The Importance of Practice

Former NBA All-Star point guard Allen Iverson was once asked by a reporter, “Could you be clear about your practicing habits since we can’t see you in practice?” Iverson proceeded to rant about practice and concluded with the familiar and often quoted line, “…we’re talkin’ about practice man, we’re not even talkin’ about the game, the actual game, when it matters. We’re talkin’ about practice.”

The Barna Group recently released a study entitled “The State of the Church 2016.” In the survey, 73% of those interviewed identified as Christian. The second largest group was those who identified as having no faith (20%).

As surprising as it might be to some of you that nearly 75% of those surveyed identified as Christian, it was another number that stood out to me: 31%. Only 31% percent of those who identified as Christian fit what Barna defined as “Practicing Christians.” Barna defines a “Practicing Christian” as someone who attends a religious service once a month. Once a month, that’s it.

The life of faith, following Christ, loving God and neighbor; this life has to amount to more than once-a-month practice. The life of faith is not an every once in a while event in which we get ourselves psyched up to compete and participate. It is a way of life that is grounded in consistent and regular practice.

We practice when we worship on Sundays and also when we pray and read the Scriptures every day of the week at home. We practice when we show up to church to help with a mission endeavor and also when we extend hospitality and grace to strangers and enemies in our everyday lives. We practice and we practice and we practice knowing that the practice is what shapes us, not for an actual game but for the transformation of the world.

Practice shows the world who we are and whose we are. Practice is how we participate in God’s redemptive work. Practice matters and must happen more than once a month.

Sean

Studies on Wednesday Nights this Fall - 6:20 PM in the West Wing

Please join us on Wednesday Nights in October for a time of prayer and Bible study as we continue the series entitled, “What Do We Believe?” Led by our pastor, this study reflects on biblical and theological issues that church members have struggled with through the ages. Bring your Bibles, your questions and your beliefs. But most of all bring an open heart ready to explore.

Study Schedule: Oct 5 – What Do We Believe: Atonement; Oct 12 – What Do We Believe: End Times; Oct 19 – What Do We Believe: Heaven and Hell

In November we will offer two studies. Dr. Stephen Jolly a pastor and sociologist will lead a discussion of race and religion. What does a faithful and prayerful response to the questions of race in our society look like? What biblical witness should guide our response to this serious problem in our community? Dr. Jolly brings both an academic discipline to the question as well as a pastor's heart. We welcome his expertise and insight.

Also in November, there will be a book study sponsored by Books on the Corner. They will host a discussion of Sarah Gray's memoir, "A Life Everlasting: The Extraordinary Story of One Boy's Gift to Medical Science." Truly this mother's journey from grief to gratitude is a compelling and thoughtful gift this Thanksgiving season.
October Birthdays

1. Don Tickle, Cathy Gellatly
2. Heather Choplin, Lance Buchholz, Brian Daugherty, Morgan Burns
3. David Peebles, Wayne Thompson, Brittany Adcock, Maggie Carraway
4. Pat Day, Wanda Stephens, Dana Mattocks, Davis Wilder
5. Faye Rhodes, Teresa Dilday, Sam Craig, Douglas Brown, Hayes Brawner
6. Larry Moore, Carla LeNoir, Zack Burnett
7. Logan Byman
8. Linda Wheeler, Les McSpadden, Todd Muncie, Greg Ogburn, Ford Carraway, Michael Rowe, Thomas Powell
9. Ellen Staley, Carrie Franz, Sydney Walker, Adler Mabe
10. Rachel Poirier
11. Connie Moreadith, Lorlen Morton
12. Anna Brawner
14. Verina Hawthorne, Claude Bennett, Liz Nichols
15. Mary Anne Barnes
16. Geraldine Mangum, Bill Judd, Jonathan Steiner, Jenny Anderson
17. Fred McGehee, Sealth Womack
18. Pam Weis, Anne Johnson, Doug Eason, Ryan Mattocks
19. Julie Ogburn, Loreice Jernigan, Caroline Smith
20. Phyllis Mayo, Tess King, Elizabeth Burlew, Matt Wertz, Sarah Overby
21. Richard White, Matt Hilliard, James Cregger, Laura Hansen, Erin Mueller, Avery Allen
22. Toye Eskridge
23. Kemp Sherron, Jenna Perry
24. Roger Nix
25. Matthew Yates, Christian Burris
26. Steve Blow, Cody Thompson
27. Kenneth Garrett, Deborah Reynolds, Jamie Allen, Olivia Kleven
28. Donna Crump, Teri Bellairs

Growing Greystone Through Prayer

Praise
Caroline Wilder born 9/8/16 to parents, Wesley and Megan Wilder

Hospital
- Dan Nichols, Rex
- Vercie Eller, Rex

Concerns
- Jean Brown, health concerns
- Louise Estes’ brother, Mike Jones, health concerns
- Doris Jernigan, health concerns
- Loretta Miller, health concerns
- Sylvia Lawson, recent surgery
- Jamie Mabe’s uncle, Ken Parham, health concerns
- The Whitaker family, health concerns
- Nina Cole’s friend, Wendy Kuehn, health concerns
- Michael Kellogg, Jr., health concerns
- Lisa Tunstall’s mother, Rebecca Knowles, health concerns
- Sylvia Cash, recovering from surgery
- Priscilla Crumpler, health concerns
- Sylvia Goulding, health concerns
- Joan Murphy’s cousin, Bill Williams, and friends, Peggy Clark, Pat Stokes, Bill and Edna Isham and Kenneth and Josie Corse, health concerns
- Roger Gardner, health concerns
- Cindy Vestal, health concerns

Residential / Health Care Facilities

Cypress (Rosewood): John Lawrence
- Rex Nursing Care: Nancy Godwin
- Springmoor (SHC): Vergie Baxley, Martha Eames, Mildred Garrett, Sallie Greene, Pauline Noble, Juanita Register

Sympathy
- Patti Austin’s family on the death of her mother, Dorothy Pinion, 9/30/16
- Kay Holland’s family on the death of her mother, Nola Francine Lilly, 9/12/16
- Cindy Vestal’s family on the death of her uncle, James Port, 9/7/16
- The Ward family on the death of Needham’s mother, Nannie “Billie” Ward, 8/31/15
- The Kanai family on the death of Michael’s stepfather, Carleton, McKita, 8/31/16

On call Minister: 919-817-8975
One of the ministers at Greystone is on call every week should an urgent or emergent situation arise. Outside of the church’s regular office hours, the on-call number is the best and fastest way to reach a minister to notify us of unexpected emergent circumstances or deaths. Please save this number in your phone so you will have it when needed. The phone number also receives text messages should you wish to communicate information in that manner.

Growing Greystone Through Stewardship (through 8/31/16)

- 2016 General Fund.......................... $989,817.00
- YTD General Fund needed .......... $659,878.00
- YTD Operating Receipts.............. $599,803.64
- YTD Operating Expenses............. $591,876.49

Growing Greystone Through Worship

September 4
8:45 Worship..................................63
11:00 Worship..................................159

September 11
8:45 Worship..................................76
11:00 Worship..................................228

September 18
8:45 Worship..................................70
11:00 Worship..................................148

September 25
8:45 Worship..................................79
11:00 Worship..................................171

Are you looking for a new Sunday morning study? If you are interested in a new study on Sunday morning, several of our classes are beginning or will begin new studies.

- The Insights class led by Brian Perkinson is studying the minor prophets of the Bible. This in-depth reflection on the Old Testament and the prophetic texts are certainly a compelling study at any time but perhaps especially appropriate for the times we live in now.
- Salt and Light will begin a study of the entire Bible from the view point of the Bible as one big story. This Bible tells the grandest, most compelling story of all time: the story of a true God who loves God's children, who established for them a way of salvation and provided a route to eternity.
- The Edge Class has just begun a study of world religions. They are following an Adam Hamilton series and supplementing the study with guest speakers and break out discussions.

Any of these classes would be delighted for you to join them. If you would like more information about a Sunday School class or an upcoming study, please contact Amanda Atkin.
Youth Fall Beach Retreat  
October 7-9
Please be in prayer for our youth as they join 300 students from across the state of North Carolina for the CBF NC Fall Youth Beach Retreat. The theme of the retreat is Beloved Community based on Philippians 2:1-4.

Youth
Are You on our Email List?
Stay informed of all the youth activities and happenings by subscribing to our weekly email, “Happenings This Week.” You can subscribe by emailing the church office at office@greystonechurch.org with “Happenings This Week” in your subject line. In the body of your message just say you want to subscribe to the email and include your email address.

Youth & College - link your phone to receive Greystone text blasts:
Youth: text @youth20 to (919) 336-5052.
College: To receive text blasts regarding college ministry activities text @gbcc2014 to (919) 336-5052.

Our new Weekday Preschool year has begun! We're excited about our new five-day schedule. It's still early, but things are running smoothly so far! Steve Rose (Properties) has been invaluable to us, making sure we have everything we need to get off to a great start. Thank you, Steve! This year we have enrolled 65 children. That's 58 families we are able to reach through this ministry. Please continue to keep us in your prayers.

Solos for Lunch
This is a lunch fellowship sponsored by the Senior Adult team for any adult who has no spouse or whose spouse is out of town, etc. There is no reservation needed. Meet at the back of the Sanctuary after the 11:00 Sunday service. The October schedule is: 10/2 - Red Lobster, 10/9 - La Rancherita, 10/16 - Winston’s, 10/23 - Chili’s, 10/30 - Chow

CBF Children's Missions Day
All 1st - 5th graders are invited to attend CBF Children's Missions Day on Saturday, 11/12/16. Zebulon Baptist Church will serve as our host once again this year. Missions Day is a fun way to learn about and be involved in missions in fun and creative ways. We will leave the church at 8:45 and return by 4:00. The cost is $15 per student and lunch is provided. Please register with April or Annette by 10/23/16.

A friendly announcement from our nursery
Cold and flu season is fast approaching. Please help keep our babies healthy by limiting your visits to peek in on our adorable little ones. In addition to keeping them healthy, limiting your visits also keeps them happier. Many of our little ones are experiencing separation anxiety from their parents. Visitors coming in and out of the nursery can be upsetting to them even though you mean well. We are asking that only parents, teachers and scheduled nursery care providers enter our preschool and nursery rooms. Thank you for helping us in this way.

Salt and Light Sunday School Class
The Salt and Light Sunday School class will begin a new study in November. The Story, by Max Lucado and Randy Frazee, is the story of the Bible, God's great love affair with humanity. Condensed into 31 chapters, The Story sweeps you into the unfolding progression of Bible characters and events from Genesis to Revelation. Using the clear, accessible text of the NIV Bible, it allows the stories, poems, and teachings of the Bible to read like a novel. And like any good story, The Story is filled with intrigue, drama, conflict, romance, and redemption—and this story's true! If you would like to join the Salt and Light class for this exciting study, please contact Carla Lenoir (cslenoir@aol.com), Kay Meyer (jwmeyer@mindspring.com) or Elaine Hansen (elaine@etemplatesystem.com).

Welcome to Our New Members

Steven and Linda Wheeler
Joined 9/11/16

Noah Fisher Robinson
Joined 9/25/16

Take Note | from the Music Ministries

Join Our Music Ensembles This Fall!
Worship Arts & Music (WAM!) for Children, Wed. @ 6:00 PM
Adult Choir, Wed. @ 7:15 PM
Grace Tones Ensemble, Sun. @ 4:00 PM
Student Choir, Sun. @ 5:00 PM
Handbell Choir, Sun. @ 6:00 PM

NEW! Instrumental Group
We have started a regular instrumental group that will accompany our Sunday worship services. If you play an instrument, consider joining us in playing for worship about one Sunday each month. Rehearsals will take place on the Wednesday evening prior to the scheduled Sunday. Our next Instrumental Sunday will be on October 23. Contact Mike Eller if interested.

Choir Retreat Featuring Dr. Greg Parker
We are grateful to have host once again this year.

Christmas Choir - The Adult Choir is beginning work on learning music for the Christmas season and for the program on the evening of Sunday, December 11. Consider singing with them during this special season and taking part in the program by being in Wed. night rehearsal for the first 30-45 minutes. Rehearsal begins at 7:15 PM and child care is always available. Commitment is minimal but the reward would be great!
Mission Statement
With Christ as the Cornerstone, we will build a church of living stones, where every member is a minister and is equipped to express God’s love by word and deed to all people.”
Based on 1 Peter 2:5,6

Greystone Baptist Church
7509 Lead Mine Road
Raleigh, NC 27615
(919) 847-1333
Fax: (919) 847-9893

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Office Hours:
Monday – Thursday
8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

THE CHURCH STAFF:
Sean Allen, Senior Pastor
sean.allen@greystonechurch.org
April Alston, Associate Minister, Preschool & Children
april.alston@greystonechurch.org
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Pamela Phillips, Weekday Preschool Director
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Steve Rose, Interim Property Manager
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Allan Smith, Associate Minister, Students
allan.smith@greystonechurch.org
Annette Variano, Administrative Assistant
office@greystonechurch.org

If you do not wish to receive this newsletter, please unsubscribe at (919) 847-1333. Deadline for the November newsletter is noon, 10/20/16.

People in Service
October 2
Ushers: 8:45 am: Bill & Sylvia Goulding, Ron & Joanne Thompson; 11:00 am: Bill Baxley, Hunter Ouzts, Kristen Pickles, Charlie Spahr, Donnie Moorefield, Nicole Moorefield
Worship Care: 8:45 am: Jim & Natalie Herrmann, Chris and Anjie Mabe; 11:00 am: Cheryl Grimes, Missy Brookshire, Ginny Liverance, Jamie Mabe, Elizabeth Santana
Greeters: Margaret Hilton, Margaret Thomas
Deacon of the Week: Becky Sansbury

October 9
Ushers: 8:45 am: April & Brad Walker; 11:00 am: Jeb, Missy & Jillian Brookshire, Dorwin Lanham, Ken Mitchell, Kemp Sherron
Worship Care: 8:45 am: Kim Eshleman, Sarah Lannom, Johnathan Eshleman, Chris Lannom;
11:00 am: Jeanie Miller, Kay & John Meyer, Barbara Crabb, Mary Sherron
Greeters: Joyce Beauchaine, Berno Kleinhans
Deacon of the Week: David Ammons

October 16
Ushers: 8:45 am: Mueller family, Andrew & Jamie Mabe; 11:00 am: Heather Chaplin, Steve Holden, Pete Cregger, Johnny Glover, Joe & Melissa Langston
Worship Care: 8:45 am: Cheryl Muncie, Maria Morton, Katie Eller, Dottie Thompson;
11:00 am: Dustin & Emily Tuttle, Patsy Chiles, Ellen Steiner
Greeters: Bill & Sylvia Goulding, Arnold & Sylvia Lawson
Deacon of the Week: Kerry Crabb

October 23
Ushers: 8:45 am: Luke Andrew, Bill Judd, Tom & Shirley Ditt; 11:00 am: Kerry Crabb, Dustin & Emily Tuttle, Tom Ogburn, Drew Hunt, Jackson Hollingsworth
Worship Care: 8:45 am: Donna Judd, Nancy register, Dave & Lorri Heilig;
11:00 am: Joy and Bob Milikan, Greyson & Amy Davis, Joanna Perry
Greeters: Bobby & Peggy Hunter, Scott Naeser
Deacon of the Week: Paul Hansen

October 30
Ushers: 8:45 am: Bill & Sylvia Goulding, Ron & Joanne Thompson; 11:00 am: Bill Baxley, Hunter Ouzts, Kristen Pickles, Charlie Spahr, Donnie Moorefield, Nicole Moorefield
Worship Care: 8:45 am: James Tatum, Joy Croom Griffin; 11:00 am: Louise Estes, Linda McDaniel
Greeters: Nell Panten, LuAnn Lesley
Deacon of the Week: Jennifer Walker

Senior Adult Sponsored Trip, Saturday, 10/22/16
For all adults at Greystone and their friends, this day trip will be to the Old Salem Museum and Gardens in Winston-Salem, NC. One of America's most complete historical attractions, what started as a Moravian village over 250 years ago, includes a lot to see: Farmer's Market, cheese making demos, the Sawtooth Visual Arts Center, historical homes and shops, and the Winkler Bakery. Tickets are $27. There are AAA, AARP, and active/retired military discounts. Sign up in the hallway.

Clothing Closet NEWS
Thank you so much for your continued contribution of clothing for all ages!
Current needs as we prepare for winter are for warm blankets, travel size shampoo, soaps and backpacks. Please leave donated items in the drop boxes at the preschool entrance. If you would like to work with us in this important ministry on Wednesday mornings or Thursday afternoons, please contact Fred or Barbara McGehee at 919-848-7034 or email to b.mcgehee@earthlink.net.

October Calendar
Youth Fall Beach Retreat
October 7-9
Buddy Break
9:30 AM, October 8
Flood Relief Trip to SC
October 14-16
Choir Retreat
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM, October 15
Senior Adult Sponsored Trip
October 22
Trunk or Treat
6:00 - 7:30 PM, October 26
(5:30 PM start for sensory impaired)
Leadership Council Meeting/Lunch
12:00 PM, October 30