

THE PASTOR'S CORNER



The Taj Mahal is widely recognized as “the jewel of Muslim art in India.” Built by Mughal emperor Shah Jahan, in memory of his third wife, it took thousands of artisans nearly 20 years to complete. Having looked at many pictures of this magnificent structure, I must admit that it

was quite impressive to see for myself. There is a picture and a business card holder of the Taj Mahal in my office that constantly reminds me of this experience. Each time my eyes meet that picture or I take a card from that card holder, I am reminded to pray for the people of India.

Visitors are not permitted to take photographs inside. In fact, there is a sign posted at the entrance that reads, “Please, no photographs inside *mausoleum*.” Did you catch that? The Taj Mahal, a world-renowned landmark, is actually a tomb. Shah Jahan’s third wife is buried inside. Upon entering, you are immediately met by a staircase that descends to the tomb. It is closed, so no one is permitted to enter the tomb area. However, there is a replica on the first floor. According to Muslim tradition, it’s forbidden to walk over a grave. Therefore, a replica was constructed over the tomb to keep this from happening.

As I walked around in this ornate, marble structure with precious stone inlays, I pondered the millions of dollars that went into its construction. Do you find it ironic that a tomb, something that represents death, stands as one of the premier landmarks in this part of the world? I do. I thought of Isaiah’s words, “The people who walk in darkness will see a great light; those who will live in a dark land, the light will shine on them” (9:2). I also recalled Paul’s words, “The wages of sin is death” (Rom. 6:23).

There are millions of people walking in darkness – from West Columbia, South Carolina where our church is located to the Taj Mahal in Agra, India. Many don’t know they are in darkness, but they’re searching for answers to the most basic questions of human existence. Why are we here? How did we get here? Friends, God has not left us in the dark, but has given us clear answers to those questions. He has given us His Word, but most importantly, He has given us the Word *made flesh Who dwelt*

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among us (John 1:14). Indeed, Light has come.

Isaiah 9:2 refers to the Messiah, who would come as light in a dark world. This Light was not Muhammad, Buddha, or the 300 million gods of the Hindus. No, this Light was Jesus who said, “I am the Light of the world; he who follows Me will not walk in darkness, but will have the Light of life” (John 8:12). He also said, “I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly” (John 10:10). Jesus did not come to make bad people good; He came to make dead people alive!

Let us pray for the Light to dispel the darkness in our world and for the dead to be raised to new life in Christ. Let us also be obedient to go and shine the light “in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth” (Acts 1:8).

Serving Together,
Your Pastor

TINA'S TIDBITS

Change is inevitable. Some change we like, some change we do not like. Hopefully, in the long run, change has a positive outcome. When change happens within the church, it is not done lightly. Everything that is done should be to God’s glory, and to bring His people closer to Him. That being said, and with much prayerful consideration, we have decided to make a slight change in the Wednesday and Sunday night schedule. Sanctuary Choir practice has been moved to Sunday afternoons so that we can bring back the Wednesday evening fellowship meals! With the change in the schedule, I am hoping that all ages will be able to find more time for worship opportunities and to grow in the Lord.

The new choir time will be at 4:45pm. This will begin on March 2, 2014. If you have been praying about joining the choir, we would love to have you.

Wednesday night suppers will be starting again on March 5, 2014 at 5:00pm. The cost will be \$5.00 per person. If any group would like to take a Wednesday night as a fundraiser, please let me know.

In Christ,
Tina Inabinette

KID'S NICHE

The Kid’s and I would like to thank you for allowing us to lead worship February 2nd. It is such a blessing for me each week to worship with our Kids. I am awe struck at how much God is working in and through the children. I am looking forward to beginning Sunday Night Discipleship with them. Some of the activities will be: movement, fine art, puppetry, music, school time activities, team sports activities and devotions.

There are several dates to mark on your calendars.



Lifeway’s AgencyD3 is our VBS theme this year. June 2nd through the 6th we will be doing VBS at three sites: Gentle Pines, Red Oak and Green Hill. If you are interested in helping with VBS we would love to have you join the team.



We will be holding a Stanger Danger Event for our Kids. This will be sponsored by Lexington County Sheriff’s Department on March 22nd at 12:00. There is no charge and is open to Kids of all ages.



The older Kids lock-in (3rd-5th) will be March 21-22. The cost will be \$5.00. Each kid is allowed to invite one friend of the same age.

In Service,
Wendy Webster

YOUTH & COLLEGE BLAST

Church administration is prayerfully working towards a plan to hire a leader for our Student Ministry. In the absence, Student leaders are developing several projects for the Spring and Summer for our youth to look forward to:

Spring fellowships Discipleship classes
End of the School Year Party Summer pool parties
Summer beach trip

We need all our youth and College students to sign up to assist with Vacation Bible School. Vacation Bible School will be held in 3 locations again this year. The Monday night College Small Group has already committed to assist at one of the locations, but we need more help! VBS is one of the biggest outreach programs that our church offers to the community and we need everybody’s help to make it a success!

Thank you for your faithfulness!

Green Hill Baptist Church

West Columbia, SC

THE NEEDLERS



If you like to sew, knit, yarn, crochet basically anything with a needle, come and join this group of Christian women as they fellowship and create together every third Thursday at 12:00 pm. The Needlers next meeting will be March 20th in the Annex House.



Our Senior Adult Sunshine Group's next meeting will be on Tuesday, March 11th, at 10:45 am. The Sunshine Group will hear a presentation from Nelle Williamson on India missions.



March 2014

Rev. Brett W. Marlowe, Senior Pastor
Tina Inabinette, Director of Music
Wendy Webster, Children's Director



**Children &
Parents
Invited**

**MARCH
22nd
12:00 pm**

Sponsored by: Lexington County Sheriff's Dept.

**School Time
Bible
begins!**



March 6th, 12:15 pm.
Volunteers Needed!
It's just for 5 weeks!
You can make a
difference!