickly got to work thinking about how we can revitalize our congregation.

Our work began last August, as our church entered into a 40 day season of prayer to help us refocus on God, and attune our ears to what God wanted and needed us to hear.

After this season of prayer, we conducted a church-wide survey to get an honest assessment of where we are as a church. This survey helped our Planning Team understand what we are doing well, and see where we need to grow.

This led us to conduct a one day retreat with more than a dozen leaders in our church. Together we identified the most pressing priorities for our congregation moving forward.

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## From the Pastor

by Adam Schell

All of this work has led to this moment, where our Planning Team has discussed our priorities as a church and developed an action plan for our congregation to follow in the coming weeks, months, and years.

On Sunday night, March 5 at 5:00pm our Planning Team will be presenting this Action Plan. The Plan focuses on three areas: Evangelism, Discipleship, and Visitor Engagement.

We encourage everyone who loves and cares about our church to join us for this meeting, and find ways that you can help Melbourne Heights

## March's Sermon Series

# broken

In John 10:10, Jesus tells us that he came so that we can have life...and have it more abundantly. But how many of us would describe our lives as being abundant?

Is your life filled with hope, peace, joy, and love? Is your life filled with meaning and purpose? Is your life making the difference that it can?

Many of us aren't experiencing the abundant life that God wants us to have, because we are broken. Throughout the month of March we will be talking about why we are broken, and how God is working to make us whole.

Join us for worship at 10:30am.

## Sermon Discussion Group



On Wednesday nights at Melbourne Heights, we want to help you think through who God wants you to be, what God wants you to do, and where God wants you to do it. We're doing this by giving you the chance to discuss Sunday's sermon with our pastor, and to take a closer look at the scripture passage he preached.

To help you prepare for this discussion, and to get you thinking a little more about each sermon, we have a Discussion Guide available on Sundays. These questions will serve as the starting point for the discussion, but you'll have plenty of time to ask your own questions as well.

We meet at 6:00pm in Rogers Hall, and we'd

## Never Miss A Sermon



You can now subscribe to our sermon podcast through iTunes or on Stitcher. Just search for Melbourne Heights and we'll be the only result. If you are more of a reader, you can find printed versions at our information kiosk each week.

## Help Wanted



Spring is in the air, and that means it won't be long before we begin mowing again at Melbourne Heights.

We are in the process of putting together teams that will mow and trim each week during the Spring and Summer.

We provide the equipment and the training. So if you would like to volunteer, please contact Bruce Jones or Pam Clasby for more information.

## Youth News



March is here, and, wow, are things heating back up in the life of our Youth. This year will see graduations, camp in Philadelphia, and white water rafting in Tennessee!

But before we get to any of those, the youth will

be hosting our annual Chili Cook Off! It will be happening March 26 at 6:00pm. Tickets will be \$5.00 per person and can be purchased that night.

Along with admission, your \$5.00 will give you a vote for this year's best and the hottest chili. And that's not all. We are also adding a dessert competition this year.

If you plan to compete in either the Chili Cook Off or the Bake Off, please sign up near the Welcome Center. And join us on March 26 at

## March Birthdays



March 3 | Margie Rose  
March 7 | Claudia Tomsett  
March 10 | Leon Denham  
March 11 | Ken Farris  
March 17 | Pat Hicks  
March 18 | Anna Lee Wheeler  
March 22 | Teresa Crawford  
March 23 | Guy Futral  
March 25 | Larry Perkins  
March 26 | Joan Rains  
March 29 | Joyce Denham  
March 30 | Carol Crawford

If you would like your birthday published in our church newsletter, please contact our church office at (502) 454-4681.

## Mission Update: Habitat



We will soon be participating in the 23rd annual Baptist Build for Habitat for Humanity. As always, we will be scheduling a work day at this year's build, and you're invited to come out and lend a hand. Details about our workday will be available soon.

As part of our commitment to the Baptist Build, we also pledge to financially support the construction of this new home. We have pledged \$3,000 to this year's build, as of February 19, we have received \$2,425 in donations. So we still need your help to fulfill our pledge. You can give to this project by designating "Habitat" on your check or envelope.

## Lenten Collection



In 2013 we began a new tradition at Melbourne Heights for the season of Lent. For this six week period, we collect an offering of tangible items to donate to a local non-profit organization or charity. Over the last three years, we have donated canned goods, blankets, paper towels, toilet paper, and other household items to a half dozen different organizations.

This year, we will once again be collecting items for the Cabbage Patch Settlement House. "The Patch" is a local, non-profit Christian organization who seeks to equip and empower at-risk children, youth and their families by helping them maximize their economic, educational, emotional, moral, physical, social and spiritual potential.

Each week during the season of Lent, beginning February 14, we will be collecting a different item to donate to "The Patch." We'll be announcing the item we'll be collecting one week in advance through our bulletin, and Facebook page. So keep your eyes open, and see how you can help the children and families of "The

## Senior Adult News

All adults 55 and over are invited to join our Senior Adult group each month for a time of fellowship and fun activities. We meet in Rogers Hall at 10:00 am on the first Tuesday of each month, unless otherwise announced.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, March 7...and you don't want to miss it. Our staff will be joining us, and sharing stories from their experiences in ministry. Afterwards, we will go to lunch at O'Charley's on Breckenridge.

We will also be distributing a schedule for the rest of the activities we have planned for our Senior Adults at our March meeting. Our Senior Adult Committee—made up of Barbara Capsel, Laura Marquess, and Claudia Tomsett—have been hard at work making these plans. And we look forward to hearing your feedback.

So come on out and join us on March 7.

## Kid's News

Just in time for Spring, we have some big changes coming to our Children's Ministry. In March, we will be moving all of our Children's Sunday School classes—from birth to 5th grade—on to the main floor.

Our nursery age children will still meet in the nursery, while our preschool and elementary kids will begin meeting in the 3 classroom suite at the end of the hall.

This move will help us to have all of our children together in one area. However, we cannot make this move without some help from you.

We are looking for a few volunteers to help move our Children's Ministry materials to the first floor. And, since these rooms will still be used by our preschool during the week, we need volunteers who are willing to help us set up our classrooms on the weekend.

We are also looking to add one Sunday School teacher to our Children's Ministry team. If you have ever considered helping with our children, we can use you.

If you are able to help in any of these areas, please contact me. And, as always, thank you

## Mission Mondays

At Melbourne Heights, we are always looking for new ways that we can reach out and minister to our community. On Monday mornings at 10:30am, we have a group that gets together to work on various projects that help people in need throughout our city.

One of the projects that our Mission Monday group works on is mats for the homeless, where they crochet plastic shopping bags into sleeping mats.

But the group does so much more than that. Do you know what other projects our Missions group is learning to make? Try to fill in these blanks.

M \_ \_ \_ R \_ M \_ T \_ \_ (which are used by Alzheimer Patients)

K \_ \_ \_ \_ D \_ \_ \_ C K \_ \_ \_ (which are used by cancer patients)

If you feel like you need to buy a vowel, or want to learn more about the various projects our Missions Monday group is involved in; contact Doris

## Looking Ahead

On Sunday night, April 2 at 6:00pm, our choir will be presenting our annual Easter Cantata. This year's presentation, entitled *Jesus Saves*, retells the incredible story of God's plan of redemption.

Together we'll journey from the Garden of Eden, through the lives of men and women as they responded to God, ultimately arriving at Calvary. And we will be reminded from the beginning to the end of this journey of the matchless love that God has for everyone he created.

Make plans to join us for this year's Easter Cantata, as we celebrate the good news that *Jesus*

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